

Supporting Information

Zn/H₂O-Mediated Tandem Reductive Cyclization of 2-(2-Nitrophenyl)-1*H*-benzimidazoles with Aldehydes to 5,6-Dihydrobenzo[4,5]imidazo[1,2-*c*]quinazolines

Xiaopeng Zhang,^{*a} Qiuyang Pang,^a Zhenhua Guo,^a Zihua Yang^a and Guisheng Zhang^{*a}

^a NMPA Key Laboratory for Research and Evaluation of Innovative Drug, Collaborative Innovation Center of Henan Province for Green Manufacturing of Fine Chemicals, Key Laboratory of Green Chemical Media and Reactions, Ministry of Education, School of Chemistry and Chemical Engineering, Henan Normal University, Xinxiang, Henan 453007, China.

Contents

1. General Information	2
2. Experimental Procedures	3
2.1 Preparation of 2-(2-nitrophenyl)-1<i>H</i>-benzimidazoles substrates.....	3
2.2 General procedures for Zn/H₂O-mediated, one-pot reductive cyclization of 2-(2-nitrophenyl)-1<i>H</i>-benzimidazoles with aldehydes	3
2.3 General procedure for gram-scale reaction	3
3. Characterization Data	5
4. References	21
5. Copies of NMR Spectra for the Products	22
6. Copies of HRMS Spectra for the Products.....	61

1. General Information

Solvents and reagents: All solvents and reagents were purchased from commercial suppliers and used without further purification.

Reactions: All sample preparation reactions were performed in oven-dried glassware under reflux.

Chromatography: Reactions were monitored by thin-layer chromatography (TLC) using silica gel plates (silica gel 60 F254) and components were visualized by observation under UV light. Flash column chromatography was performed with 200-300 mesh silica gel, eluting with a mixture of petroleum ether (b.p. 60 – 90 °C) and ethyl acetate.

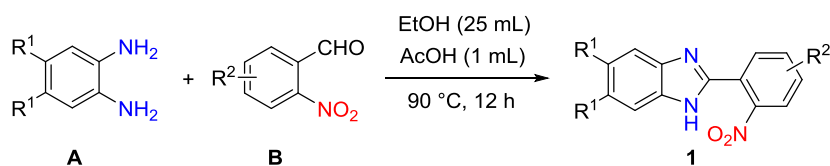
Melting point: Melting points were determined using a Yuhua X-5 apparatus (Gongyi, China) and were not corrected.

NMR spectroscopy: ^1H NMR and ^{13}C NMR spectra were recorded with Bruker Avance NEO 400 and Bruker Avance III HD 600 spectrometers with tetramethylsilane (TMS) as an internal standard. All chemical shifts (δ) are given in ppm, and are referenced to residual solvent peaks (2.50 ppm for ^1H NMR and 39.56 ± 0.06 ppm for ^{13}C NMR spectra in $(\text{CD}_3)_2\text{SO}$, 7.26 ppm for ^1H NMR and 77.16 ppm for ^{13}C NMR spectra in CDCl_3) or TMS peak (0.00 ppm). Coupling constants (J) were reported in Hertz (Hz). The following abbreviations are used to indicate the multiplicity of the signals: s = singlet, d = doublet, t = triplet, m = multiplet, and associated combinations, e.g. dd = doublet of doublets.

Mass spectrometry: High resolution mass spectrometry (HRMS) was performed on a Bruker Micro ToF II mass spectrometer.

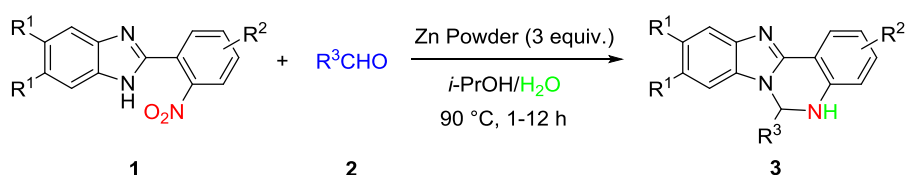
2. Experimental Procedures

2.1 Preparation of 2-(2-nitrophenyl)-1H-benzimidazoles substrates



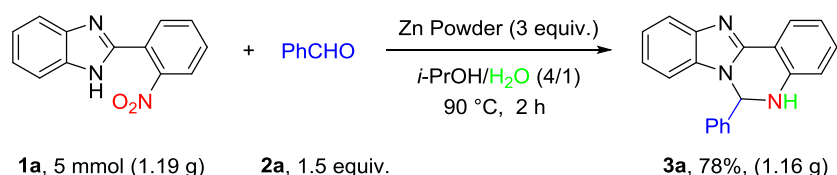
To a mixture of **A** (10 mmol, 1 equiv.) and **B** (10 mmol, 1 equiv.) in EtOH (25 mL) was added AcOH (1 mL) and the mixture was stirred under reflux for 12 hours¹. The mixture was cooled to room temperature, a yellowish-white precipitate that was collected by filtration and washed with H₂O and then dried to afford the corresponding product **1**.

2.2 General procedures for Zn/H₂O-mediated, one-pot reductive cyclization of 2-(2-nitrophenyl)-1H-benzimidazoles with aldehydes



In a 10 mL tube with a stir bar, 2 mL *i*-PrOH and 0.5 mL H₂O were added to a mixture of **1** (0.5 mmol, 1.0 equiv.), Zn powder (1.5 mmol, 3 equiv.), aldehyde **2** (0.75 mmol, 1.5 equiv.) under air. The reaction mixture was refluxed in an oil bath for 1-12 h. After cooling to room temperature, the mixture was filtered over celite and anhydrous Na₂SO₄, and concentrated under vacuum. The crude reaction mixture was purified by silica gel column chromatography to give the corresponding product with petroleum ether/ethyl acetate (PE/EA = 3/1) as the eluent.

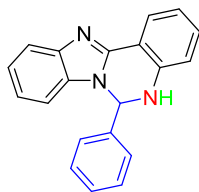
2.3 General procedure for gram-scale reaction



In a 50 mL round-bottom flask with a stir bar, 20 mL *i*-PrOH and 5 mL H₂O were added to a mixture of **1a** (1.19 g, 5 mmol, 1.0 equiv.), Zn powder (980.70 mg, 15 mmol, 3 equiv.), **2a** (795.90 mg, 7.5 mmol, 1.5 equiv.) under air. The reaction

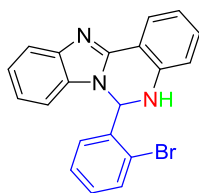
mixture was allowed to reflux in an oil bath for 2 h. After cooling to room temperature, the mixture was filtered over celite and anhydrous Na_2SO_4 , and concentrated under vacuum. The crude reaction mixture was purified by silica gel column chromatography to give the desired product **3a** with petroleum ether/ethyl acetate (PE/EA = 3/1) as the eluent.

3. Characterization Data



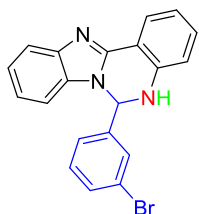
6-phenyl-5,6-dihydrobenzo[4,5]imidazo[1,2-c]quinazoline (3a)

White solid (132.32 mg, 89%), $R_f = 0.23$ (PE/EA = 3/1), melting point: 202 – 203 °C (Lit.² 220 °C), CAS registry number: 305851-84-7, $^1\text{H NMR}$ (400 MHz, DMSO- d_6) δ 7.97 (d, $J = 7.6$ Hz, 1H), 7.66 (d, $J = 8.7$ Hz, 2H), 7.31 – 7.23 (m, 6H), 7.19 – 7.09 (m, 4H), 6.88 – 6.81 (m, 2H); $^{13}\text{C NMR}$ (100 MHz, DMSO- d_6) δ 147.4, 144.3, 143.7, 140.9, 133.3, 132.2, 129.4, 129.3, 126.5, 125.1, 122.7, 122.5, 119.2, 118.7, 115.3, 112.4, 111.0, 68.3.



6-(2-bromophenyl)-5,6-dihydrobenzo[4,5]imidazo[1,2-c]quinazoline (3b)

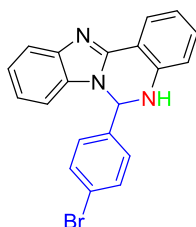
White solid (158.03 mg, 84%), $R_f = 0.32$ (PE/EA = 3/1), melting point: 192 – 194 °C, (Lit.³ 195 – 197 °C), CAS registry number: 38027-33-9, $^1\text{H NMR}$ (400 MHz, DMSO- d_6) δ 7.99 (d, $J = 7.7$ Hz, 1H), 7.75 (d, $J = 7.6$ Hz, 1H), 7.67 (d, $J = 8.0$ Hz, 1H), 7.53 (s, 1H), 7.33 – 7.24 (m, 4H), 7.18 (t, $J = 7.7$ Hz, 1H), 7.09 – 7.02 (m, 4H), 6.89 – 6.80 (m, 3H); $^{13}\text{C NMR}$ (100 MHz, DMSO- d_6) δ 147.5, 144.4, 143.0, 138.5, 133.9, 133.0, 132.3, 131.8, 129.2, 128.6, 125.2, 122.9, 122.8, 121.8, 119.3, 118.8, 115.4, 111.7, 110.4, 68.6.



6-(3-bromophenyl)-5,6-dihydrobenzo[4,5]imidazo[1,2-c]quinazoline (3c)

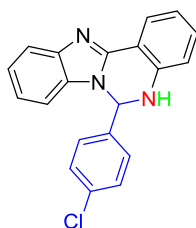
White solid (127.92 mg, 68%), $R_f = 0.23$ (PE/EA = 3/1), melting point: 225 – 227 °C, (Lit.³ 234 – 236 °C), CAS registry number: 325763-56-2, $^1\text{H NMR}$ (400 MHz,

DMSO- d_6) δ 7.97 (dd, J = 7.6, 1.1 Hz, 1H), 7.68 (d, J = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 7.56 (t, J = 1.6 Hz, 1H), 7.51 – 7.49 (m, 1H), 7.29 – 7.12 (m, 6H), 7.07 (d, J = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 6.88 – 6.83 (m, 2H); ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, DMSO- d_6) δ 147.2, 144.3, 143.5, 143.2, 133.2, 132.3, 132.8, 131.6, 129.3, 125.2, 125.0, 122.9, 122.8, 122.4, 119.3, 119.0, 115.4, 112.4, 110.9, 67.2.



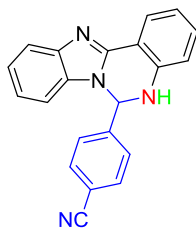
6-(4-bromophenyl)-5,6-dihydrobenzo[4,5]imidazo[1,2-c]quinazoline (3d)

White solid (152.39 mg, 81%), R_f = 0.18 (PE/EA = 3/1), melting point: 102 – 103 °C, (Lit.³ 209 – 210 °C), CAS registry number: 378199-61-2, ^1H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO- d_6) δ 7.95 (d, J = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.67 – 7.65 (m, 2H), 7.54 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 7.28 – 7.11 (m, 7H), 6.86 – 6.82 (m, 2H); ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, DMSO- d_6) δ 147.3, 144.3, 143.3, 140.3, 133.2, 132.3, 128.5, 125.2, 122.8, 122.7, 122.6, 119.3, 118.9, 115.4, 112.4, 110.9, 67.5.



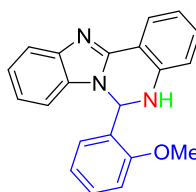
6-(4-chlorophenyl)-5,6-dihydrobenzo[4,5]imidazo[1,2-c]quinazoline (3e)

White solid (119.45 mg, 72%), R_f = 0.18 (PE/EA = 3/1), melting point: 176 – 177 °C, (Lit.² 207 °C), CAS registry number: 387371-80-4, ^1H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO- d_6) δ 7.96 (d, J = 7.4 Hz, 1H), 7.66 (d, J = 8.3 Hz, 2H), 7.40 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 7.27 – 7.11 (m, 7H), 6.87 – 6.82 (m, 2H); ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, DMSO- d_6) δ 147.2, 144.3, 143.3, 139.9, 134.0, 133.2, 132.2, 129.3, 128.2, 125.2, 122.8, 122.7, 119.2, 118.9, 115.4, 112.3, 110.9, 67.4.



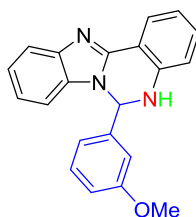
4-(5,6-dihydrobenzo[4,5]imidazo[1,2-c]quinazolin-6-yl)benzonitrile (3f)

Yellow solid (32.23 mg, 20%), $R_f = 0.36$ (PE/EA = 1/1), melting point: 232 – 233 °C, $^1\text{H NMR}$ (400 MHz, DMSO- d_6) δ 7.96 (dd, $J = 8.1, 1.6$ Hz, 1H), 7.83 – 7.74 (m, 3H), 7.68 (d, $J = 8.0$ Hz, 1H), 7.37 – 7.32 (m, 3H), 7.28 – 7.15 (m, 4H), 6.86 – 6.83 (m, 2H); $^{13}\text{C NMR}$ (100 MHz, DMSO- d_6) δ 147.1, 146.0, 144.2, 143.0, 133.4, 133.2, 132.5, 132.4, 127.4, 127.1, 125.2, 123.0, 122.9, 119.3, 119.1, 118.8, 115.5, 112.4, 112.1, 110.8, 67.1; **HRMS (ESI)** calcd for $\text{C}_{21}\text{H}_{15}\text{N}_4^+$ $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$: 323.1291; found: 323.1292.



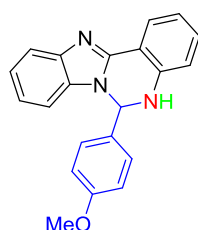
6-(2-methoxyphenyl)-5,6-dihydrobenzo[4,5]imidazo[1,2-c]quinazoline (3h)

White solid (127.68 mg, 78%), $R_f = 0.20$ (PE/EA = 3/1), melting point: 167 – 168 °C, CAS registry number: 1947372-92-0, $^1\text{H NMR}$ (400 MHz, DMSO- d_6) δ 8.03 (dd, $J = 7.7, 1.2$ Hz, 1H), 7.69 (d, $J = 8.0$ Hz, 1H), 7.32 (d, $J = 2.5$ Hz, 2H), 7.29 – 7.17 (m, 3H), 7.12 – 7.07 (m, 3H), 6.91 (d, $J = 8.0$ Hz, 1H), 6.82 (td, $J = 7.8, 0.6$ Hz, 1H), 6.74 (t, $J = 7.4$ Hz, 1H), 6.66 (dd, $J = 7.6, 1.6$ Hz, 1H), 3.85 (s, 3H); $^{13}\text{C NMR}$ (100 MHz, DMSO- d_6) δ 156.6, 147.9, 144.3, 143.7, 133.3, 132.0, 130.7, 128.1, 126.6, 125.0, 122.7, 121.0, 119.1, 118.4, 115.3, 112.1, 110.6, 63.5, 56.18; **HRMS (ESI)** calcd for $\text{C}_{21}\text{H}_{18}\text{N}_3\text{O}^+$ $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$: 328.1444; found: 328.1444.



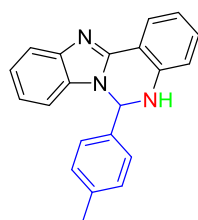
6-(3-methoxyphenyl)-5,6-dihydrobenzo[4,5]imidazo[1,2-c]quinazoline (3i)

White solid (130.96 mg, 80%), $R_f = 0.17$ (PE/EA = 3/1), melting point: 183 – 184 °C, CAS registry number: 387372-04-5, $^1\text{H NMR}$ (400 MHz, DMSO- d_6) δ 7.96 (t, $J = 7.9$ Hz, 1H), 7.69 – 7.62 (m, 2H), 7.29 – 7.05 (m, 6H), 6.91 – 6.81 (m, 4H), 6.74 (t, $J = 7.7$ Hz, 1H), 3.68 (d, $J = 9.6$ Hz, 3H); $^{13}\text{C NMR}$ (100 MHz, DMSO- d_6) δ 159.9, 147.5, 144.3, 143.6, 142.5, 133.4, 132.2, 130.5, 125.2, 122.7, 122.6, 119.2, 118.8, 118.3, 115.4, 114.1, 112.8, 112.5, 111.0, 68.1, 55.5; **HRMS (ESI)** calcd for $\text{C}_{21}\text{H}_{18}\text{N}_3\text{O}^+ [\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$: 328.1444; found: 328.1438.



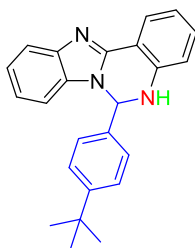
6-(4-methoxyphenyl)-5,6-dihydrobenzo[4,5]imidazo[1,2-c]quinazoline (3j)

White solid (150.59 mg, 92%), $R_f = 0.16$ (PE/EA = 3/1), melting point: 103 – 104 °C, (Lit.² 187 °C), CAS registry number: 325765-30-8, $^1\text{H NMR}$ (400 MHz, DMSO- d_6) δ 8.02 (dd, $J = 7.7, 1.1$ Hz, 1H), 7.68 (d, $J = 8.0$ Hz, 1H), 7.57 (d, $J = 1.0$ Hz, 1H), 7.30 – 7.25 (m, 3H), 7.18 (ddd, $J = 8.2, 4.9, 3.4$ Hz, 1H), 7.08 (d, $J = 3.9$ Hz, 2H), 7.02 (d, $J = 1.3$ Hz, 1H), 6.91 (dd, $J = 8.5, 3.3$ Hz, 3H), 6.85 (t, $J = 7.5$ Hz, 1H), 3.69 (s, 3H); $^{13}\text{C NMR}$ (100 MHz, DMSO- d_6) δ 160.2, 147.6, 144.4, 143.9, 133.4, 132.9, 132.1, 128.0, 125.2, 122.6, 122.5, 119.1, 118.6, 115.3, 114.6, 112.4, 111.1, 68.3, 55.6.



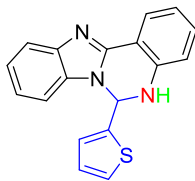
6-(p-tolyl)-5,6-dihydrobenzo[4,5]imidazo[1,2-c]quinazoline (3k)

White solid (116.77 mg, 75%), $R_f = 0.26$ (PE/EA = 3/1), melting point: 104 – 105 °C, CAS registry number: 387372-24-9, $^1\text{H NMR}$ (400 MHz, DMSO- d_6) δ 7.96 (d, $J = 7.1$ Hz, 1H), 7.65 (d, $J = 7.9$ Hz, 1H), 7.56 (s, 1H), 7.24 (t, $J = 7.2$ Hz, 1H), 7.17 – 7.06 (m, 7H), 7.02 (s, 1H), 6.87 – 6.80 (m, 2H), 2.23 (s, 3H); $^{13}\text{C NMR}$ (100 MHz, DMSO- d_6) δ 147.5, 144.3, 143.7, 138.9, 138.0, 133.4, 132.1, 129.7, 126.4, 125.1, 122.6, 122.5, 119.1, 118.6, 115.3, 112.4, 111.0, 68.2; **HRMS (ESI)** calcd for $\text{C}_{21}\text{H}_{18}\text{N}_3^+ [\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$: 312.1495; found: 312.1495.



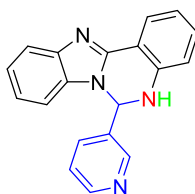
6-(4-(*tert*-butyl)phenyl)-5,6-dihydrobenzo[4,5]imidazo[1,2-*c*]quinazoline (3l)

White solid (139.62 mg, 79%), $R_f = 0.27$ (PE/EA = 3/1), melting point: 94 – 95 °C, CAS registry number: 387372-44-3, $^1\text{H NMR}$ (400 MHz, DMSO- d_6) δ 7.97 (dd, $J = 7.7, 1.1$ Hz, 1H), 7.66 (d, $J = 8.0$ Hz, 1H), 7.60 (d, $J = 1.5$ Hz, 1H), 7.32 (d, $J = 8.4$ Hz, 2H), 7.27 – 7.16 (m, 5H), 7.10 (td, $J = 7.9, 0.7$ Hz, 1H), 7.05 (d, $J = 1.6$ Hz, 1H), 6.88 – 6.81 (m, 2H), 1.19 (s, 9H); $^{13}\text{C NMR}$ (100 MHz, DMSO- d_6) δ 151.9, 147.4, 144.3, 143.7, 138.2, 133.3, 132.1, 126.0, 126.0, 125.1, 122.7, 122.5, 119.1, 118.6, 115.3, 112.4, 111.0, 67.9, 34.8, 31.4; **HRMS (ESI)** calcd for $\text{C}_{24}\text{H}_{24}\text{N}_3^+$ $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$: 354.1965; found: 354.1965.



6-(thiophen-2-yl)-5,6-dihydrobenzo[4,5]imidazo[1,2-*c*]quinazoline (3m)

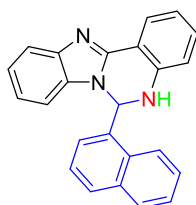
White solid (125.90 mg, 83%), $R_f = 0.23$ (PE/EA = 3/1), melting point: 174 – 175 °C, (Lit.⁴ 210 – 212 °C), CAS registry number: 387371-68-8, $^1\text{H NMR}$ (400 MHz, DMSO- d_6) δ 7.98 (dd, $J = 7.7, 1.2$ Hz, 1H), 7.77 (d, $J = 1.9$ Hz, 1H), 7.66 (dd, $J = 6.9, 1.5$ Hz, 1H), 7.47 – 7.44 (m, 2H), 7.37 (dd, $J = 5.0, 1.1$ Hz, 1H), 7.31 (td, $J = 8.5, 1.5$ Hz, 1H), 7.22 – 7.15 (m, 3H), 6.97 – 6.87 (m, 3H); $^{13}\text{C NMR}$ (100 MHz, DMSO- d_6) δ 146.9, 144.3, 144.2, 143.3, 133.0, 132.2, 127.0, 126.9, 126.5, 125.1, 122.8, 122.7, 119.3, 199.2, 115.9, 112.8, 111.0, 64.2.



6-(pyridin-3-yl)-5,6-dihydrobenzo[4,5]imidazo[1,2-*c*]quinazoline (3n)

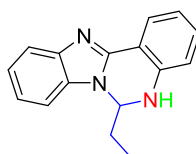
White solid (107.40 mg, 72%), $R_f = 0.30$ (EA), melting point: 221 – 222 °C, (Lit.⁴ 216 – 217 °C), CAS registry number: 326618-68-2, $^1\text{H NMR}$ (400 MHz, DMSO- d_6)

δ 8.55 (d, J = 2.1 Hz, 1H), 8.51 (dd, J = 4.8, 1.6 Hz, 1H), 7.99 (dd, J = 7.7, 1.2 Hz, 1H), 7.73 (d, J = 1.8 Hz, 1H), 7.69 (d, J = 7.9 Hz, 1H), 7.52 (dt, J = 8.0, 1.9 Hz, 1H), 7.34 – 7.12 (m, 6H), 6.90 – 6.85 (m, 2H). ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, DMSO- d_6) δ 150.6, 147.7, 147.3, 144.3, 143.2, 136.4, 133.8, 133.1, 132.3, 125.2, 124.5, 122.9, 122.8, 119.3, 119.1, 115.5, 112.5, 110.8, 66.1.



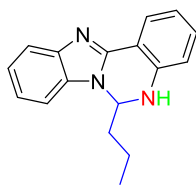
6-(naphthalen-1-yl)-5,6-dihydrobenzo[4,5]imidazo[1,2-c]quinazoline (3o)

White solid (145.92 mg, 84%), R_f = 0.24 (PE/EA = 3/1), melting point: 180 – 181 °C, CAS registry number: 387371-76-8, ^1H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO- d_6) δ 8.54 – 8.51 (m, 1H), 8.09 – 7.97 (m, 3H), 7.75 (s, 1H), 7.59 – 7.55 (m, 3H), 7.44 (t, J = 7.7 Hz, 1H), 7.24 (td, J = 7.7, 1.6 Hz, 1H), 7.20 – 7.18 (m, 1H), 7.12 – 7.08 (m, 1H), 6.88 – 6.83 (m, 3H), 6.47 (d, J = 8.1 Hz, 1H); ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, DMSO- d_6) δ 148.3, 144.5, 143.8, 134.5, 134.3, 133.4, 132.1, 130.6, 130.5, 129.3, 127.2, 126.7, 125.8, 125.3, 124.2, 122.6, 122.4, 119.2, 118.7, 115.4, 112.1, 110.9; HRMS (ESI) calcd for $\text{C}_{24}\text{H}_{18}\text{N}_3^+$ $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$: 348.1495; found: 348.1495.



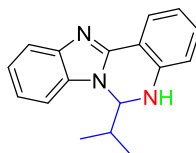
6-ethyl-5,6-dihydrobenzo[4,5]imidazo[1,2-c]quinazoline (3p)

White solid (74.79 mg, 60%), R_f = 0.14 (PE/EA = 3/1), melting point: 161 – 162 °C, CAS registry number: 3018902-72-9, ^1H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO- d_6) δ 7.88 (dd, J = 7.7, 1.3 Hz, 1H), 7.65 – 7.59 (m, 2H), 7.26 – 7.17 (m, 4H), 6.90 (d, J = 7.9 Hz, 1H), 6.78 (td, J = 7.7, 0.84 Hz, 1H), 6.05–6.02 (m, 1H), 1.88 – 1.71 (m, 2H), 0.82 (t, J = 7.4 Hz, 3H); ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, DMSO- d_6) δ 147.1, 144.2, 143.9, 133.2, 132.0, 125.0, 122.4, 122.4, 119.0, 118.2, 115.3, 112.5, 110.6, 67.0, 29.4, 9.1; HRMS (ESI) calcd for $\text{C}_{16}\text{H}_{16}\text{N}_3^+$ $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$: 250.1339; found: 250.1339.



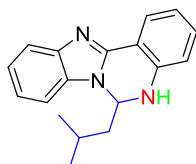
6-propyl-5,6-dihydrobenzo[4,5]imidazo[1,2-c]quinazoline (3q)

White solid (93.49 mg, 71%), $R_f = 0.20$ (PE/EA = 3/1), melting point: 70 – 71 °C, ^1H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO- d_6) δ 7.88 (d, $J = 7.7$ Hz, 1H), 7.65 – 7.58 (m, 2H), 7.26 – 7.16 (m, 4H), 6.89 (d, $J = 8.1$ Hz, 1H), 6.78 (t, $J = 7.5$ Hz, 1H), 6.07 (s, 1H), 1.84 – 1.75 (m, 4H), 1.71 – 1.62 (m, 1H), 1.33 – 1.24 (m, 2H), 0.79 (t, $J = 7.3$ Hz, 3H); ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, DMSO- d_6) δ 147.0, 144.2, 143.8, 133.1, 132.0, 125.0, 122.4, 119.0, 118.3, 115.4, 112.5, 110.5, 65.8, 38.5, 17.7, 14.0; HRMS (ESI) calcd for $\text{C}_{17}\text{H}_{18}\text{N}_3^+$ $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$: 264.1495; found: 264.1495.



6-isopropyl-5,6-dihydrobenzo[4,5]imidazo[1,2-c]quinazoline (3r)

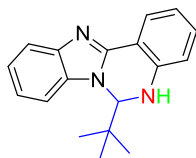
White solid (23.70 mg, 18%), $R_f = 0.18$ (PE/EA = 3/1), melting point: 195 – 196 °C, CAS registry number: 2674076-31-2, ^1H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO- d_6) δ 7.85 (dd, $J = 7.7, 1.6$ Hz, 1H), 7.64 – 7.59 (m, 2H), 7.24 – 7.17 (m, 4H), 6.91 (dd, $J = 8.1, 1.0$ Hz, 1H), 6.74 (td, $J = 7.5, 1.1$ Hz, 1H), 5.89 (dd, $J = 5.1, 2.9$ Hz, 1H), 2.24 – 2.16 (m, 1H), 0.88 (d, $J = 6.9$ Hz, 3H), 0.71 (d, $J = 6.7$ Hz, 3H); ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, DMSO- d_6) δ 147.3, 144.5, 144.1, 133.6, 132.0, 124.9, 122.4, 122.3, 119.0, 117.9, 114.7, 112.6, 111.0, 70.3, 35.3, 18.7, 17.04; HRMS (ESI) calcd for $\text{C}_{17}\text{H}_{18}\text{N}_3^+$ $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$: 264.1495; found: 264.1495.



6-isobutyl-5,6-dihydrobenzo[4,5]imidazo[1,2-c]quinazoline (3s)

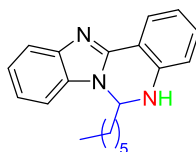
White solid (70.73 mg, 51%), $R_f = 0.27$ (PE/EA = 3/1), melting point: 169 – 170 °C, ^1H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO- d_6) δ 7.89 (d, $J = 7.6$ Hz, 1H), 7.64 (dd, $J = 7.1, 1.5$ Hz, 1H), 7.52 (d, $J = 7.6$ Hz, 1H), 7.27 – 7.19 (m, 4H), 6.92 (d, $J = 8.1$ Hz, 1H), 6.80 (t, $J = 7.5$ Hz, 1H), 6.12 – 6.10 (m, 1H), 1.78 – 1.69 (m, 2H), 1.45 – 1.39 (m, 1H), 0.96 (d,

$J = 6.3$ Hz, 3H), 0.82 (d, $J = 6.3$ Hz, 3H); ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, DMSO- d_6) δ 147.0, 144.2, 143.4, 132.9, 132.1, 125.0, 122.4, 119.1, 118.4, 115.8, 112.7, 110.2, 64.5, 44.4, 23.7, 22.3; **HRMS (ESI)** calcd for $\text{C}_{18}\text{H}_{20}\text{N}_3^+$ $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$: 278.1652; found: 278.1651.



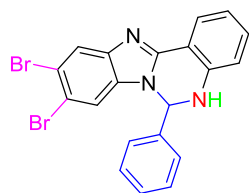
6-(tert-butyl)-5,6-dihydrobenzo[4,5]imidazo[1,2-c]quinazoline (3t)

White solid (15.26 mg, 11%), $R_f = 0.23$ (PE/EA = 3/1), melting point: 156 – 157 °C, ^1H NMR (600 MHz, DMSO- d_6) δ 7.83 (dd, $J = 7.6, 1.2$ Hz, 1H), 7.66 (dd, $J = 6.3, 2.5$ Hz, 1H), 7.62 – 7.61 (m, 1H), 7.23 – 7.16 (m, 4H), 6.91 (d, $J = 7.9$ Hz, 1H), 6.73 (td, $J = 7.6, 0.8$ Hz, 1H), 5.81 (d, $J = 3.1$ Hz, 1H), 0.85 (s, 9H); ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, DMSO- d_6) δ 151.9, 147.4, 144.3, 143.7, 138.2, 133.3, 132.1, 126.0, 126.0, 125.1, 122.7, 122.5, 119.1, 118.6, 115.3, 112.4, 111.0, 67.9, 34.8, 31.4; **HRMS (ESI)** calcd for $\text{C}_{18}\text{H}_{20}\text{N}_3^+$ $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$: 278.1652; found: 278.1652.



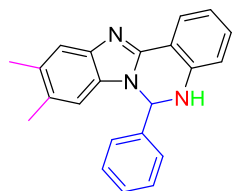
6-hexyl-5,6-dihydrobenzo[4,5]imidazo[1,2-c]quinazoline (3u)

White solid (88.57 mg, 58%), $R_f = 0.25$ (PE/EA = 3/1), melting point: 162 – 163 °C, ^1H NMR (600 MHz, DMSO- d_6) δ 7.86 (dd, $J = 7.7, 1.1$ Hz, 1H), 7.62 (dd, $J = 6.6, 2.0$ Hz, 1H), 7.59 (dd, $J = 6.7, 1.8$ Hz, 1H), 7.25 – 7.19 (m, 3H), 7.16 (d, $J = 2.0$ Hz, 1H), 6.88 (d, $J = 8.0$ Hz, 1H), 6.78 (t, $J = 7.4$ Hz, 1H), 6.08 – 6.05 (m, 1H), 1.99 (s, 1H), 1.82 – 1.77 (m, 1H), 1.70 – 1.65 (m, 1H), 1.29 – 1.25 (m, 2H), 1.18 – 1.15 (m, 5H), 0.78 (t, $J = 7.1$ Hz, 3H); ^{13}C NMR (150 MHz, DMSO- d_6) δ 147.0, 144.2, 143.8, 133.1, 132.1, 125.0, 122.4, 122.4, 119.0, 118.3, 115.4, 112.5, 110.5, 66.0, 36.2, 31.6, 28.7, 24.2, 22.4, 14.3; **HRMS (ESI)** calcd for $\text{C}_{20}\text{H}_{24}\text{N}_3^+$ $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$: 306.1965; found: 306.1965.



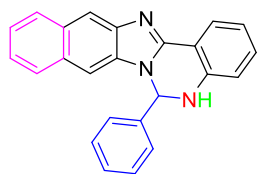
9,10-dibromo-6-phenyl-5,6-dihydrobenzo[4,5]imidazo[1,2-c]quinazoline (3v)

Yellow solid (186.61 mg, 82%), $R_f = 0.30$ (PE/EA = 3/1), melting point: 218 – 220 °C, $^1\text{H NMR}$ (400 MHz, DMSO- d_6) δ 8.06 (s, 1H), 7.95 (dd, $J = 7.7, 1.2$ Hz, 1H), 7.78 (d, $J = 1.8$ Hz, 1H), 7.59 (s, 1H), 7.36 – 7.34 (m, 3H), 7.31 – 7.27 (m, 3H), 7.13 (d, $J = 1.9$ Hz, 1H), 6.88 – 6.81 (m, 2H); $^{13}\text{C NMR}$ (100 MHz, DMSO- d_6) δ 149.7, 144.9, 144.0, 140.1, 133.8, 133.0, 129.7, 129.5, 129.4, 127.3, 126.5, 125.6, 123.3, 118.9, 117.1, 116.5, 115.6, 115.5, 111.6, 68.2; **HRMS (ESI)** calcd for $\text{C}_{20}\text{H}_{14}\text{Br}_2\text{N}_3^+$ $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$: 455.9540; found: 455.9538.



9,10-dimethyl-6-phenyl-5,6-dihydrobenzo[4,5]imidazo[1,2-c]quinazoline (3w)

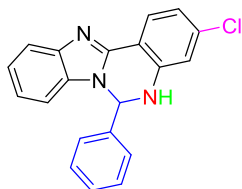
White solid (125.28 mg, 77%), $R_f = 0.21$ (PE/EA = 3/1), melting point: 238 – 240 °C, (Lit.² 230 °C), CAS registry number, 932022-75-8; $^1\text{H NMR}$ (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 8.17 (dd, $J = 7.7, 0.9$ Hz 1H), 7.52 (s, 1H), 7.42 – 7.33 (m, 5H), 7.21 (td, $J = 8.0, 1.4$ Hz 1H), 6.93 (t, $J = 7.5$ Hz, 1H), 6.67 (d, $J = 8.0$ Hz, 1H), 6.58 (s, 1H), 6.30 (s, 1H), 4.78 (s, 1H), 2.29 (s, 3H), 2.16 (s, 3H); $^{13}\text{C NMR}$ (100 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 146.9, 142.9, 141.8, 138.9, 131.7, 131.5, 131.5, 131.2, 129.9, 129.2, 126.9, 125.4, 120.1, 119.5, 114.8, 113.7, 110.6, 70.3, 20.6, 20.3.



6-phenyl-5,6-dihydronaphtho[2',3':4,5]imidazo[1,2-c]quinazoline (3x)

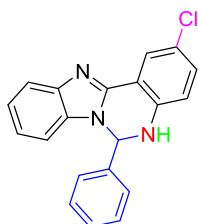
White solid (112.82 mg, 65%), $R_f = 0.22$ (PE/EA = 3/1), melting point: 148 – 145 °C, $^1\text{H NMR}$ (600 MHz, DMSO- d_6) δ 8.20 (s, 1H), 8.07 – 7.99 (m, 3H), 7.81 (s, 2H), 7.68 (s, 1H), 7.39 – 7.36 (m, 2H), 7.33 – 7.31 (m, 5H), 7.21 (s, 1H), 6.91 (d, $J = 8.1$ Hz, 1H), 6.87 (t, $J = 7.4$ Hz, 1H); $^{13}\text{C NMR}$ (150 MHz, DMSO- d_6) δ 151.2, 144.5,

144.3, 140.9, 134.2, 133.2, 130.5, 130.2, 129.4, 129.3 128.5, 127.7, 126.3, 125.9, 124.5, 123.9, 118.7, 115.5, 115.4, 111.7, 106.5, 68.0; **HRMS (ESI)** calcd for $C_{24}H_{18}N_3^+$ $[M+H]^+$: 348.1495; found: 348.1495.



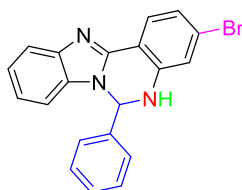
2-chloro-6-phenyl-5,6-dihydrobenzo[4,5]imidazo[1,2-c]quinazoline (3y)

White solid (109.26 mg, 66%), $R_f = 0.31$ (PE/EA = 4/1), melting point: 236 – 238 °C, 1H NMR (600 MHz, DMSO- d_6) δ 7.97 (d, $J = 8.3$ Hz, 1H), 7.88 (s, 1H), 7.67 (d, $J = 8.0$ Hz, 1H), 7.36 – 7.39 (m, 5H), 7.20 (t, $J = 7.4$ Hz, 1H), 7.14-7.10 (m, 3H), 6.91 (s, 1H), 6.86 (d, $J = 8.3$ Hz, 1H); ^{13}C NMR (150 MHz, DMSO- d_6) δ 146.5, 144.7, 144.3, 140.6, 136.4, 133.3, 129.6, 129.4, 126.8, 126.5, 122.9, 122.8, 119.3, 118.6, 114.4, 111.1, 68.2; **HRMS (ESI)** calcd for $C_{20}H_{15}ClN_3^+$ $[M+H]^+$: 332.0949; found: 332.0951.



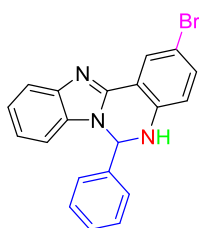
2-chloro-6-phenyl-5,6-dihydrobenzo[4,5]imidazo[1,2-c]quinazoline (3z)

White solid (84.43 mg, 51%), $R_f = 0.20$ (PE/EA = 3/1), melting point: 188 – 190 °C, 1H NMR (600 MHz, DMSO- d_6) δ 7.92 (s, 1H), 7.83 (s, 1H), 7.69 (d, $J = 8.0$ Hz, 1H), 7.35 (s, 3H), 7.30 (d, $J = 7.3$ Hz, 3H), 7.21 (t, $J = 7.4$ Hz, 1H), 7.16 – 7.12 (m, 3H), 6.90 (d, $J = 8.6$ Hz, 1H); ^{13}C NMR (150 MHz, DMSO- d_6) δ 146.1, 144.2, 142.4, 140.6, 133.3, 131.8, 129.6, 129.4, 126.5, 124.1, 123.0, 122.2, 119.4, 117.1, 113.6, 111.2, 68.3; **HRMS (ESI)** calcd for $C_{20}H_{15}ClN_3^+$ $[M+H]^+$: 332.0949; found: 332.0949.



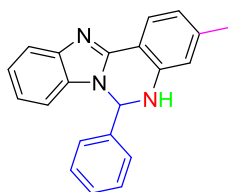
3-bromo-6-phenyl-5,6-dihydrobenzo[4,5]imidazo[1,2-c]quinazoline (3aa)

White solid (116.26 mg, 62%), $R_f = 0.30$ (PE/EA = 4/1), melting point: 236 – 238 °C, $^1\text{H NMR}$ (600 MHz, $\text{DMSO-}d_6$) δ 7.90 (d, $J = 8.2$ Hz, 1H), 7.87 (s, 1H), 7.68 (d, $J = 8.0$ Hz, 1H), 7.36 – 7.30 (m, 5H), 7.20 (t, $J = 7.3$ Hz, 1H), 7.15 – 7.10 (m, 3H), 7.07 (s, 1H), 7.00 (d, $J = 8.2$ Hz, 1H); $^{13}\text{C NMR}$ (150 MHz, $\text{DMSO-}d_6$) δ 146.5, 144.8, 144.3, 140.5, 133.3, 129.6, 129.4, 126.9, 126.4, 125.2, 122.9, 122.8, 121.4, 119.3, 117.3, 111.4, 111.1, 68.2; **HRMS (ESI)** calcd for $\text{C}_{20}\text{H}_{15}\text{BrN}_3^+$ $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$: 376.0444; found: 376.0442.



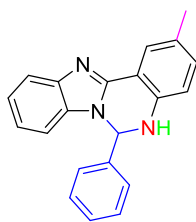
2-bromo-6-phenyl-5,6-dihydrobenzo[4,5]imidazo[1,2-c]quinazoline (3ab)

White solid (112.88 mg, 60%), $R_f = 0.32$ (PE/EA = 3/1), melting point: 207 – 209 °C, $^1\text{H NMR}$ (400 MHz, $\text{DMSO-}d_6$) δ 8.04 (d, $J = 2.4$ Hz, 1H), 7.85 (d, $J = 1.5$ Hz, 1H), 7.68 (d, $J = 8.0$ Hz, 1H), 7.40 (dd, $J = 8.7, 2.4$ Hz, 1H), 7.35 – 7.28 (m, 5H), 7.20 (td, $J = 8.2, 1.7$ Hz, 1H), 7.16 – 7.09 (m, 3H), 6.84 (d, $J = 8.7$ Hz, 1H); $^{13}\text{C NMR}$ (100 MHz, $\text{DMSO-}d_6$) δ 146.0, 144.2, 142.7, 140.5, 134.5, 133.3, 129.6, 129.4, 127.0, 126.5, 123.0, 119.4, 117.5, 114.0, 111.2, 109.5, 68.3; **HRMS (ESI)** calcd for $\text{C}_{20}\text{H}_{15}\text{BrN}_3^+$ $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$: 376.0444; found: 376.0444.



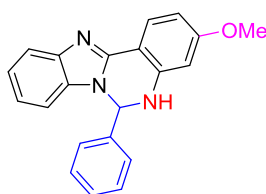
3-methyl-6-phenyl-5,6-dihydrobenzo[4,5]imidazo[1,2-c]quinazoline (3ac)

White solid (91.79 mg, 59%), $R_f = 0.33$ (PE/EA = 3/1), melting point: 102 – 104 °C, $^1\text{H NMR}$ (600 MHz, $\text{DMSO-}d_6$) δ 7.86 (d, $J = 7.7$ Hz, 1H), 7.64 (d, $J = 7.9$ Hz, 1H), 7.56 (s, 1H), 7.32 (d, $J = 5.9$ Hz, 3H), 7.27 (d, $J = 7.1$ Hz, 2H), 7.17 (t, $J = 7.2$ Hz, 2H), 7.09 (t, $J = 7.6$ Hz, 1H), 7.06 (s, 1H), 6.68 – 6.66 (m, 2H), 2.26 (s, 3H); $^{13}\text{C NMR}$ (150 MHz, $\text{DMSO-}d_6$) δ 147.6, 144.4, 143.6, 142.1, 141.0, 133.3, 129.3, 129.2, 126.4, 125.1, 122.6, 122.3, 119.9, 119.0, 115.4, 110.9, 110.0, 68.2, 21.9; **HRMS (ESI)** calcd for $\text{C}_{21}\text{H}_{18}\text{N}_3^+$ $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$: 312.1495; found: 312.1495.



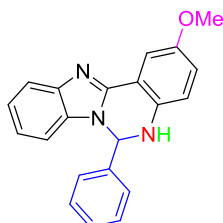
2-methyl-6-phenyl-5,6-dihydrobenzo[4,5]imidazo[1,2-c]quinazoline (3ad)

White solid (85.56 mg, 55%), $R_f = 0.33$ (PE/Ea = 3/1), melting point: 196 – 198 °C, $^1\text{H NMR}$ (600 MHz, DMSO- d_6) δ 7.80 (s, 1H), 7.66 (d, $J = 7.9$ Hz, 1H), 7.45 (s, 1H), 7.32 (s, 3H), 7.28 (s, 2H), 7.20 – 7.16 (m, 2H), 7.11 – 7.08 (m, 2H), 7.05 (s, 1H), 6.80 (d, $J = 8.1$ Hz, 1H), 2.28 (s, 3H); $^{13}\text{C NMR}$ (150 MHz, DMSO- d_6) δ 147.6, 144.3, 141.4, 141.0, 133.4, 133.0, 129.3, 129.2, 126.4, 125.1, 122.6, 122.6, 122.5, 119.1, 115.5, 112.5, 111.0, 68.3, 20.7; **HRMS (ESI)** calcd for $\text{C}_{21}\text{H}_{18}\text{N}_3^+$ $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$: 312.1495; found: 312.1495.



3-methoxy-6-phenyl-5,6-dihydrobenzo[4,5]imidazo[1,2-c]quinazoline (3ae)

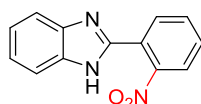
White solid (91.60 mg, 56%), $R_f = 0.25$ (PE/Ea = 2/1), melting point: 198 – 200 °C, $^1\text{H NMR}$ (600 MHz, DMSO- d_6) δ 7.95 (d, $J = 8.4$ Hz, 1H), 7.69 (s, 1H), 7.65 (d, $J = 7.9$ Hz, 1H), 7.33 (s, 5H), 7.16 – 7.15 (m, 2H), 7.08 – 7.06 (m, 2H), 6.49 – 6.47 (m, 2H), 3.76 (s, 3H); $^{13}\text{C NMR}$ (150 MHz, DMSO- d_6) δ 162.9, 147.8, 145.3, 144.5, 141.0, 133.3, 129.4, 129.3, 126.9, 126.5, 122.5, 122.1, 118.8, 110.7, 106.1, 105.8, 99.4, 68.3, 55.5; **HRMS (ESI)** calcd for $\text{C}_{21}\text{H}_{18}\text{N}_3\text{O}^+$ $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$: 328.1444; found: 328.1444.



2-methoxy-6-phenyl-5,6-dihydrobenzo[4,5]imidazo[1,2-c]quinazoline (3af)

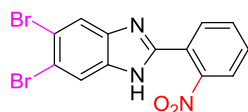
White solid (85.12 mg, 52%), $R_f = 0.16$ (PE/Ea = 3/1), melting point: 89 – 90 °C, $^1\text{H NMR}$ (400 MHz, DMSO- d_6) δ 7.67 (d, $J = 8.0$ Hz, 1H), 7.51 (d, $J = 2.9$ Hz, 1H), 7.33

– 7.25 (m, 6H), 7.21 – 7.08 (m, 3H), 7.02 (d, $J = 1.9$ Hz, 1H), 6.94 – 6.91 (m, 1H), 6.85 (d, $J = 8.8$ Hz, 1H), 3.78 (s, 3 H); ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, DMSO- d_6) δ 152.7, 147.5, 144.2, 140.8, 137.8, 133.5, 129.3, 129.2, 126.5, 122.7, 120.0, 119.2, 117.2, 113.3, 111.0, 108.1, 68.5, 55.8; HRMS (ESI) calcd for $\text{C}_{21}\text{H}_{18}\text{N}_3\text{O}^+$ $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$: 328.1444; found: 328.1444.



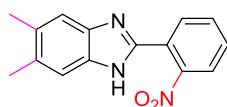
2-(2-nitrophenyl)-1H-benzo[d]imidazole (1a)

Yellow solid (1.87 g, 78%), $R_f = 0.29$ (PE/EA = 1/1), melting point: 225 – 227 °C (Lit.⁵ 259 – 262 °C), CAS Registry Number: 2208-58-4, ^1H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO- d_6) δ 13.10 (s, 1H), 8.04 – 7.99 (m, 2H), 7.85 (t, $J = 7.5$ Hz, 1H), 7.74 (t, $J = 7.5$ Hz, 1H), 7.68 (s, 1H), 7.61 (s, 1H), 7.26 (s, 2H); ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, DMSO- d_6) δ 149.5, 147.9, 144.1, 135.1, 133.1, 131.4, 131.3, 124.8, 123.6, 122.4, 119.7, 112.2.



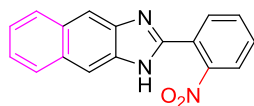
5,6-dibromo-2-(2-nitrophenyl)-1H-benzo[d]imidazole (1v)

Yellow solid (2.57 g, 65%), $R_f = 0.16$ (PE/EA = 3/1), melting point: 120 – 122 °C, (Lit.⁶ 213 – 215 °C), CAS Registry Number: 2829334-38-3, ^1H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO- d_6) δ 13.39 (s, 1H), 8.10 – 8.01 (m, 2H), 8.00 – 7.97 (m, 2H), 7.91 – 7.87 (m, 1H), 7.83 – 7.78 (m, 1H).



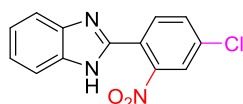
5,6-dimethyl-2-(2-nitrophenyl)-1H-benzo[d]imidazole (1w)

White solid (1.66 g, 62%), $R_f = 0.23$ (PE/EA = 3/1), melting point: 120 – 122 °C (Lit.⁶ 203 – 204 °C), CAS registry number: 10173-74-7, ^1H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO- d_6) δ 12.78 (s, 1H), 7.99 – 7.94 (m, 2H), 7.83 (t, $J = 7.5$ Hz, 1H), 7.72 (t, $J = 7.6$ Hz, 1H), 7.42 (s, 1H), 7.33 (s, 1H), 2.33 (s, 6H).



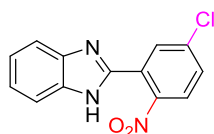
2-(2-nitrophenyl)-1H-naphtho[2,3-d]imidazole (1x)

White solid (0.95 g, 33%), $R_f = 0.25$ (PE/EA = 2/1), melting point: 249 – 251 °C, (Lit.⁷ 270 °C), CAS Registry Number: 1449387-77-2, ¹H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆) δ 13.02 (s, 1H), 8.16 (s, 1H), 8.04 – 7.94 (m, 5H), 7.85 (td, $J = 7.6, 1.1$ Hz, 1H), 7.75 (td, $J = 7.8, 1.3$ Hz, 1H), 7.37 – 7.30 (m, 2H).



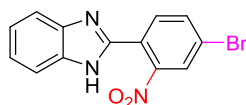
2-(4-chloro-2-nitrophenyl)-1H-benzo[d]imidazole (1y)

Yellow solid (1.67 g, 61%), $R_f = 0.33$ (PE/EA = 2/1), melting point: 210 – 212 °C, (Lit.⁸ 256 – 258 °C), CAS Registry Number: 2409006-77-3, ¹H NMR (600 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆) δ 13.14 (s, 1H), 8.25 (d, $J = 1.8$ Hz, 1H), 8.04 (d, $J = 8.4$ Hz, 1H), 7.99 (dd, $J = 8.3, 1.9$ Hz, 1H), 7.67 (d, $J = 6.6$ Hz, 1H), 7.59 (d, $J = 6.7$ Hz, 1H), 7.29 (d, $J = 6.0$ Hz, 1H), 7.25 (d, $J = 6.2$ Hz, 1H).



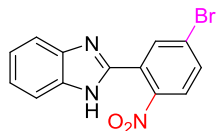
2-(5-chloro-2-nitrophenyl)-1H-benzo[d]imidazole (1z)

Yellow solid (1.34 g, 49%), $R_f = 0.3$ (PE/EA = 3/1), melting point: 215 – 217 °C, (Lit.⁹ not reported), CAS Registry Number: 10173-75-8, ¹H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆) δ 13.16 (s, 1H), 8.12 (s, 2H), 7.85 (s, 1H), 7.64 (s, 2H), 7.28 (s, 2H).



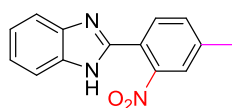
2-(4-bromo-2-nitrophenyl)-1H-benzo[d]imidazole (1aa)

Yellow solid (1.65 g, 52%), $R_f = 0.33$ (PE/EA = 2/1), melting point: 218 – 220 °C, (Lit.⁹ not reported), CAS Registry Number: 1392427-60-9, ¹H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆) δ 13.13 (s, 1H), 8.33 (d, $J = 2.0$ Hz, 1H), 8.10 (dd, $J = 8.3, 2.1$ Hz, 1H), 7.95 (d, $J = 8.3$ Hz, 1H), 7.70 – 7.57 (m, 2H), 7.31 – 7.20 (m, 2H).



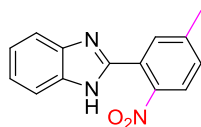
5-bromo-2-(2-nitrophenyl)-1H-benzo[d]imidazole (1ab)

Yellow solid (1.91 g, 60%), $R_f = 0.25$ (PE/EA = 3/1), melting point: 204 – 206 °C, ^1H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO- d_6) δ 13.15 (s, 1H), 8.25 (d, $J = 1.7$ Hz, 1H), 7.99 – 7.94 (m, 2H), 7.64 (s, 2H), 7.26 (d, $J = 2.1$ Hz, 2H); ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, DMSO- d_6) δ 148.3, 146.3, 144.0, 135.1, 134.0, 133.8, 126.7, 126.3, 126.1, 123.9, 122.6, 119.9, 112.3, HRMS (ESI) calcd for $\text{C}_{13}\text{H}_9\text{BrN}_3\text{O}_2^+$ $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$: 317.9873; found: 317.9871.



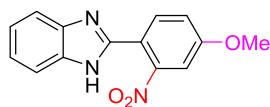
2-(4-methyl-2-nitrophenyl)-1H-benzo[d]imidazole (1ac)

Yellow solid (1.42 g, 56%), $R_f = 0.25$ (PE/EA = 2/1), melting point: 242 – 245 °C, (Lit.⁸ 260 – 262 °C), CAS Registry Number: 2409006-80-8, ^1H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO- d_6) δ 13.02 (s, 1H), 7.91 – 7.88 (m, 1H), 7.70 – 7.58 (m, 3H), 7.31 – 7.22 (m, 2H), 2.50 (s, 3H).



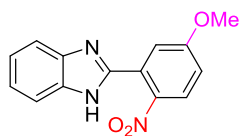
2-(5-methyl-2-nitrophenyl)-1H-benzo[d]imidazole (1ad)

Yellow solid (1.27 g, 50%), $R_f = 0.25$ (PE/EA = 1/1), melting point: 226 – 228 °C, ^1H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO- d_6) δ 12.99 (s, 1H), 7.96 (d, $J = 8.3$ Hz, 1H), 7.78 (s, 1H), 7.66 (s, 1H), 7.55 (d, $J = 8.0$ Hz, 2H), 7.25 (s, 2H), 2.49 (s, 3H); ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, DMSO- d_6) δ 148.2, 147.2, 143.9, 135.1, 132.1, 131.5, 125.1, 124.9, 123.4, 122.3, 119.7, 112.1, 21.3; HRMS (ESI) calcd for $\text{C}_{14}\text{H}_{12}\text{N}_3\text{O}_2^+$ $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$: 254.0924; found: 254.0924.



2-(4-methoxy-2-nitrophenyl)-1H-benzo[d]imidazole (1ae)

White solid (1.02 g, 38%), $R_f = 0.25$ (PE/EA = 1/1), melting point: 190 – 192 °C, (Lit.⁸ 242 – 244 °C), CAS Registry Number: 942614-32-6, **¹H NMR** (400 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆) δ 12.92 (s, 1H), 7.91 (dd, $J = 9.9, 5.0$ Hz, 1H), 7.63 – 7.59 (m, 2H), 7.54 (d, $J = 5.8$ Hz, 1H), 7.44 – 7.40 (m, 1H), 7.24 – 7.20 (m, 2H), 3.93 (s, 3H).



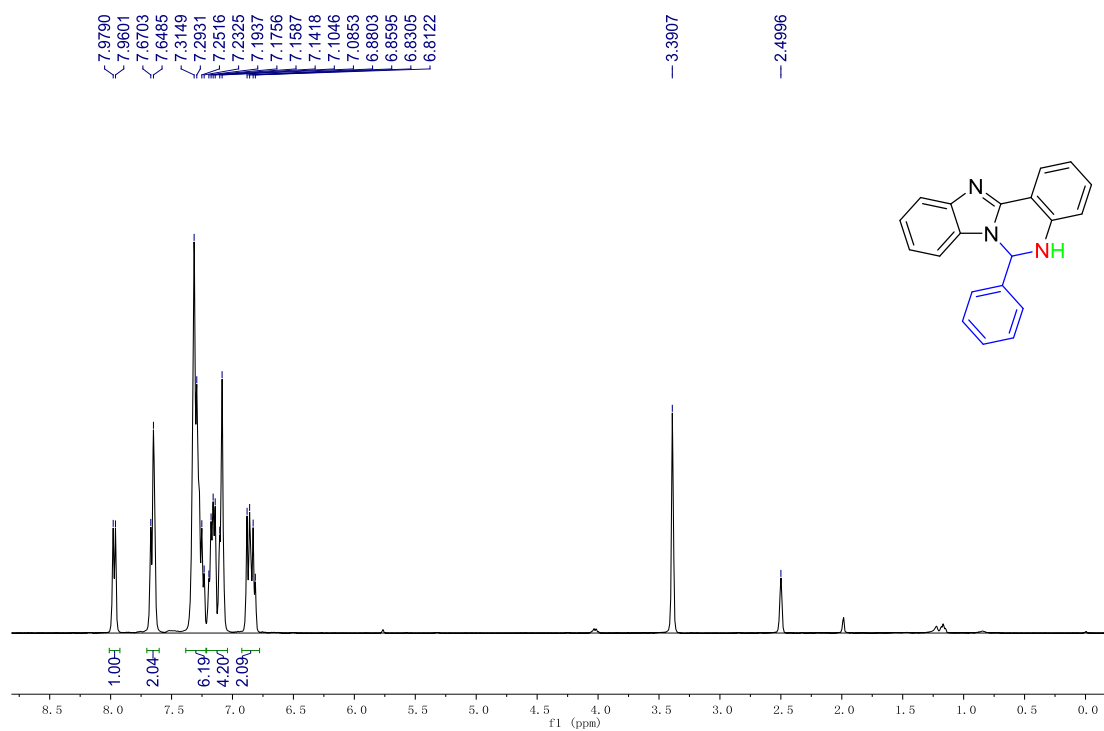
2-(5-methoxy-2-nitrophenyl)-1H-benzo[d]imidazole (1af)

Brown solid (1.67 g, 62%), $R_f = 0.29$ (PE/EA = 1/1), melting point: 207 – 209 °C, **¹H NMR** (400 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆) δ 12.97 (s, 1H), 8.09 (d, $J = 9.0$ Hz, 1H), 7.67 (d, $J = 4.3$ Hz, 1H), 7.57 (d, $J = 5.1$ Hz), 7.41 (d, $J = 2.2$ Hz, 1H), 7.26 (dd, $J = 8.5, 1.9$ Hz, 3H), 3.94 (s, 3H); **¹³C NMR** (100 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆) δ 162.6, 148.3, 144.0, 142.3, 135.0, 128.1, 127.5, 123.4, 122.2, 119.7, 117.1, 116.0, 112.1, 56.9; **HRMS (ESI)** calcd for C₁₄H₁₂N₃O₃⁺ [M+H]⁺: 270.0873; found: 270.0870.

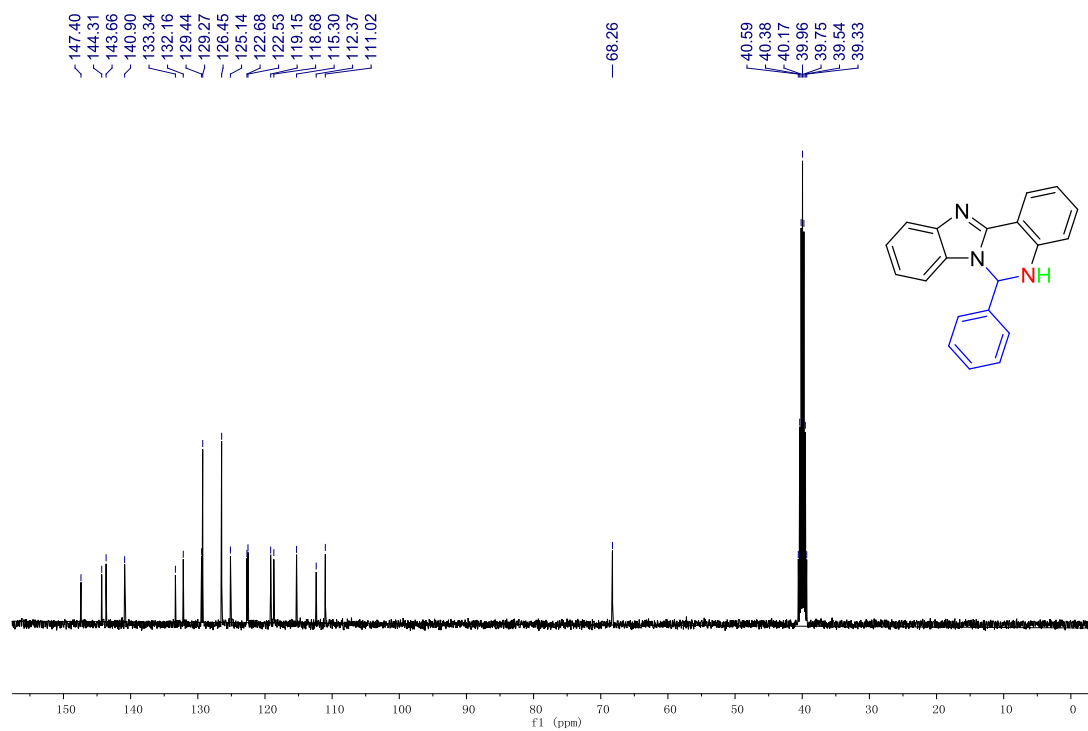
4. References

- 1 Kamal, M. Khatua, S. Rani, B. Goswami and S. Samanta, Alcohol dehydrogenation-triggered selective C3-alkylation of indoles by homogeneous azo-aromatic cobalt catalysts. *J. Org. Chem.*, 2023, **88**, 5827–5843.
- 2 B. A. Insuasty, H. Torres, J. Quiroga, R. Abonia, R. Rodriguez, M. Nogueras, A. Sanchez, C. Saitz, S. L. Alvarez and S. A. Zacchino, Synthesis, characterization and in vitro antifungal evaluation of novel benzimidazo[1,2-*c*]quinazolines. *J. Chil. Chem. Soc.*, 2006, **51**, 927–932.
- 3 D. S. Chen, S. J. Liu, W. Q. Lu and X. S. Wang, Green Synthesis of 6-Aryl-5,6-dihydrobenzo[4,5]imidazo[1,2-*c*]quinazoline Derivatives in Ionic Liquid under Catalyst-free Conditions. *J. Heterocyclic Chem.*, 2017, **55**, 166–172.
- 4 R. Pandey, M. Yadav, M. Shahid, A. Misra and D. S. Pandey, Design and synthesis of fluorescent 6-aryl[1,2-*c*]quinazolines serving as selective and sensitive 'on-off' chemosensor for Hg²⁺ in aqueous media. *Tetrahedron Lett.*, 2012, **53**, 3550–3555.
- 5 M. Mas-Montoya, L. Usea, A. Espinosa Ferao, M. F. Montenegro, C. Ramirez de Arellano, A. Tarraga, J. N. Rodriguez-Lopez and D. Curiel, Single heteroatom fine-tuning of the emissive properties in organoboron complexes with 7-(azaheteroaryl)indole systems. *J. Org. Chem.*, 2016, **81**, 8, 3296–3302.
- 6 Y. A. Vlasenko, T. J. Kuczmera, N. S. Antonkin, R. R. Valiev, P. S. Postnikov and B. J. Nachtsheim, Site Selective Concerted Nucleophilic Aromatic Substitutions of Azole-Ligated Diaryliodonium Salts. *Adv. Synth. Catal.*, 2023, **365**, 535–543.
- 7 A. Mobinikhaledi, F. Deljur, A. Hamta and S. M. Shariatzadeh, Copper nitrate catalyzed synthesis and biological activity evaluation of some naphtho[2,3-*d*]imidazoles. *Bulg. Chem. Commun.*, 2012, **44**, 122–166.
- 8 M. Saha and A. R. Das, Hypervalent iodine promoted ortho diversification: 2-aryl benzimidazole, quinazoline and imidazopyridine as directing templates. *Org. Biomol. Chem.*, 2020, **18**, 941–955.
- 9 Mizutani, Sayaka; Sado, Takayasu; Ishida, Hiroki. Nitrogenated heterocyclic derivative, electron-transporting material for organic electroluminescents, and organic electroluminescent element using same. WO2012105629 A1, 2012-08-09.

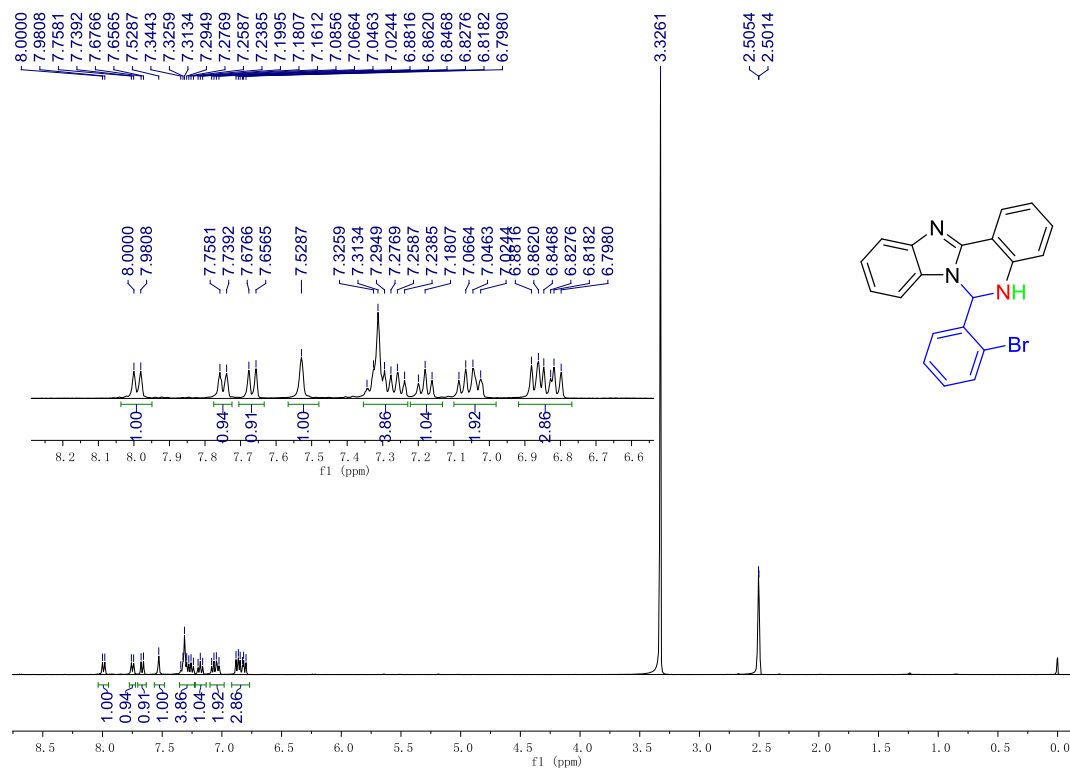
5. Copies of NMR Spectra for the Products



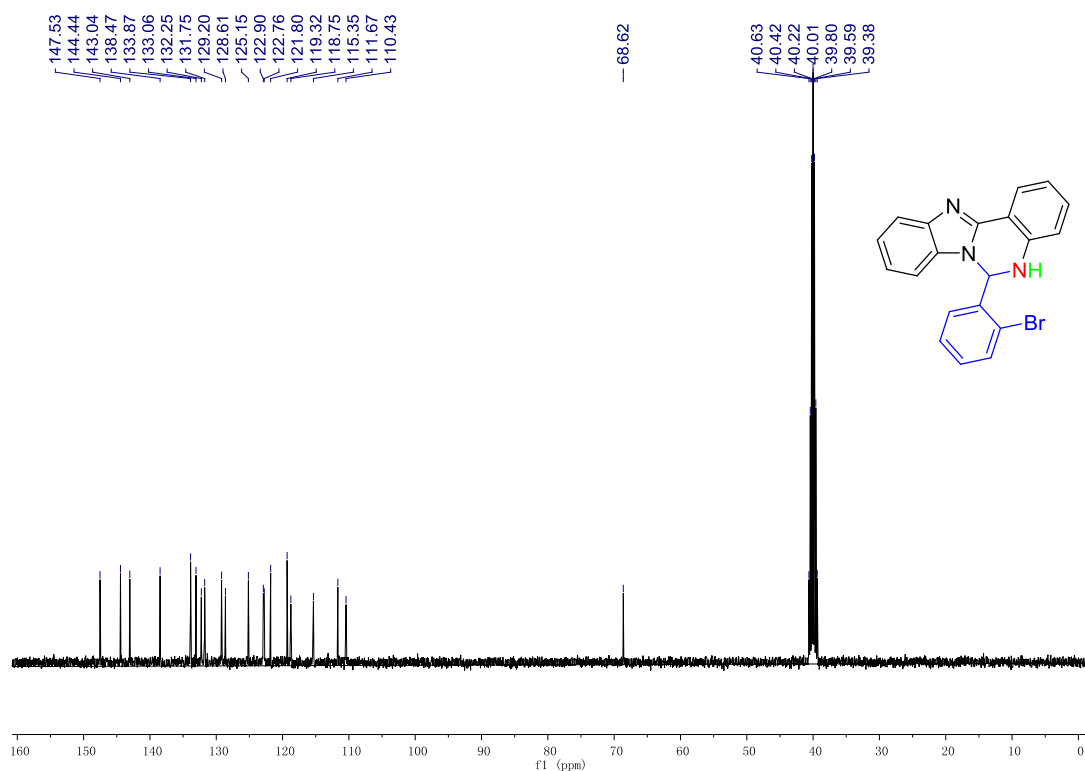
3a, ¹H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆)



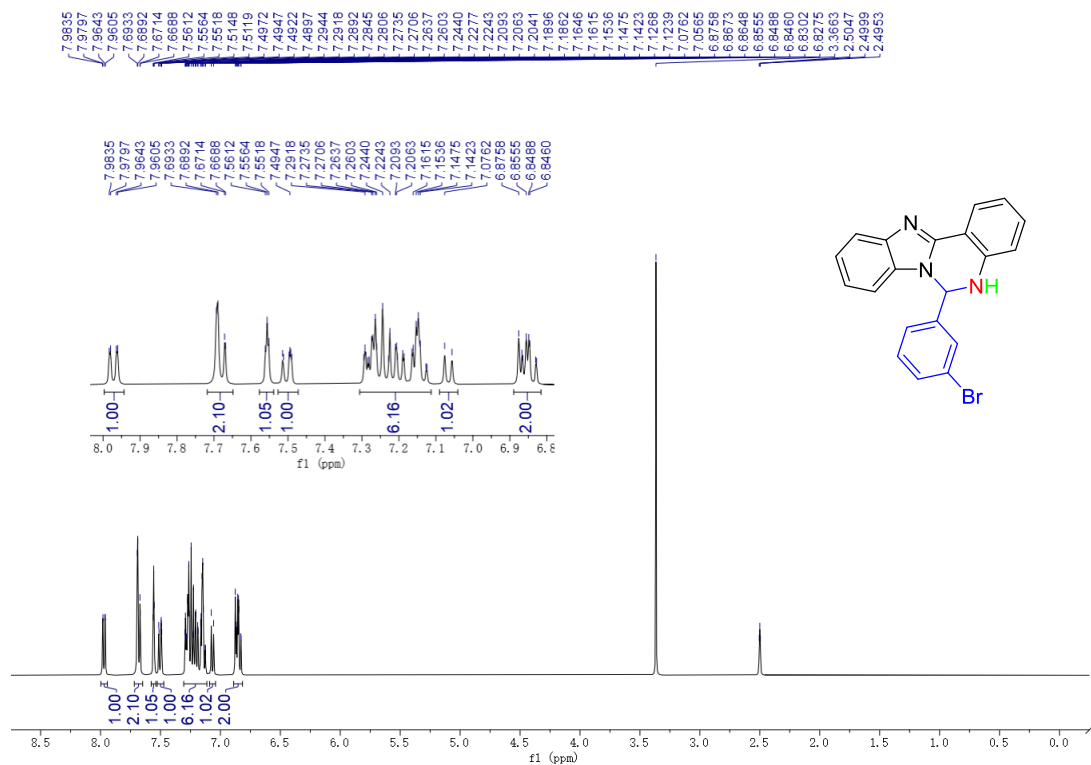
3a, ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆)



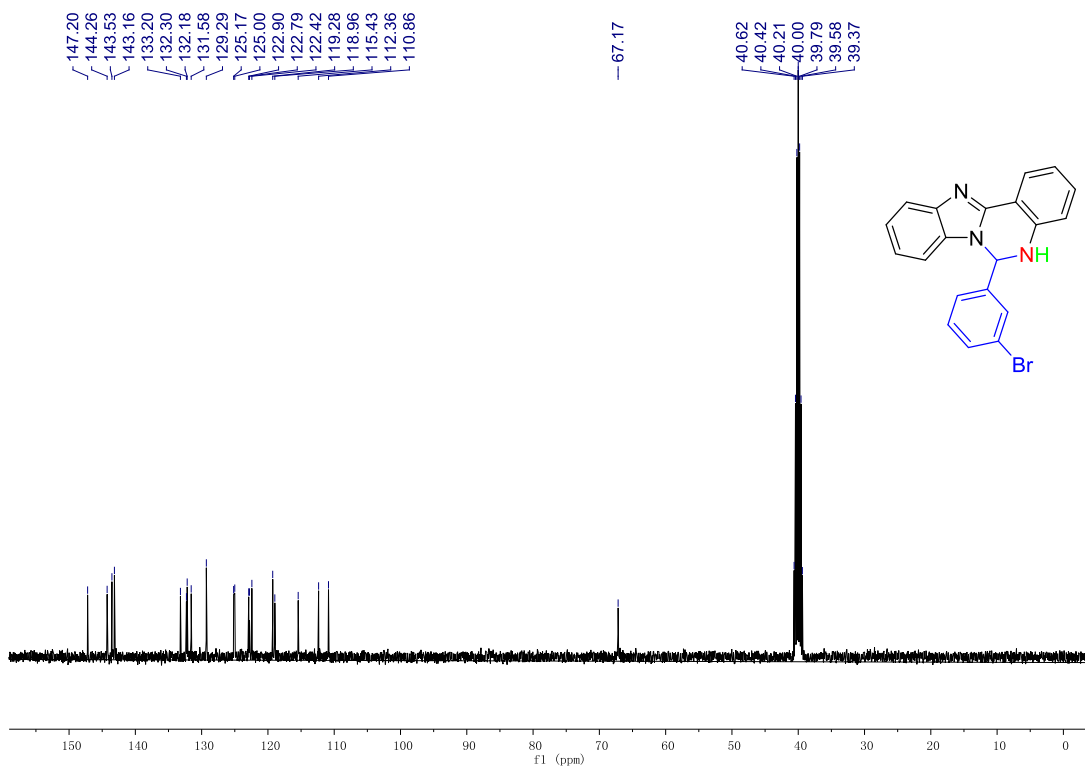
3b, ¹H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆)



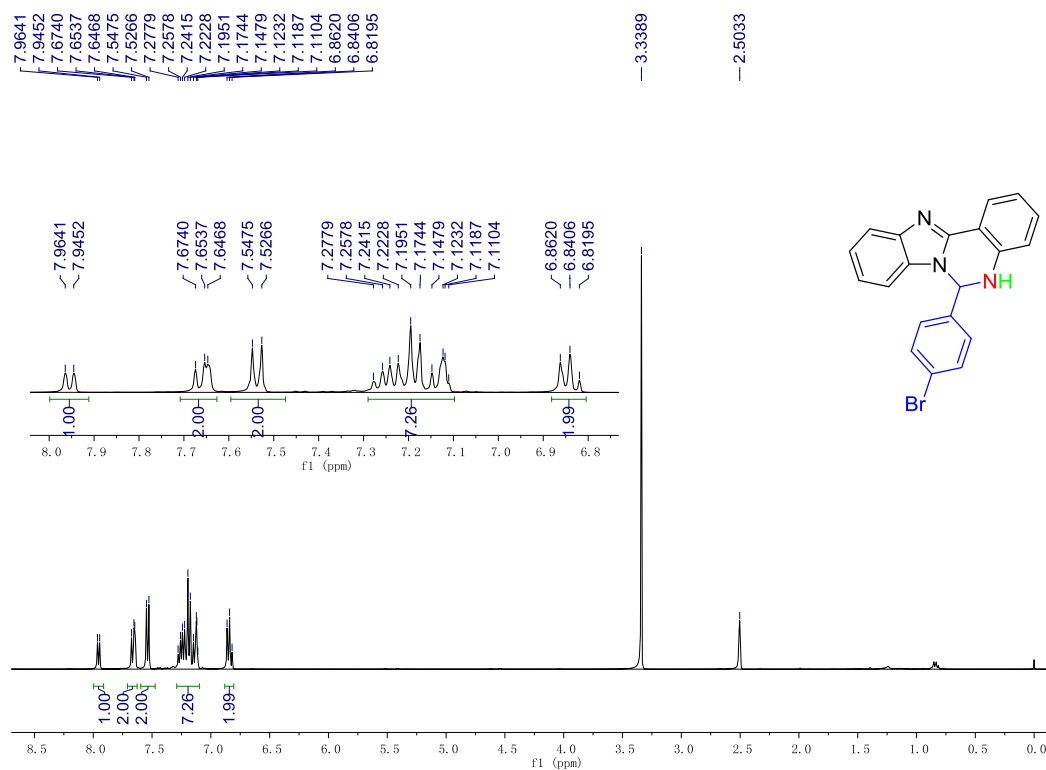
3b, ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆)



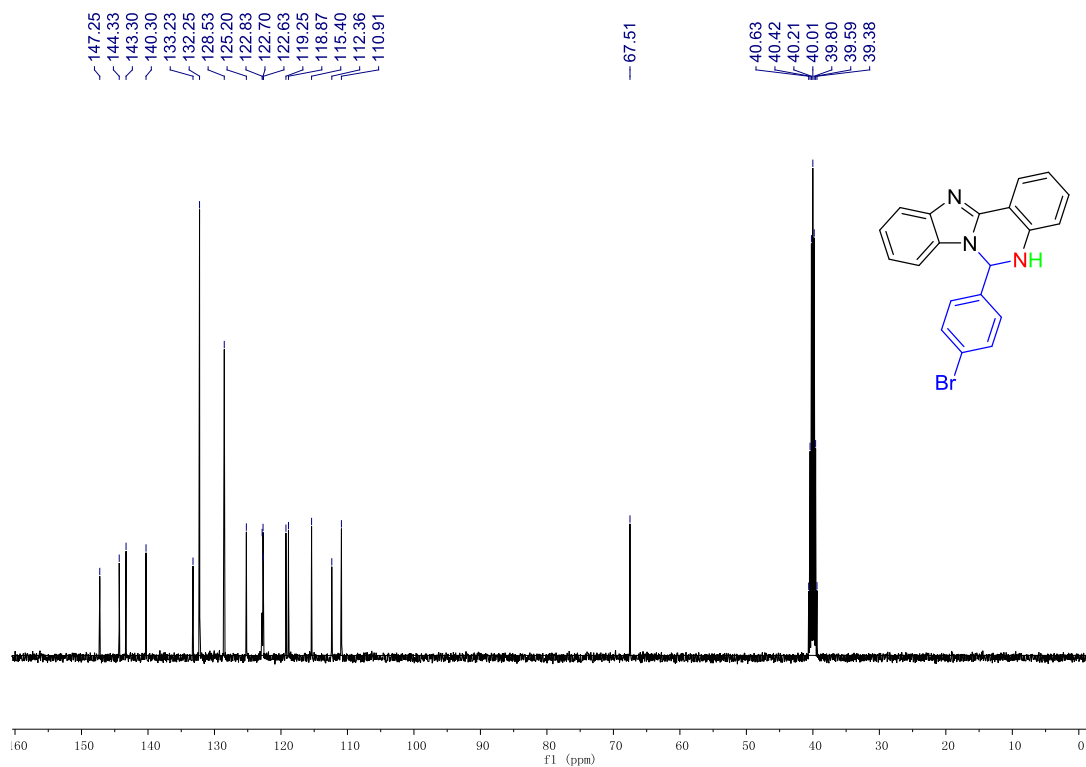
3c, ¹H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆)



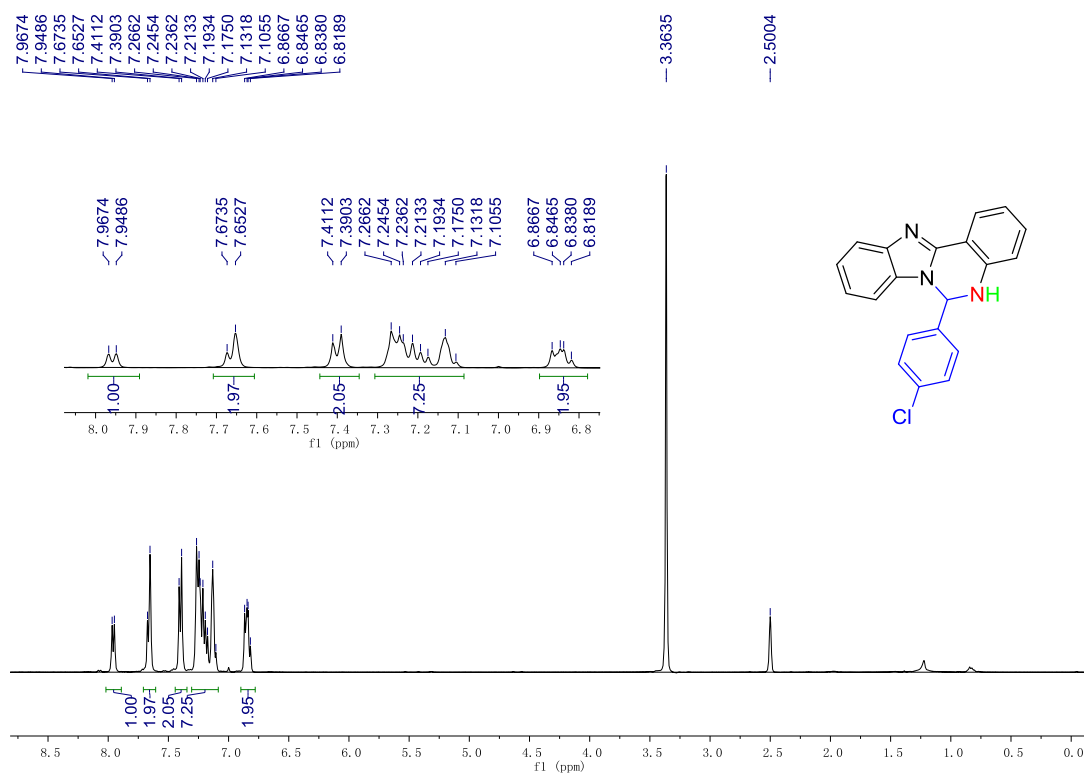
3c, ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆)



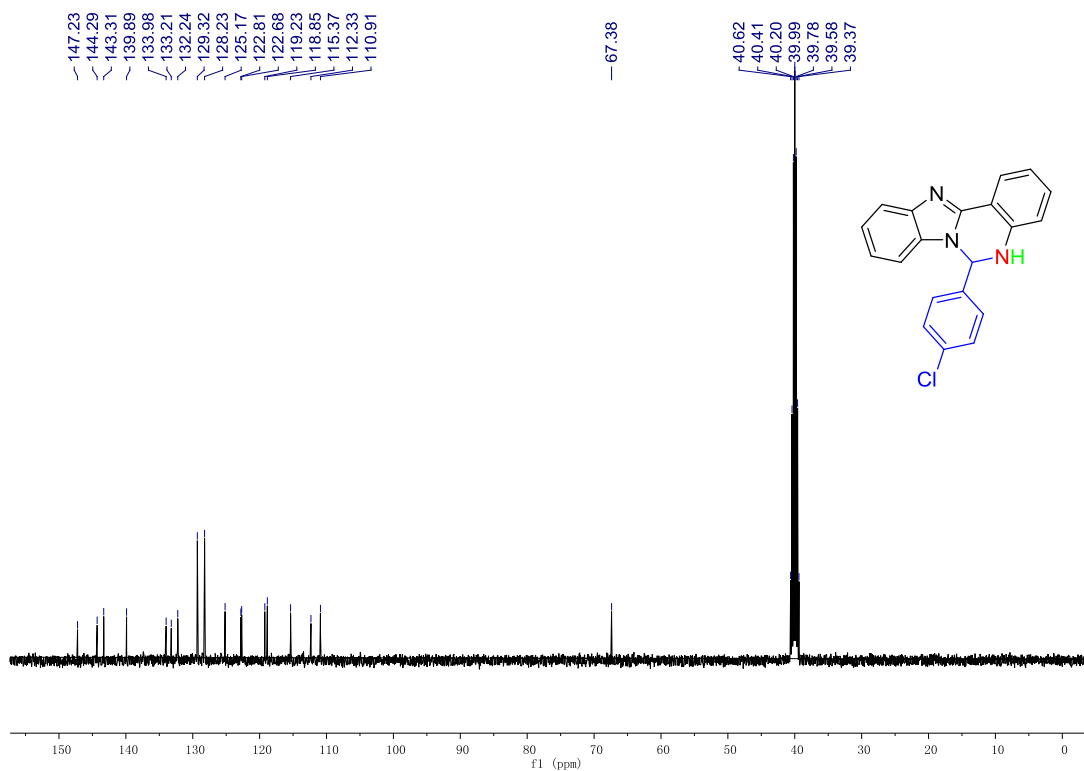
3d, ¹H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆)



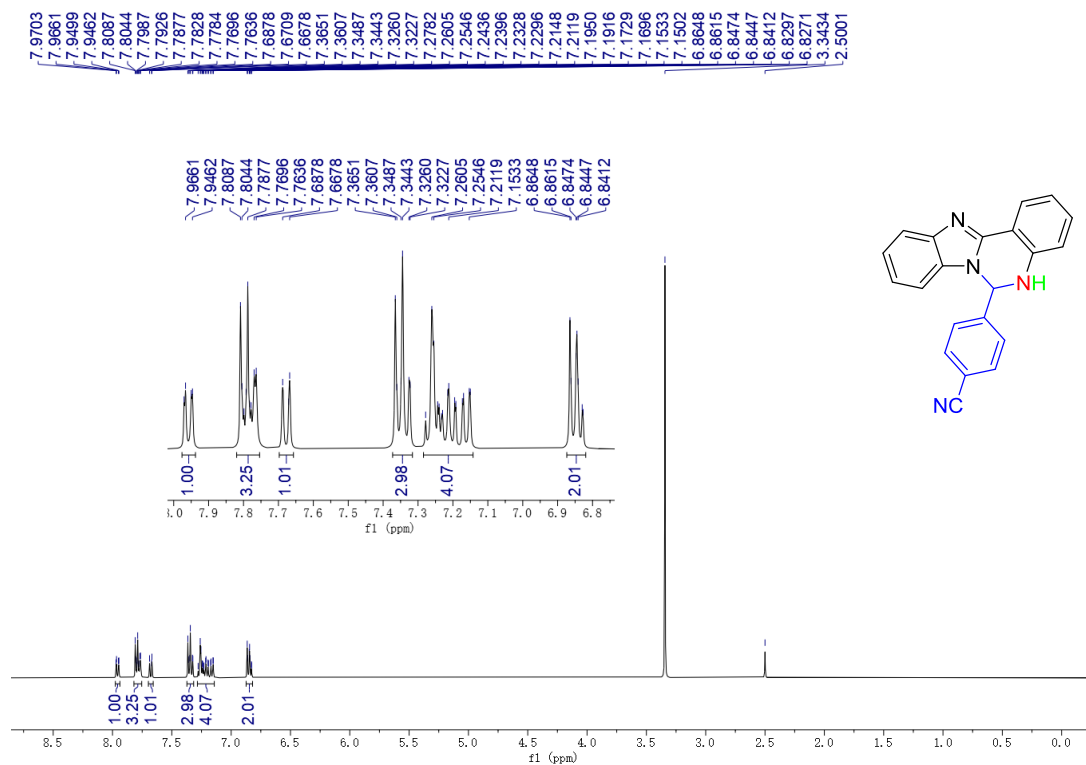
3d, ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆)



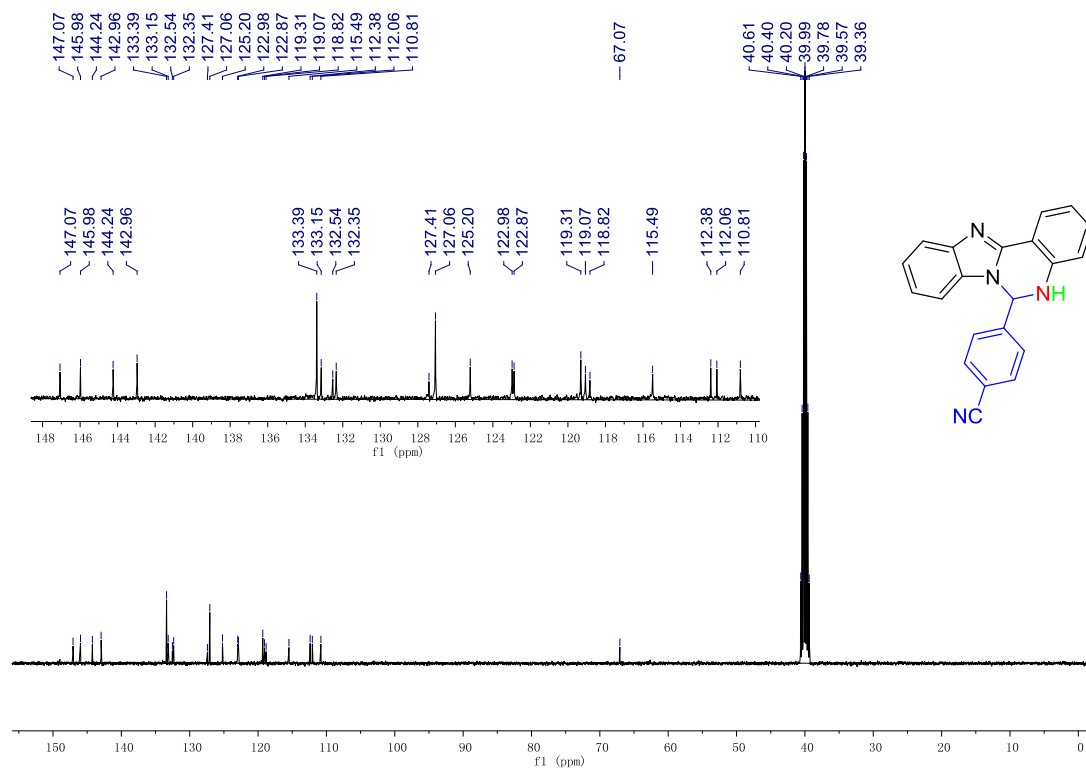
3e, ¹H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆)



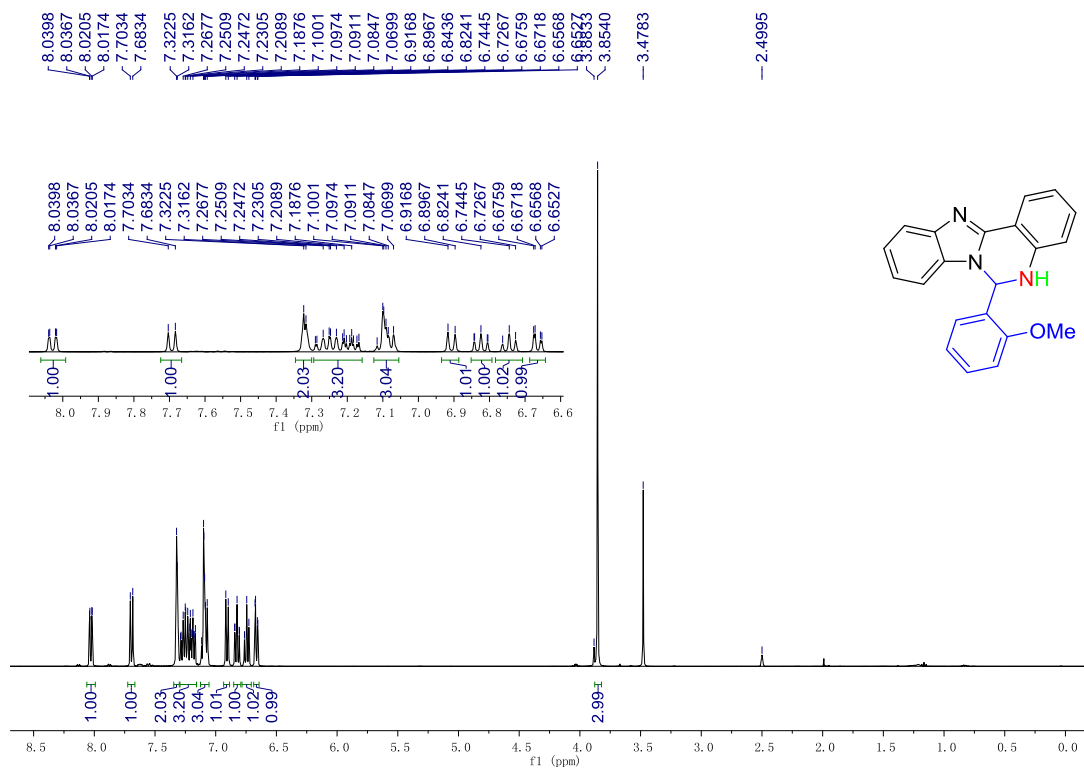
3e, ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆)



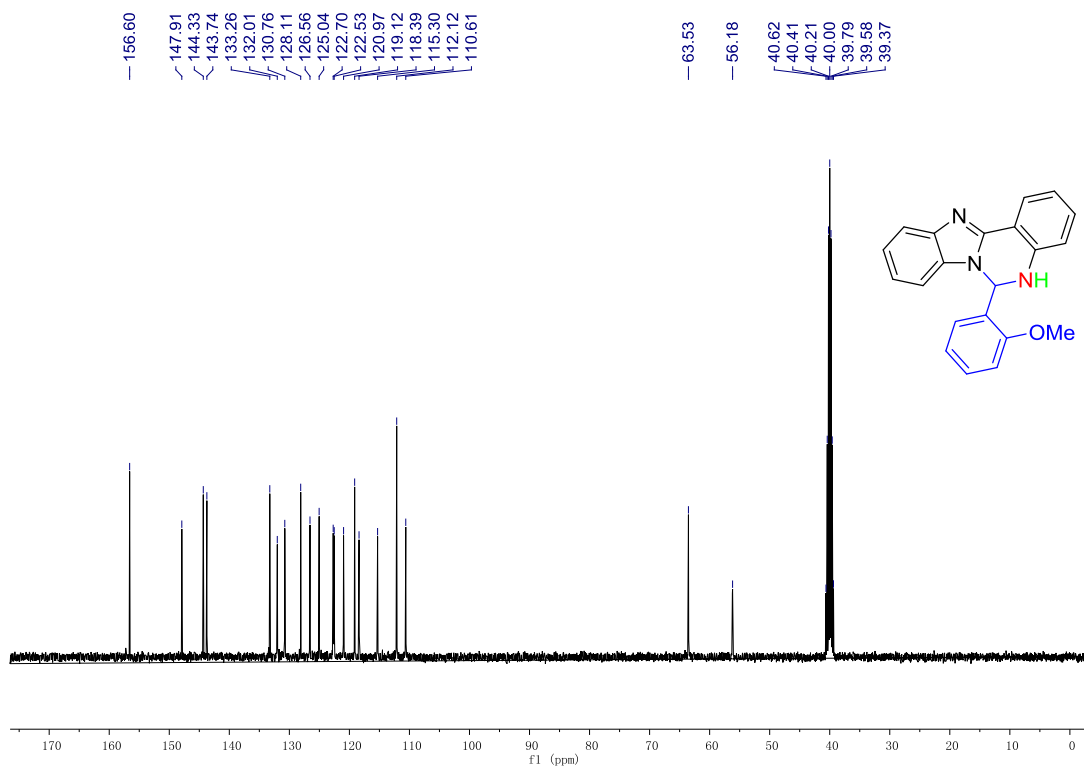
3f, ¹H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-d₆)



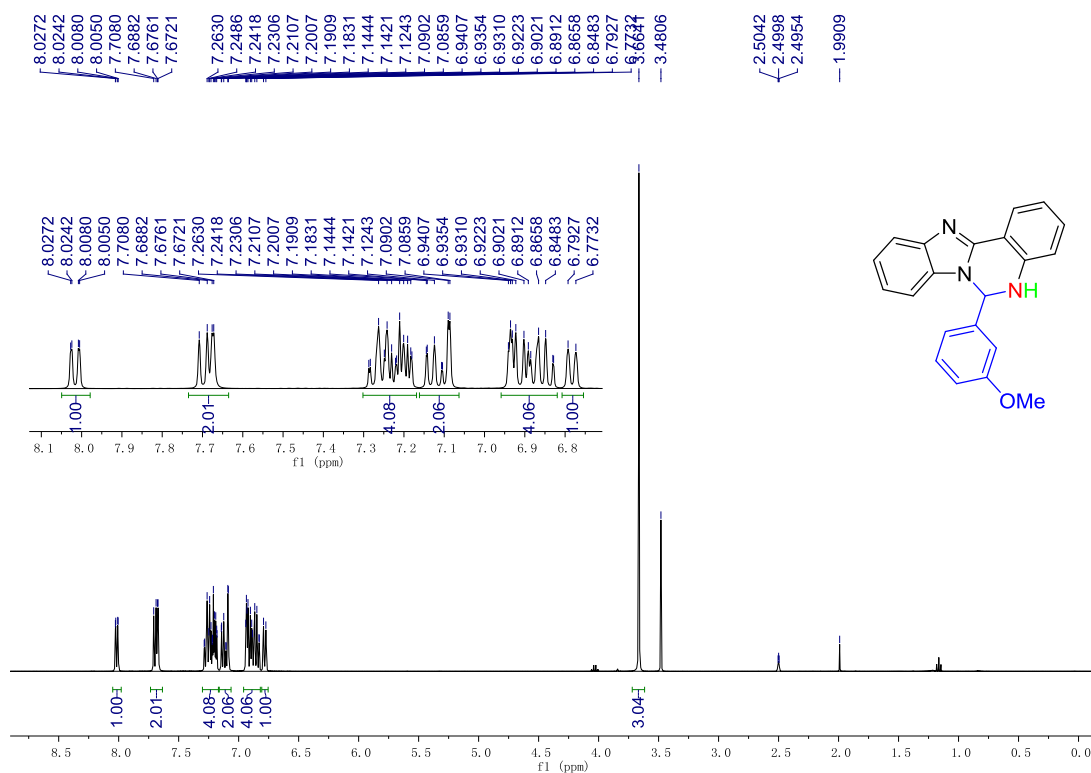
3f, ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, DMSO-d₆)



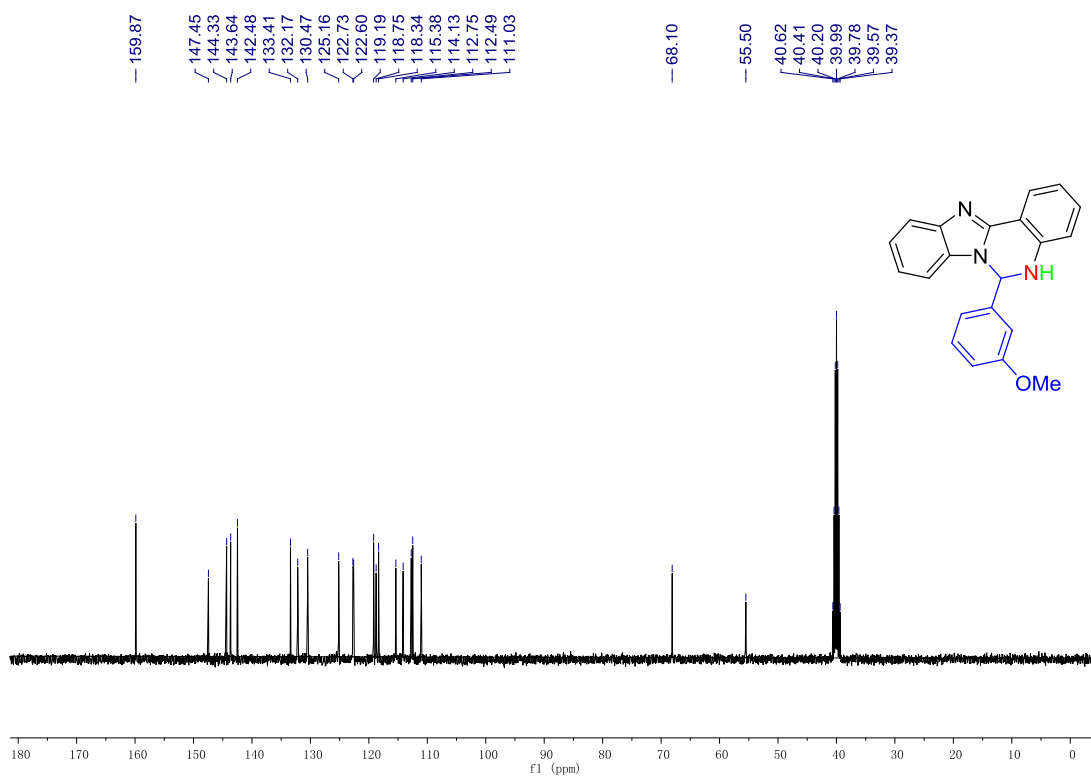
3h, ¹H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆)



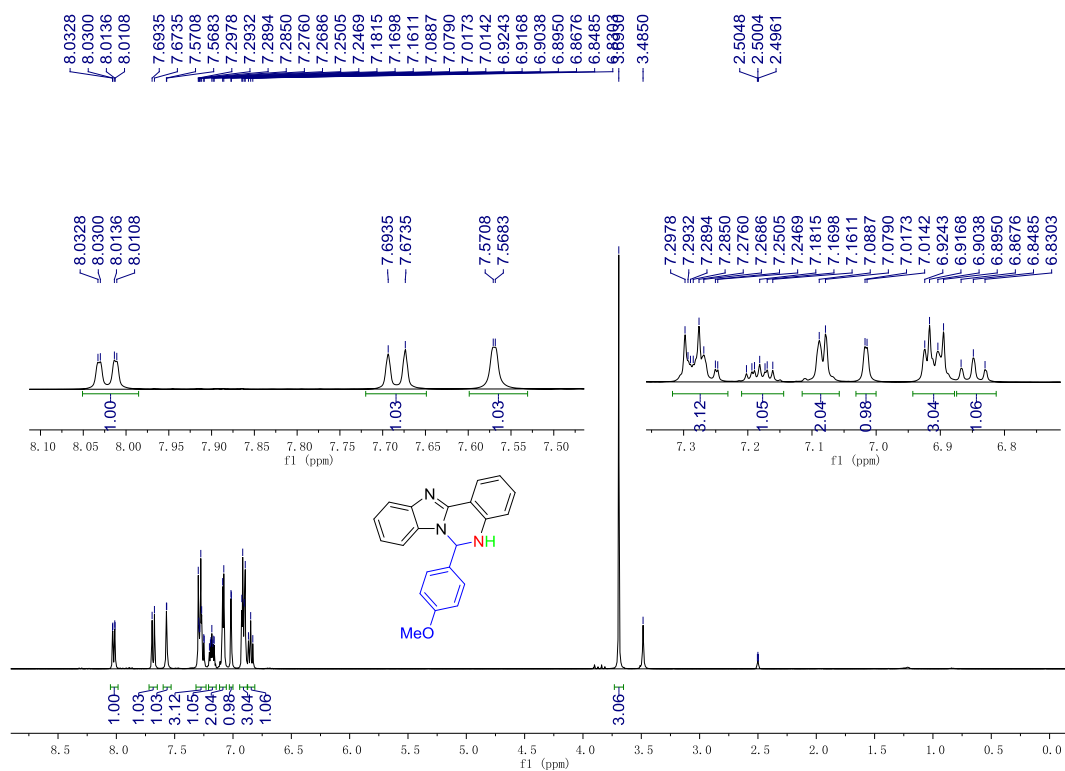
3h, ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆)



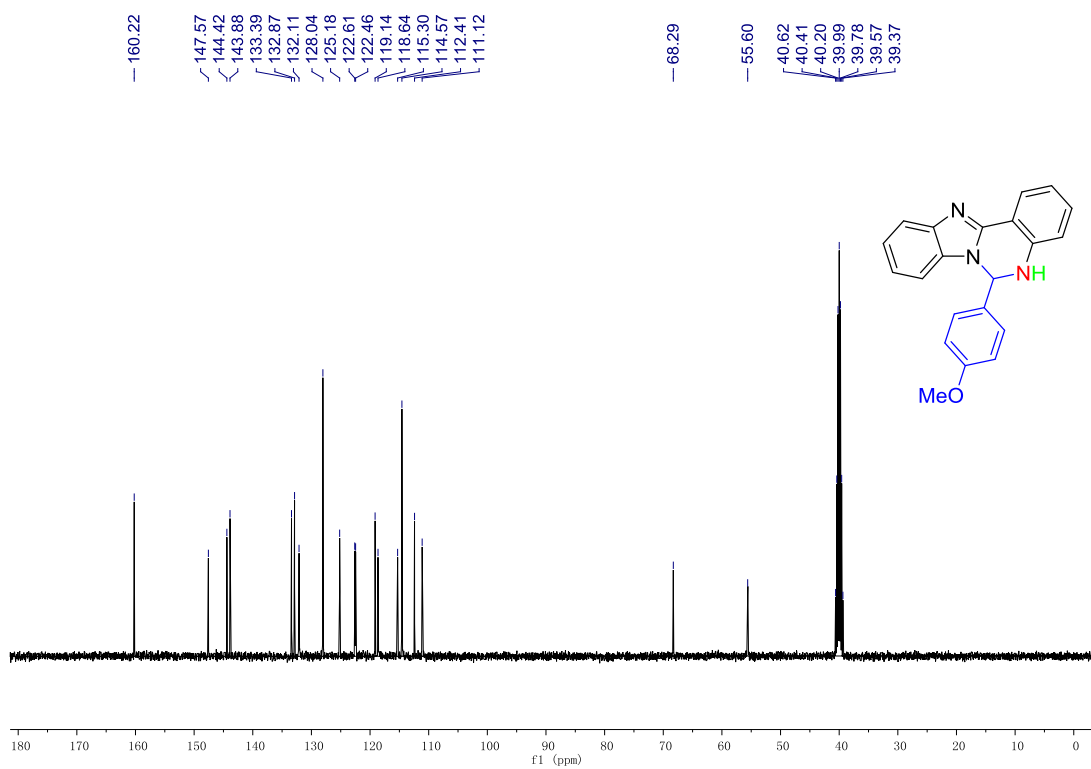
3i, ¹H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆)



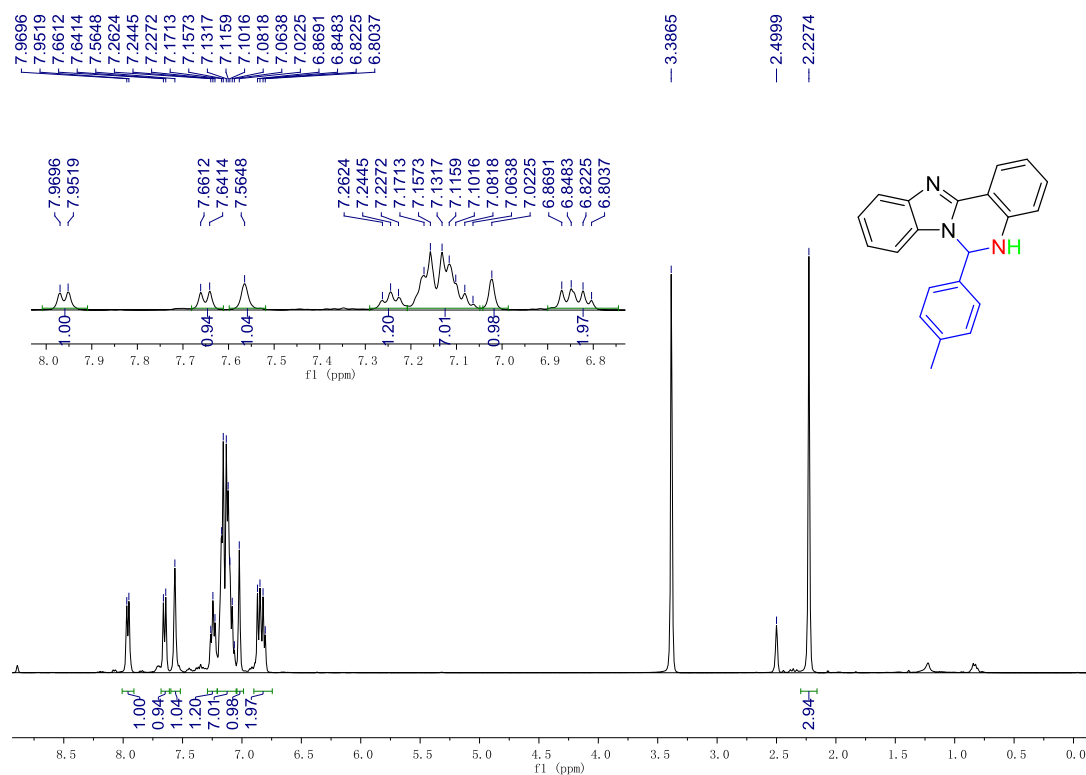
3i, ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆)



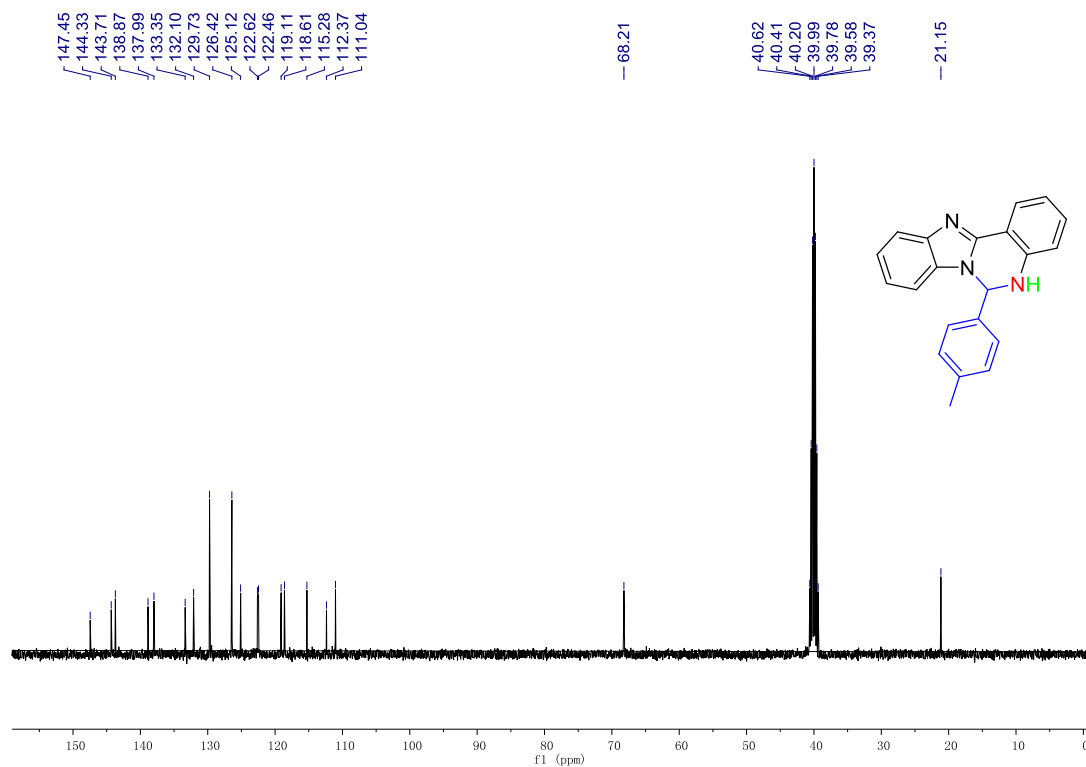
3j, ¹H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆)



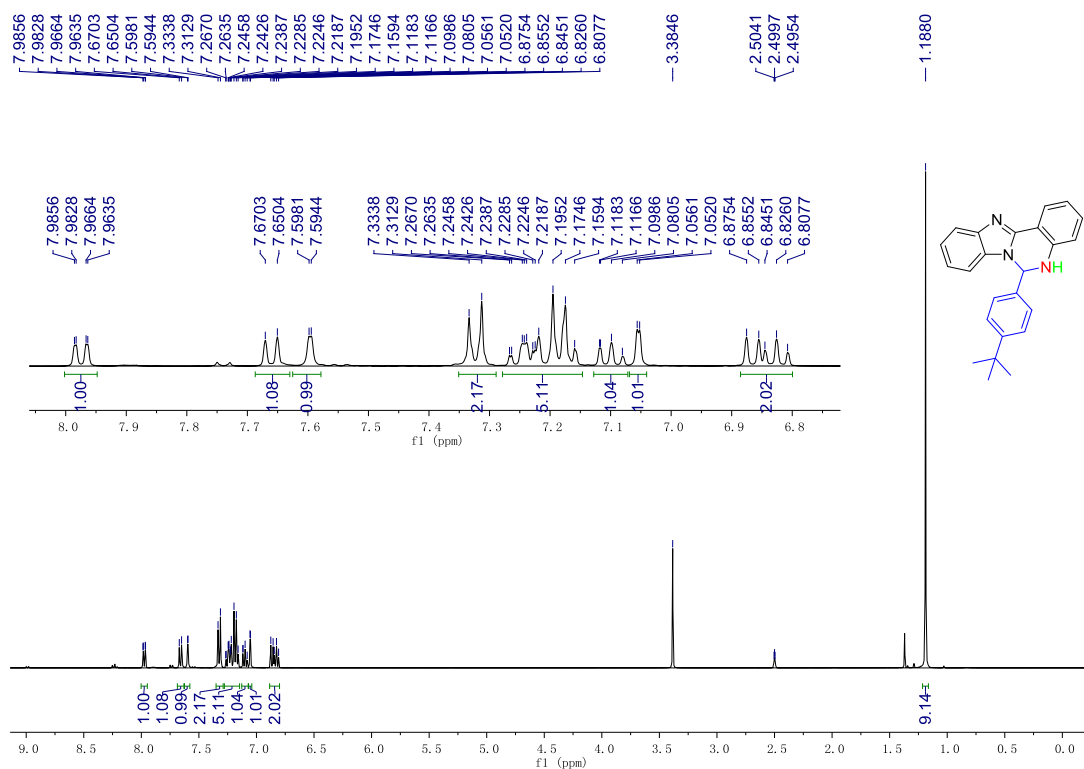
3j, ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆)



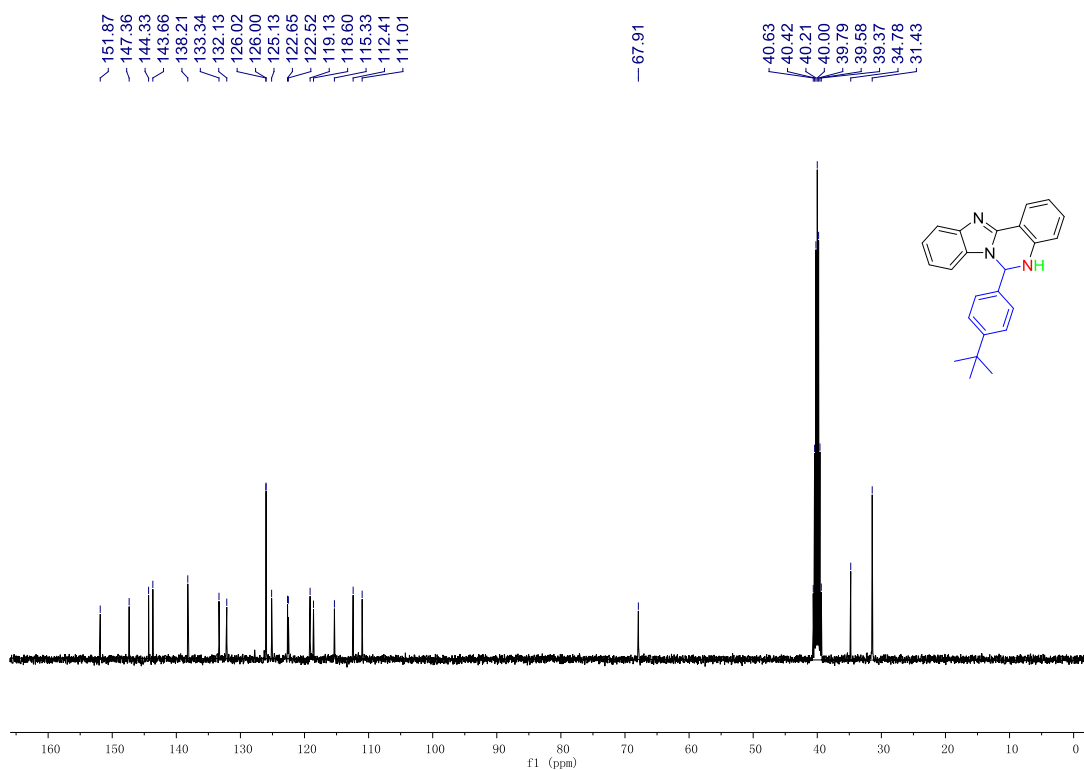
3k, ¹H NMR (DMSO-*d*₆)



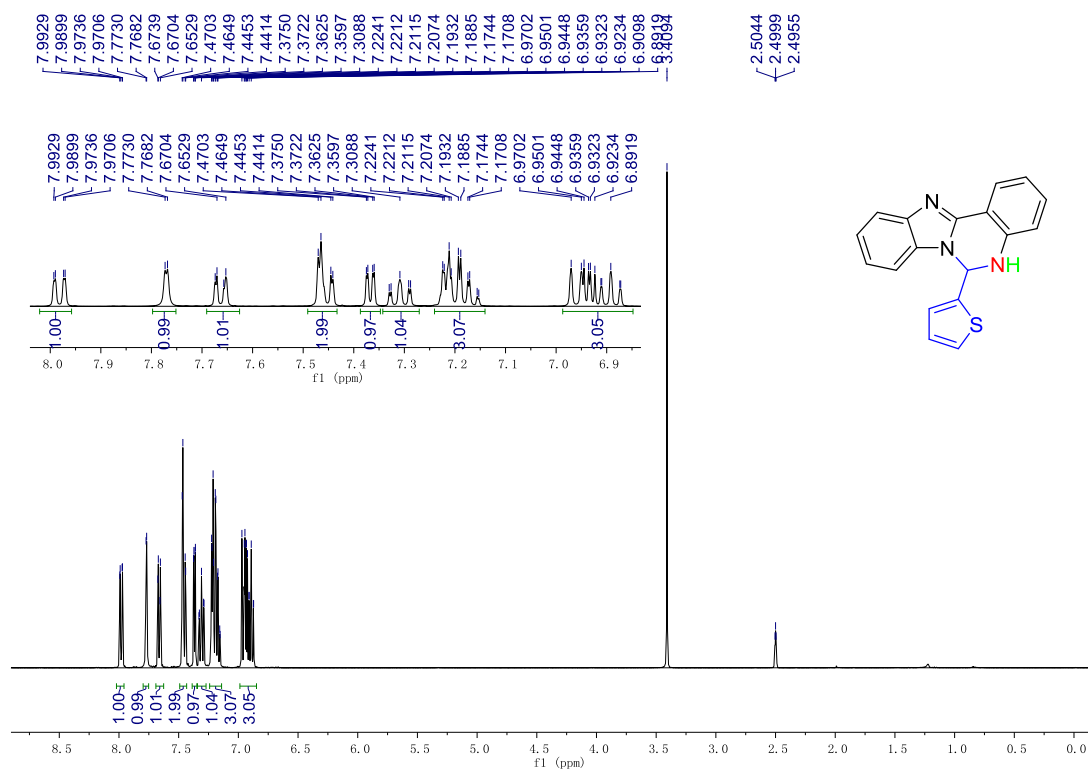
3k, ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆)



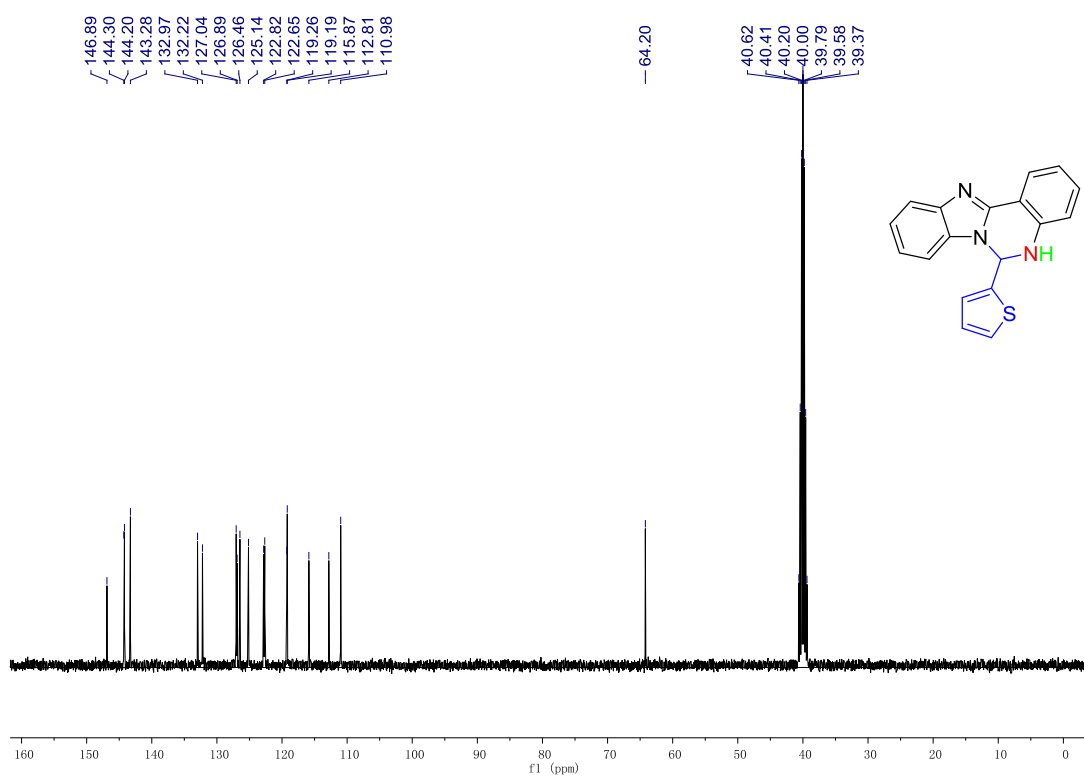
3l, ¹H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆)



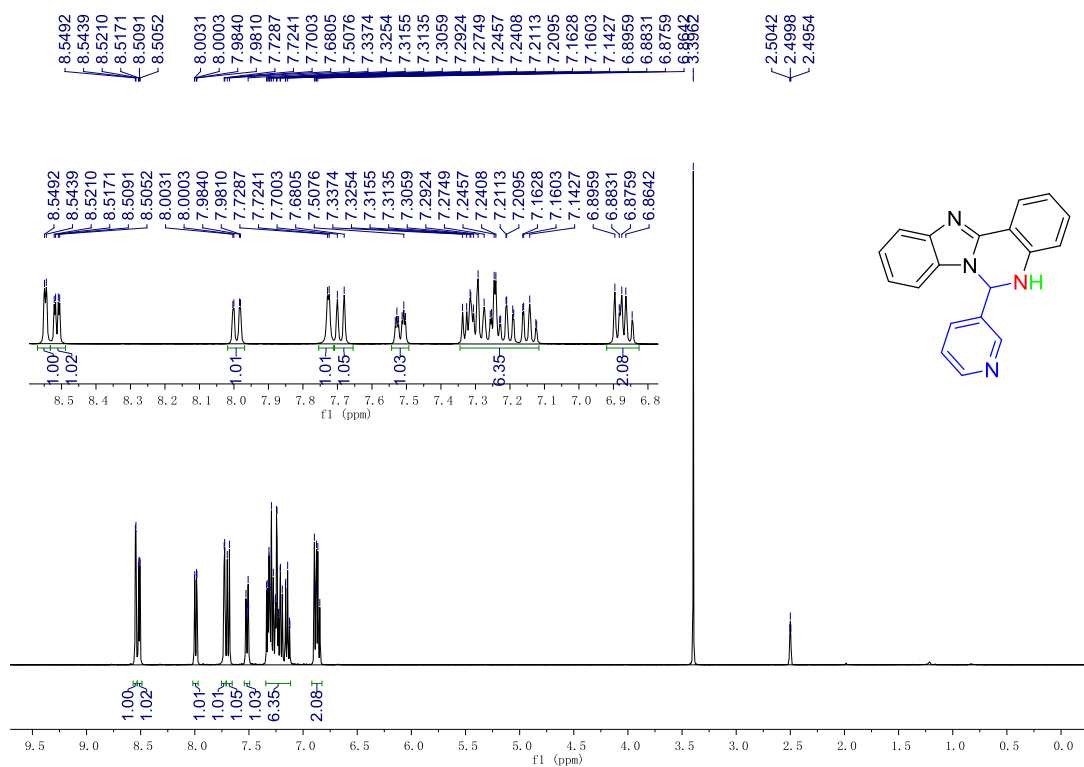
3l, ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆)



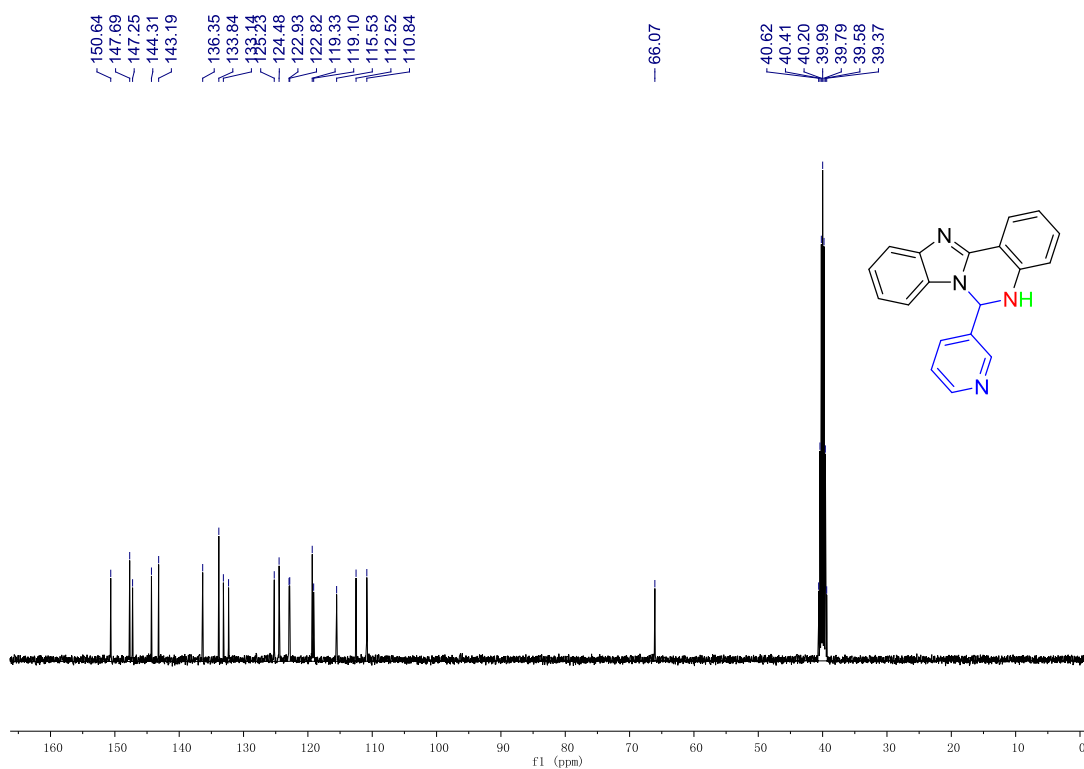
3m, ¹H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆)



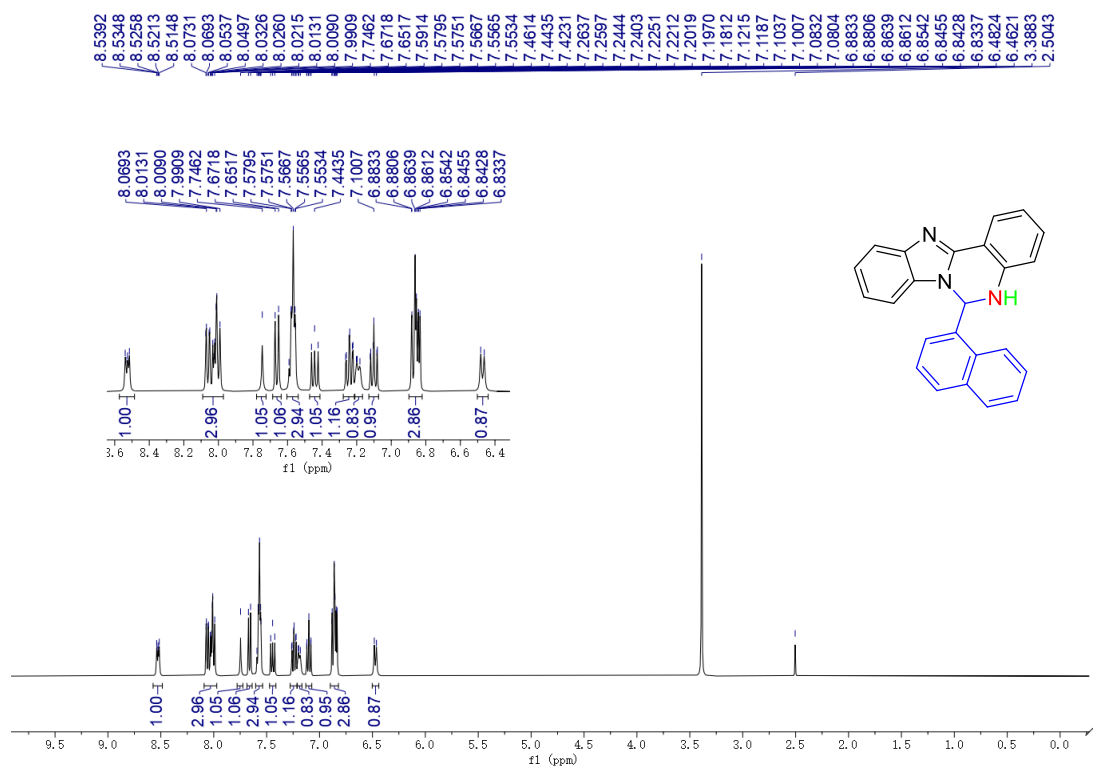
3m, ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆)



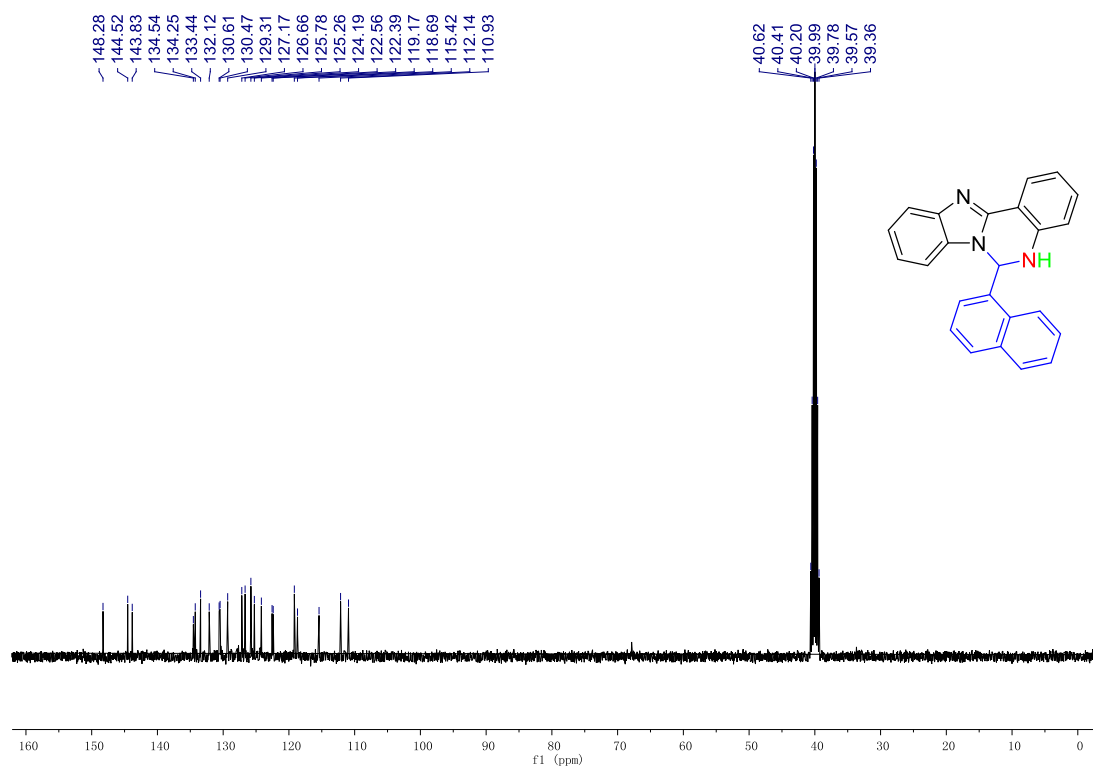
3n, ¹H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆)



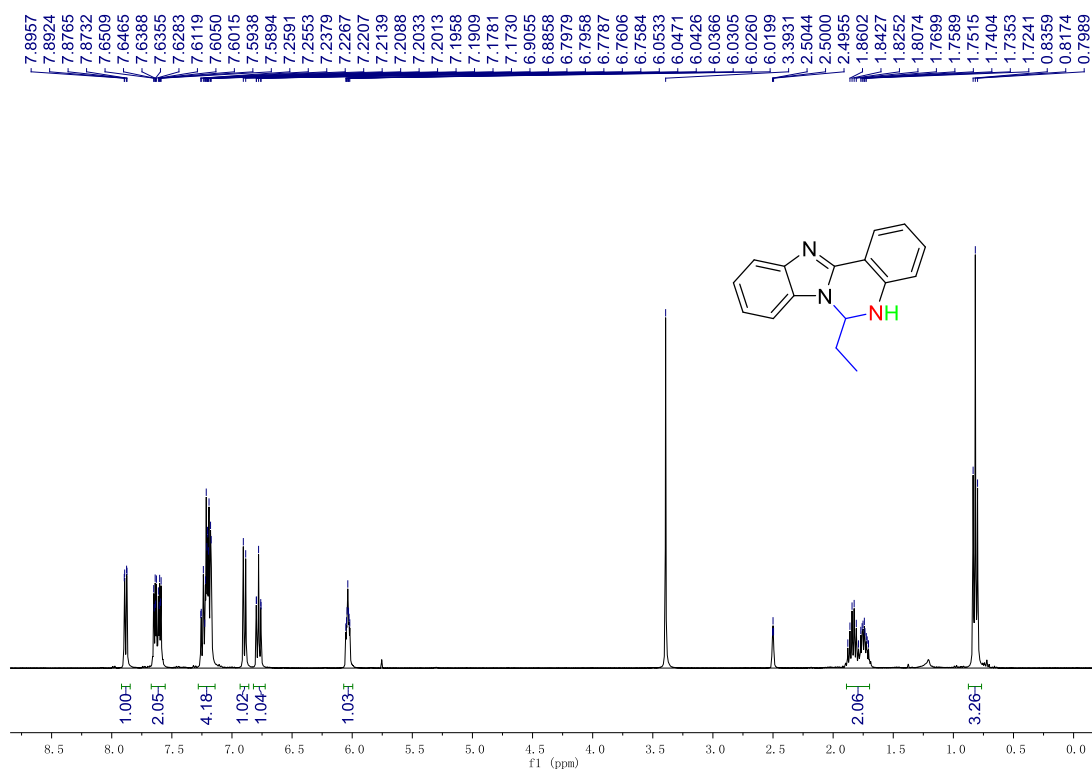
3n, ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆)



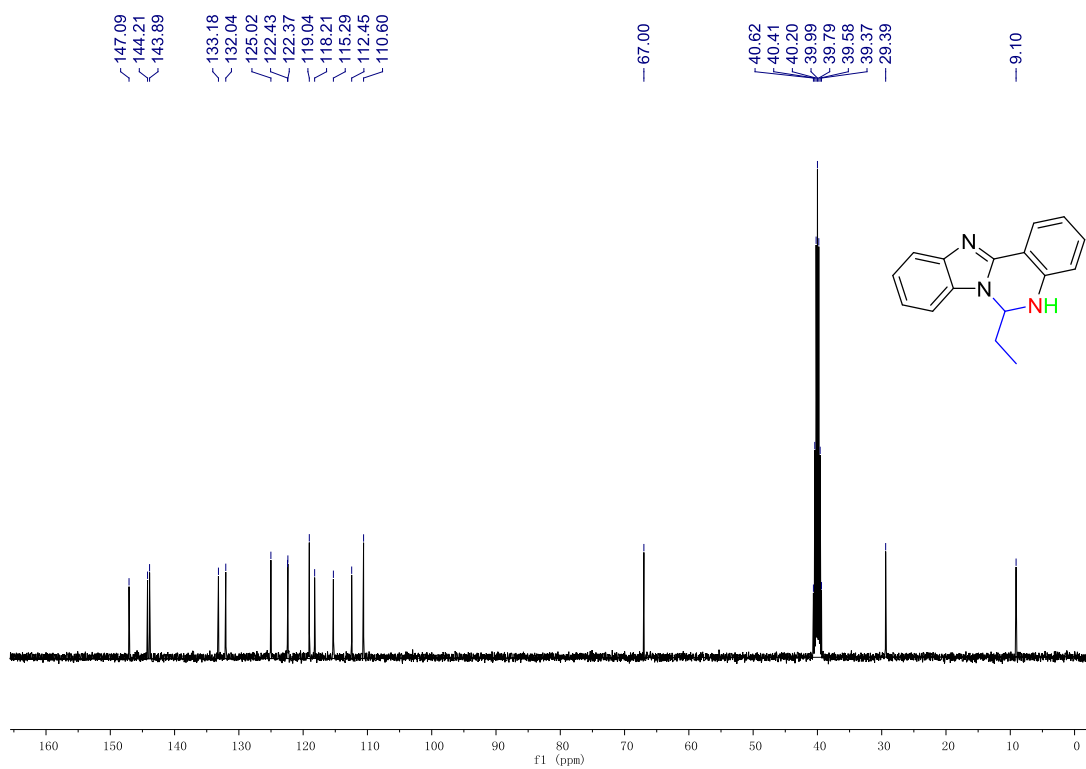
30, ¹H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆)



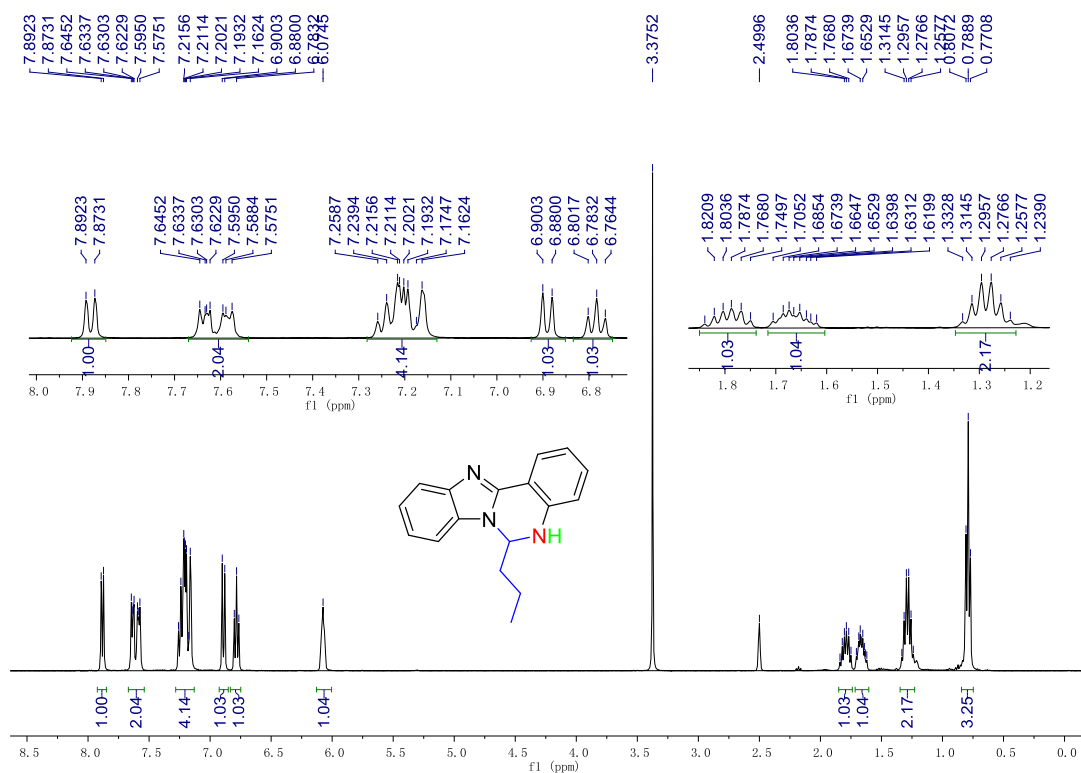
30, ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆)



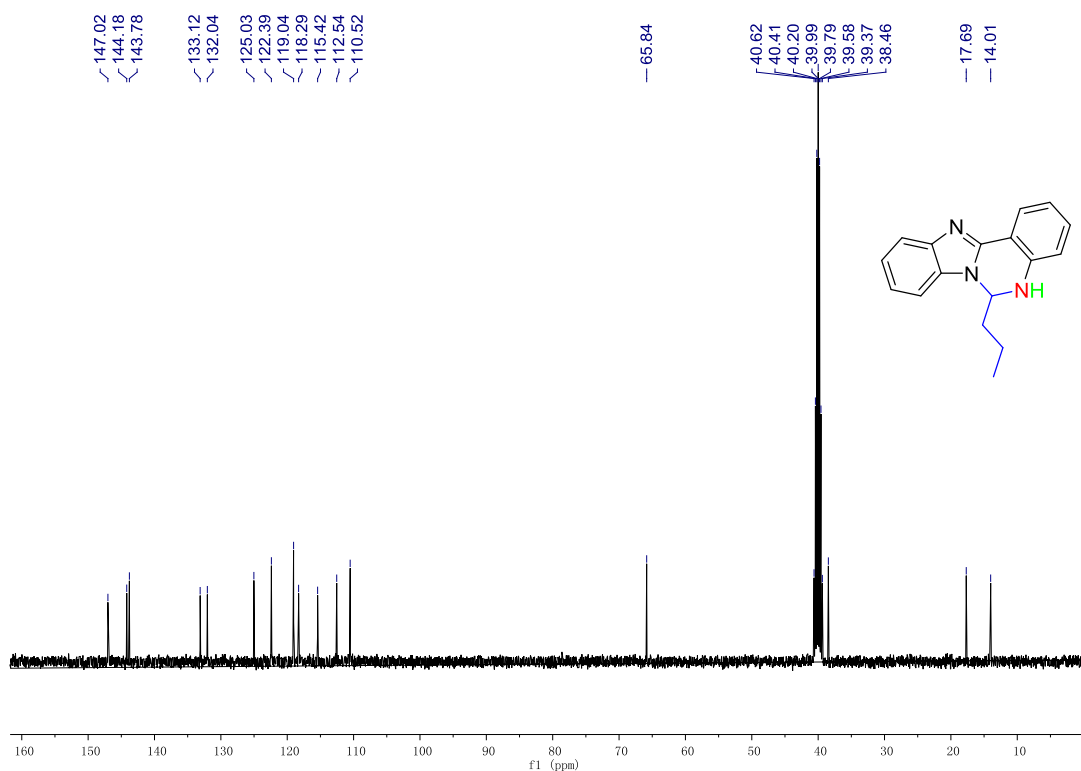
3p, ¹H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆)



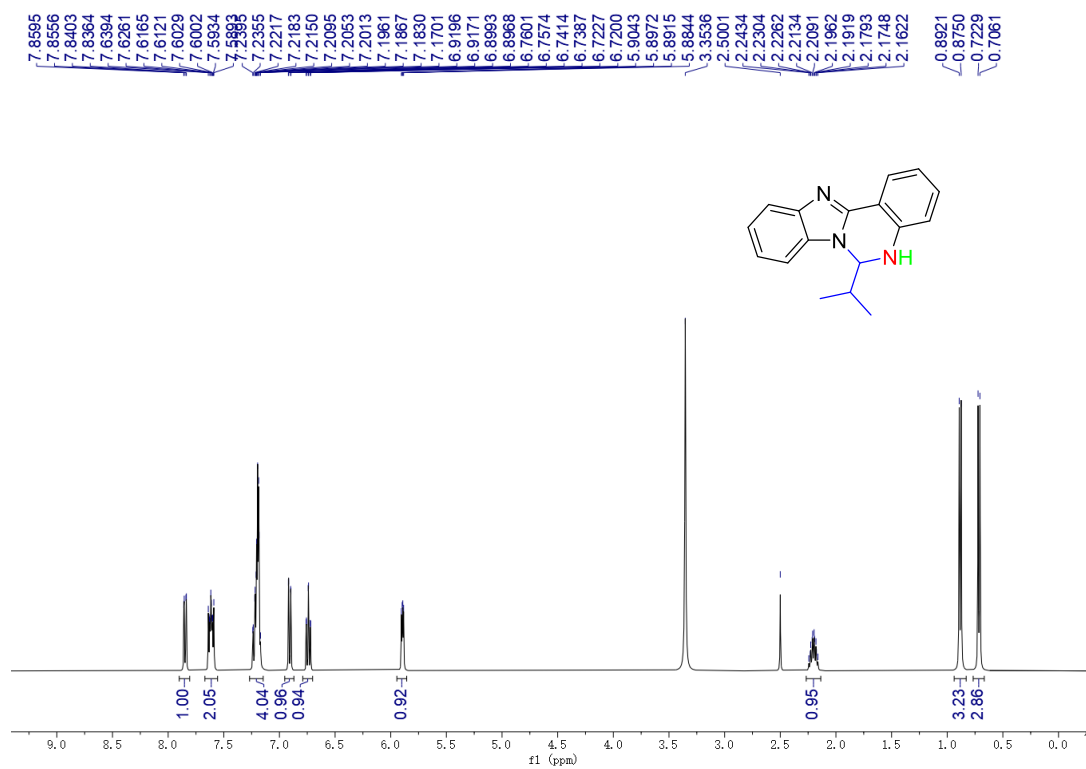
3p, ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆)



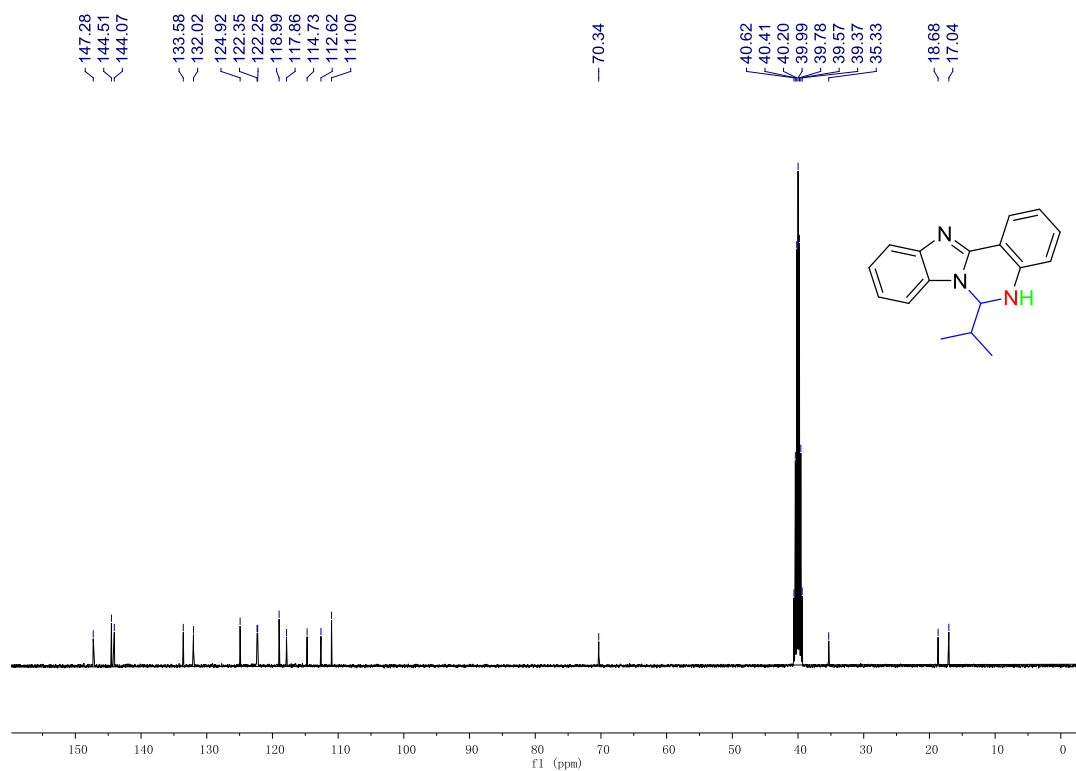
3q, ¹H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆)



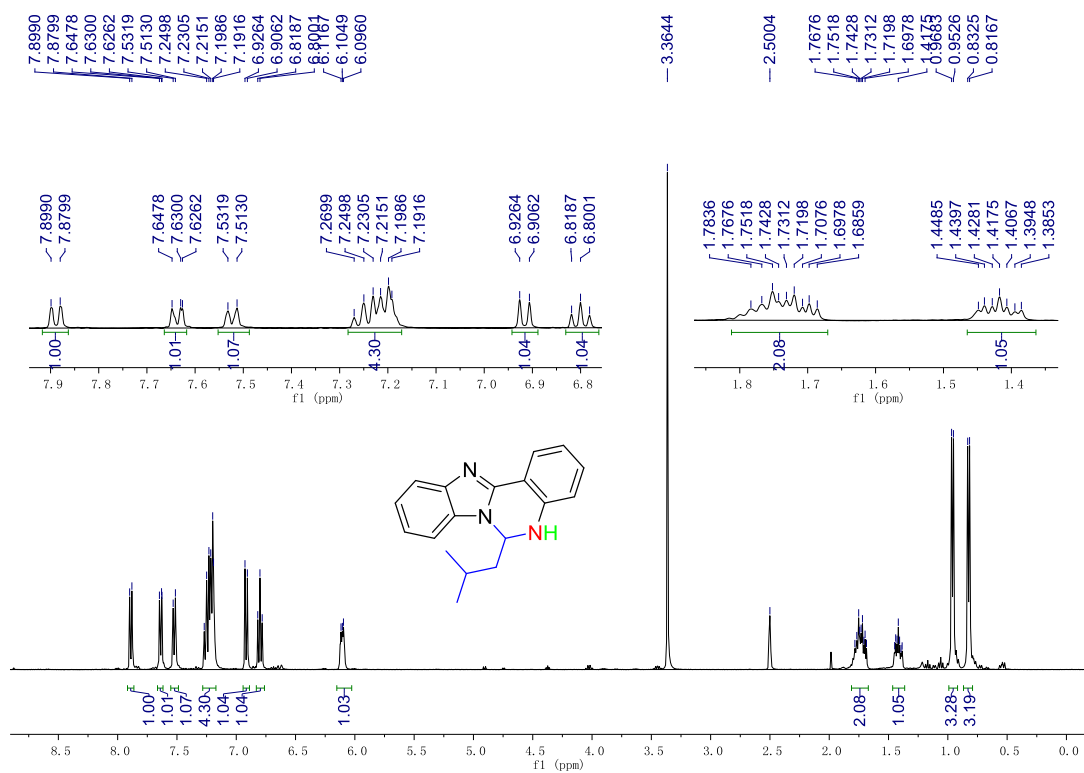
3q, ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆)



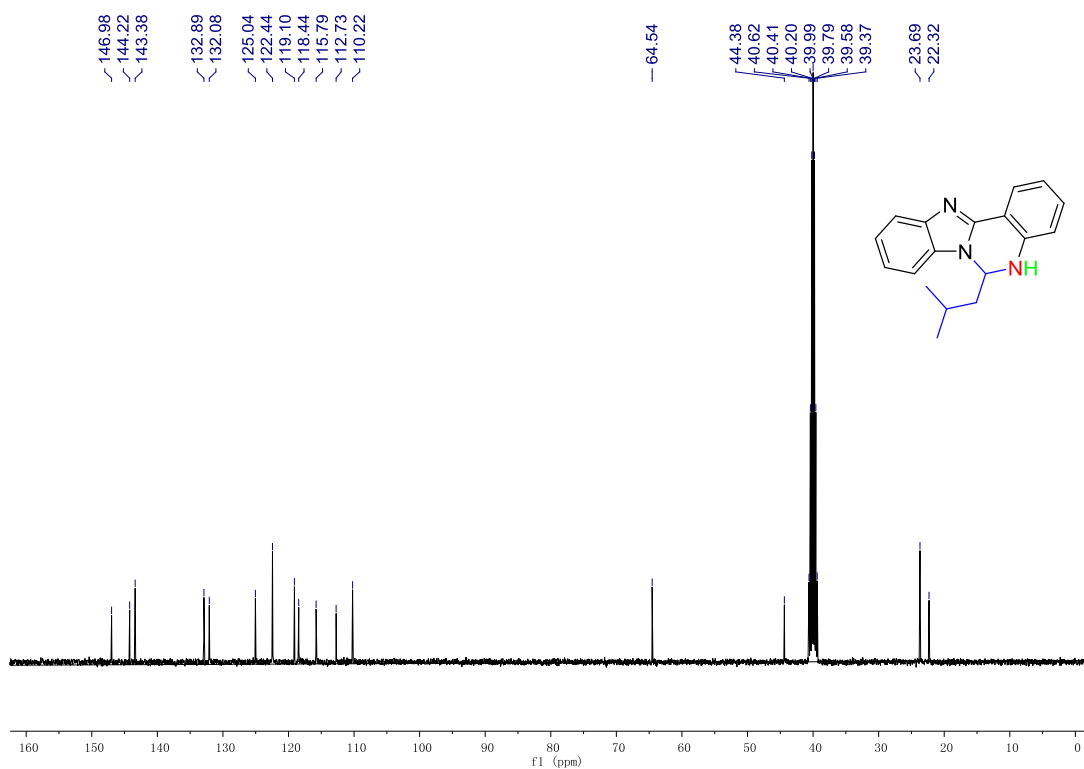
3r, ¹H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-d₆)



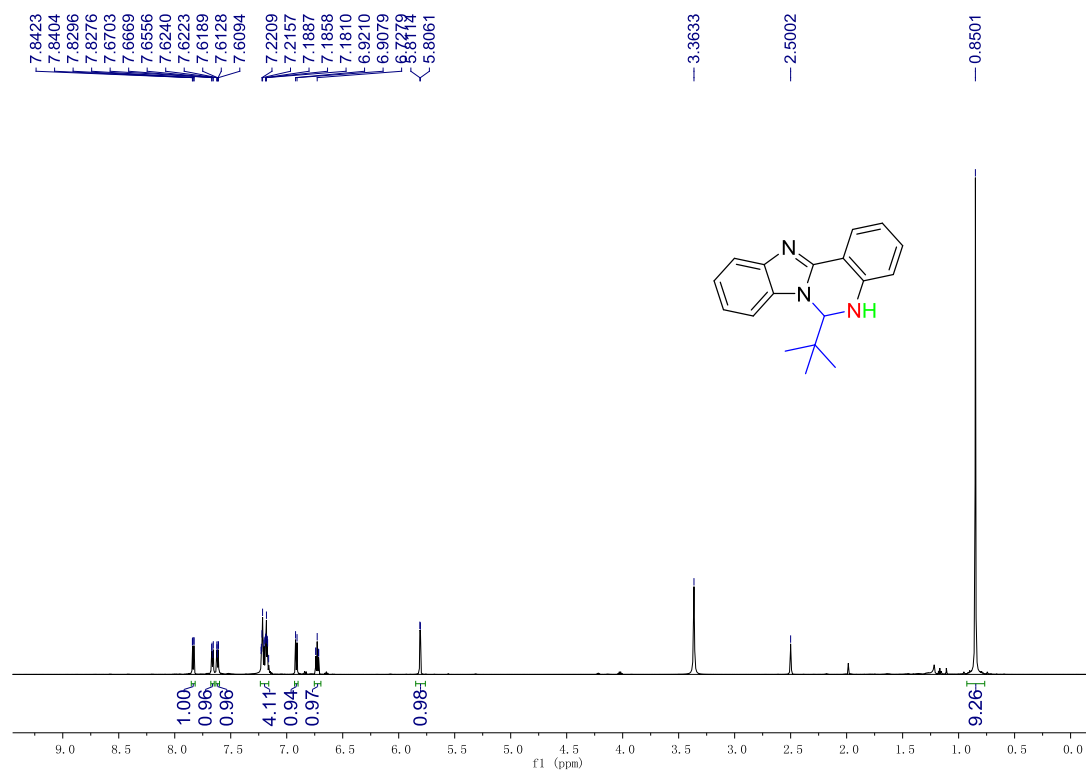
3r, ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, DMSO-d₆)



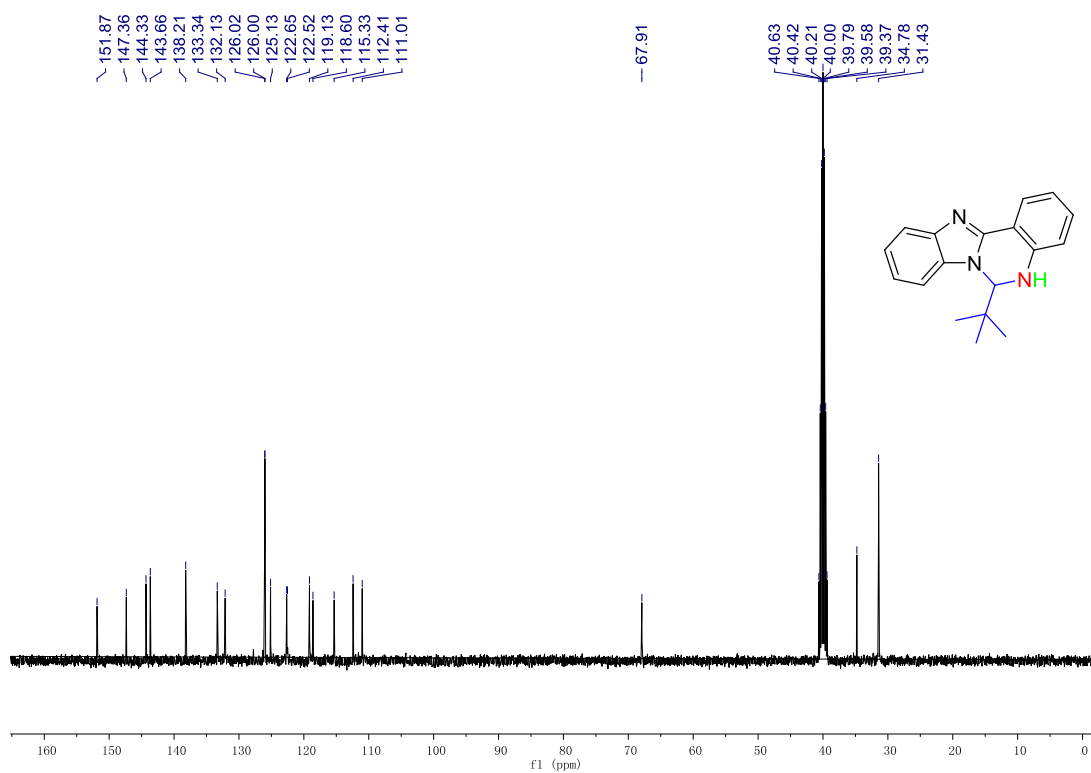
3s, ¹H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆)



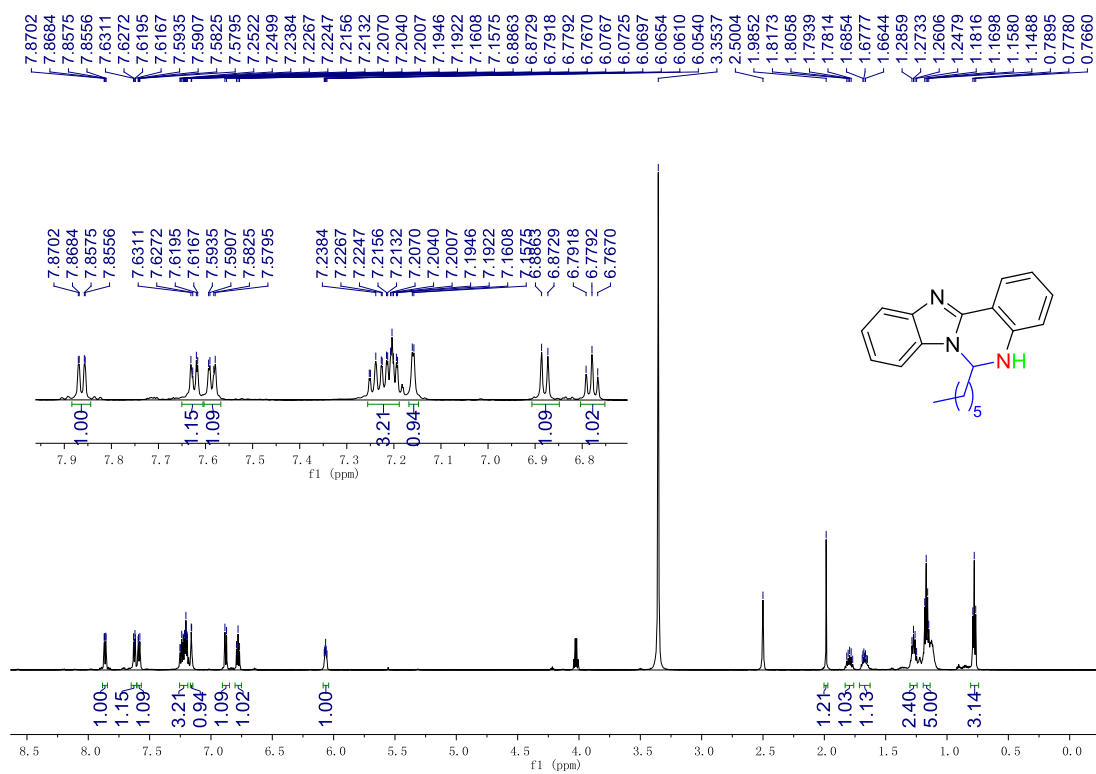
3s, ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆)



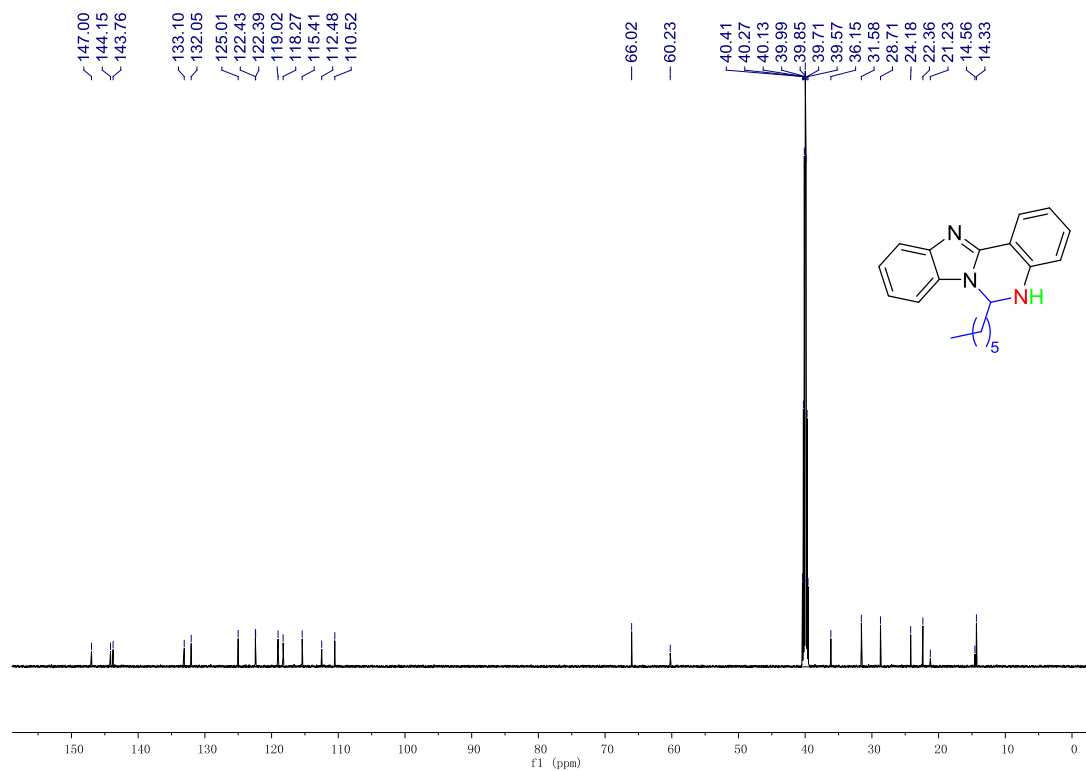
3t, ¹H NMR (600 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆)



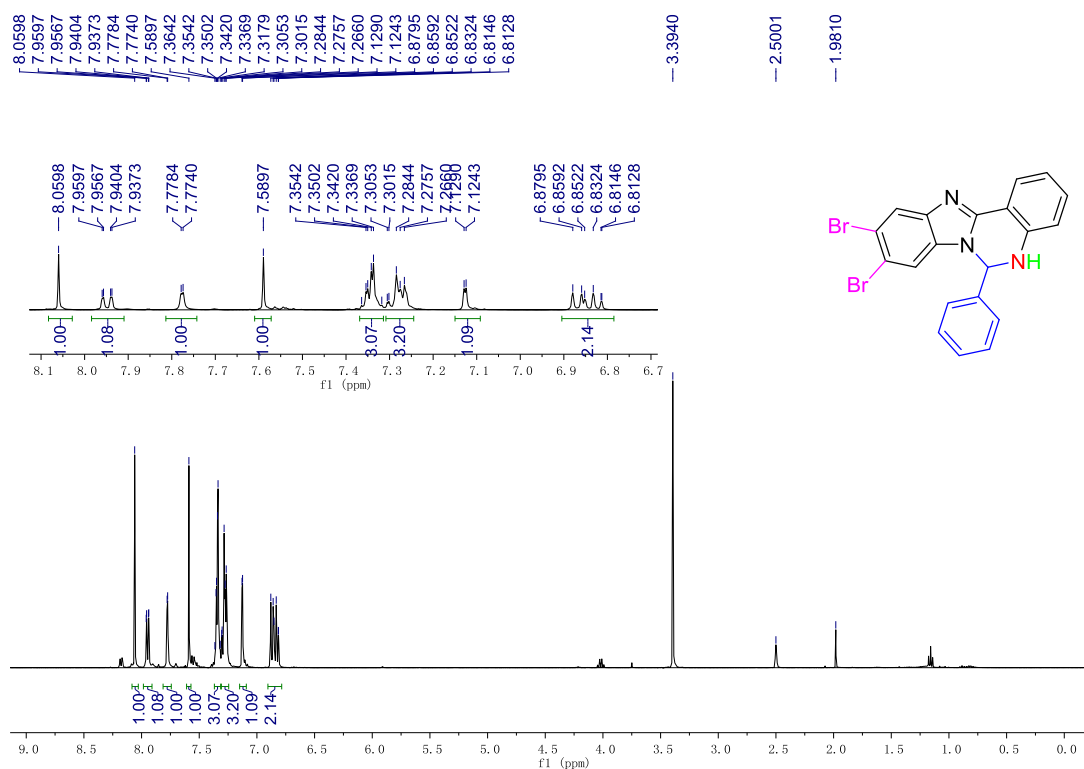
3t, ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆)



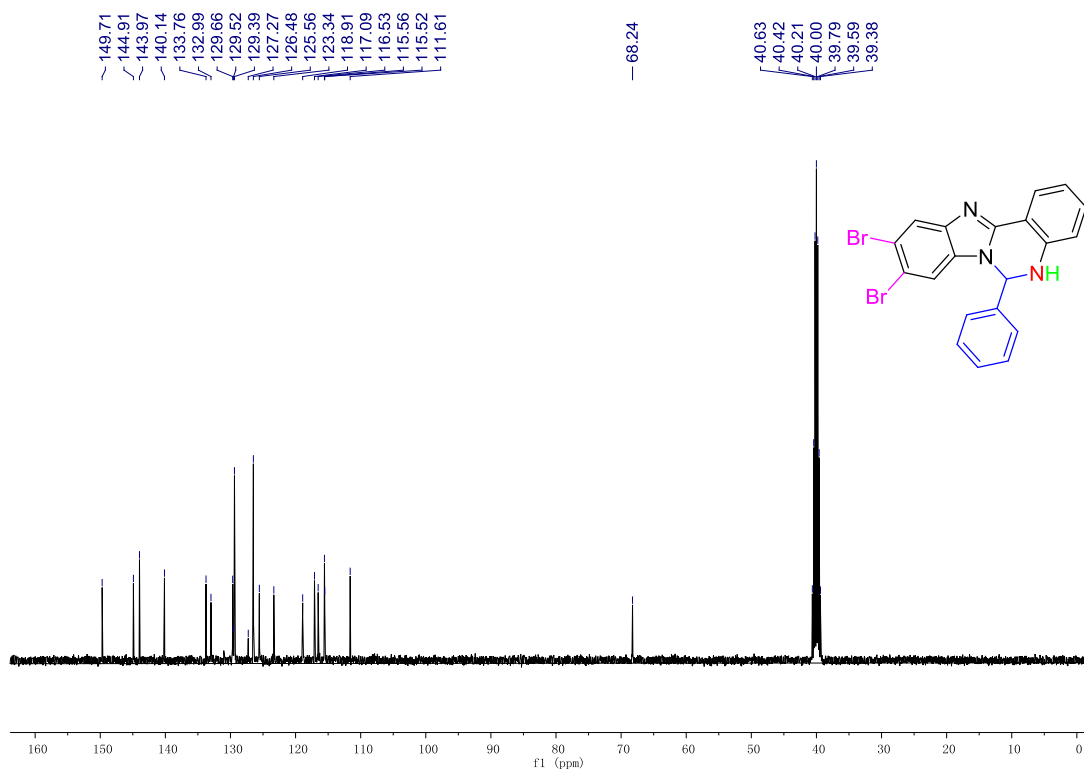
3u, ¹H NMR (600 MHz, DMSO-d₆)



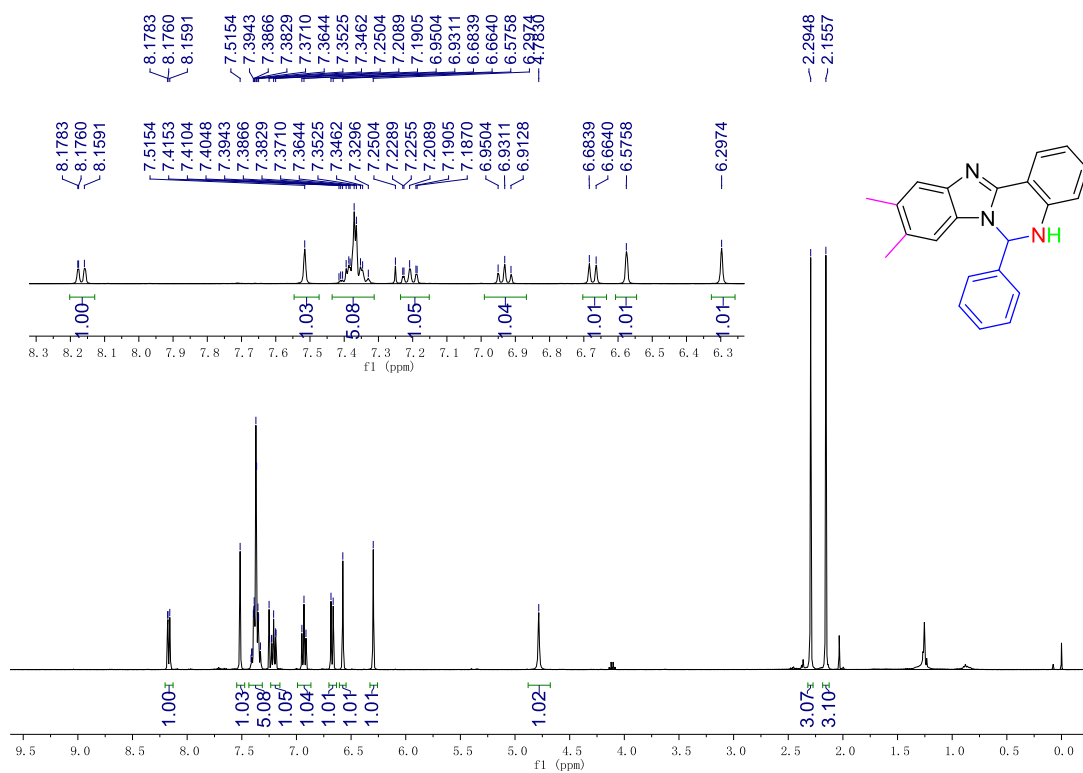
3u, ¹³C NMR (150 MHz, DMSO-d₆)



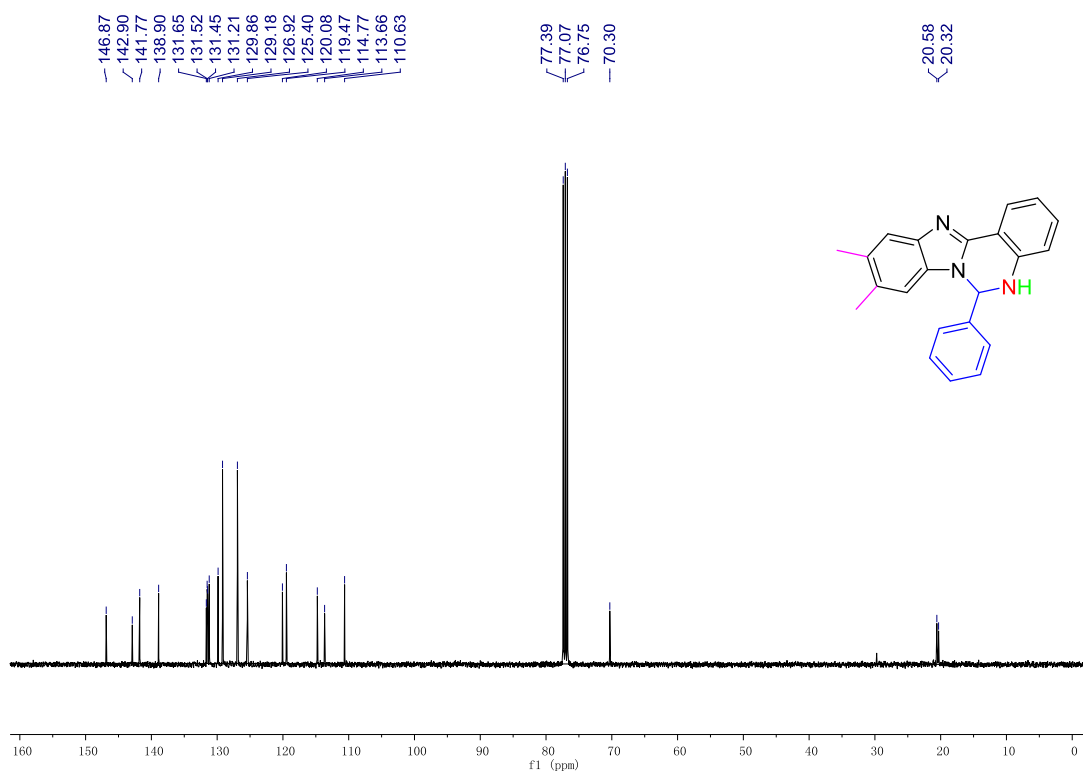
3v, ¹H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆)



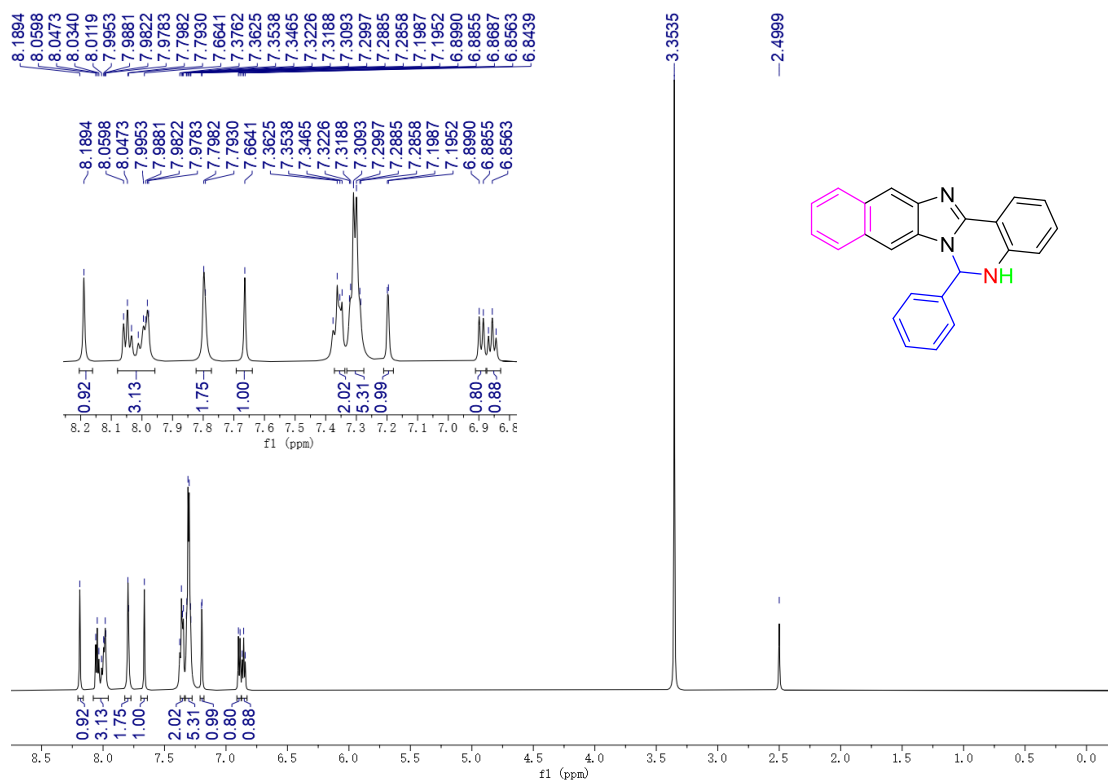
3v, ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆)



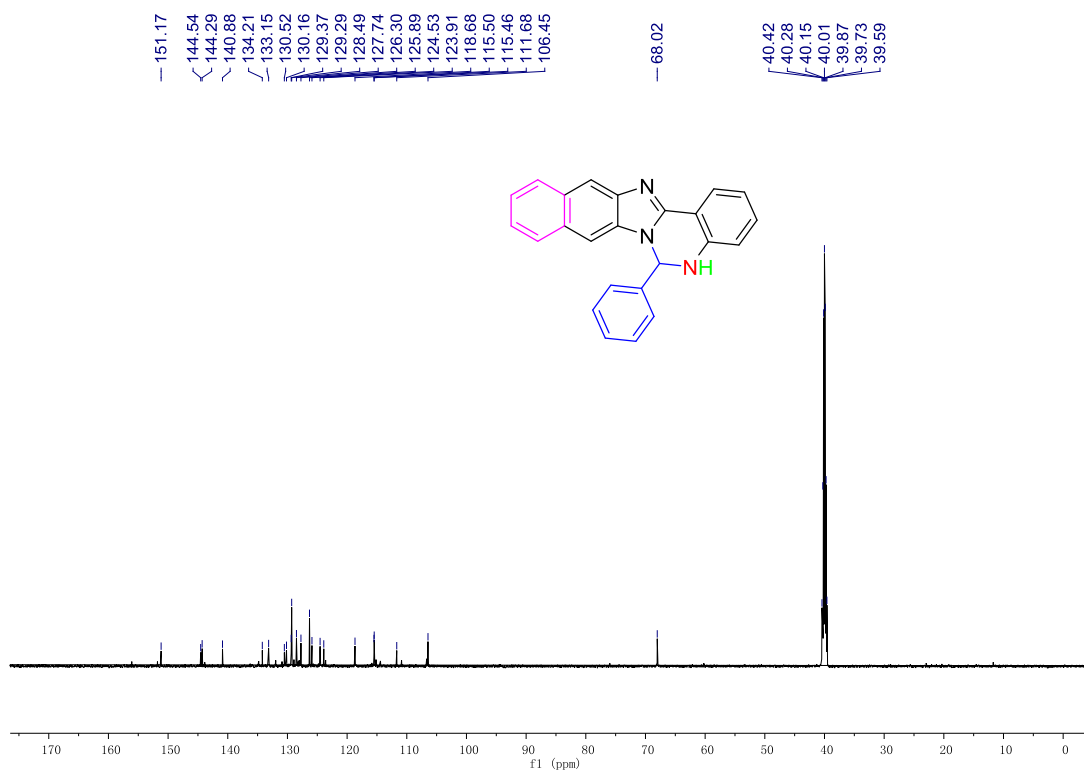
3w, ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃)



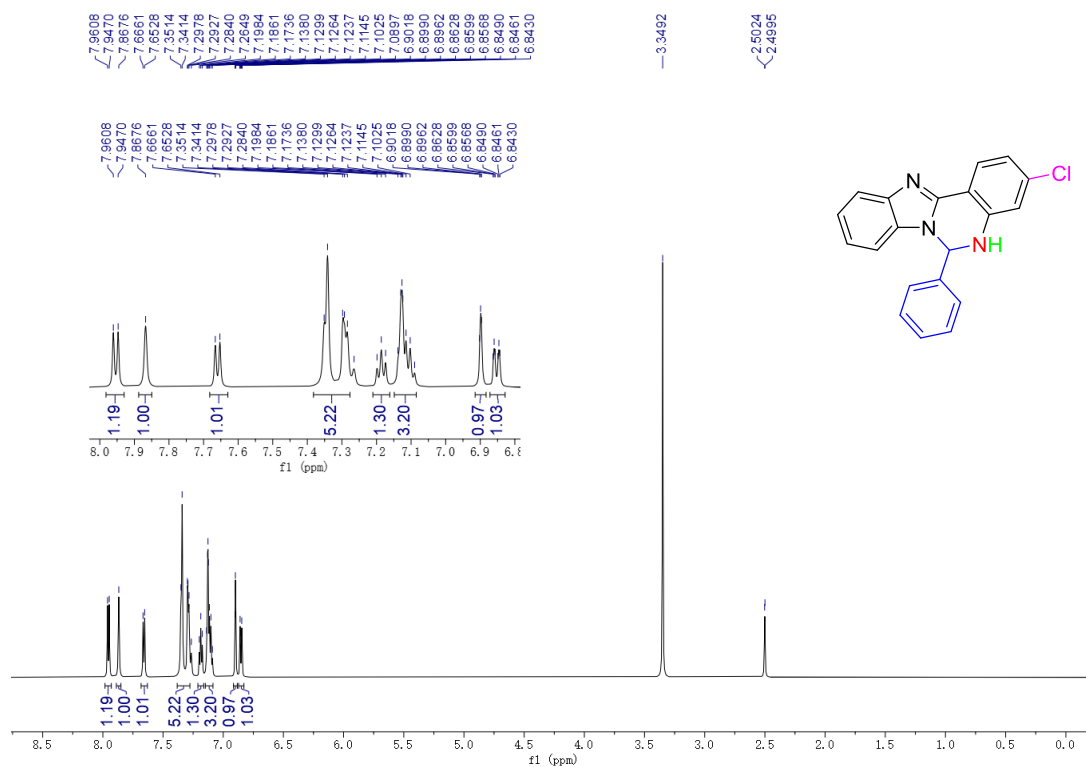
3w, ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃)



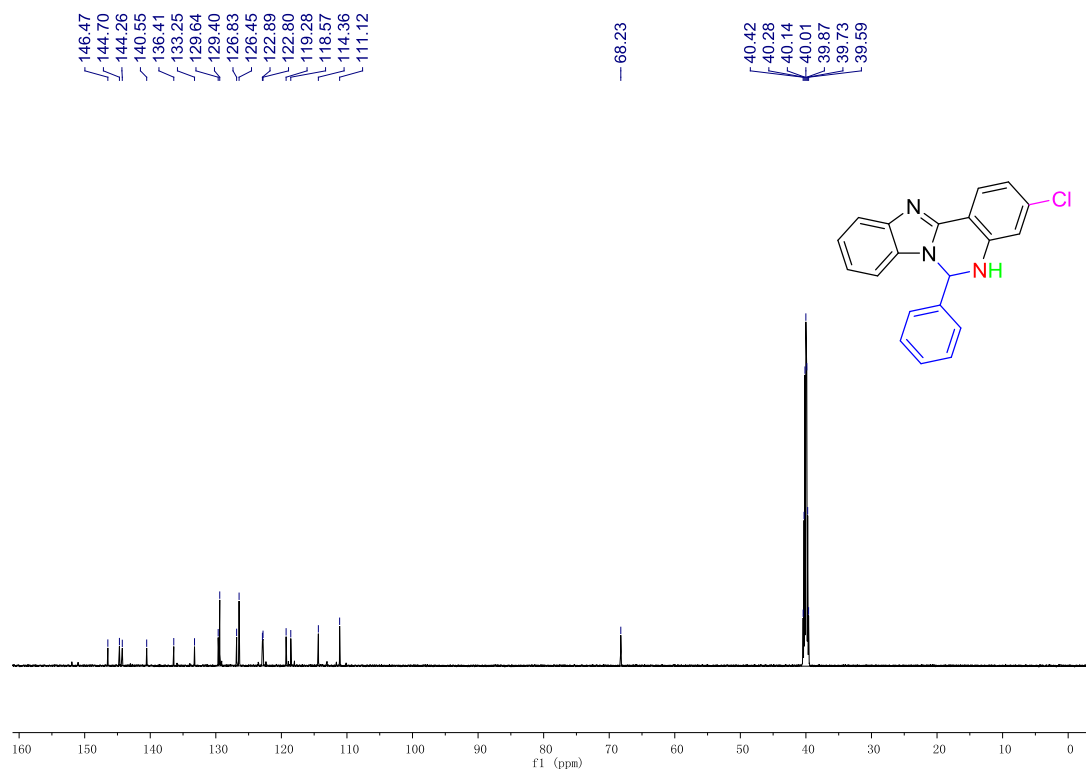
3x, ¹H NMR (600 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆)



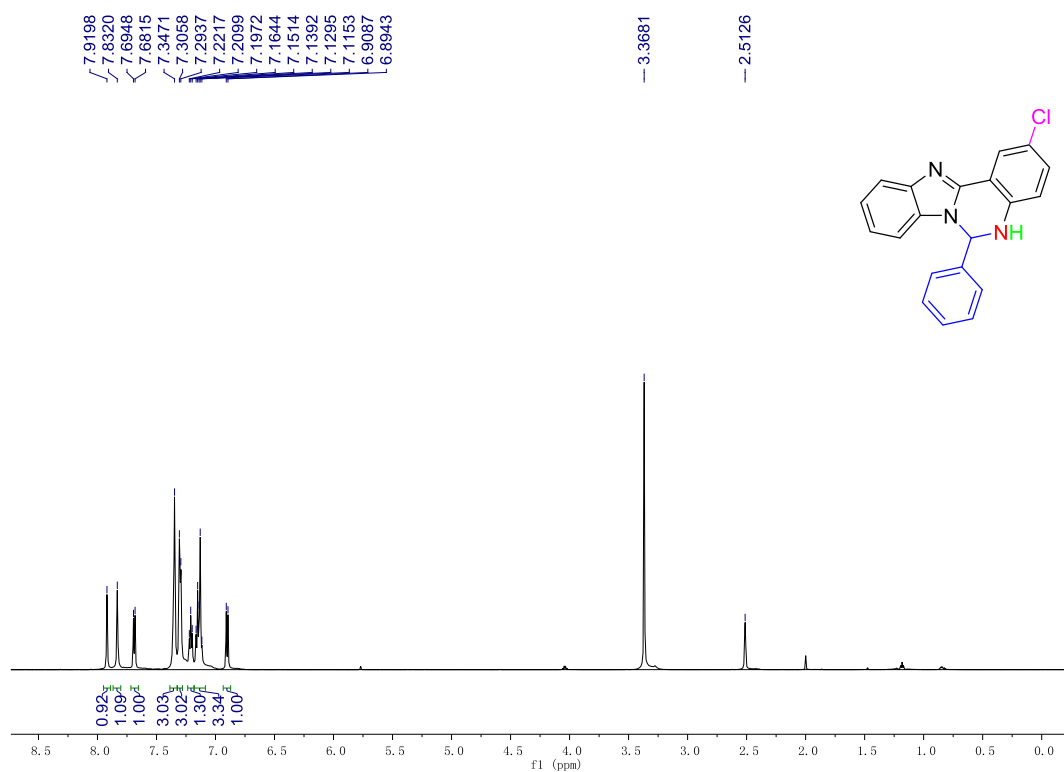
3x, ¹³C NMR (150 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆)



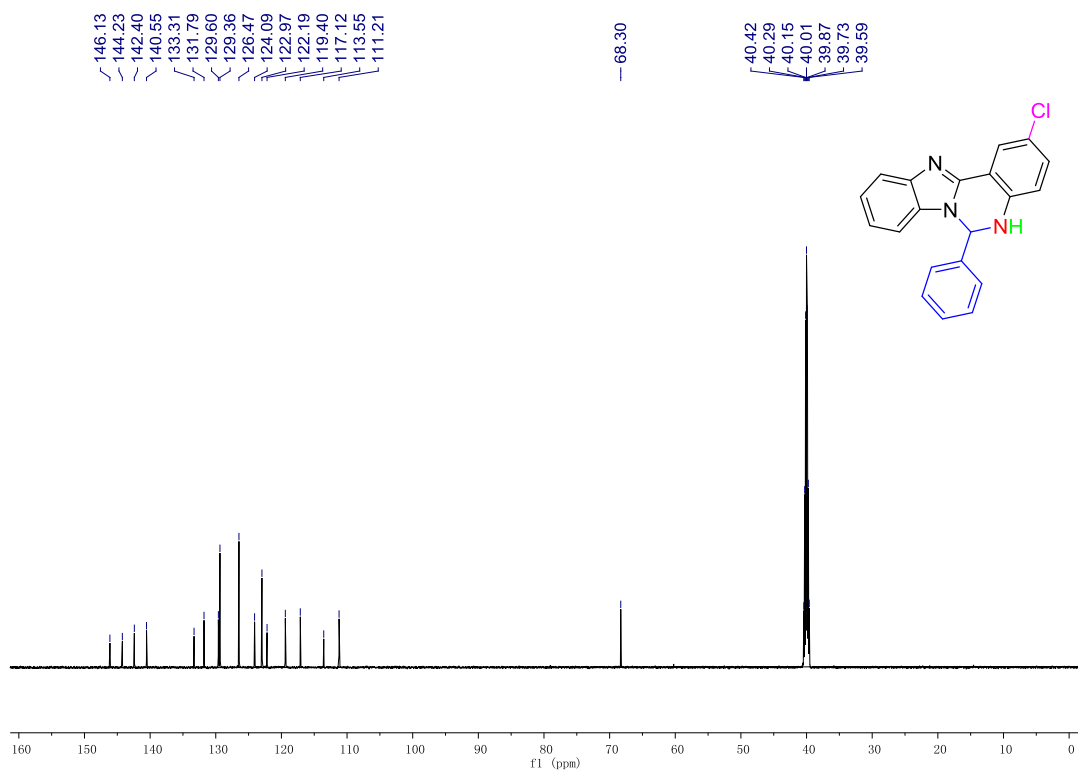
3y, ¹H NMR (600 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆)



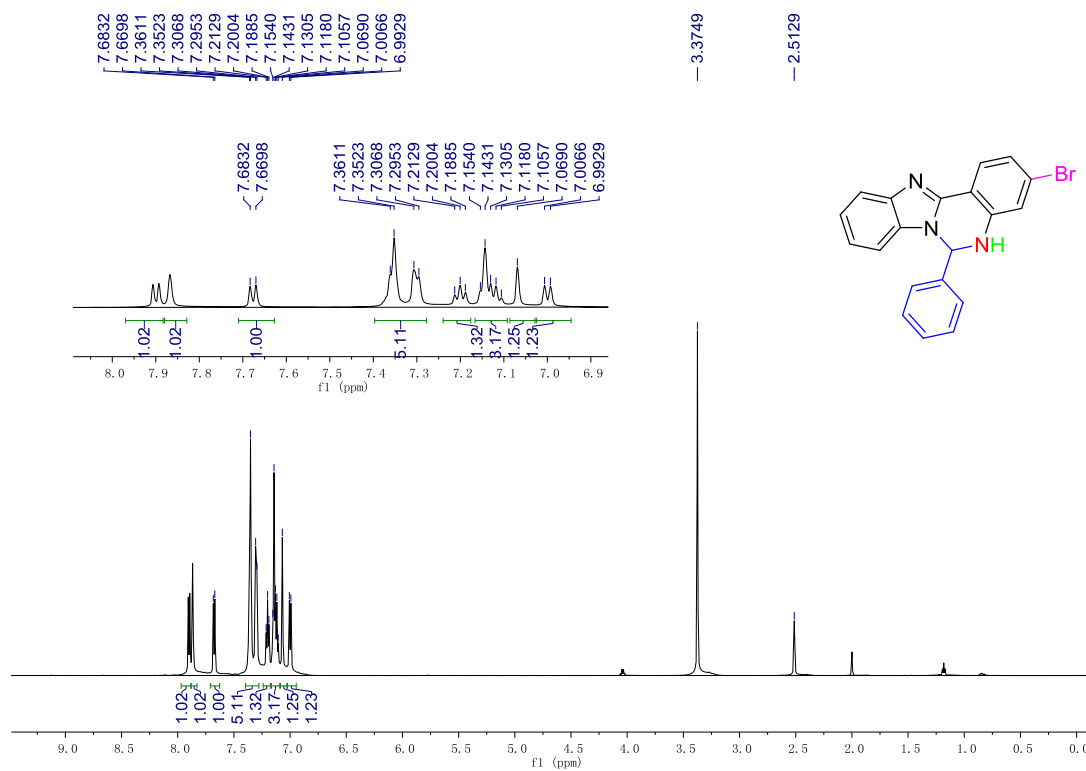
3y, ¹³C NMR (150 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆)



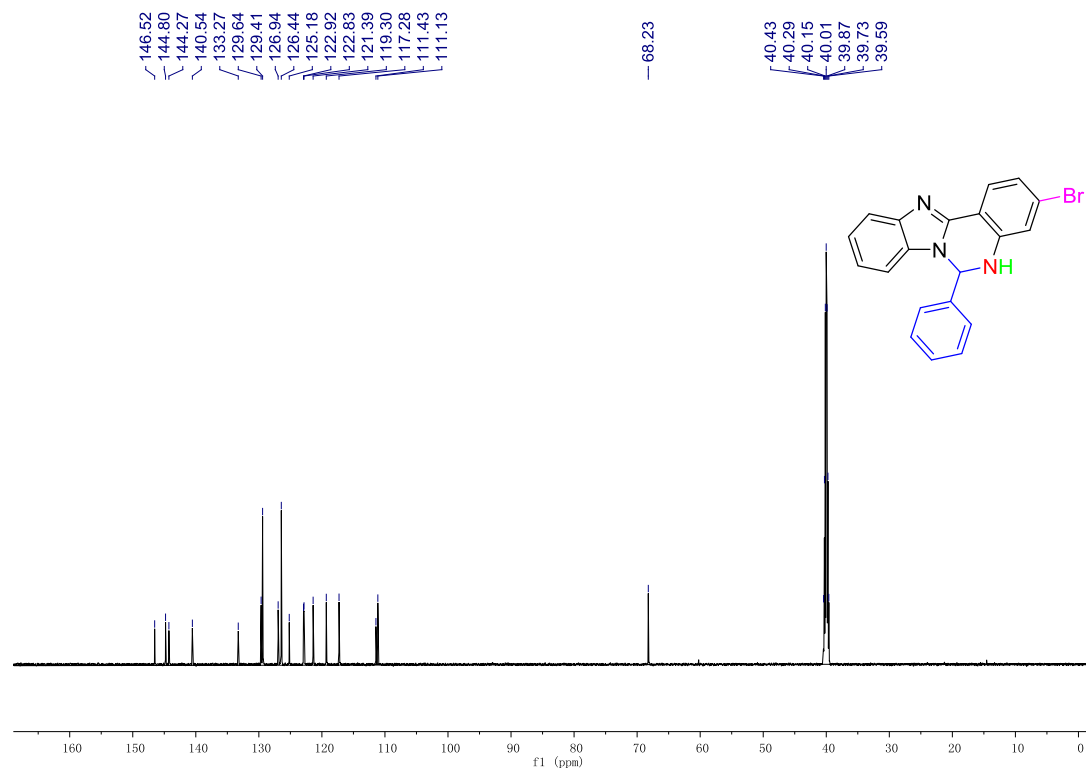
3z, ¹H NMR (600 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆)



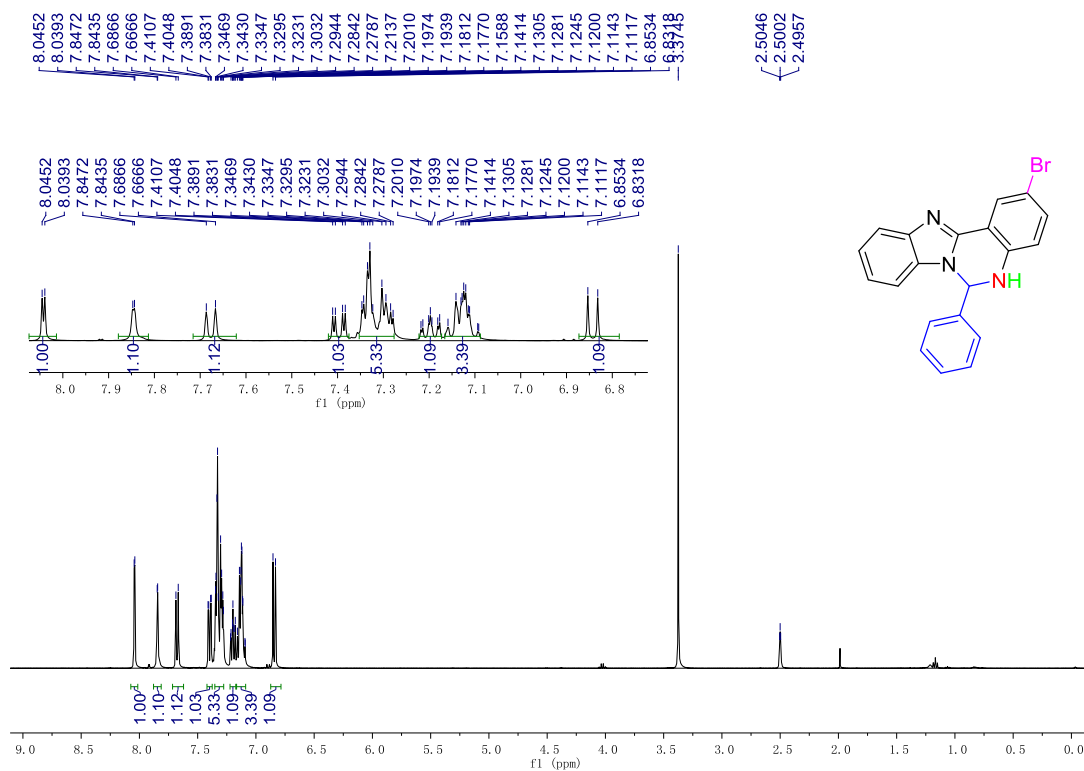
3z, ¹³C NMR (150 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆)



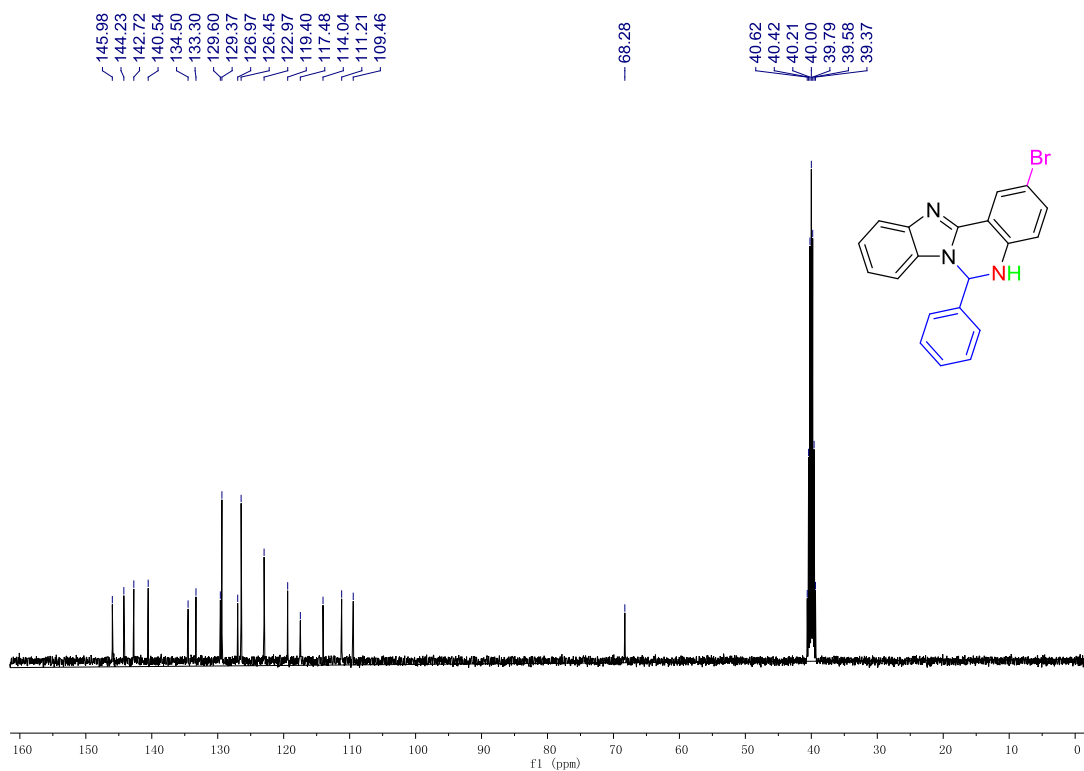
3aa, ¹H NMR (600 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆)



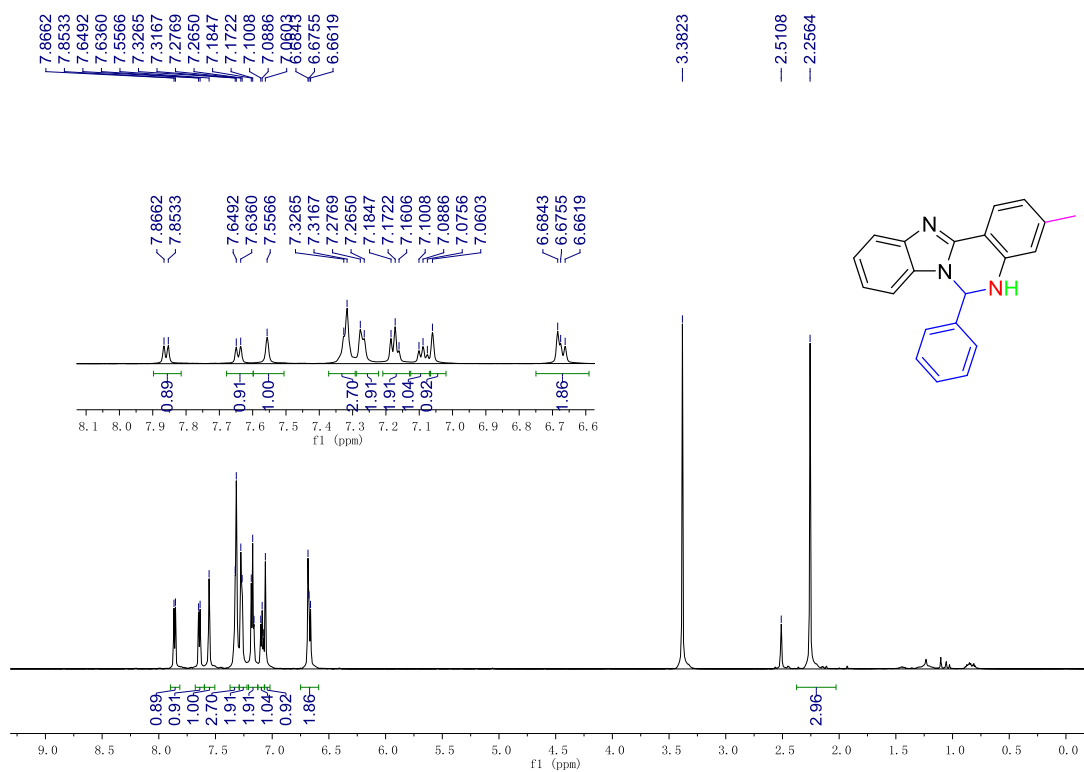
3aa, ¹³C NMR (150 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆)



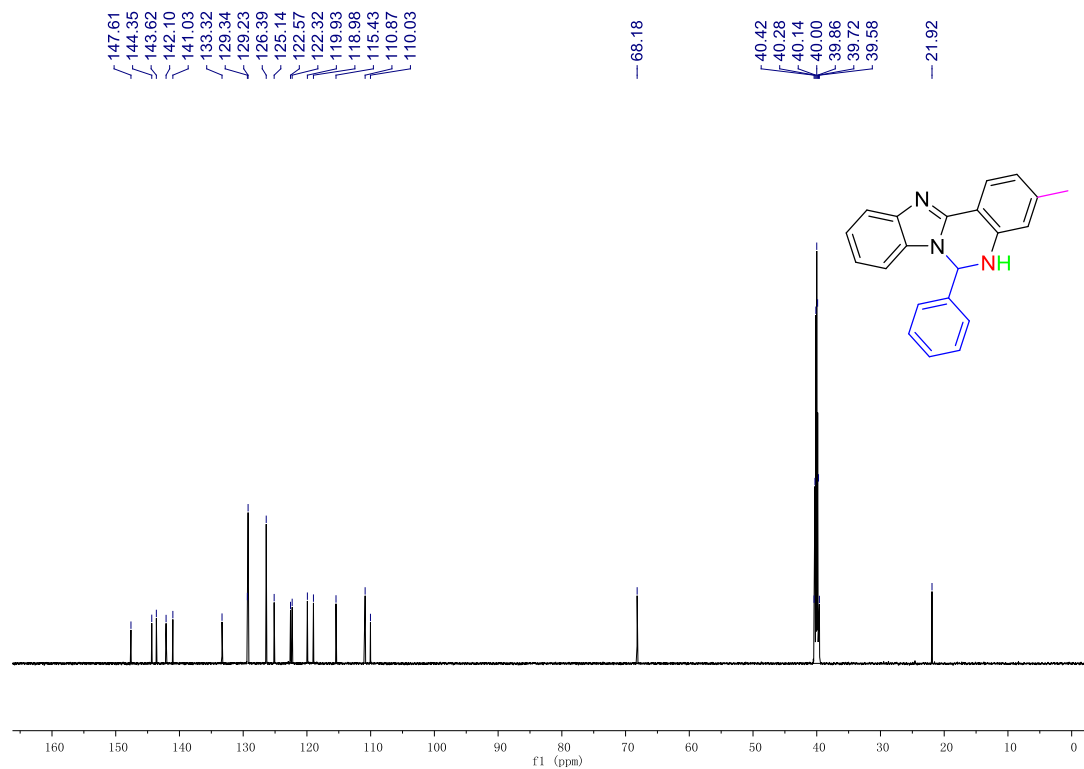
3ab, ¹H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆)



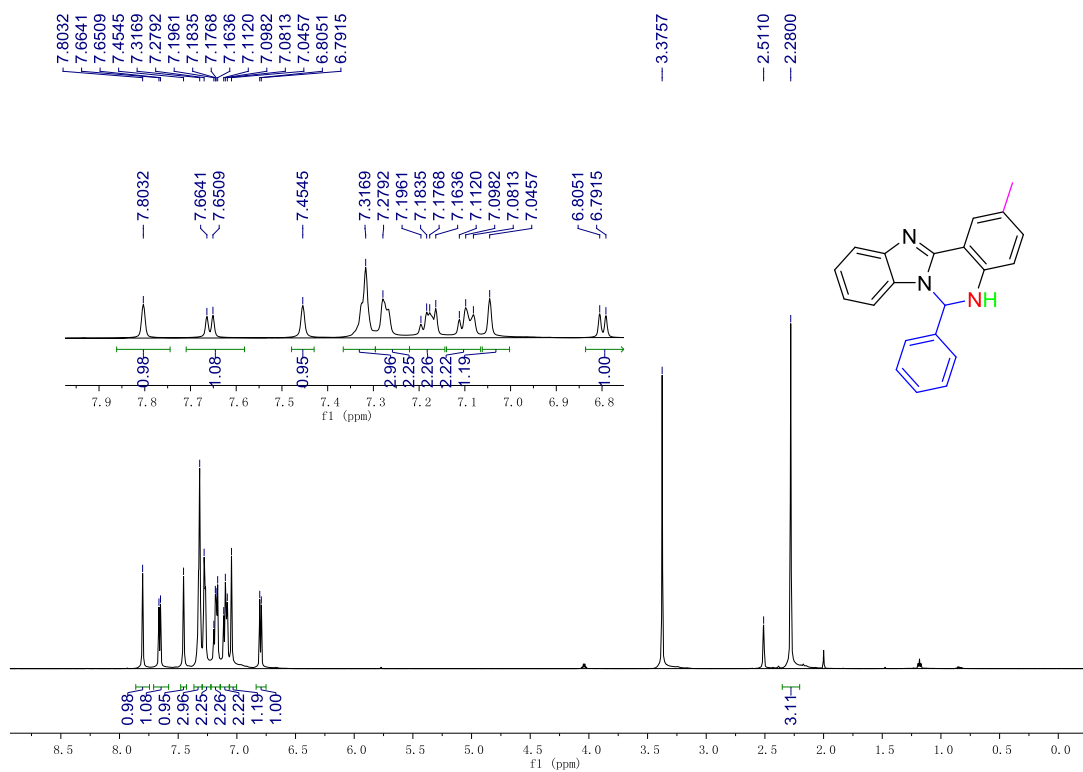
3ab, ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆)



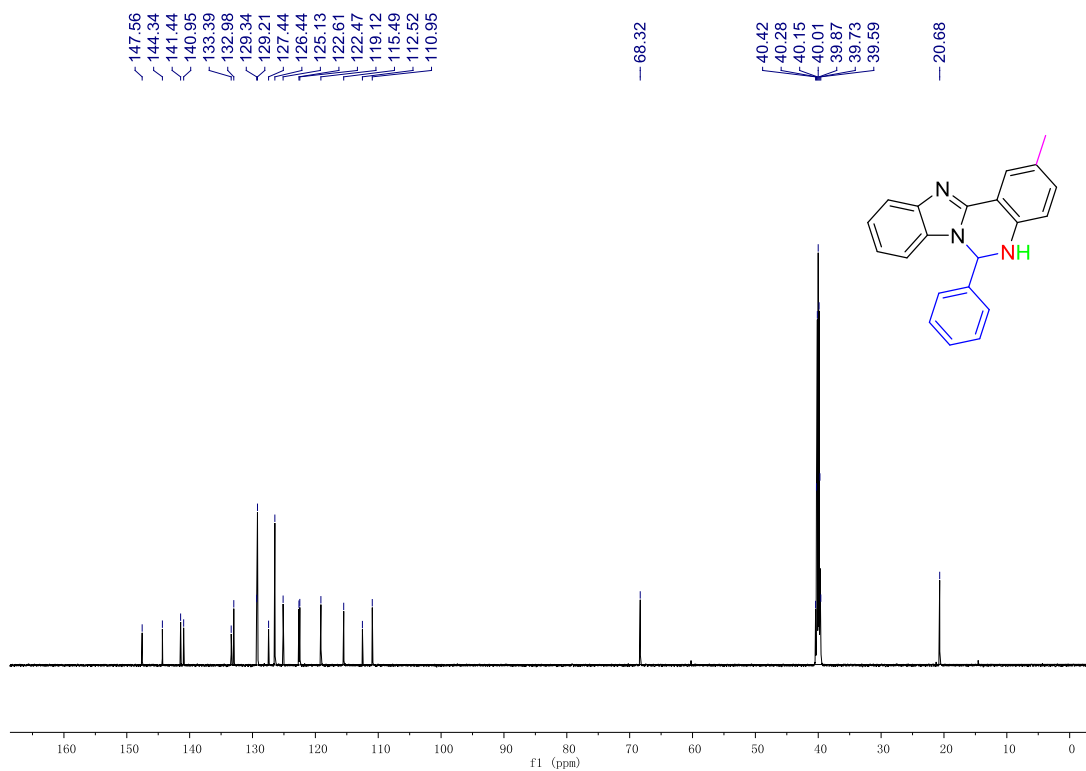
3ac, ¹H NMR (600 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆)



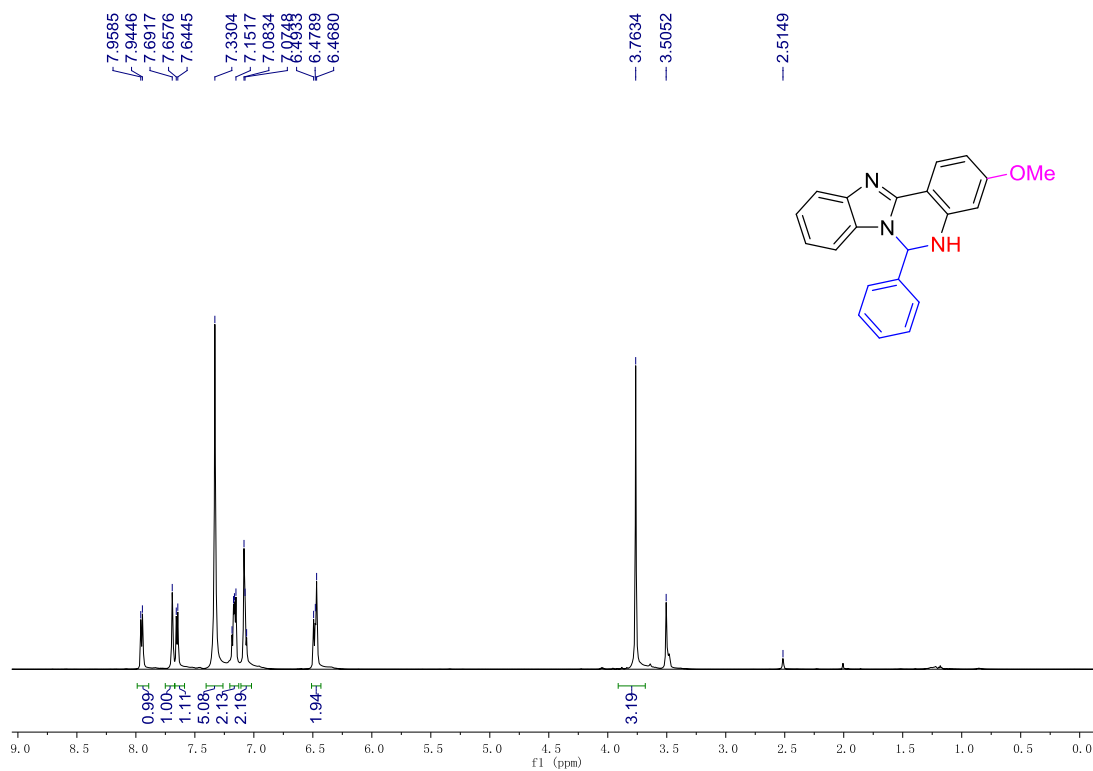
3ac, ¹³C NMR (150 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆)



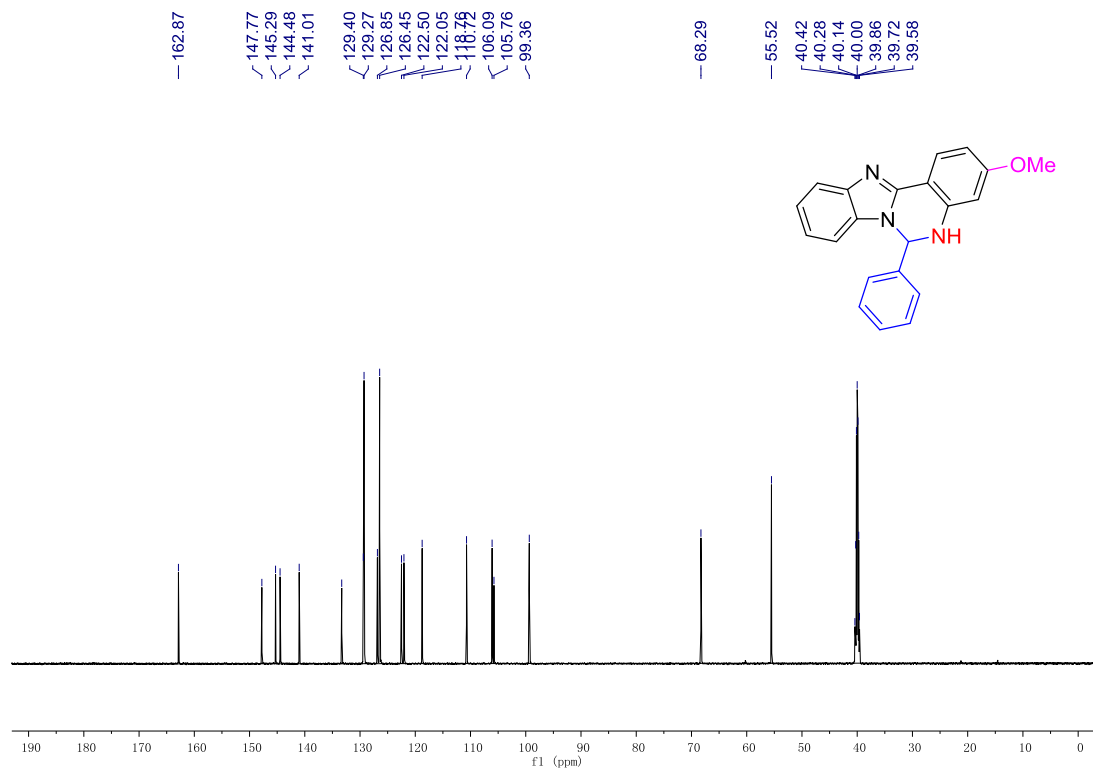
3ad, ¹H NMR (600 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆)



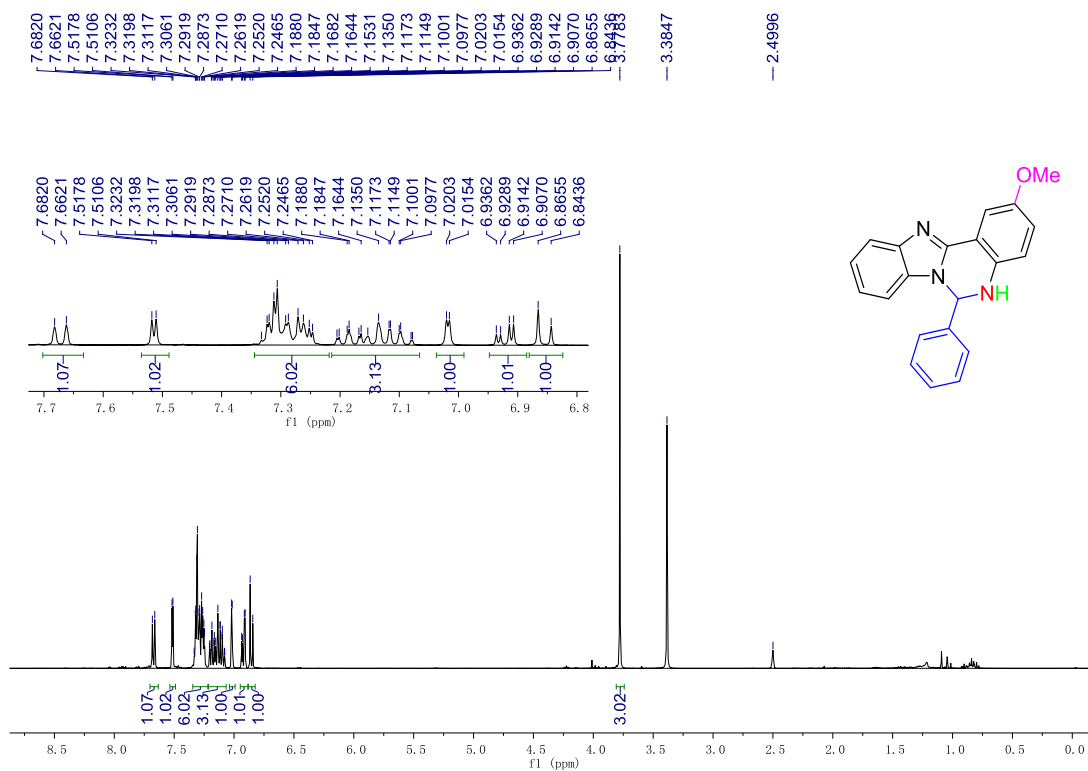
3ad, ¹³C NMR (150 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆)



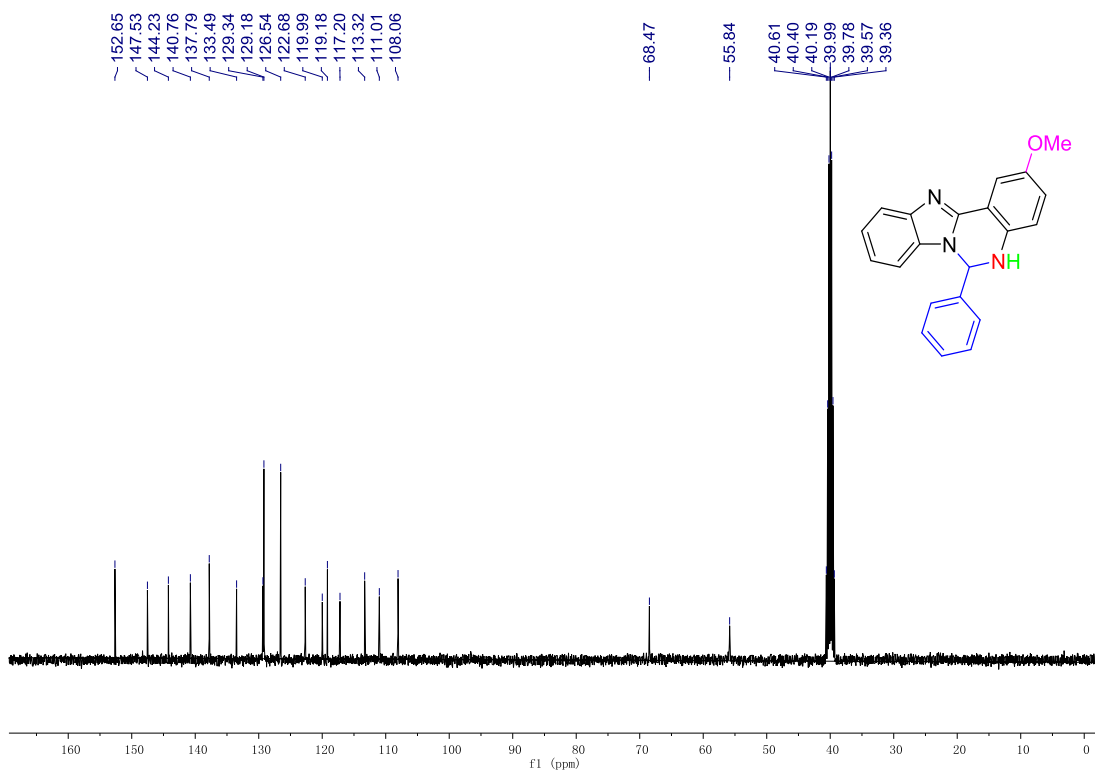
3ae, ¹H NMR (600 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆)



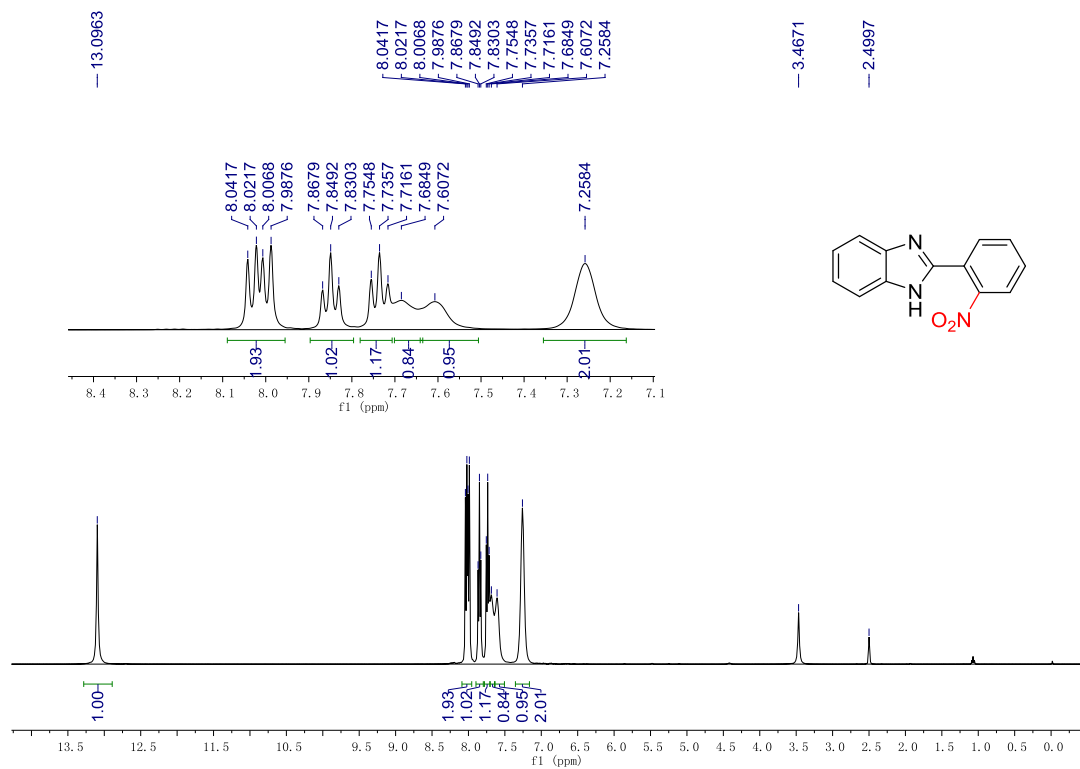
3ae, ¹³C NMR (150 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆)



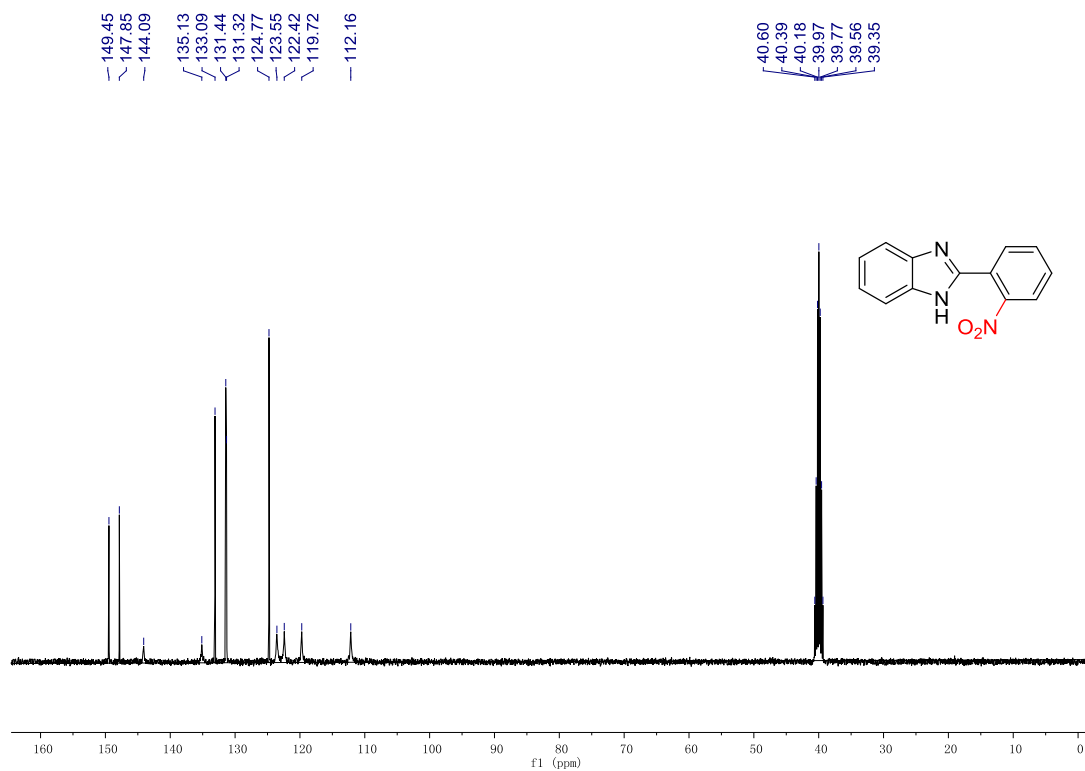
3af, ¹H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆)



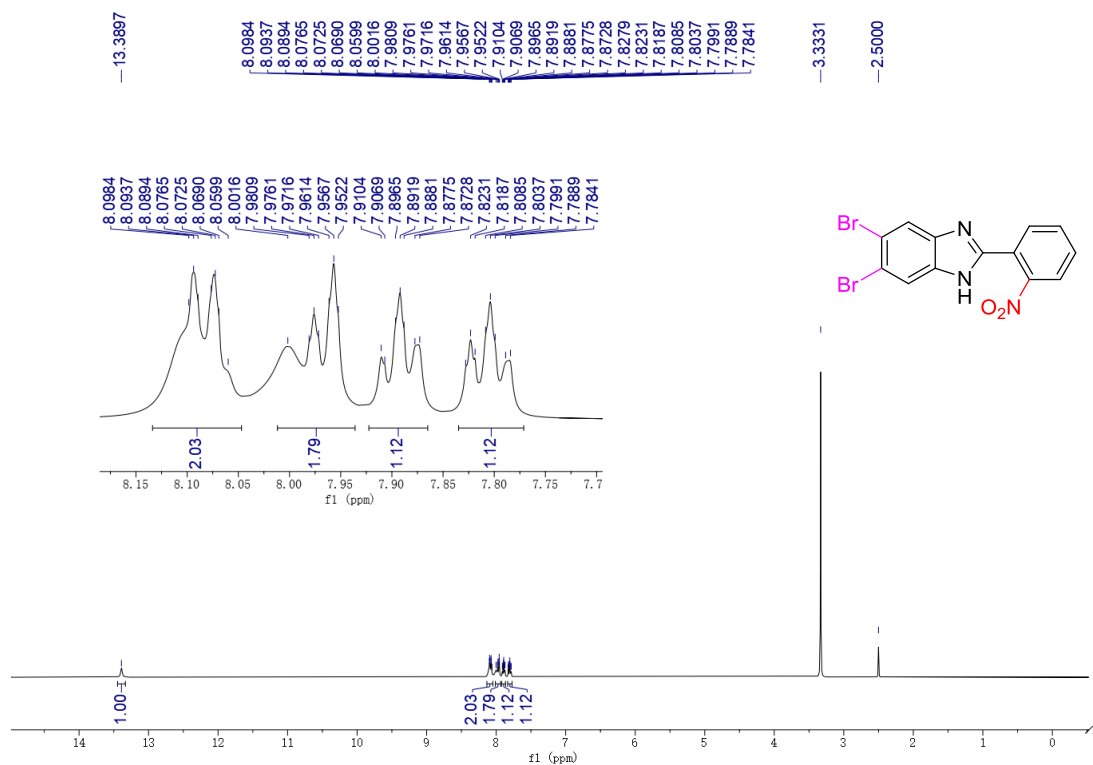
3af, ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆)



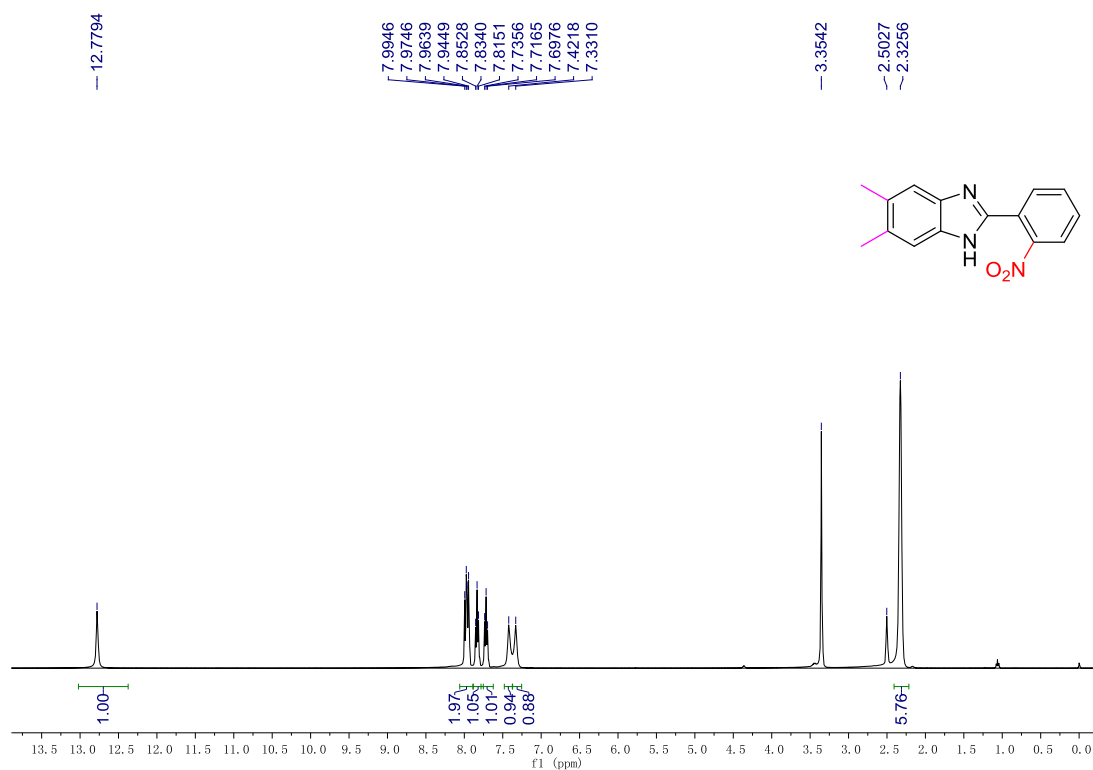
1a, ¹H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆)



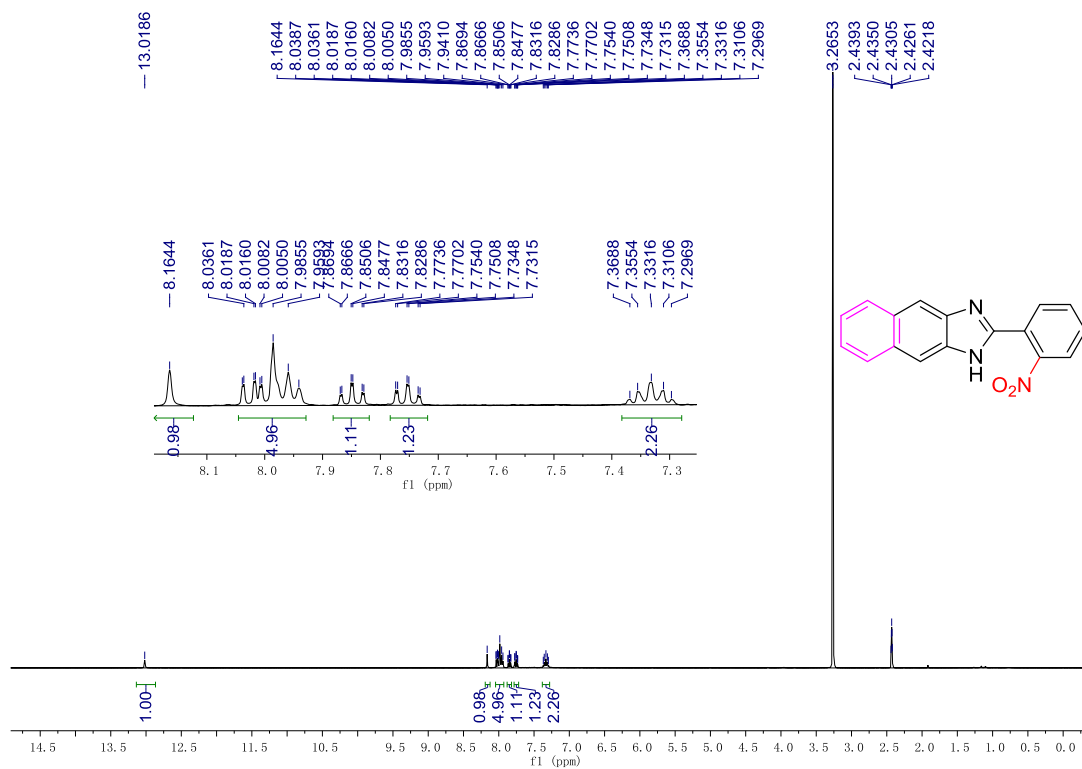
1a, ¹³C NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆)



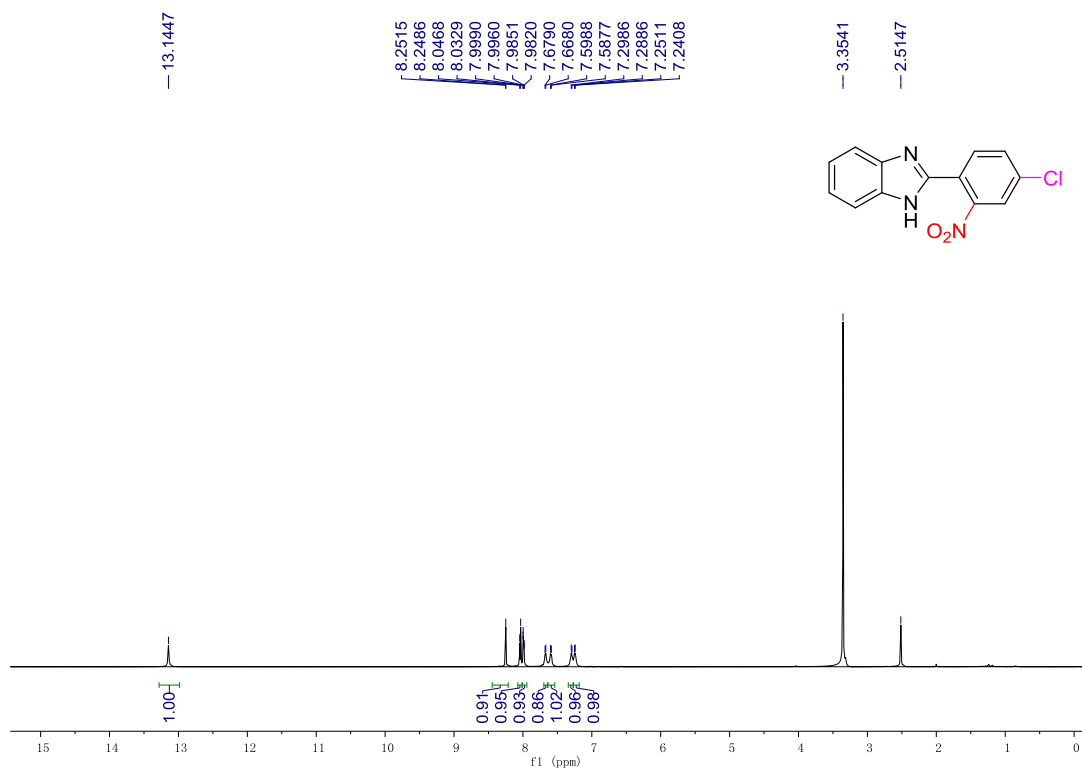
1v, ¹H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆)



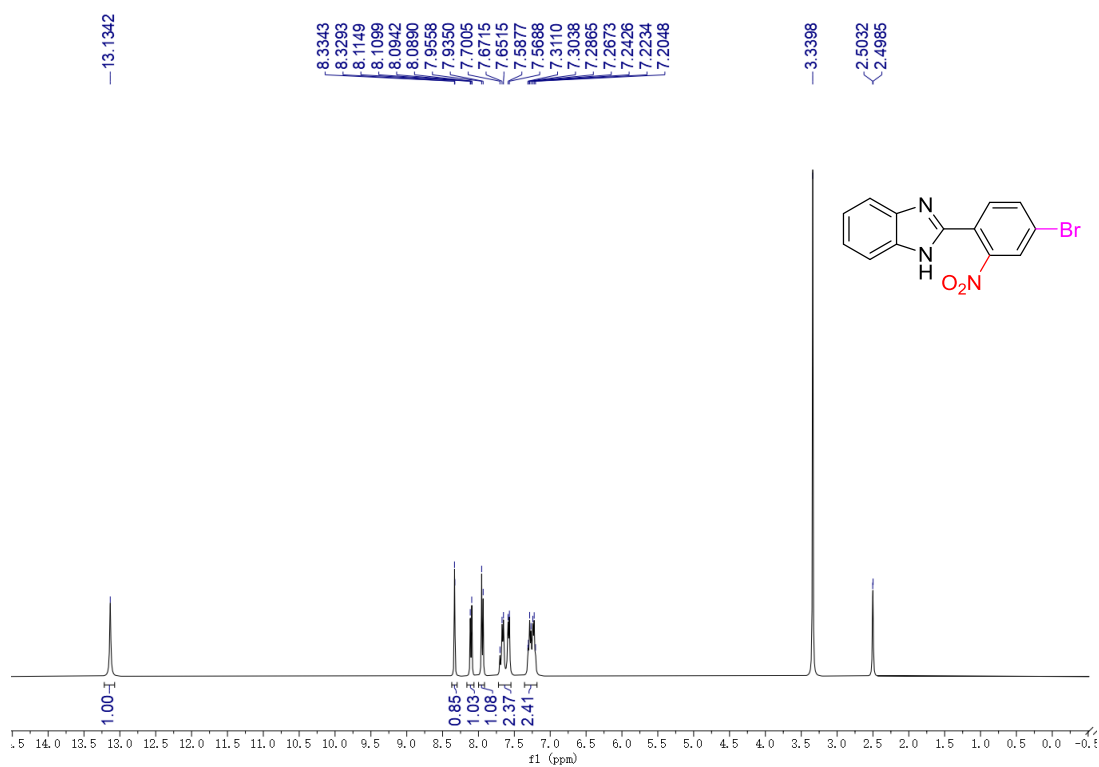
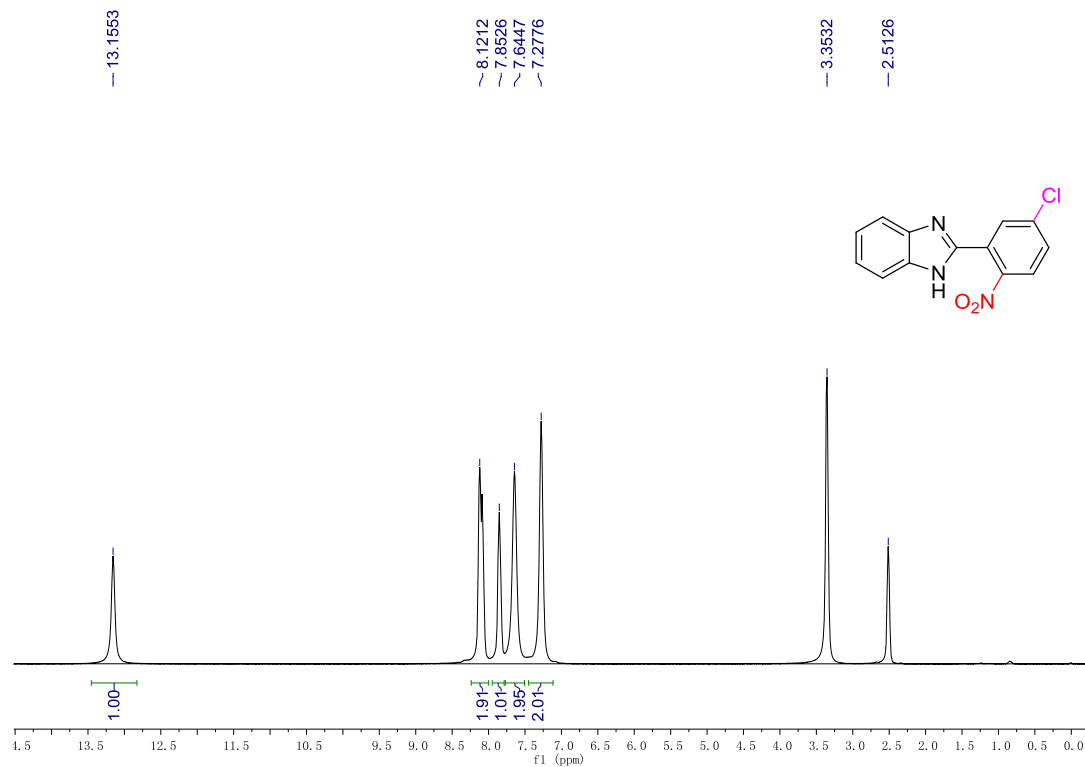
1w, ¹H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆)

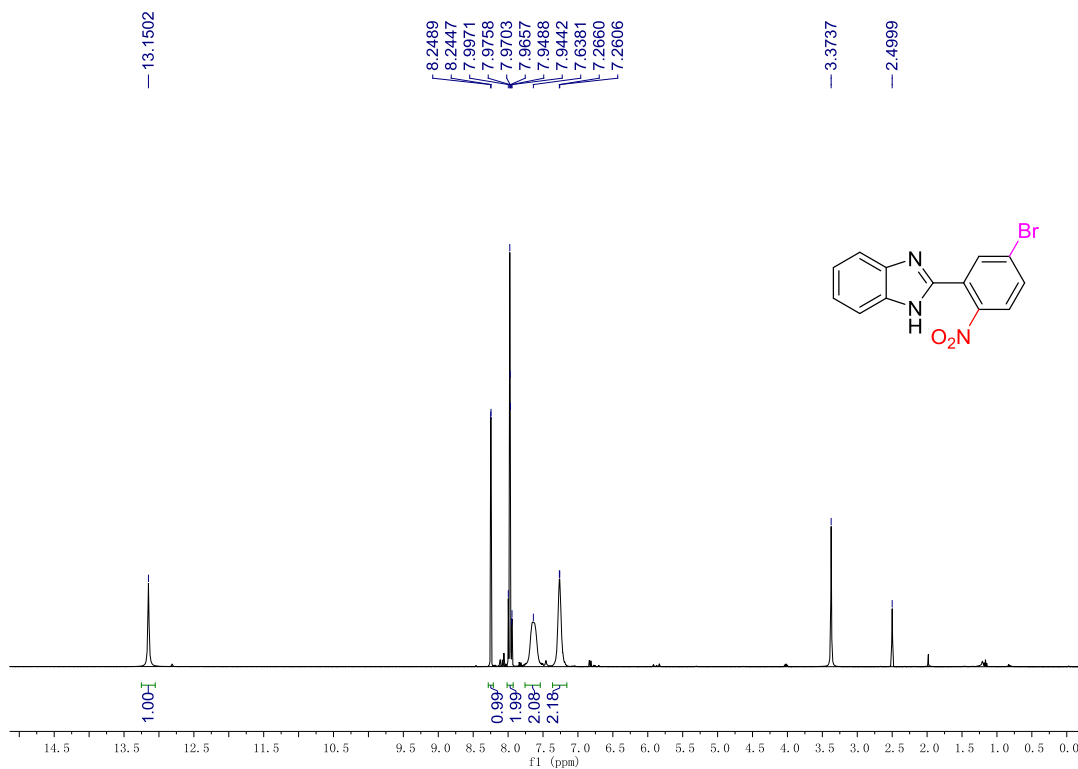


1x, ^1H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO- d_6)

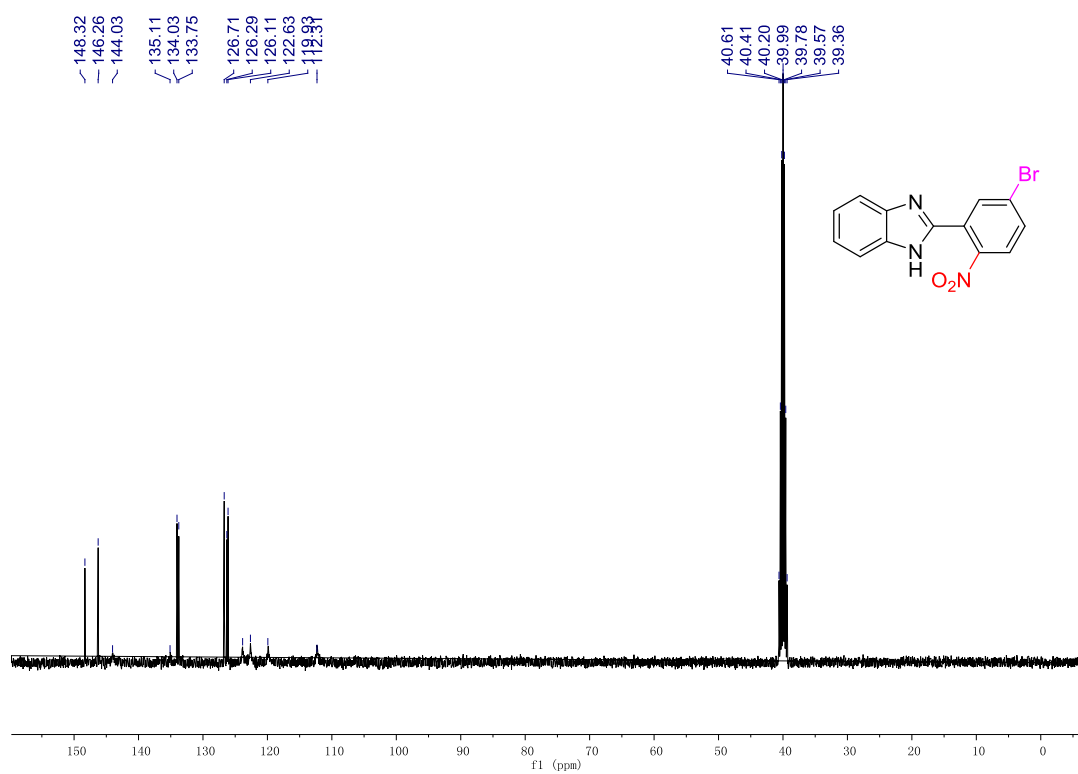


1y, ^1H NMR (600 MHz, DMSO- d_6)

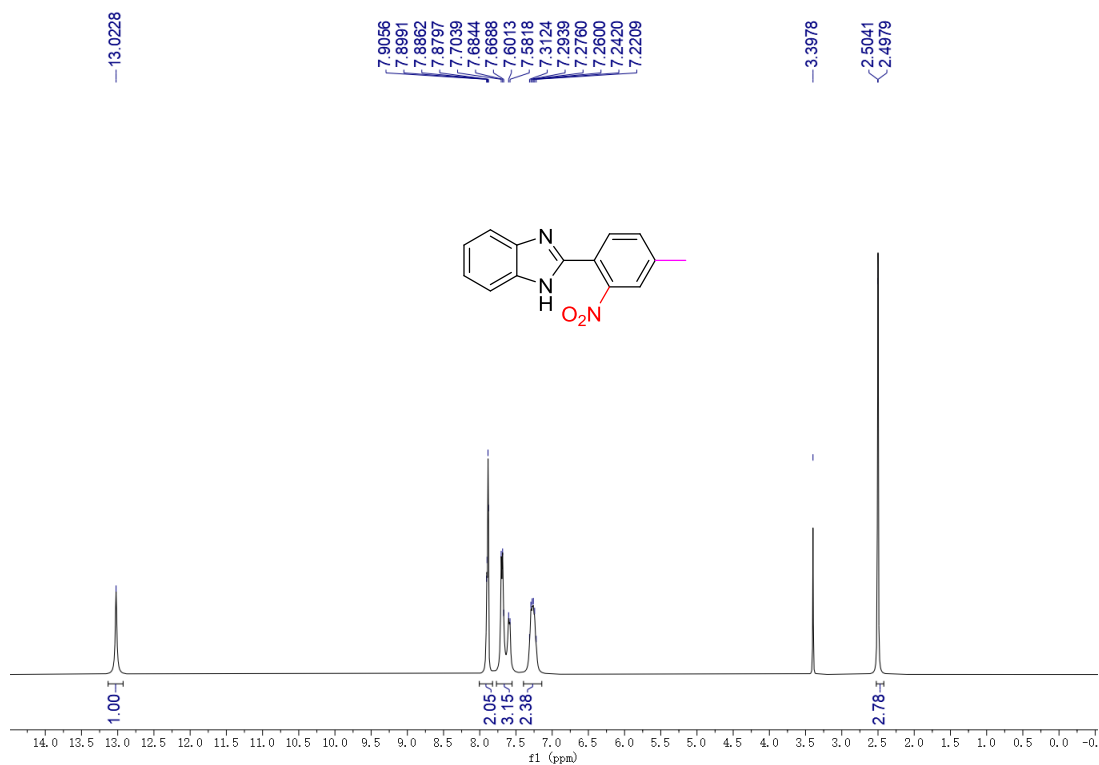




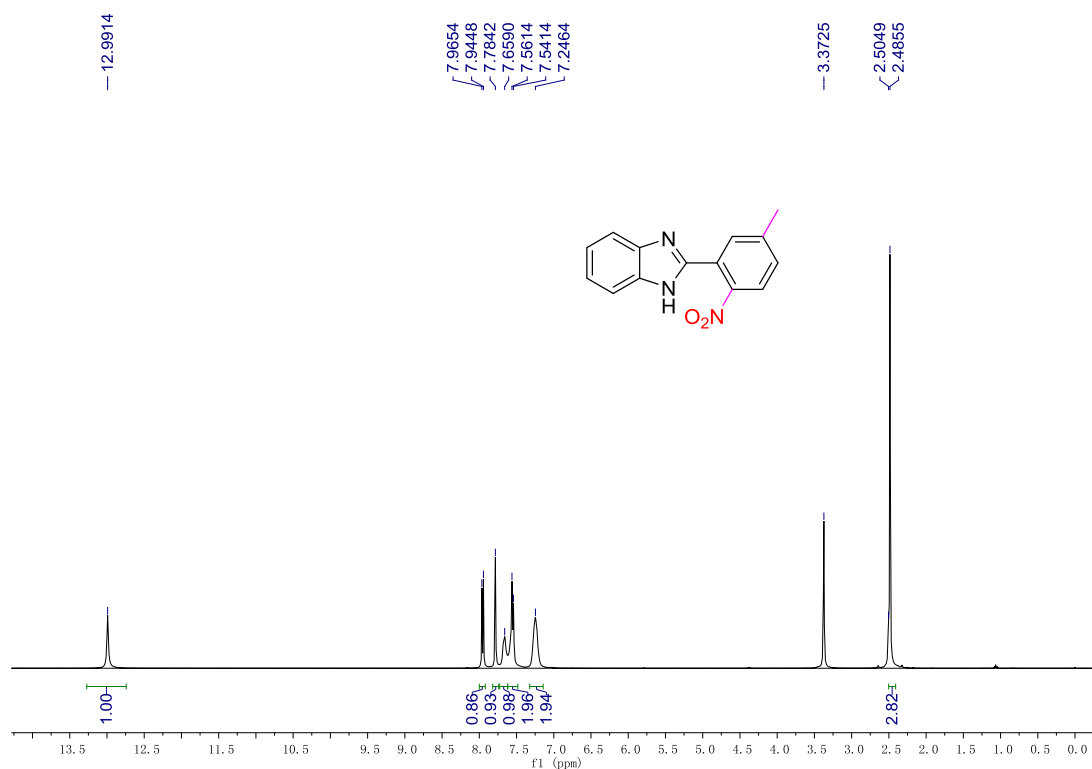
1ab, ^1H NMR (400 MHz, $\text{DMSO}-d_6$)



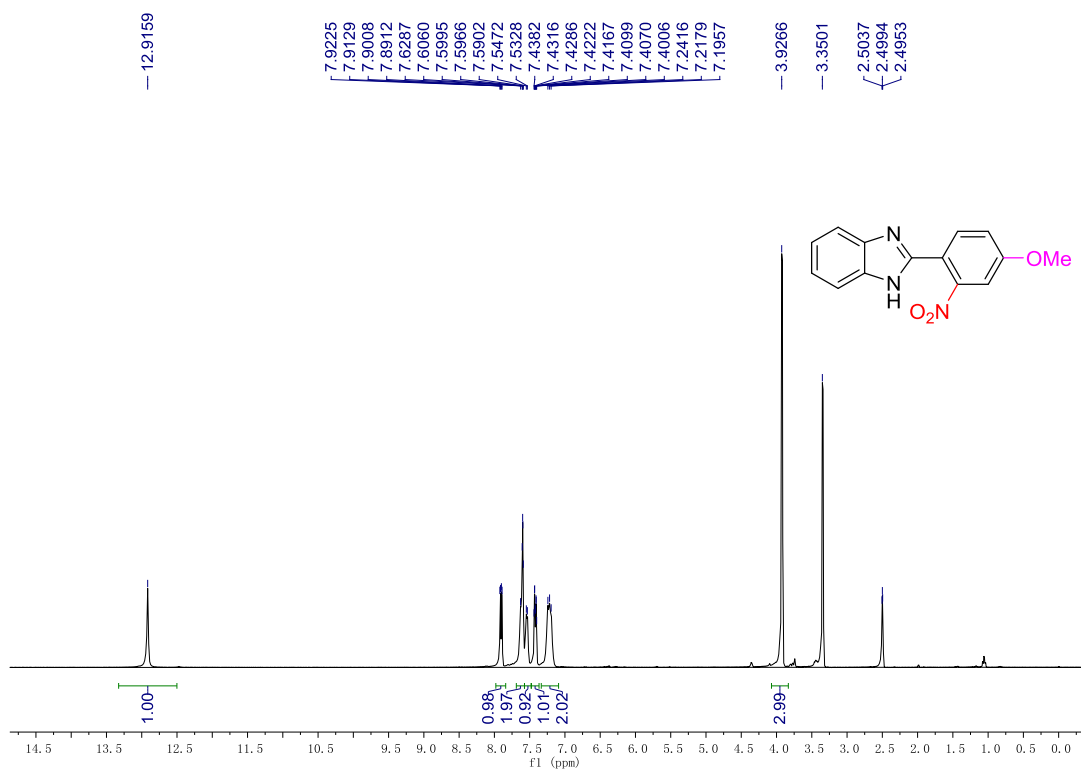
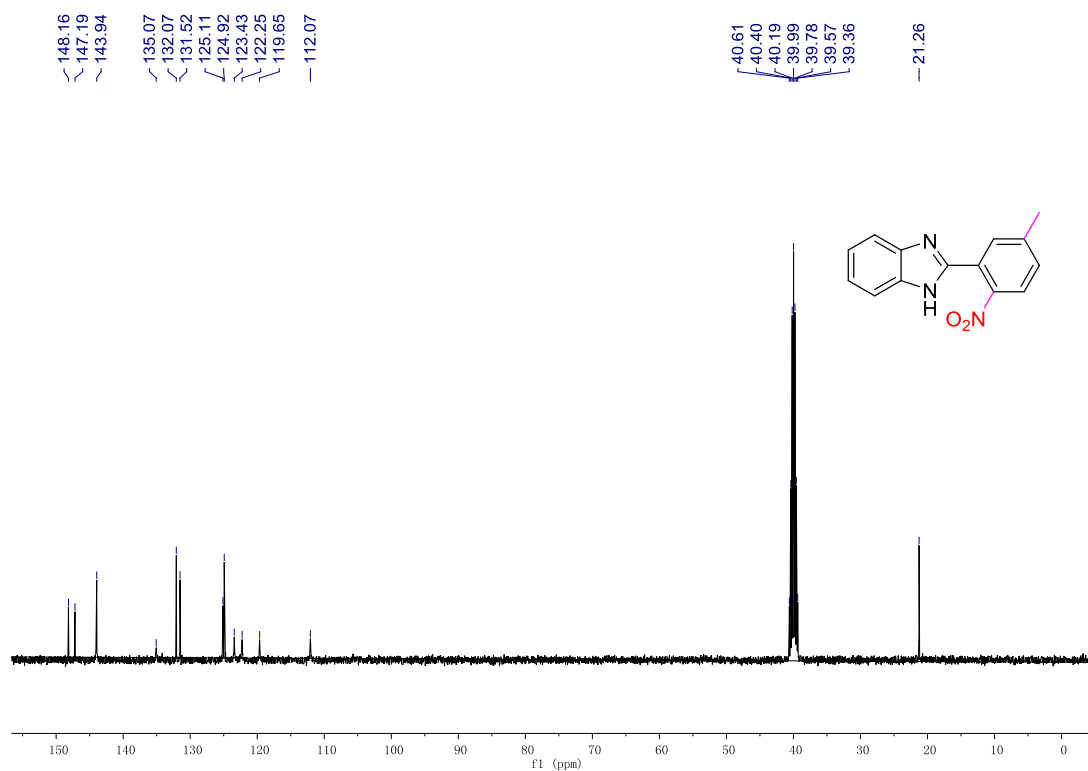
1ab, ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, $\text{DMSO}-d_6$)

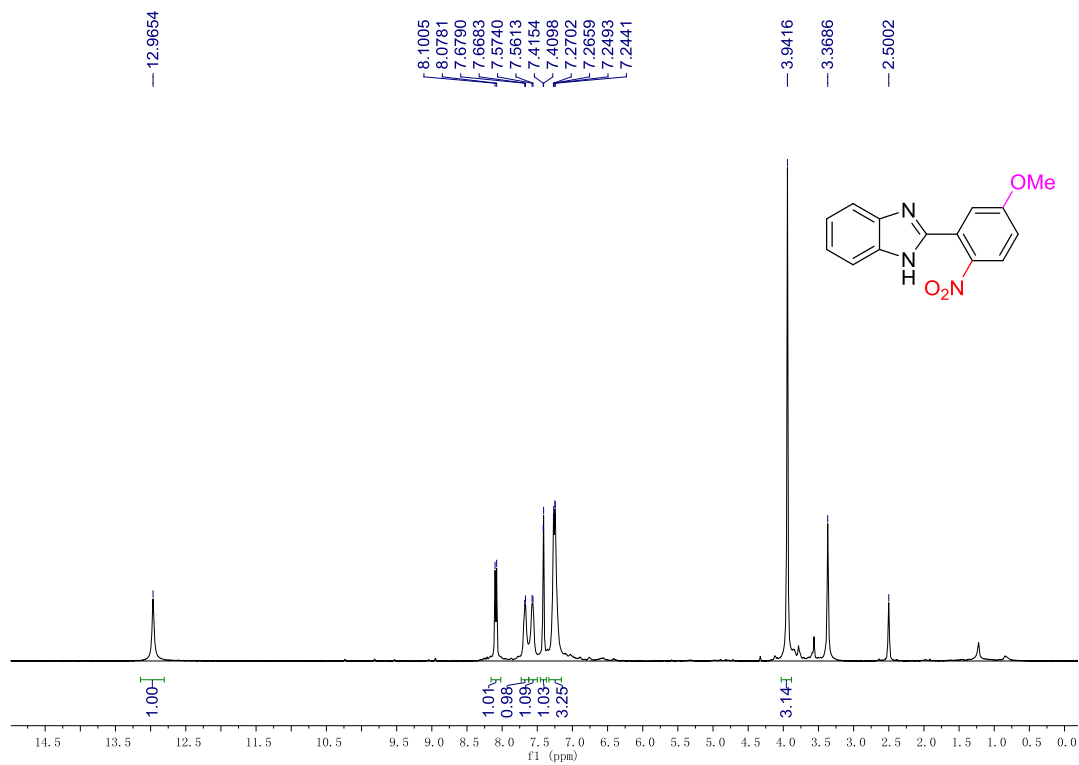


1ac, ¹H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆)

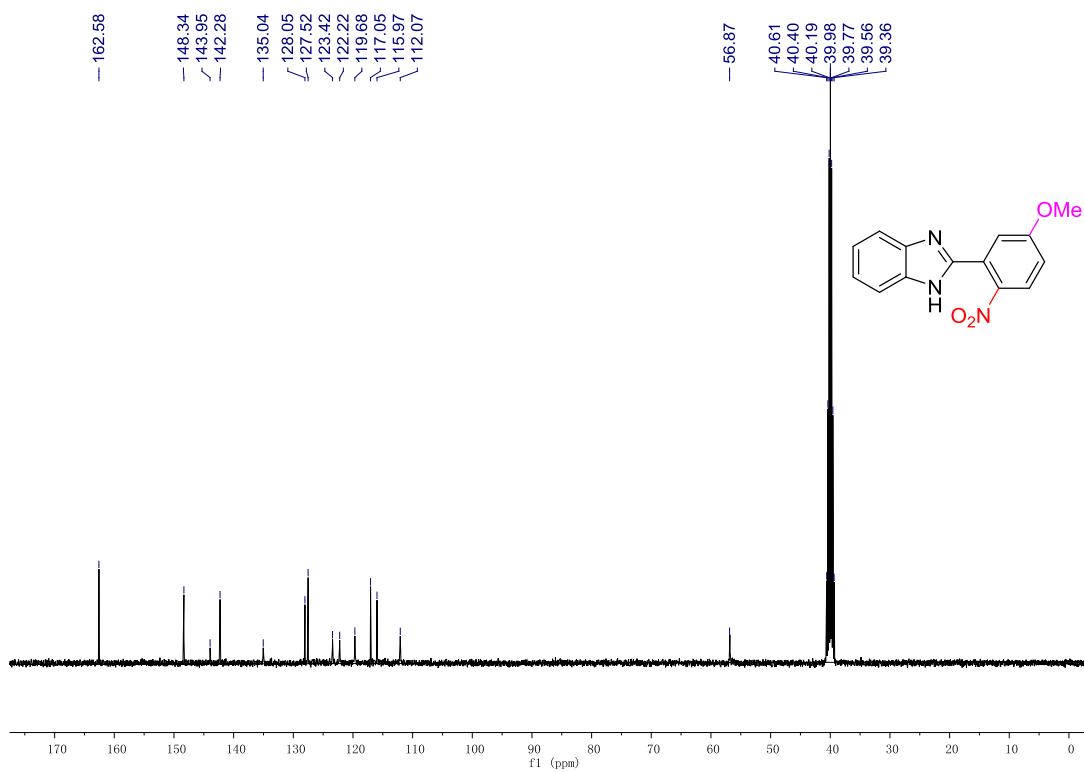


1ad, ¹H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆)





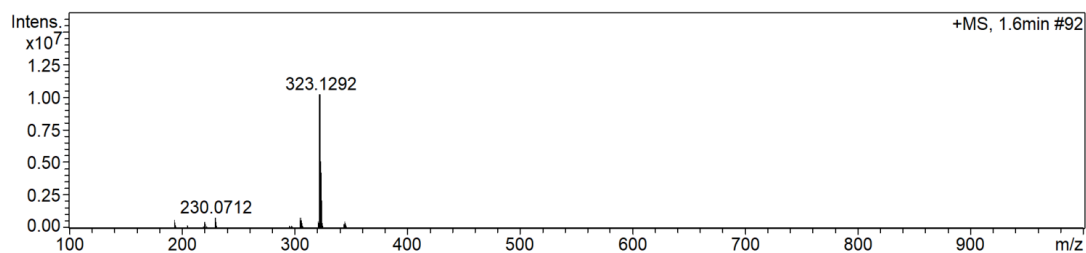
1af, ¹H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆)



1af, ¹³C NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆)

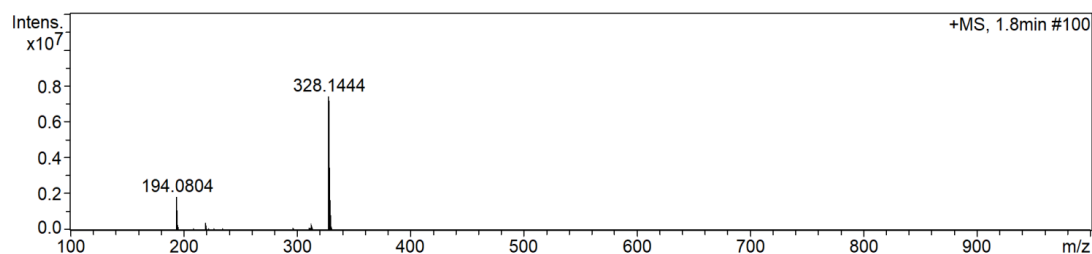
6. Copies of HRMS Spectra for the Products

+MS, 1.6min #92



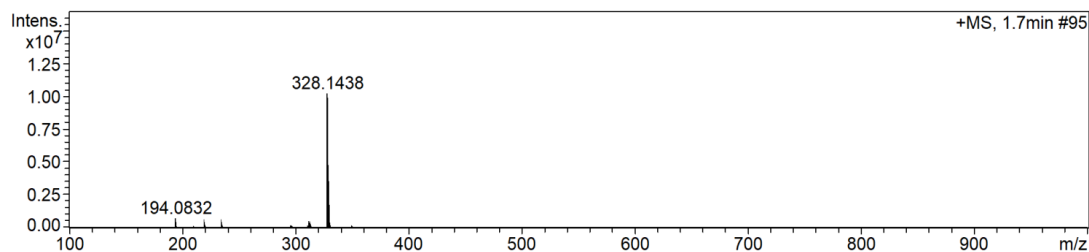
3f, HRMS calcd for $\text{C}_{21}\text{H}_{15}\text{N}_4^+$ $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$: 323.1291; found: 323.1292

+MS, 1.8min #100



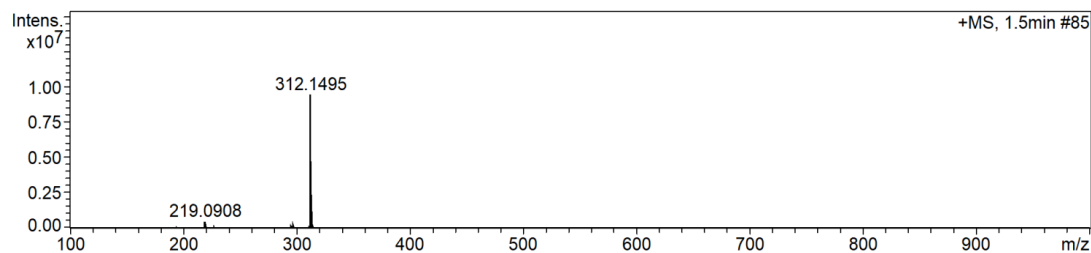
3h, HRMS calcd for $\text{C}_{21}\text{H}_{18}\text{N}_3\text{O}^+$ $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$: 328.1444; found: 328.1444

+MS, 1.7min #95



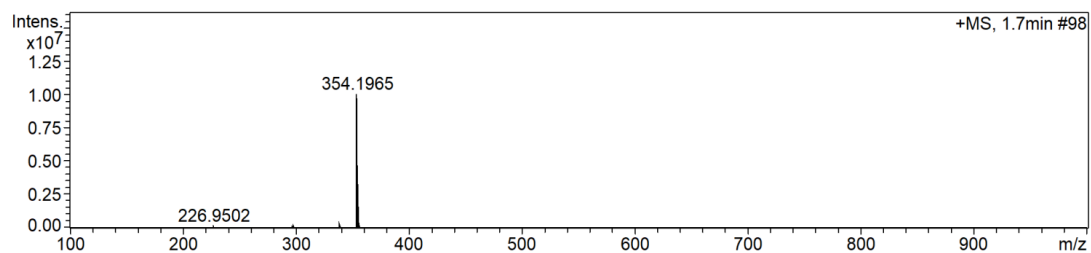
3i, HRMS calcd for $\text{C}_{21}\text{H}_{18}\text{N}_3\text{O}^+$ $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$: 328.1444; found: 328.1438

+MS, 1.5min #85



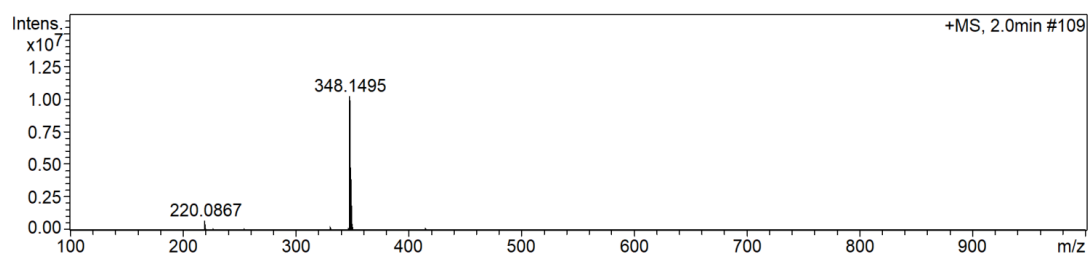
3k, HRMS calcd for $\text{C}_{21}\text{H}_{18}\text{N}_3^+$ $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$: 312.1495; found: 312.1495

+MS, 1.7min #98



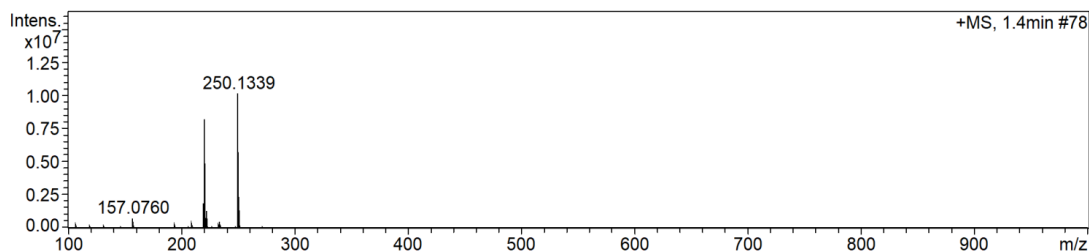
3l, HRMS calcd for C₂₄H₂₄N₃⁺ [M+H]⁺: 354.1965; found: 354.1965

+MS, 2.0min #109



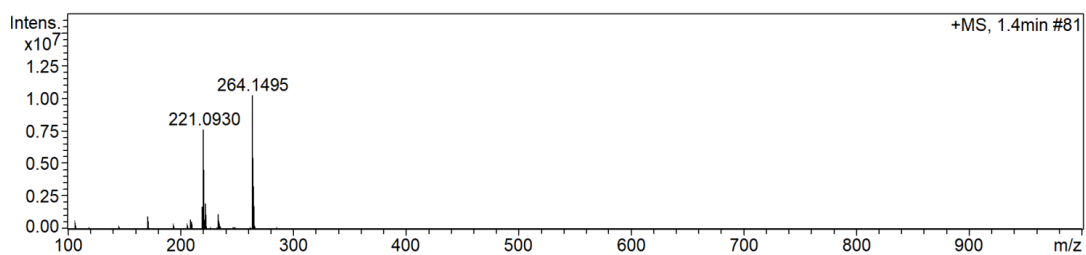
3o, HRMS calcd for C₂₄H₁₈N₃⁺ [M+H]⁺: 348.1495; found: 348.1495

+MS, 1.4min #78



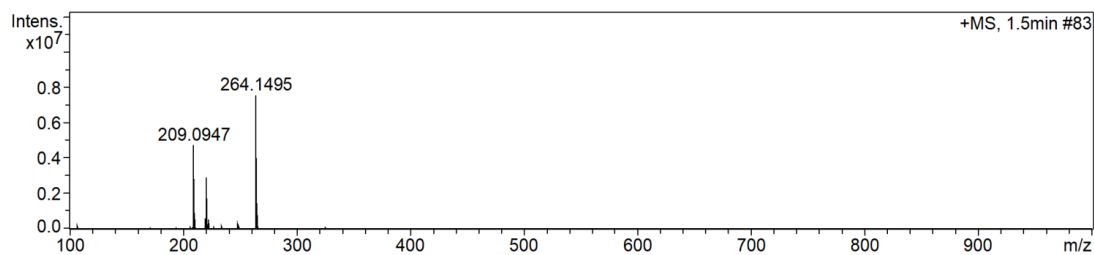
3p, HRMS calcd for C₁₆H₁₆N₃⁺ [M+H]⁺: 250.1339; found: 250.1339

+MS, 1.4min #81



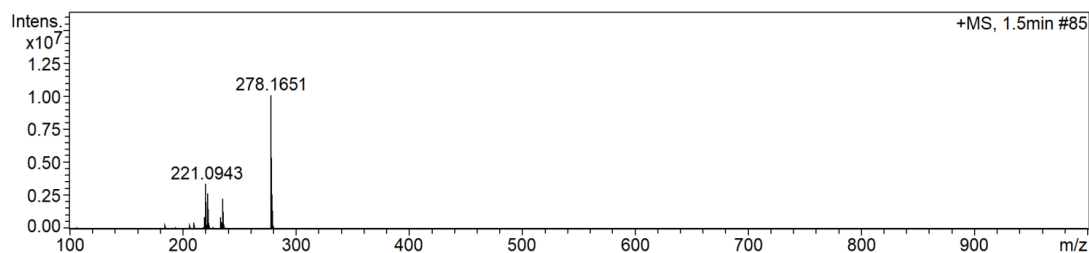
3q, HRMS calcd for C₁₇H₁₈N₃⁺ [M+H]⁺: 264.1495; found: 264.1495

+MS, 1.5min #83



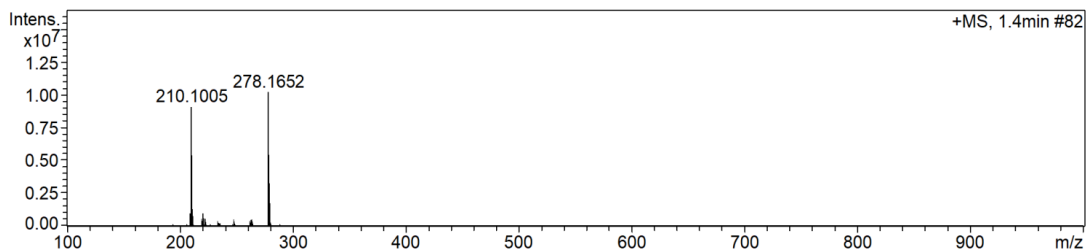
3r, HRMS calcd for C₁₇H₁₈N₃⁺ [M+H]⁺: 264.1495; found: 264.1495

+MS, 1.5min #85



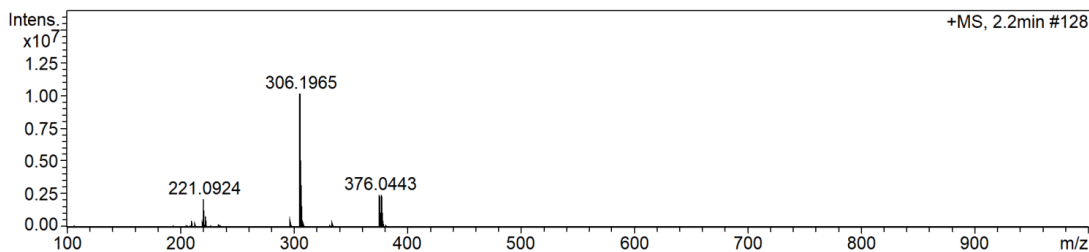
3s, HRMS calcd for C₁₈H₂₀N₃⁺ [M+H]⁺: 278.1652; found: 278.1651

+MS, 1.4min #82



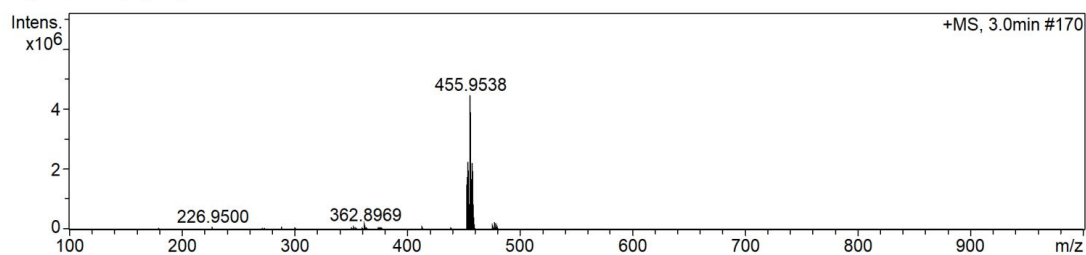
3t, HRMS calcd for C₁₈H₂₀N₃⁺ [M+H]⁺: 278.1652; found: 278.1652

+MS, 2.2min #128



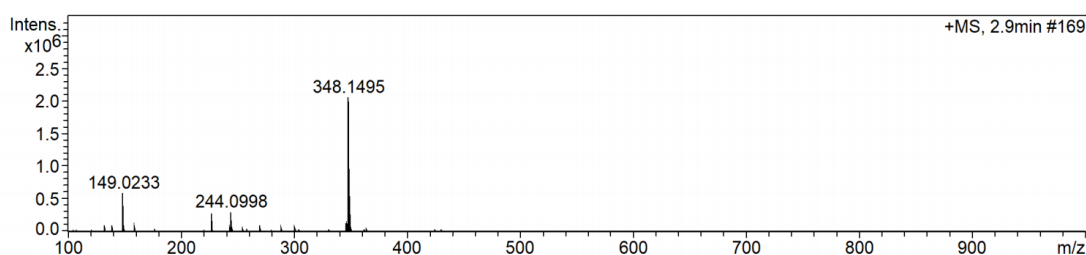
3u, HRMS calcd for C₂₀H₂₄N₃⁺ [M+H]⁺: 306.1965; found: 306.1965

+MS, 3.0min #170



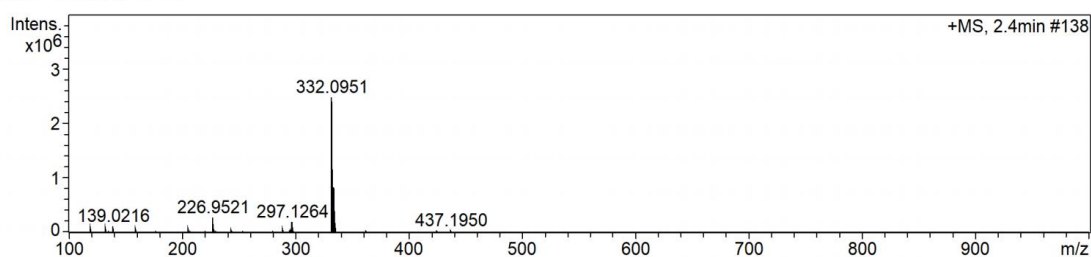
3v, HRMS calcd for C₂₀H₁₄Br₂N₃⁺ [M+H]⁺: 455.9540; found: 455.9538

+MS, 2.9min #169



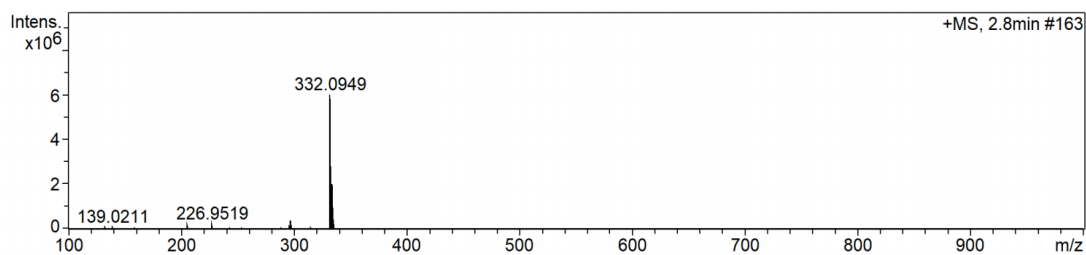
3x, HRMS calcd for C₂₄H₁₈N₃⁺ [M+H]⁺: 348.1495; found: 348.1495

+MS, 2.4min #138



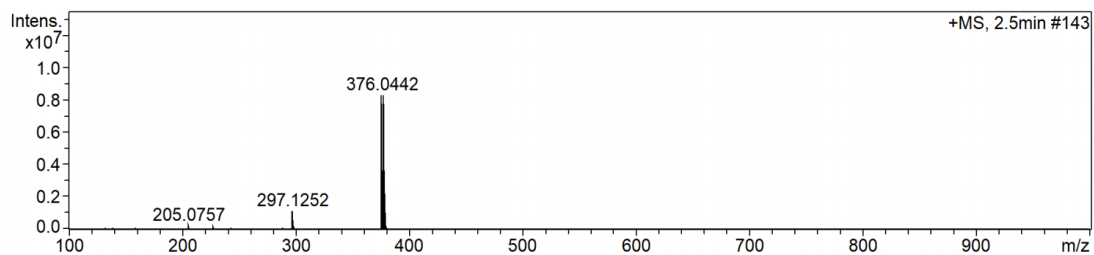
3y, HRMS calcd for C₂₀H₁₅ClN₃⁺ [M+H]⁺: 332.0949; found: 332.0951

+MS, 2.8min #163



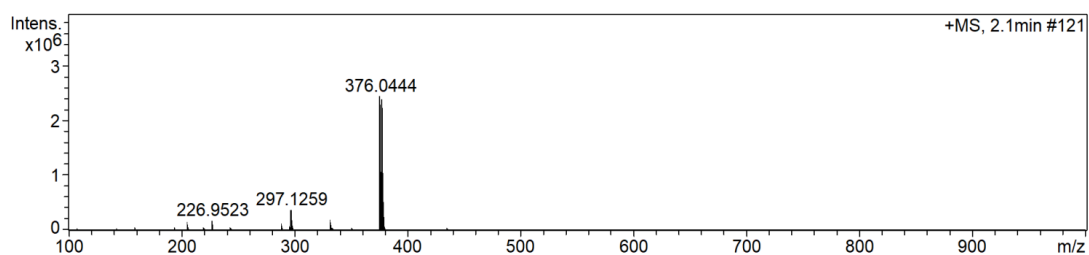
3z, HRMS calcd for C₂₀H₁₅ClN₃⁺ [M+H]⁺: 332.0949; found: 332.0949

+MS, 2.5min #143



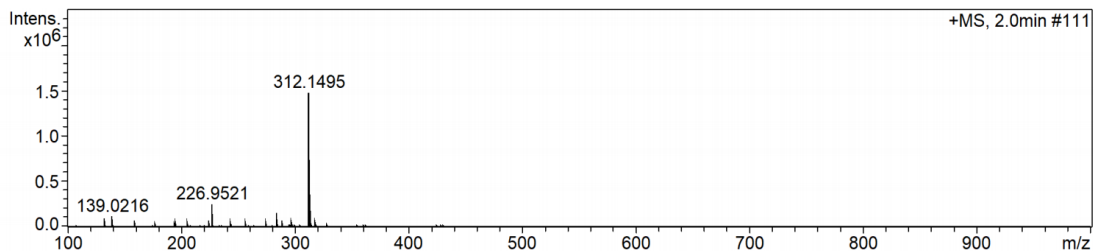
3aa, HRMS calcd for C₂₀H₁₅BrN₃⁺ [M+H]⁺: 376.0444; found: 376.0442

+MS, 2.1min #121



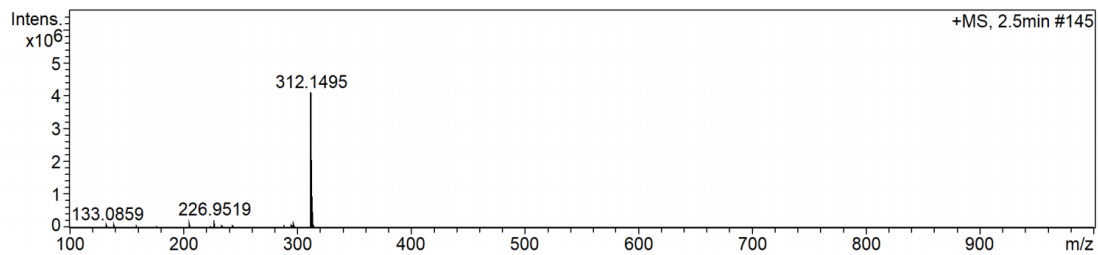
3ab, HRMS calcd for C₂₀H₁₅BrN₃⁺ [M+H]⁺: 376.0444; found: 376.0444

+MS, 2.0min #111



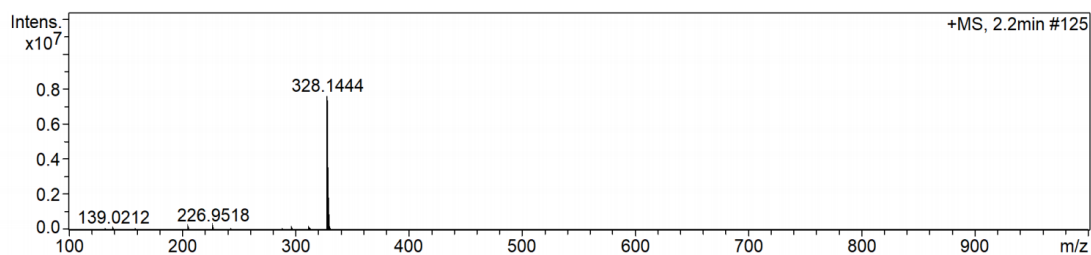
3ac, HRMS calcd for C₂₁H₁₈N₃⁺ [M+H]⁺: 312.1495; found: 312.1495

+MS, 2.5min #145



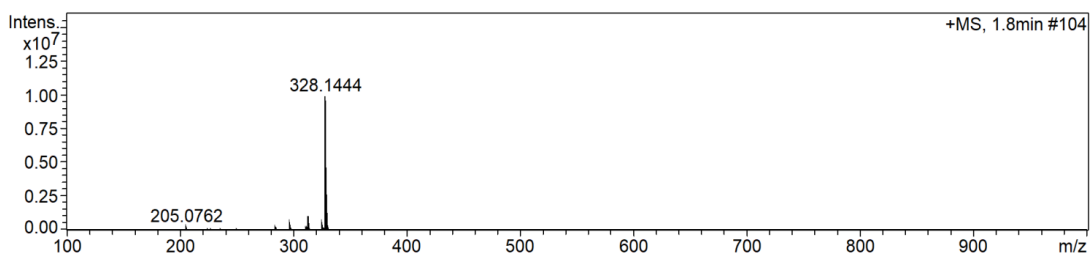
3ad HRMS calcd for C₂₁H₁₈N₃⁺ [M+H]⁺: 312.1495; found: 312.1495

+MS, 2.2min #125



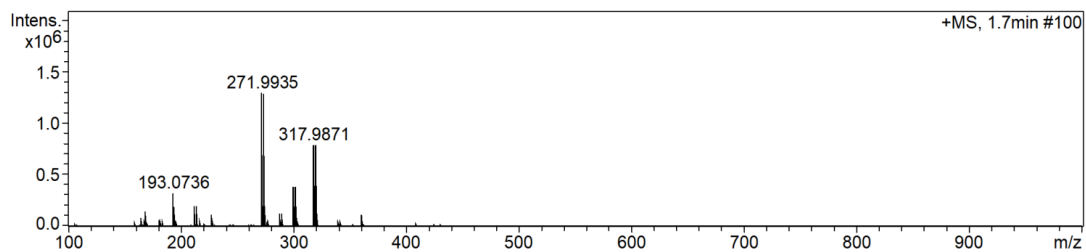
3ae HRMS calcd for C₂₁H₁₈N₃O⁺ [M+H]⁺: 328.1444; found: 328.1444

+MS, 1.8min #104



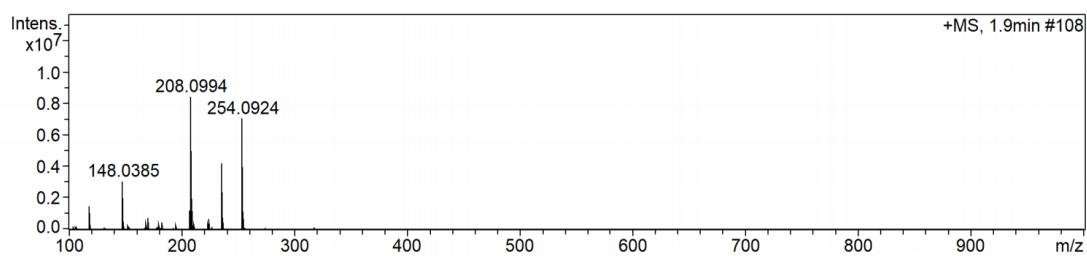
3af, HRMS calcd for C₂₁H₁₈N₃O⁺ [M+H]⁺: 328.1444; found: 328.1444

+MS, 1.7min #100



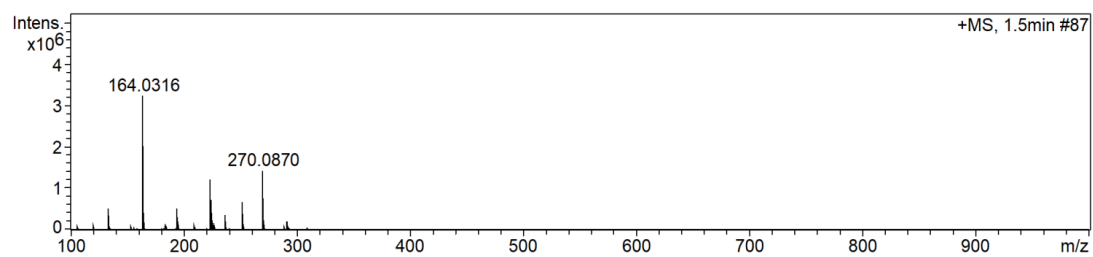
1ab, HRMS calcd for C₁₃H₉BrN₃O₂⁺ [M+H]⁺: 317.9873; found: 317.9871

+MS, 1.9min #108



1ad HRMS calcd for C₁₄H₁₂N₃O₂⁺ [M+H]⁺: 254.0924; found: 254.0924

+MS, 1.5min #87



1af, HRMS calcd for C₁₄H₁₂N₃O₃⁺ [M+H]⁺: 270.0873; found: 270.0870