

# Nucleophilic reactivities of benzenesulfonyl-substituted carbanions

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## Kinetic experiments

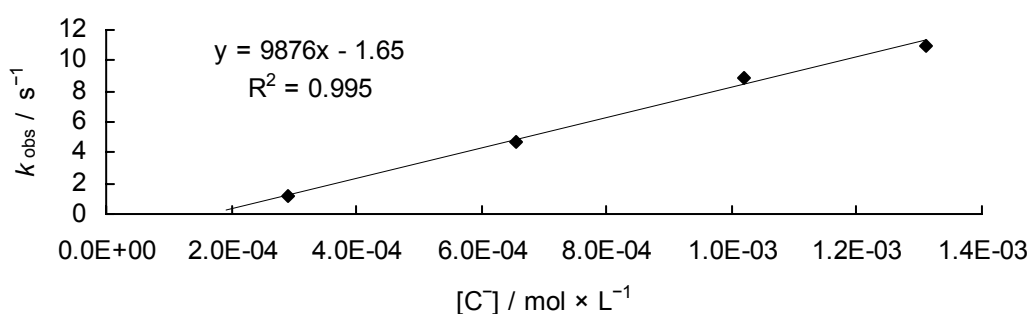
The temperature of the solutions during all kinetic studies was kept constant ( $20 \pm 0.1^\circ\text{C}$ ) by using a circulating bath thermostat. Dry DMSO for kinetics was purchased ( $< 50$  ppm  $\text{H}_2\text{O}$ ).

For the evaluation of kinetics the stopped-flow spectrophotometer systems Hi-Tech SF-61DX2 or Applied Photophysics SX.18MV-R stopped-flow reaction analyzer were used. Rate constants  $k_{\text{obs}}$  ( $\text{s}^{-1}$ ) were obtained by fitting the single exponential  $A_t = A_0 \exp(-k_{\text{obs}}t) + C$  to the observed time-dependent electrophile absorbance (averaged from at least 3 kinetic runs for each nucleophile concentration). For the stopped-flow experiments 2 stock solutions were used: A solution of the electrophile in DMSO and a solution of the carbanion, which was either used as potassium salt or generated by the deprotonation of the CH acid with 1.05 equivalents of base.

### Reactions of $1\text{a}^-$ ( $X = m\text{-Cl}$ )

Reaction of  $1\text{a}^-$  with  $2\text{a}$  (DMSO,  $\text{P}_4\text{-}^t\text{Bu}$ ,  $20^\circ\text{C}$ , stopped-flow, 524 nm)

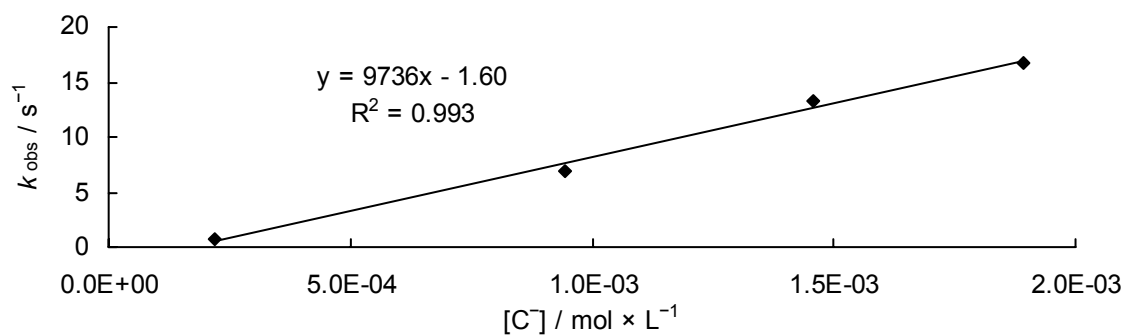
$[\text{E}]_0 / \text{M}$	$[\text{C}^-]_0 / \text{M}$	$k_{\text{obs}} / \text{s}^{-1}$
$1.28 \times 10^{-5}$	$2.91 \times 10^{-4}$	1.16
$1.28 \times 10^{-5}$	$6.55 \times 10^{-4}$	4.71
$1.28 \times 10^{-5}$	$1.02 \times 10^{-3}$	8.87
$1.28 \times 10^{-5}$	$1.31 \times 10^{-3}$	$1.10 \times 10^1$



$$k_2 = (9.88 \pm 0.50) \times 10^3 \text{ M}^{-1}\text{s}^{-1}$$

Reaction of **1a**<sup>-</sup> with **2a** (DMSO, KO<sup>t</sup>Bu / 18-crown-6, 20 °C, stopped-flow, 524 nm)

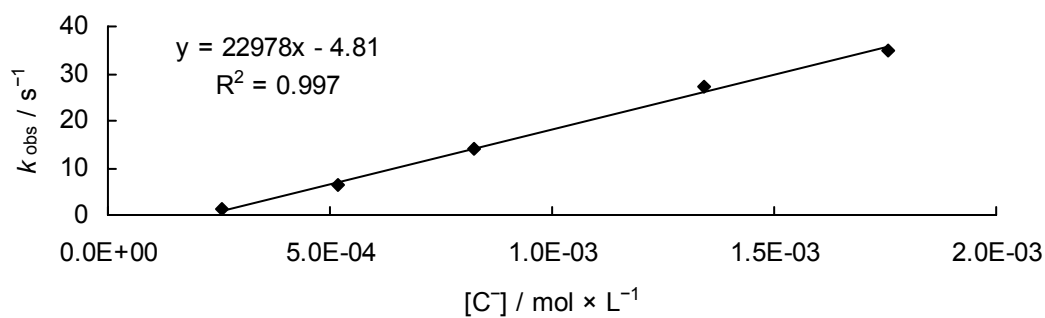
[E] <sub>0</sub> / M	[C <sup>-</sup> ] <sub>0</sub> / M	k <sub>obs</sub> / s <sup>-1</sup>
1.93 × 10 <sup>-5</sup>	2.18 × 10 <sup>-4</sup>	8.03 × 10 <sup>-1</sup>
1.93 × 10 <sup>-5</sup>	9.46 × 10 <sup>-4</sup>	6.85
1.93 × 10 <sup>-5</sup>	1.46 × 10 <sup>-3</sup>	1.32 × 10 <sup>1</sup>
1.93 × 10 <sup>-5</sup>	1.89 × 10 <sup>-3</sup>	1.67 × 10 <sup>1</sup>



$$k_2 = (9.74 \pm 0.57) \times 10^3 \text{ M}^{-1} \text{ s}^{-1}$$

Reaction of **1a**<sup>-</sup> with **2b** (DMSO, P<sub>4</sub>-<sup>t</sup>Bu, 20 °C, stopped-flow, 500 nm)

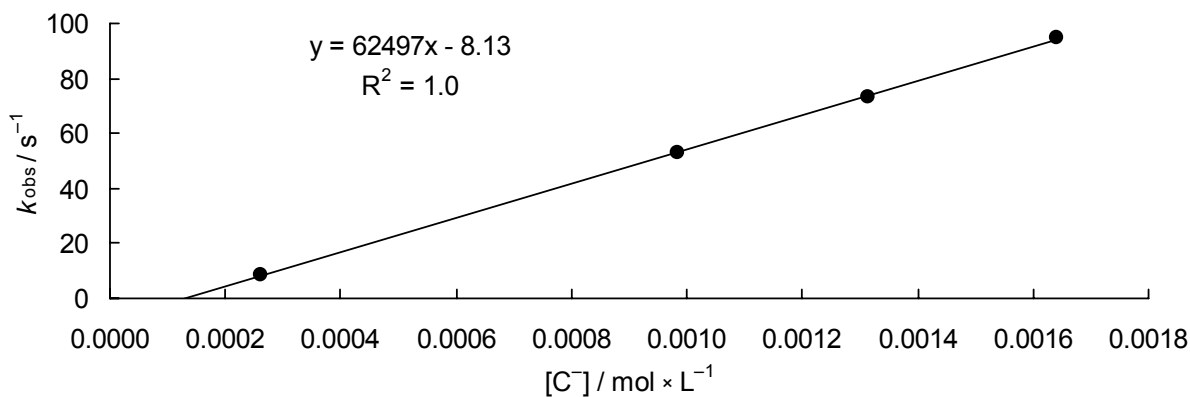
[E] <sub>0</sub> / M	[C <sup>-</sup> ] <sub>0</sub> / M	k <sub>obs</sub> / s <sup>-1</sup>
1.76 × 10 <sup>-5</sup>	2.58 × 10 <sup>-4</sup>	1.42
1.76 × 10 <sup>-5</sup>	5.17 × 10 <sup>-4</sup>	6.47
1.76 × 10 <sup>-5</sup>	8.27 × 10 <sup>-4</sup>	1.40 × 10 <sup>1</sup>
1.76 × 10 <sup>-5</sup>	1.34 × 10 <sup>-3</sup>	2.71 × 10 <sup>1</sup>
1.76 × 10 <sup>-5</sup>	1.76 × 10 <sup>-3</sup>	3.50 × 10 <sup>1</sup>



$$k_2 = (2.30 \pm 0.07) \times 10^4 \text{ M}^{-1} \text{ s}^{-1}$$

Reaction of **1a**<sup>-</sup> with **6a** (DMSO, KO<sup>t</sup>Bu, 20 °C, stopped-flow, 500 nm)

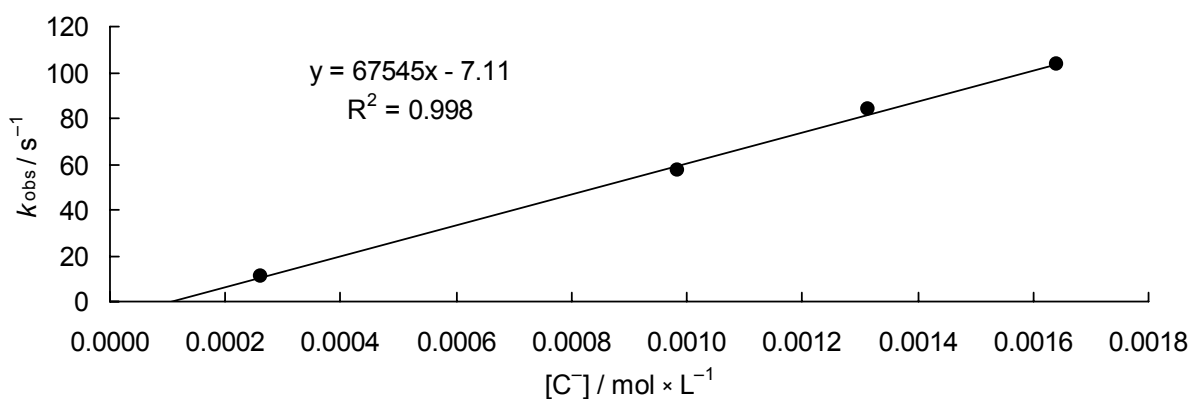
$[E]_0 / M$	$[C^-]_0 / M$	$k_{obs} / s^{-1}$
$1.77 \times 10^{-5}$	$2.63 \times 10^{-4}$	8.64
$1.77 \times 10^{-5}$	$9.85 \times 10^{-4}$	$5.30 \times 10^1$
$1.77 \times 10^{-5}$	$1.31 \times 10^{-3}$	$7.32 \times 10^1$
$1.77 \times 10^{-5}$	$1.64 \times 10^{-3}$	$9.50 \times 10^1$



$$k_2 = (6.25 \pm 0.07) \times 10^4 M^{-1}s^{-1}$$

Reaction of **1a**<sup>-</sup> with **4a** (DMSO, KO<sup>t</sup>Bu, 20 °C, stopped-flow, 500 nm)

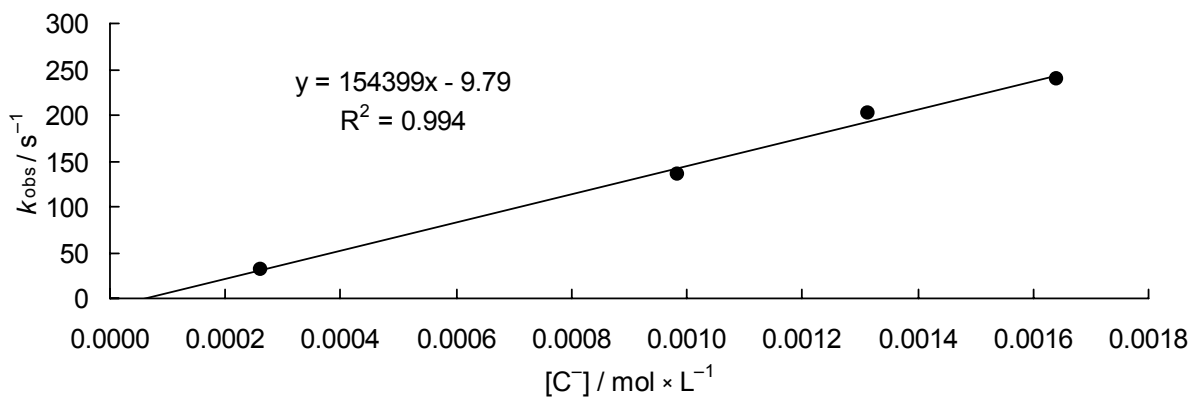
$[E]_0 / M$	$[C^-]_0 / M$	$k_{obs} / s^{-1}$
$1.66 \times 10^{-5}$	$2.63 \times 10^{-4}$	$1.11 \times 10^1$
$1.66 \times 10^{-5}$	$9.85 \times 10^{-4}$	$5.73 \times 10^1$
$1.66 \times 10^{-5}$	$1.31 \times 10^{-3}$	$8.37 \times 10^1$
$1.66 \times 10^{-5}$	$1.64 \times 10^{-3}$	$1.03 \times 10^2$



$$k_2 = (6.75 \pm 0.23) \times 10^4 M^{-1}s^{-1}$$

Reaction of **1a**<sup>-</sup> with **5a** (DMSO, KO<sup>t</sup>Bu, 18-crown-6, 20 °C, stopped-flow, 500 nm)

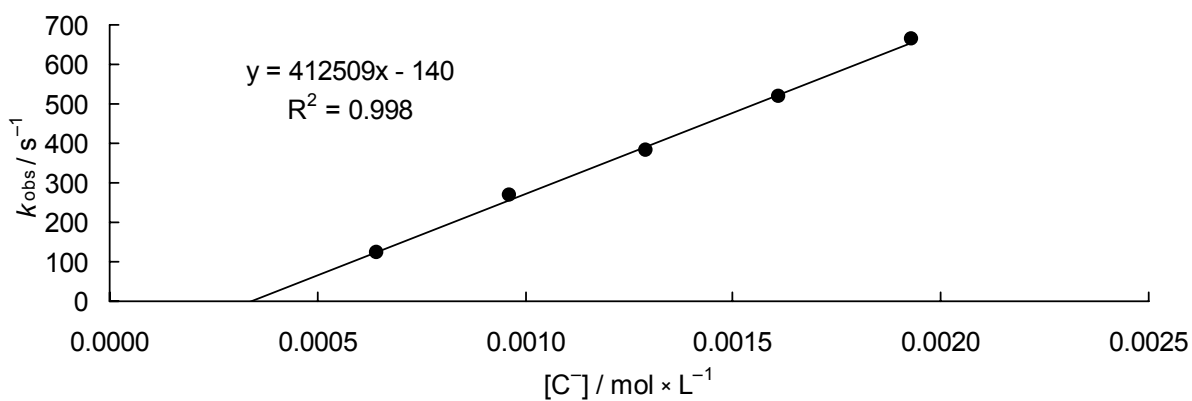
$[E]_0 / M$	$[C^-]_0 / M$	$k_{\text{obs}} / s^{-1}$
$1.58 \times 10^{-5}$	$2.63 \times 10^{-4}$	$3.20 \times 10^1$
$1.58 \times 10^{-5}$	$9.85 \times 10^{-4}$	$1.35 \times 10^2$
$1.58 \times 10^{-5}$	$1.31 \times 10^{-3}$	$2.02 \times 10^2$
$1.58 \times 10^{-5}$	$1.64 \times 10^{-3}$	$2.40 \times 10^2$



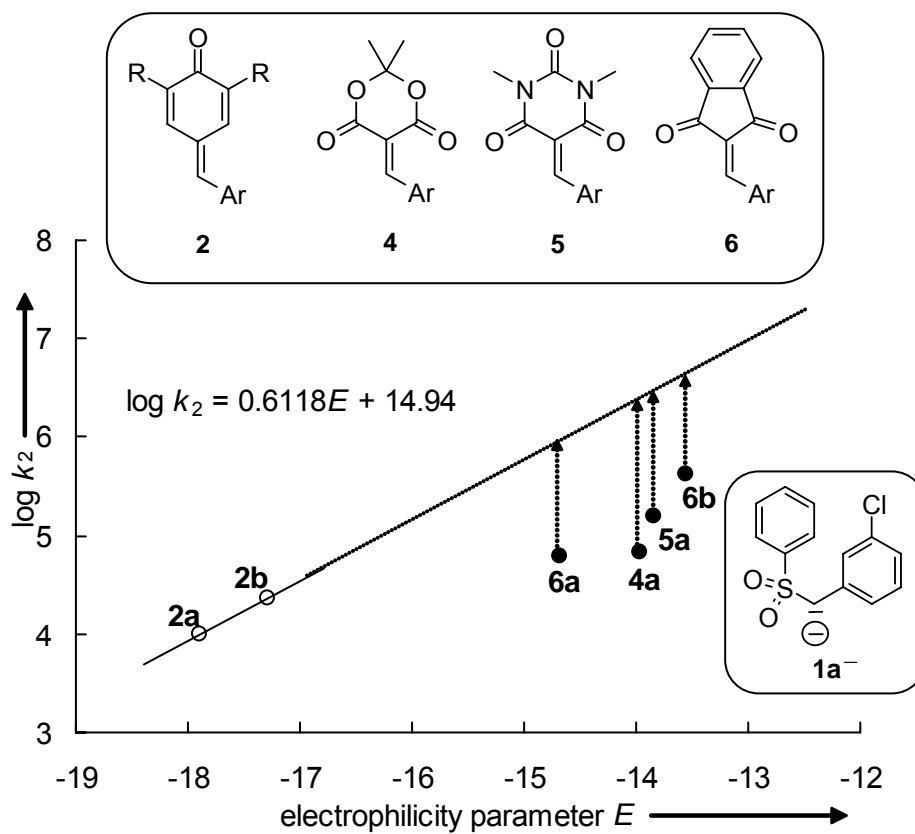
$$k_2 = (1.54 \pm 0.09) \times 10^5 M^{-1} s^{-1}$$

Reaction of **1a**<sup>-</sup> with **6b** (DMSO, KO<sup>t</sup>Bu, 20 °C, stopped-flow, 500 nm)

$[E]_0 / M$	$[C^-]_0 / M$	$k_{\text{obs}} / s^{-1}$
$2.89 \times 10^{-5}$	$6.43 \times 10^{-4}$	$1.25 \times 10^2$
$2.89 \times 10^{-5}$	$9.65 \times 10^{-4}$	$2.68 \times 10^2$
$2.89 \times 10^{-5}$	$1.29 \times 10^{-3}$	$3.84 \times 10^2$
$2.89 \times 10^{-5}$	$1.61 \times 10^{-3}$	$5.16 \times 10^2$
$2.89 \times 10^{-5}$	$1.93 \times 10^{-3}$	$6.65 \times 10^2$



$$k_2 = (4.13 \pm 0.10) \times 10^5 M^{-1} s^{-1}$$

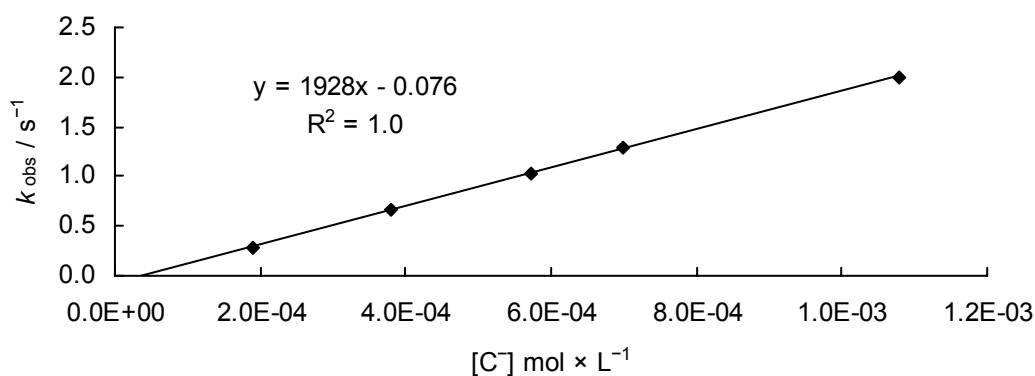


**Fig. S1** Plot of  $\log k_2$  (DMSO) versus electrophilicity parameters  $E$  for the reactions of carbanion **1a<sup>-</sup>** with the quinone methides **2** and Michael acceptors **4-6**.

## Reactions of $1b^-$ ( $X = p\text{-CF}_3$ )

Reaction of  $1b^-$  with  $2a$  (DMSO,  $P_2\text{-}^t\text{Bu}$ , 20 °C, stopped-flow, 524 nm)

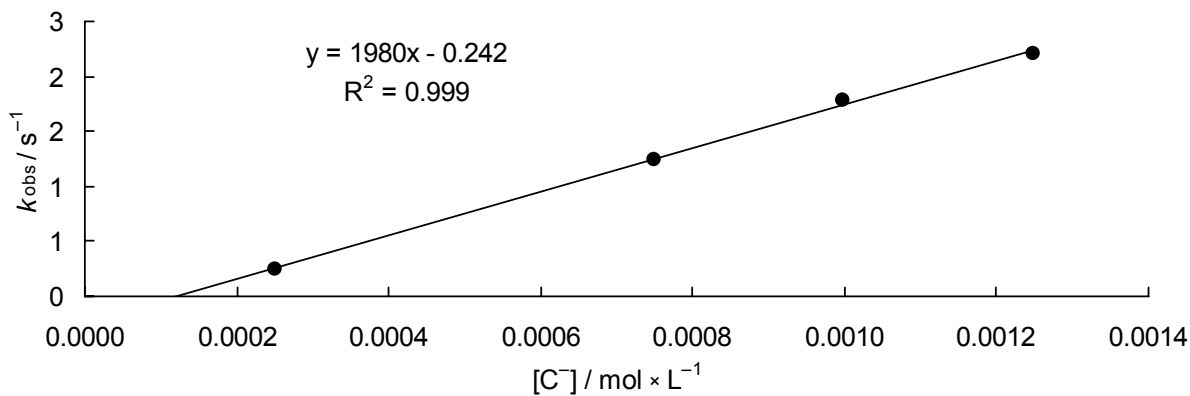
$[E]_0 / \text{M}$	$[C^-]_0 / \text{M}$	$k_{\text{obs}} / \text{s}^{-1}$
$1.29 \times 10^{-5}$	$1.91 \times 10^{-4}$	$2.89 \times 10^{-1}$
$1.29 \times 10^{-5}$	$3.81 \times 10^{-4}$	$6.55 \times 10^{-1}$
$1.29 \times 10^{-5}$	$5.72 \times 10^{-4}$	1.03
$1.29 \times 10^{-5}$	$6.99 \times 10^{-4}$	1.28
$1.29 \times 10^{-5}$	$1.08 \times 10^{-3}$	2.00



$$k_2 = (1.93 \pm 0.01) \times 10^3 \text{ M}^{-1} \text{ s}^{-1}$$

Reaction of  $1b^-$  with  $2a$  (DMSO,  $\text{KO}^t\text{Bu}$ , 20 °C, stopped-flow, 510 nm)

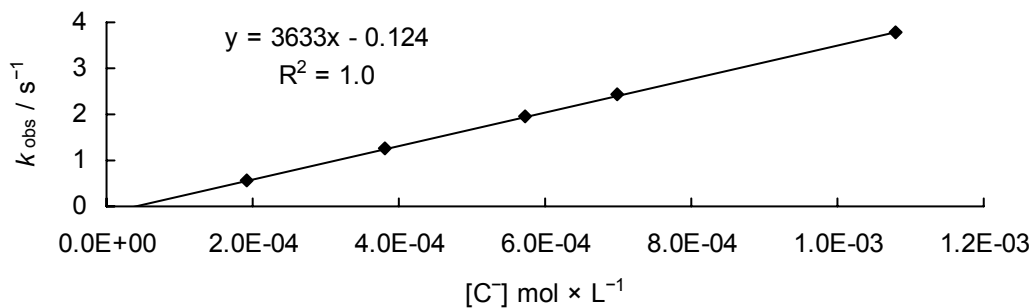
$[E]_0 / \text{M}$	$[C^-]_0 / \text{M}$	$k_{\text{obs}} / \text{s}^{-1}$
$1.31 \times 10^{-5}$	$2.50 \times 10^{-4}$	$2.42 \times 10^{-1}$
$1.31 \times 10^{-5}$	$7.49 \times 10^{-4}$	1.24
$1.31 \times 10^{-5}$	$9.99 \times 10^{-4}$	1.78
$1.31 \times 10^{-5}$	$1.25 \times 10^{-3}$	2.20



$$k_2 = (1.98 \pm 0.05) \times 10^3 \text{ M}^{-1} \text{ s}^{-1}$$

Reaction of **1b**<sup>-</sup> with **2b** (DMSO, P<sub>2</sub>-<sup>t</sup>Bu, 20 °C, stopped-flow, 500 nm)

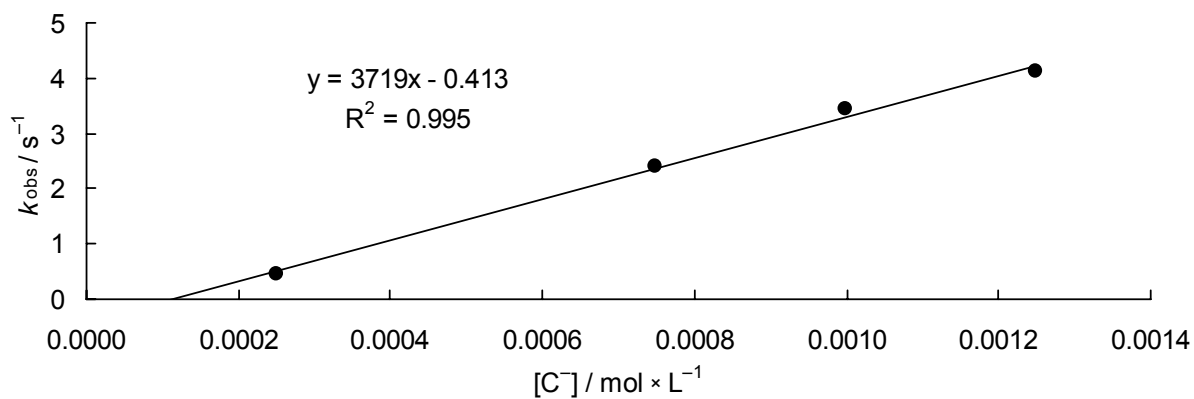
[E] <sub>0</sub> / M	[C] <sup>-</sup> <sub>0</sub> / M	k <sub>obs</sub> / s <sup>-1</sup>
1.35 × 10 <sup>-5</sup>	1.91 × 10 <sup>-4</sup>	5.60 × 10 <sup>-1</sup>
1.35 × 10 <sup>-5</sup>	3.81 × 10 <sup>-4</sup>	1.27
1.35 × 10 <sup>-5</sup>	5.72 × 10 <sup>-4</sup>	1.94
1.35 × 10 <sup>-5</sup>	6.99 × 10 <sup>-4</sup>	2.44
1.35 × 10 <sup>-5</sup>	1.08 × 10 <sup>-3</sup>	3.79



$$k_2 = (3.63 \pm 0.03) \times 10^3 \text{ M}^{-1} \text{ s}^{-1}$$

Reaction of **1b**<sup>-</sup> with **2b** (DMSO, KO<sup>t</sup>Bu, 20 °C, stopped-flow, 510 nm)

[E] <sub>0</sub> / M	[C] <sup>-</sup> <sub>0</sub> / M	k <sub>obs</sub> / s <sup>-1</sup>
1.35 × 10 <sup>-5</sup>	2.50 × 10 <sup>-4</sup>	4.65 × 10 <sup>-1</sup>
1.35 × 10 <sup>-5</sup>	7.49 × 10 <sup>-4</sup>	2.40
1.35 × 10 <sup>-5</sup>	9.99 × 10 <sup>-4</sup>	3.45
1.35 × 10 <sup>-5</sup>	1.25 × 10 <sup>-3</sup>	4.11

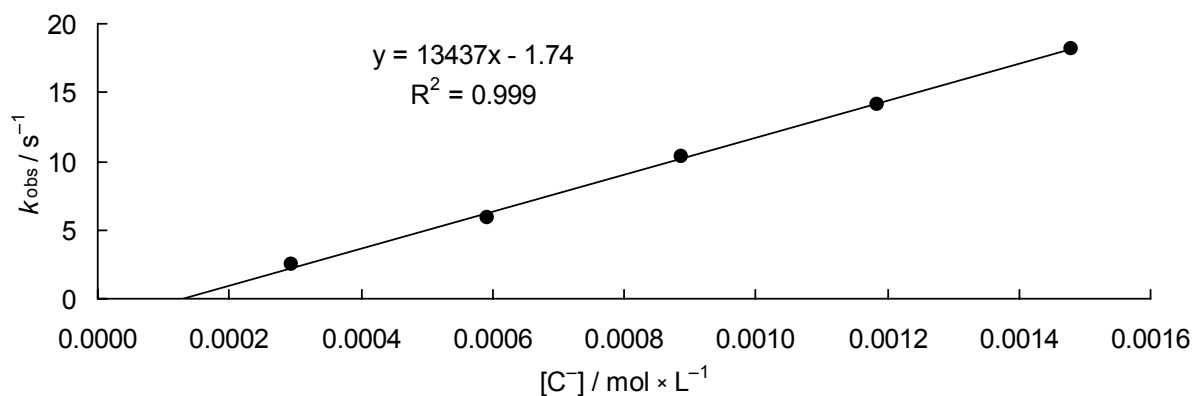


$$k_2 = (3.72 \pm 0.19) \times 10^3 \text{ M}^{-1} \text{ s}^{-1}$$



Reaction of **1b**<sup>-</sup> with **6a** (DMSO, Verkade's base, 20 °C, stopped-flow, 500 nm)

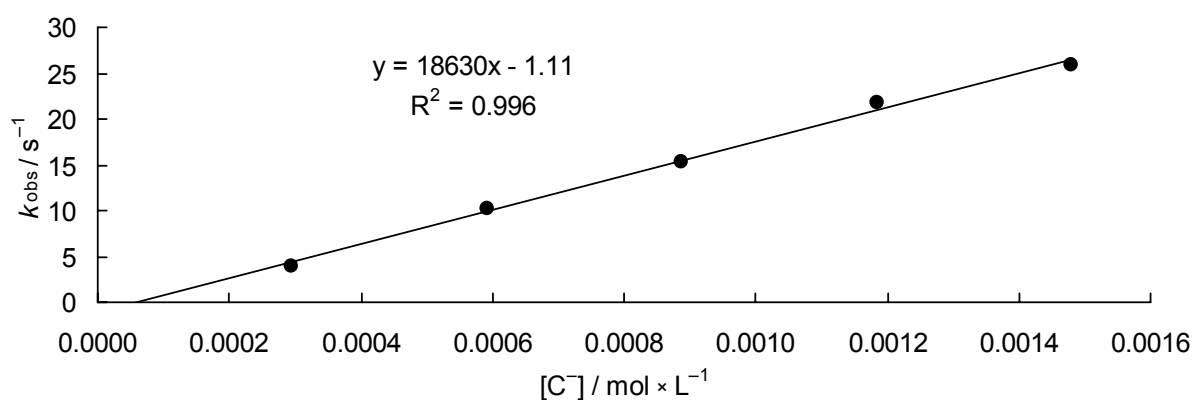
$[E]_0 / M$	$[C^-]_0 / M$	$k_{obs} / s^{-1}$
$1.36 \times 10^{-5}$	$2.96 \times 10^{-4}$	2.48
$1.36 \times 10^{-5}$	$5.92 \times 10^{-4}$	5.82
$1.36 \times 10^{-5}$	$8.88 \times 10^{-4}$	$1.03 \times 10^1$
$1.36 \times 10^{-5}$	$1.18 \times 10^{-3}$	$1.41 \times 10^1$
$1.36 \times 10^{-5}$	$1.48 \times 10^{-3}$	$1.82 \times 10^1$



$$k_2 = (1.34 \pm 0.03) \times 10^4 M^{-1} s^{-1}$$

Reaction of **1b**<sup>-</sup> with **4a** (DMSO, Verkade's base, 20 °C, stopped-flow, 500 nm)

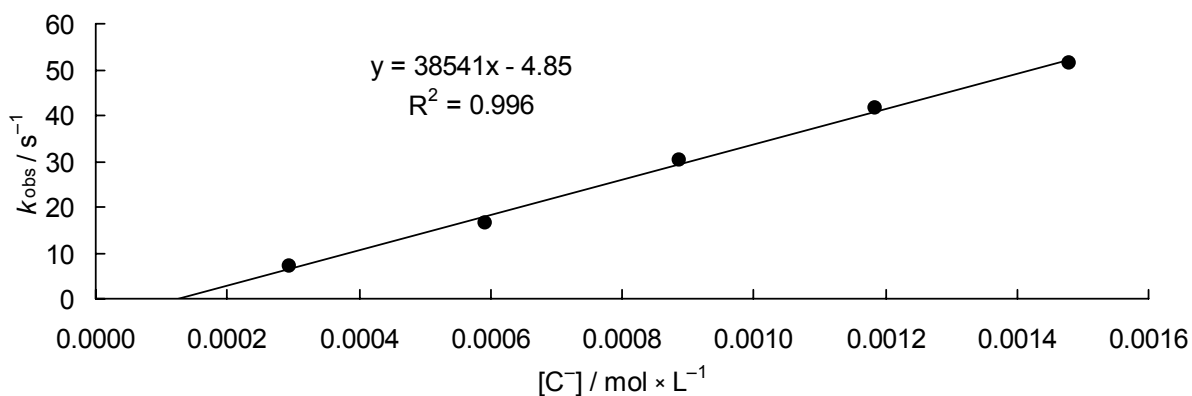
$[E]_0 / M$	$[C^-]_0 / M$	$k_{obs} / s^{-1}$
$1.47 \times 10^{-5}$	$2.96 \times 10^{-4}$	4.01
$1.47 \times 10^{-5}$	$5.92 \times 10^{-4}$	$1.02 \times 10^1$
$1.47 \times 10^{-5}$	$8.88 \times 10^{-4}$	$1.54 \times 10^1$
$1.47 \times 10^{-5}$	$1.18 \times 10^{-3}$	$2.17 \times 10^1$
$1.47 \times 10^{-5}$	$1.48 \times 10^{-3}$	$2.58 \times 10^1$



$$k_2 = (1.86 \pm 0.07) \times 10^4 M^{-1} s^{-1}$$

Reaction of **1b**<sup>-</sup> with **5a** (DMSO, Verkade's base, 20 °C, stopped-flow, 500 nm)

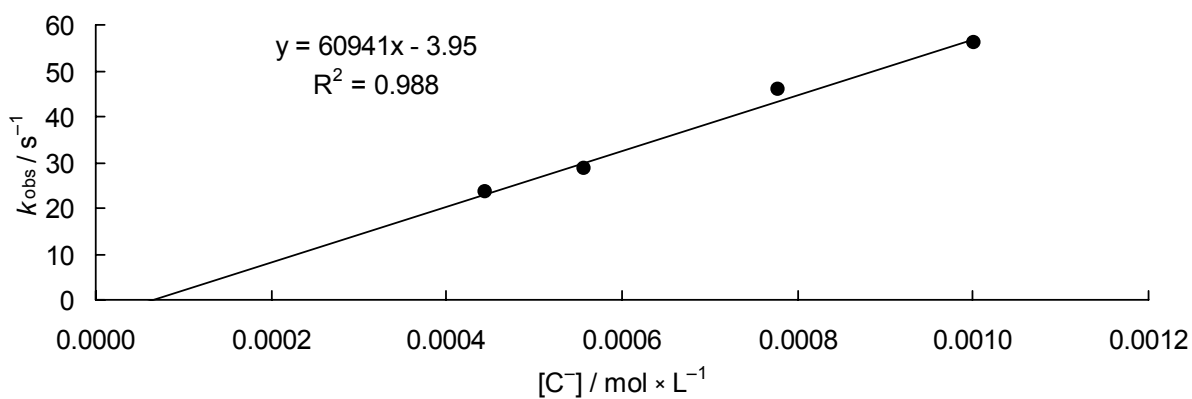
$[E]_0 / M$	$[C^-]_0 / M$	$k_{obs} / s^{-1}$
$2.45 \times 10^{-5}$	$2.96 \times 10^{-4}$	7.13
$2.45 \times 10^{-5}$	$5.92 \times 10^{-4}$	$1.64 \times 10^1$
$2.45 \times 10^{-5}$	$8.88 \times 10^{-4}$	$3.01 \times 10^1$
$2.45 \times 10^{-5}$	$1.18 \times 10^{-3}$	$4.16 \times 10^1$
$2.45 \times 10^{-5}$	$1.48 \times 10^{-3}$	$5.15 \times 10^1$



$$k_2 = (3.85 \pm 0.13) \times 10^4 M^{-1} s^{-1}$$

Reaction of **1b**<sup>-</sup> with **6b** (DMSO, Verkade's base, 20 °C, stopped-flow, 500 nm)

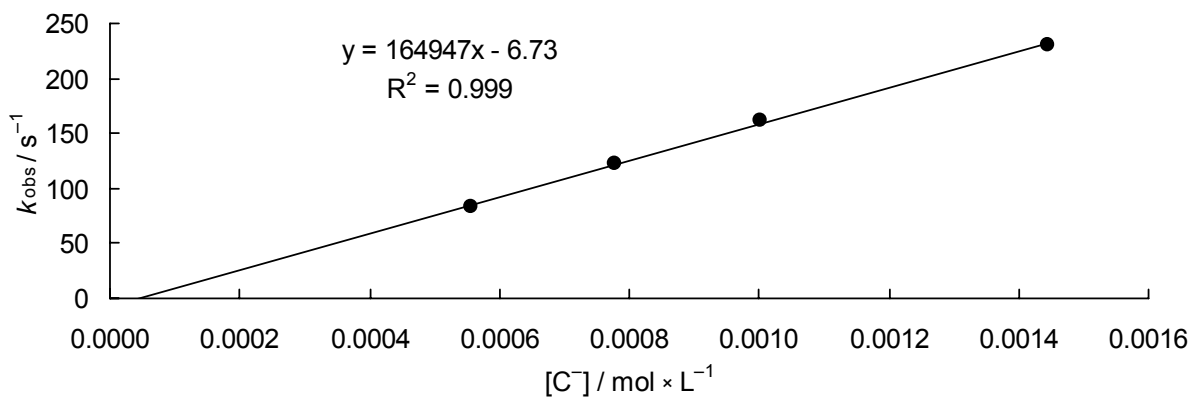
$[E]_0 / M$	$[C^-]_0 / M$	$k_{obs} / s^{-1}$
$2.81 \times 10^{-5}$	$4.45 \times 10^{-4}$	$2.34 \times 10^1$
$2.81 \times 10^{-5}$	$5.56 \times 10^{-4}$	$2.85 \times 10^1$
$2.81 \times 10^{-5}$	$7.79 \times 10^{-4}$	$4.58 \times 10^1$
$2.81 \times 10^{-5}$	$1.00 \times 10^{-3}$	$5.59 \times 10^1$



$$k_2 = (6.09 \pm 0.48) \times 10^4 M^{-1} s^{-1}$$

Reaction of **1b**<sup>-</sup> with **5b** (DMSO, Verkade's base, 20 °C, stopped-flow, 500 nm)

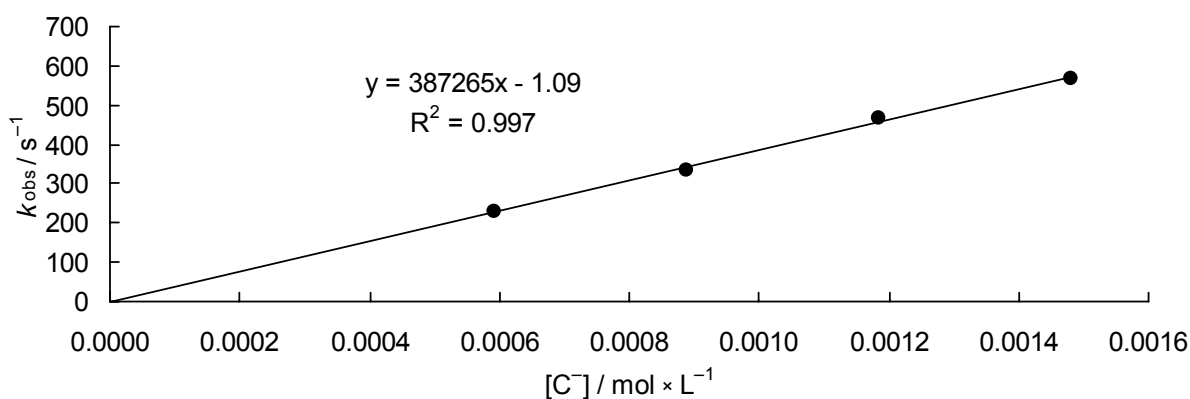
$[E]_0 / M$	$[C^-]_0 / M$	$k_{obs} / s^{-1}$
$5.85 \times 10^{-5}$	$5.56 \times 10^{-4}$	$8.34 \times 10^1$
$5.85 \times 10^{-5}$	$7.79 \times 10^{-4}$	$1.22 \times 10^2$
$5.85 \times 10^{-5}$	$1.00 \times 10^{-3}$	$1.61 \times 10^2$
$5.85 \times 10^{-5}$	$1.45 \times 10^{-3}$	$2.31 \times 10^2$



$$k_2 = (1.65 \pm 0.04) \times 10^5 M^{-1}s^{-1}$$

Reaction of **1b**<sup>-</sup> with **2e** (DMSO, Verkade's base, 20 °C, stopped-flow, 500 nm)

$[E]_0 / M$	$[C^-]_0 / M$	$k_{obs} / s^{-1}$
$1.47 \times 10^{-5}$	$5.92 \times 10^{-4}$	$2.31 \times 10^2$
$1.47 \times 10^{-5}$	$8.88 \times 10^{-4}$	$3.34 \times 10^2$
$1.47 \times 10^{-5}$	$1.18 \times 10^{-3}$	$4.65 \times 10^2$
$1.47 \times 10^{-5}$	$1.48 \times 10^{-3}$	$5.69 \times 10^2$

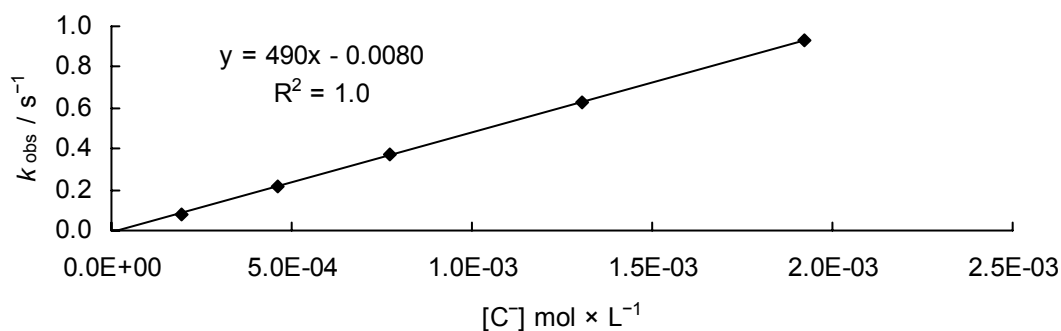


$$k_2 = (3.87 \pm 0.14) \times 10^5 M^{-1}s^{-1}$$

## Reactions of $1c^-$ ( $X = p-CN$ )

Reaction of  $1c^-$  with **2a** (DMSO,  $P_2-tBu$ , 20 °C, stopped-flow, 524 nm)

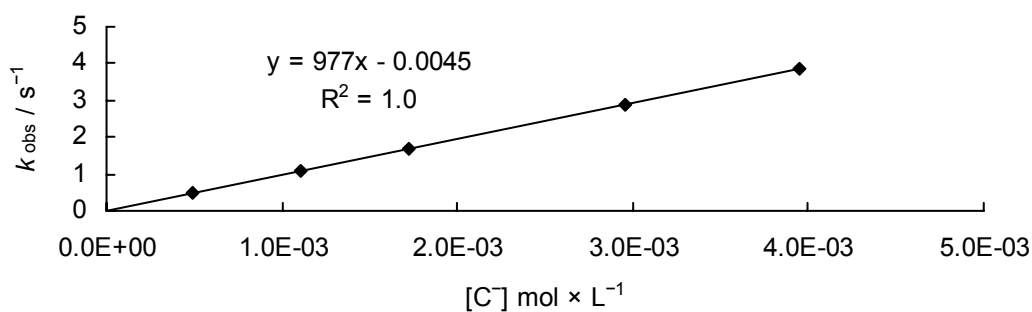
$[E]_0 / M$	$[C^-]_0 / M$	$k_{obs} / s^{-1}$
$1.93 \times 10^{-5}$	$1.92 \times 10^{-4}$	$8.29 \times 10^{-2}$
$1.93 \times 10^{-5}$	$4.62 \times 10^{-4}$	$2.20 \times 10^{-1}$
$1.93 \times 10^{-5}$	$7.70 \times 10^{-4}$	$3.70 \times 10^{-1}$
$1.93 \times 10^{-5}$	$1.31 \times 10^{-3}$	$6.31 \times 10^{-1}$
$1.93 \times 10^{-5}$	$1.92 \times 10^{-3}$	$9.32 \times 10^{-1}$



$$k_2 = (4.90 \pm 0.02) \times 10^2 \text{ M}^{-1} \text{ s}^{-1}$$

Reaction of  $1c^-$  with **2b** (DMSO,  $P_2-tBu$ , 20 °C, stopped-flow, 500 nm)

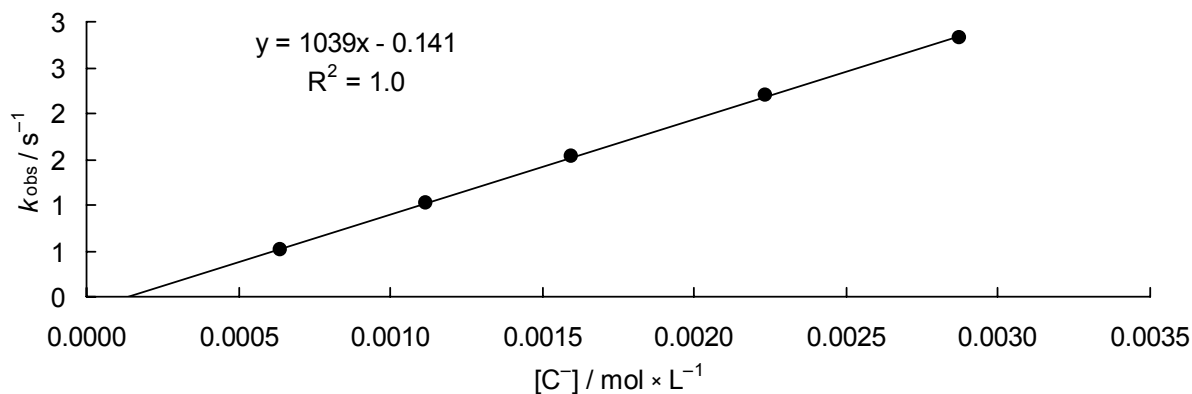
$[E]_0 / M$	$[C^-]_0 / M$	$k_{obs} / s^{-1}$
$3.53 \times 10^{-5}$	$4.94 \times 10^{-4}$	$4.74 \times 10^{-1}$
$3.53 \times 10^{-5}$	$1.11 \times 10^{-3}$	1.08
$3.53 \times 10^{-5}$	$1.73 \times 10^{-3}$	1.69
$3.53 \times 10^{-5}$	$2.96 \times 10^{-3}$	2.89
$3.53 \times 10^{-5}$	$3.95 \times 10^{-3}$	3.85



$$k_2 = (9.77 \pm 0.02) \times 10^2 \text{ M}^{-1} \text{ s}^{-1}$$

Reaction of **1c<sup>-</sup>** with **2b** (DMSO, KO<sup>t</sup>Bu, 20 °C, stopped-flow, 500 nm)

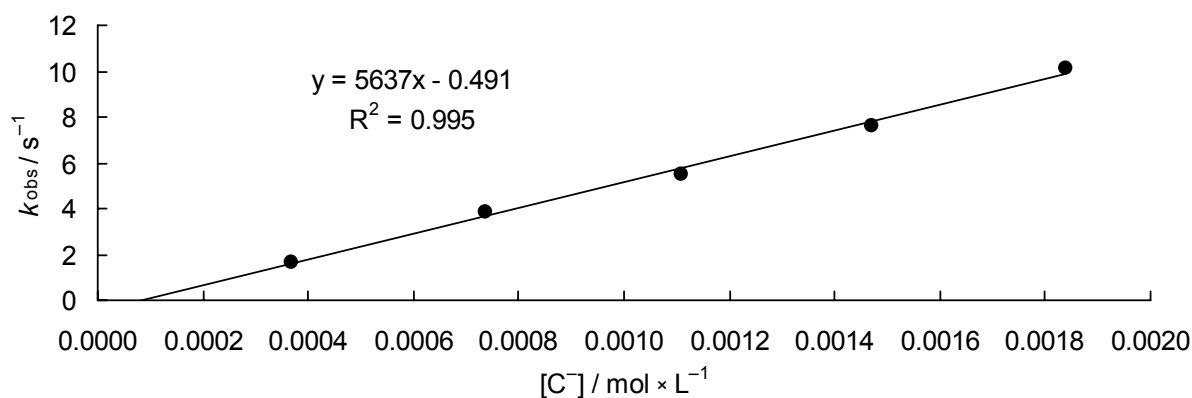
$[E]_0 / M$	$[C^-]_0 / M$	$k_{obs} / s^{-1}$
$2.84 \times 10^{-5}$	$6.39 \times 10^{-4}$	$5.18 \times 10^{-1}$
$2.84 \times 10^{-5}$	$1.12 \times 10^{-3}$	1.02
$2.84 \times 10^{-5}$	$1.60 \times 10^{-3}$	1.53
$2.84 \times 10^{-5}$	$2.24 \times 10^{-3}$	2.20
$2.84 \times 10^{-5}$	$2.87 \times 10^{-3}$	2.83



$$k_2 = (1.04 \pm 0.01) \times 10^3 M^{-1} s^{-1}$$

Reaction of **1c<sup>-</sup>** with **6a** (DMSO, KO<sup>t</sup>Bu, 18-K-6, 20 °C, stopped-flow, 500 nm)

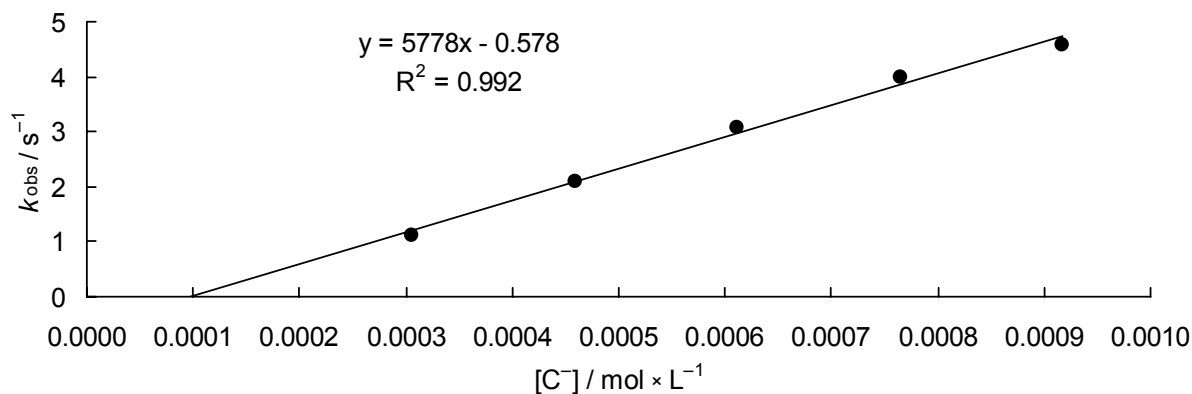
$[E]_0 / M$	$[C^-]_0 / M$	$k_{obs} / s^{-1}$
$1.77 \times 10^{-5}$	$3.68 \times 10^{-4}$	1.62
$1.77 \times 10^{-5}$	$7.37 \times 10^{-4}$	3.87
$1.77 \times 10^{-5}$	$1.11 \times 10^{-3}$	5.46
$1.77 \times 10^{-5}$	$1.47 \times 10^{-3}$	7.64
$1.77 \times 10^{-5}$	$1.84 \times 10^{-3}$	$1.01 \times 10^1$



$$k_2 = (5.64 \pm 0.23) \times 10^3 M^{-1} s^{-1}$$

Reaction of  $1c^-$  with **6a** (DMSO, KO<sup>t</sup>Bu, 20 °C, stopped-flow, 525 nm)

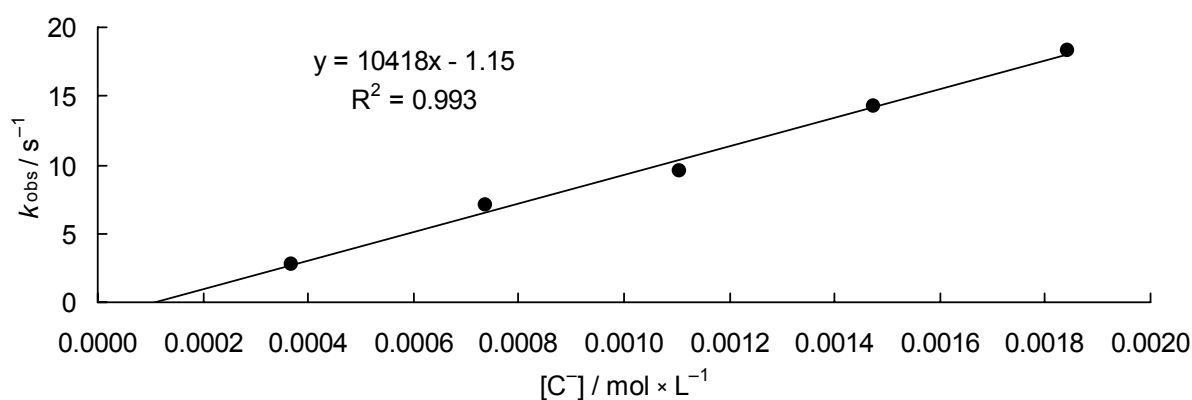
$[E]_0 / M$	$[C^-]_0 / M$	$k_{obs} / s^{-1}$
$1.86 \times 10^{-5}$	$3.06 \times 10^{-4}$	1.10
$1.86 \times 10^{-5}$	$4.59 \times 10^{-4}$	2.08
$1.86 \times 10^{-5}$	$6.12 \times 10^{-4}$	3.06
$1.86 \times 10^{-5}$	$7.65 \times 10^{-4}$	3.98
$1.86 \times 10^{-5}$	$9.18 \times 10^{-4}$	4.57



$$k_2 = (5.78 \pm 0.30) \times 10^3 M^{-1}s^{-1}$$

Reaction of  $1c^-$  with **4a** (DMSO, KO<sup>t</sup>Bu, 20 °C, stopped-flow, 500 nm)

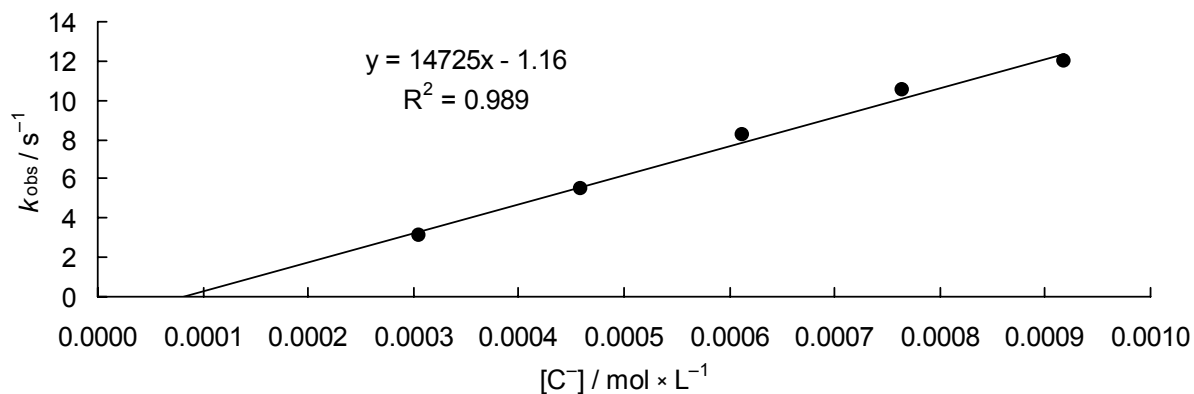
$[E]_0 / M$	$[C^-]_0 / M$	$k_{obs} / s^{-1}$
$1.66 \times 10^{-5}$	$3.68 \times 10^{-4}$	2.73
$1.66 \times 10^{-5}$	$7.37 \times 10^{-4}$	7.02
$1.66 \times 10^{-5}$	$1.11 \times 10^{-3}$	9.58
$1.66 \times 10^{-5}$	$1.47 \times 10^{-3}$	$1.42 \times 10^1$
$1.66 \times 10^{-5}$	$1.84 \times 10^{-3}$	$1.83 \times 10^1$



$$k_2 = (1.04 \pm 0.05) \times 10^4 M^{-1}s^{-1}$$

Reaction of  $1c^-$  with **5a** (DMSO, Verkade's base, 20 °C, stopped-flow, 495 nm)

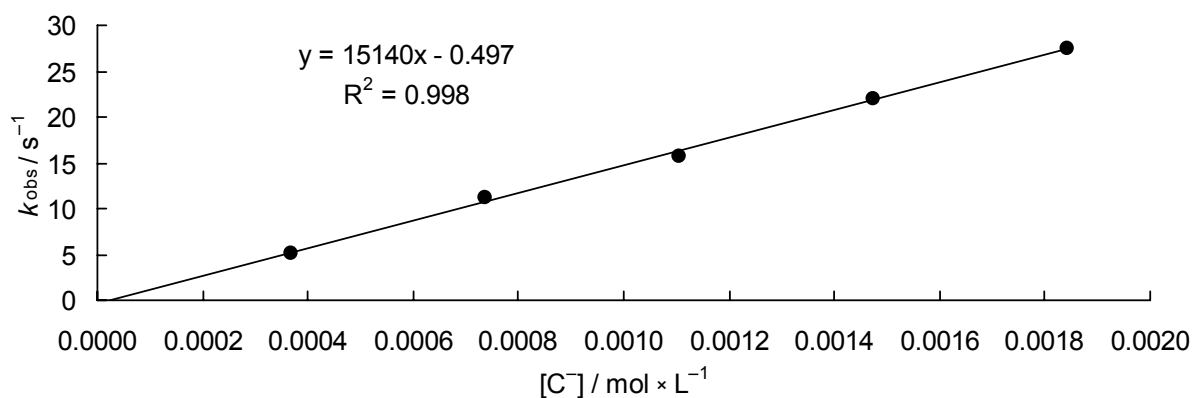
$[E]_0 / M$	$[C^-]_0 / M$	$k_{obs} / s^{-1}$
$1.84 \times 10^{-5}$	$3.06 \times 10^{-4}$	3.14
$1.84 \times 10^{-5}$	$4.59 \times 10^{-4}$	5.49
$1.84 \times 10^{-5}$	$6.12 \times 10^{-4}$	8.25
$1.84 \times 10^{-5}$	$7.65 \times 10^{-4}$	$1.05 \times 10^1$
$1.84 \times 10^{-5}$	$9.18 \times 10^{-4}$	$1.19 \times 10^1$



$$k_2 = (1.47 \pm 0.09) \times 10^4 M^{-1} s^{-1}$$

Reaction of  $1c^-$  with **5a** (DMSO, KO<sup>t</sup>Bu, 20 °C, stopped-flow, 500 nm)

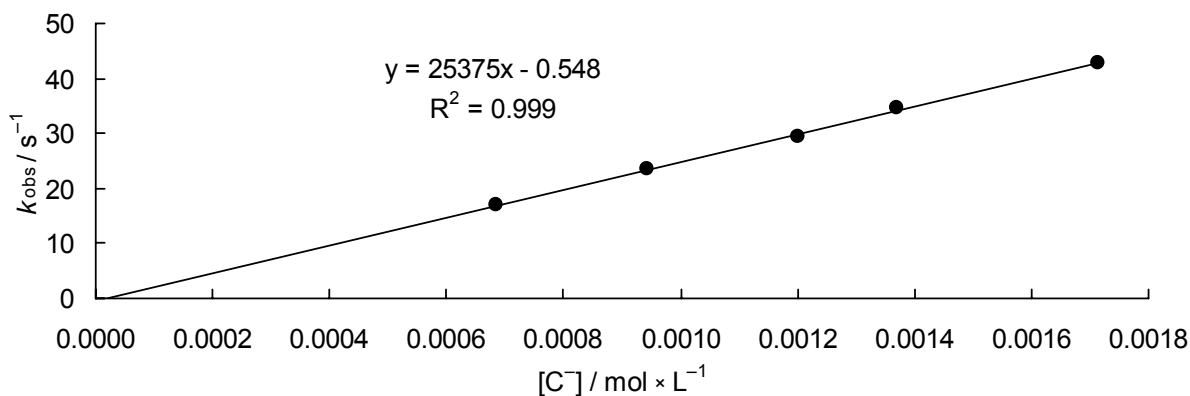
$[E]_0 / M$	$[C^-]_0 / M$	$k_{obs} / s^{-1}$
$1.58 \times 10^{-5}$	$3.68 \times 10^{-4}$	5.06
$1.58 \times 10^{-5}$	$7.37 \times 10^{-4}$	$1.11 \times 10^1$
$1.58 \times 10^{-5}$	$1.11 \times 10^{-3}$	$1.56 \times 10^1$
$1.58 \times 10^{-5}$	$1.47 \times 10^{-3}$	$2.19 \times 10^1$
$1.58 \times 10^{-5}$	$1.84 \times 10^{-3}$	$2.75 \times 10^1$



$$k_2 = (1.51 \pm 0.04) \times 10^4 M^{-1} s^{-1}$$

Reaction of **1c<sup>-</sup>** with **6b** (DMSO, Verkade's base, 20 °C, stopped-flow, 500 nm)

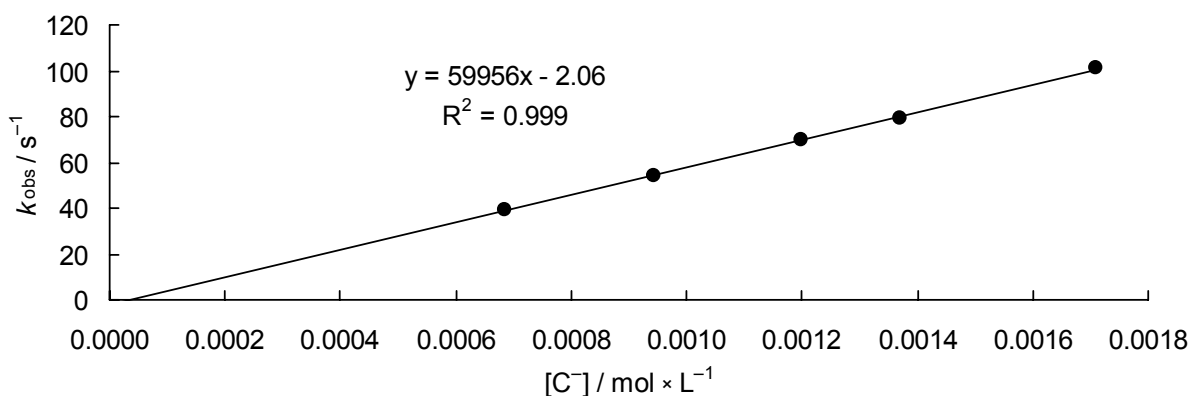
$[E]_0 / M$	$[C^-]_0 / M$	$k_{obs} / s^{-1}$
$2.81 \times 10^{-5}$	$6.86 \times 10^{-4}$	$1.69 \times 10^1$
$2.81 \times 10^{-5}$	$9.43 \times 10^{-4}$	$2.36 \times 10^1$
$2.81 \times 10^{-5}$	$1.20 \times 10^{-3}$	$2.93 \times 10^1$
$2.81 \times 10^{-5}$	$1.37 \times 10^{-3}$	$3.45 \times 10^1$
$2.81 \times 10^{-5}$	$1.71 \times 10^{-3}$	$4.29 \times 10^1$



$$k_2 = (2.54 \pm 0.05) \times 10^4 M^{-1}s^{-1}$$

Reaction of **1c<sup>-</sup>** with **5b** (DMSO, Verkade's base, 20 °C, stopped-flow, 500 nm)

$[E]_0 / M$	$[C^-]_0 / M$	$k_{obs} / s^{-1}$
$5.85 \times 10^{-5}$	$6.86 \times 10^{-4}$	$3.94 \times 10^1$
$5.85 \times 10^{-5}$	$9.43 \times 10^{-4}$	$5.43 \times 10^1$
$5.85 \times 10^{-5}$	$1.20 \times 10^{-3}$	$7.01 \times 10^1$
$5.85 \times 10^{-5}$	$1.37 \times 10^{-3}$	$7.92 \times 10^1$
$5.85 \times 10^{-5}$	$1.71 \times 10^{-3}$	$1.01 \times 10^2$

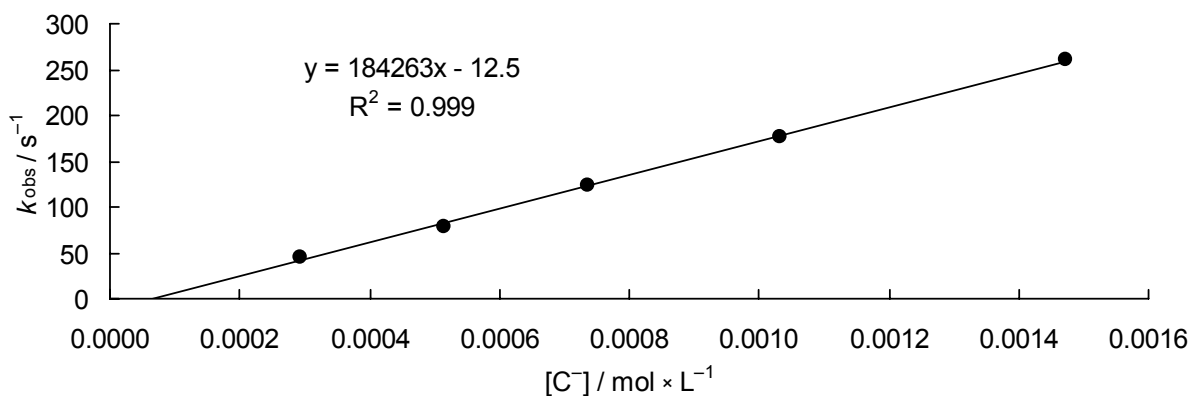


$$k_2 = (6.00 \pm 0.08) \times 10^4 M^{-1}s^{-1}$$



Reaction of  $1c^-$  with  $2e$  (DMSO, KO<sup>t</sup>Bu, 20 °C, stopped-flow, 533 nm)

$[E]_0 / M$	$[C^-]_0 / M$	$k_{obs} / s^{-1}$
$2.51 \times 10^{-5}$	$2.95 \times 10^{-4}$	$4.56 \times 10^1$
$2.51 \times 10^{-5}$	$5.16 \times 10^{-4}$	$7.88 \times 10^1$
$2.51 \times 10^{-5}$	$7.37 \times 10^{-4}$	$1.23 \times 10^2$
$2.51 \times 10^{-5}$	$1.03 \times 10^{-3}$	$1.76 \times 10^2$
$2.51 \times 10^{-5}$	$1.47 \times 10^{-3}$	$2.60 \times 10^2$

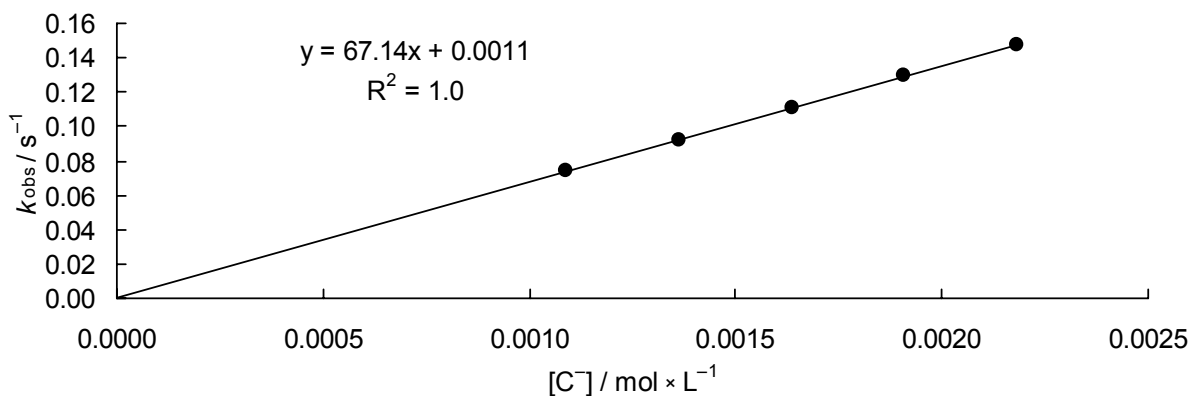


$$k_2 = (1.84 \pm 0.04) \times 10^5 M^{-1}s^{-1}$$

### Reactions of $1d^-$ ( $X = p\text{-NO}_2$ )

Reaction of  $1d^-$  with  $2c$  (DMSO, Verkade's base, 20 °C, stopped-flow, 400 nm)

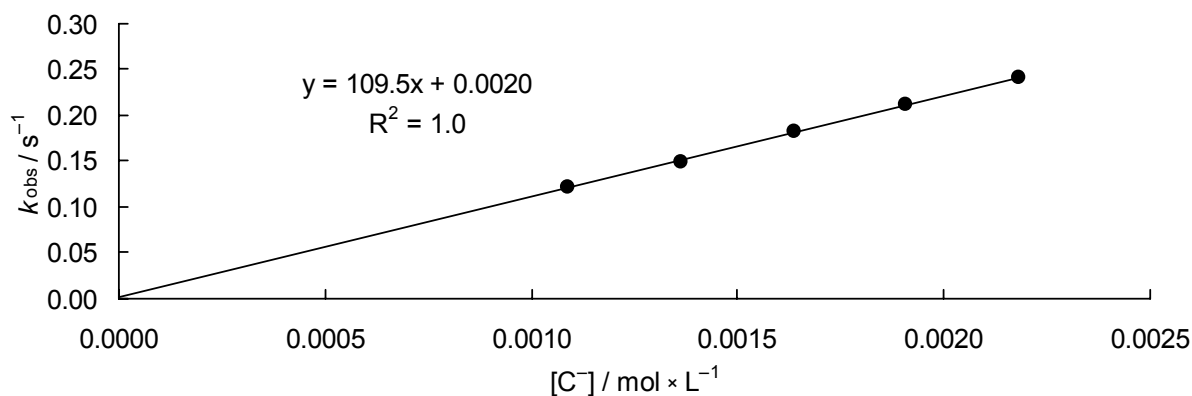
$[E]_0 / M$	$[C^-]_0 / M$	$k_{obs} / s^{-1}$
$4.85 \times 10^{-5}$	$1.09 \times 10^{-3}$	$7.42 \times 10^{-2}$
$4.85 \times 10^{-5}$	$1.36 \times 10^{-3}$	$9.23 \times 10^{-2}$
$4.85 \times 10^{-5}$	$1.64 \times 10^{-3}$	$1.11 \times 10^{-1}$
$4.85 \times 10^{-5}$	$1.91 \times 10^{-3}$	$1.30 \times 10^{-1}$
$4.85 \times 10^{-5}$	$2.18 \times 10^{-3}$	$1.47 \times 10^{-1}$



$$k_2 = (6.71 \pm 0.06) \times 10^1 M^{-1}s^{-1}$$

Reaction of **1d**<sup>-</sup> with **2d** (DMSO, Verkade's base, 20 °C, stopped-flow, 400 nm)

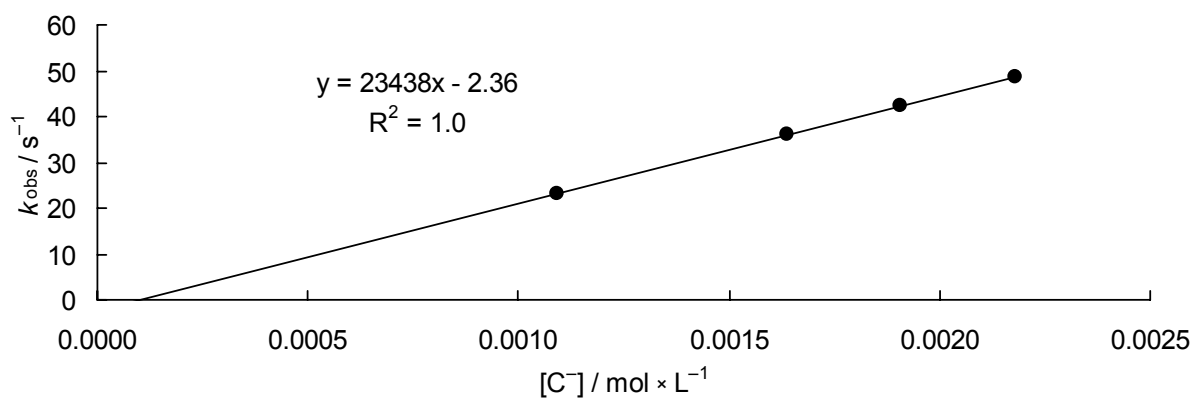
$[E]_0 / M$	$[C^-]_0 / M$	$k_{obs} / s^{-1}$
$4.64 \times 10^{-5}$	$1.09 \times 10^{-3}$	$1.22 \times 10^{-1}$
$4.64 \times 10^{-5}$	$1.36 \times 10^{-3}$	$1.50 \times 10^{-1}$
$4.64 \times 10^{-5}$	$1.64 \times 10^{-3}$	$1.82 \times 10^{-1}$
$4.64 \times 10^{-5}$	$1.91 \times 10^{-3}$	$2.11 \times 10^{-1}$
$4.64 \times 10^{-5}$	$2.18 \times 10^{-3}$	$2.41 \times 10^{-1}$



$$k_2 = (1.10 \pm 0.01) \times 10^2 M^{-1} s^{-1}$$

Reaction of **1d**<sup>-</sup> with **6c** (DMSO, Verkade's base, 20 °C, stopped-flow, 400 nm)

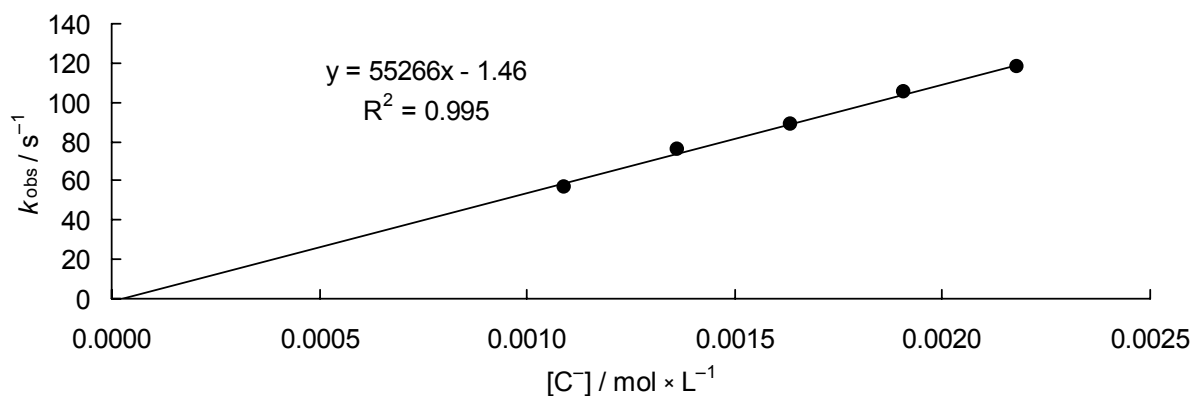
$[E]_0 / M$	$[C^-]_0 / M$	$k_{obs} / s^{-1}$
$4.77 \times 10^{-5}$	$1.09 \times 10^{-3}$	$2.32 \times 10^1$
$4.77 \times 10^{-5}$	$1.64 \times 10^{-3}$	$3.60 \times 10^1$
$4.77 \times 10^{-5}$	$1.91 \times 10^{-3}$	$4.25 \times 10^1$
$4.77 \times 10^{-5}$	$2.18 \times 10^{-3}$	$4.87 \times 10^1$



$$k_2 = (2.34 \pm 0.01) \times 10^4 M^{-1} s^{-1}$$

Reaction of **1d**<sup>-</sup> with **5c** (DMSO, Verkade's base, 20 °C, stopped-flow, 400 nm)

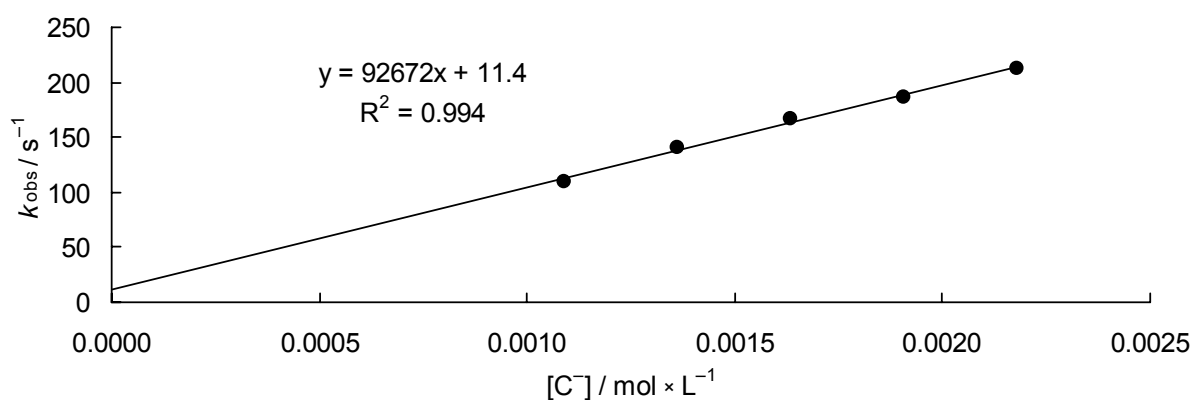
$[E]_0 / M$	$[C^-]_0 / M$	$k_{obs} / s^{-1}$
$5.08 \times 10^{-5}$	$1.09 \times 10^{-3}$	$5.70 \times 10^1$
$5.08 \times 10^{-5}$	$1.36 \times 10^{-3}$	$7.61 \times 10^1$
$5.08 \times 10^{-5}$	$1.64 \times 10^{-3}$	$8.87 \times 10^1$
$5.08 \times 10^{-5}$	$1.91 \times 10^{-3}$	$1.05 \times 10^2$
$5.08 \times 10^{-5}$	$2.18 \times 10^{-3}$	$1.18 \times 10^2$



$$k_2 = (5.53 \pm 0.22) \times 10^4 M^{-1} s^{-1}$$

Reaction of **1d**<sup>-</sup> with **6d** (DMSO, Verkade's base, 20 °C, stopped-flow, 350 nm)

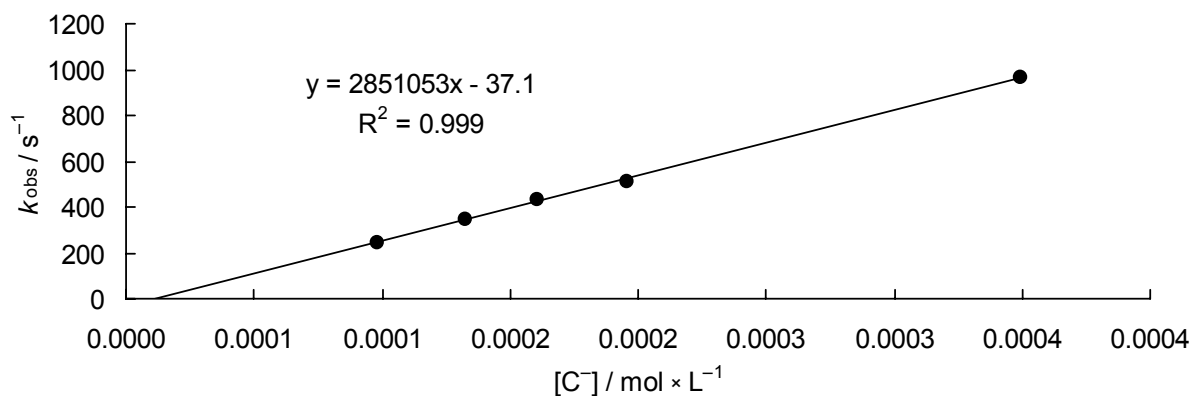
$[E]_0 / M$	$[C^-]_0 / M$	$k_{obs} / s^{-1}$
$4.93 \times 10^{-5}$	$1.09 \times 10^{-3}$	$1.09 \times 10^2$
$4.93 \times 10^{-5}$	$1.36 \times 10^{-3}$	$1.41 \times 10^2$
$4.93 \times 10^{-5}$	$1.64 \times 10^{-3}$	$1.66 \times 10^2$
$4.93 \times 10^{-5}$	$1.91 \times 10^{-3}$	$1.86 \times 10^2$
$4.93 \times 10^{-5}$	$2.18 \times 10^{-3}$	$2.13 \times 10^2$



$$k_2 = (9.27 \pm 0.41) \times 10^4 M^{-1} s^{-1}$$

Reaction of **1d**<sup>-</sup> with **3b** (DMSO, Verkade's base, 20 °C, stopped-flow, 640 nm)

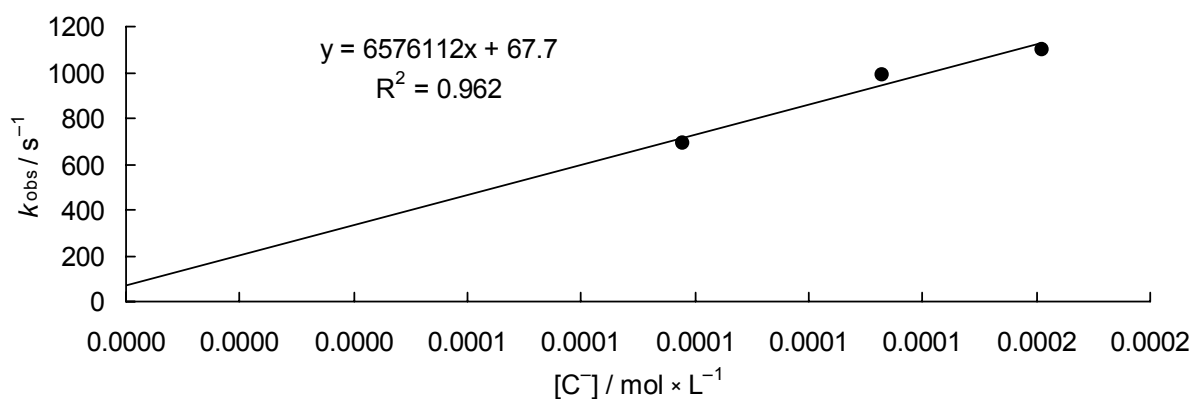
$[E]_0 / M$	$[C^-]_0 / M$	$k_{obs} / s^{-1}$
$1.01 \times 10^{-5}$	$9.80 \times 10^{-5}$	$2.44 \times 10^2$
$1.01 \times 10^{-5}$	$1.33 \times 10^{-4}$	$3.44 \times 10^2$
$1.01 \times 10^{-5}$	$1.61 \times 10^{-4}$	$4.28 \times 10^2$
$1.01 \times 10^{-5}$	$1.96 \times 10^{-4}$	$5.09 \times 10^2$
$1.01 \times 10^{-5}$	$3.50 \times 10^{-4}$	$9.64 \times 10^2$



$$k_2 = (2.85 \pm 0.04) \times 10^6 M^{-1}s^{-1}$$

Reaction of **1d**<sup>-</sup> with **3a** (DMSO, Verkade's base, 20 °C, stopped-flow, 640 nm)

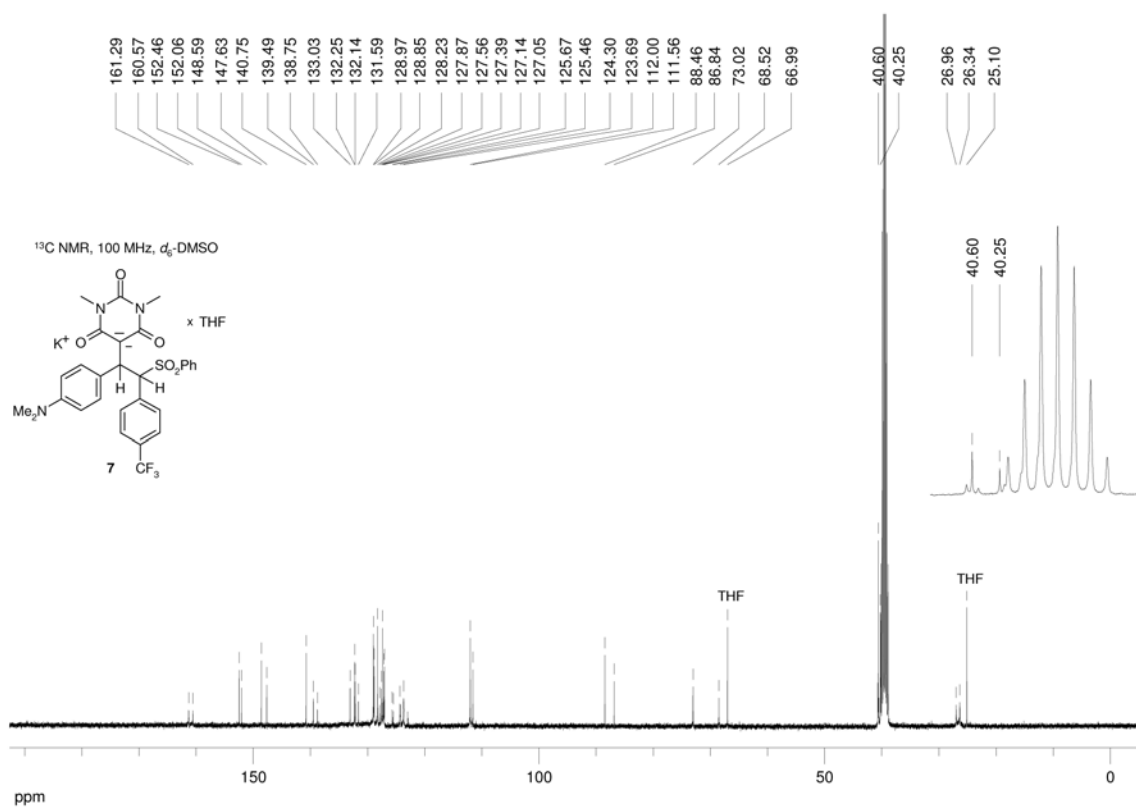
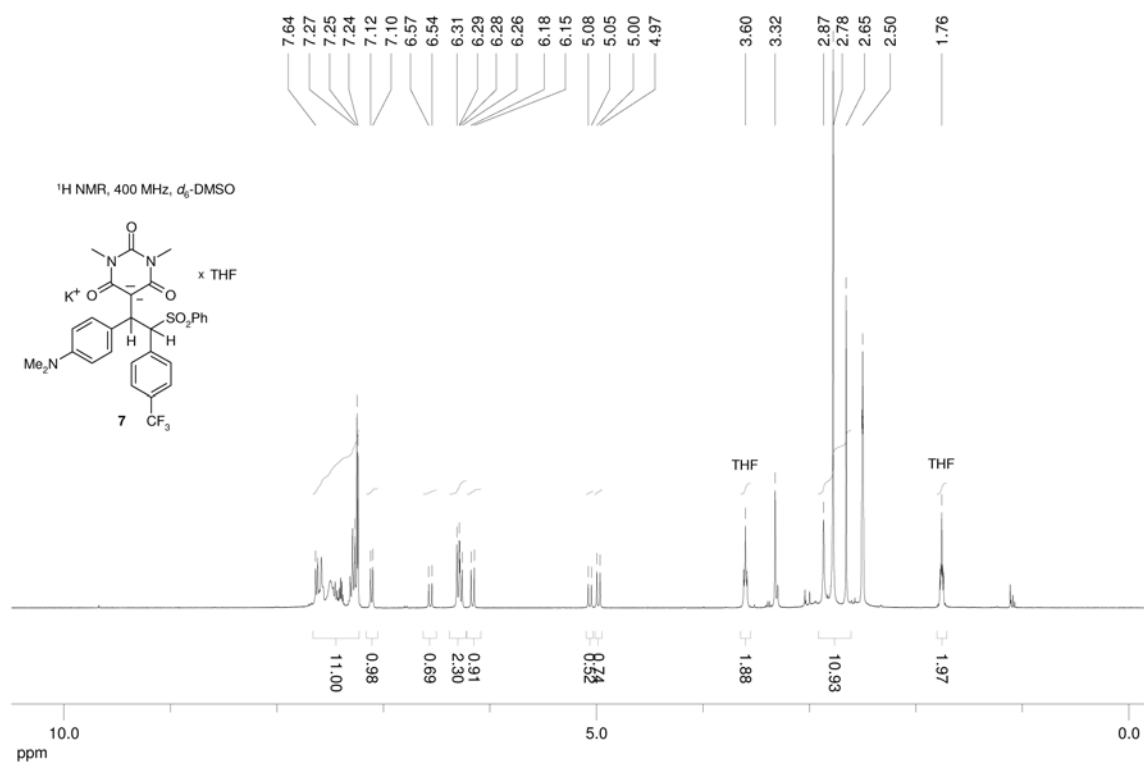
$[E]_0 / M$	$[C^-]_0 / M$	$k_{obs} / s^{-1}$
$1.01 \times 10^{-5}$	$9.80 \times 10^{-5}$	$6.91 \times 10^2$
$1.01 \times 10^{-5}$	$1.33 \times 10^{-4}$	$9.90 \times 10^2$
$1.01 \times 10^{-5}$	$1.61 \times 10^{-4}$	$1.10 \times 10^3$

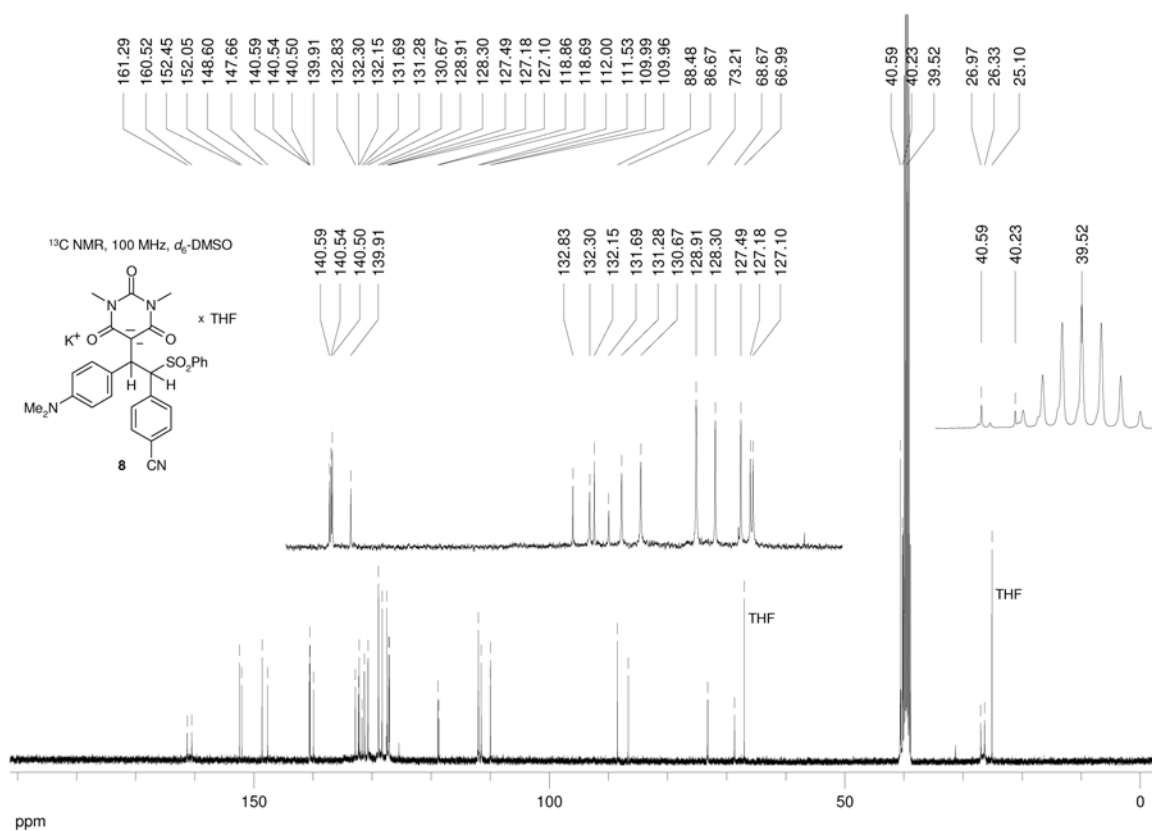
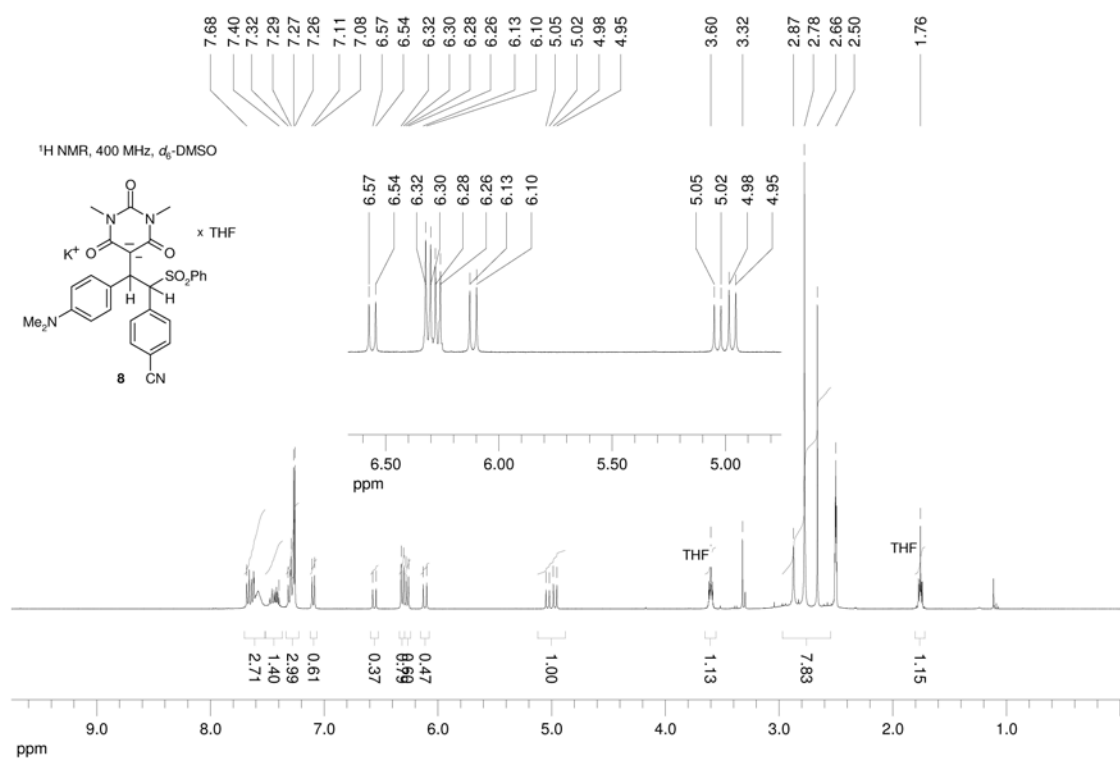


$$k_2 = (6.58 \pm 1.31) \times 10^6 M^{-1}s^{-1}$$

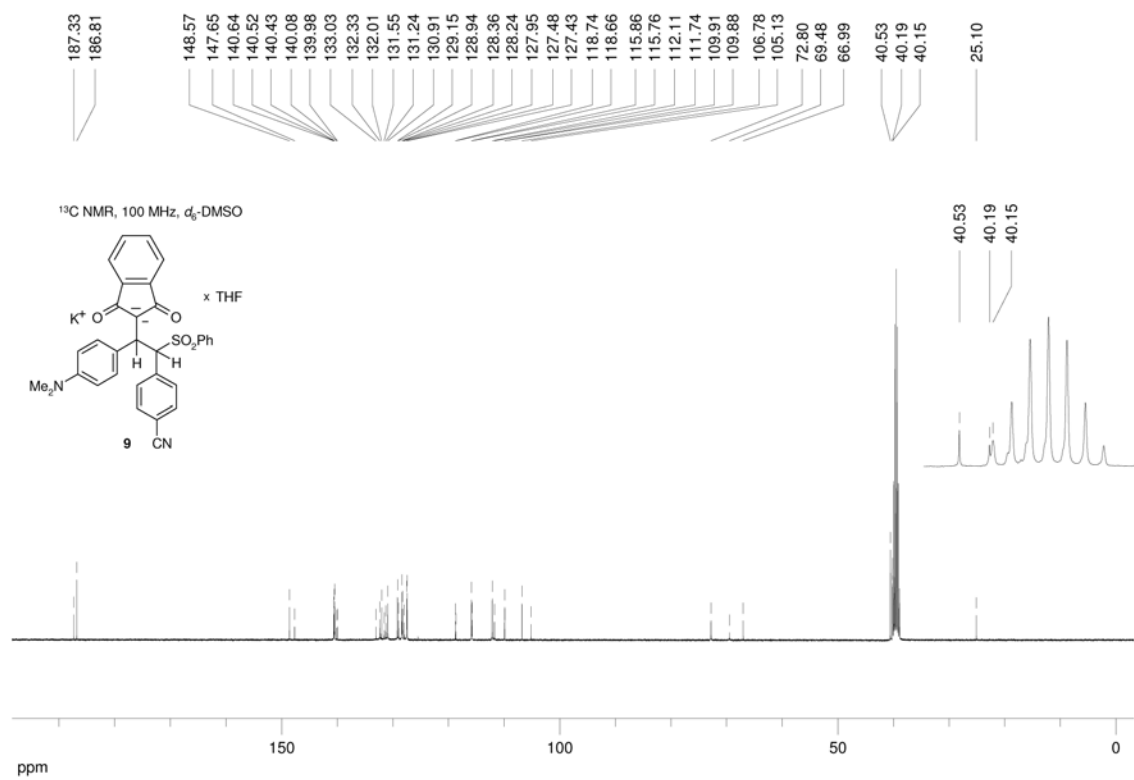
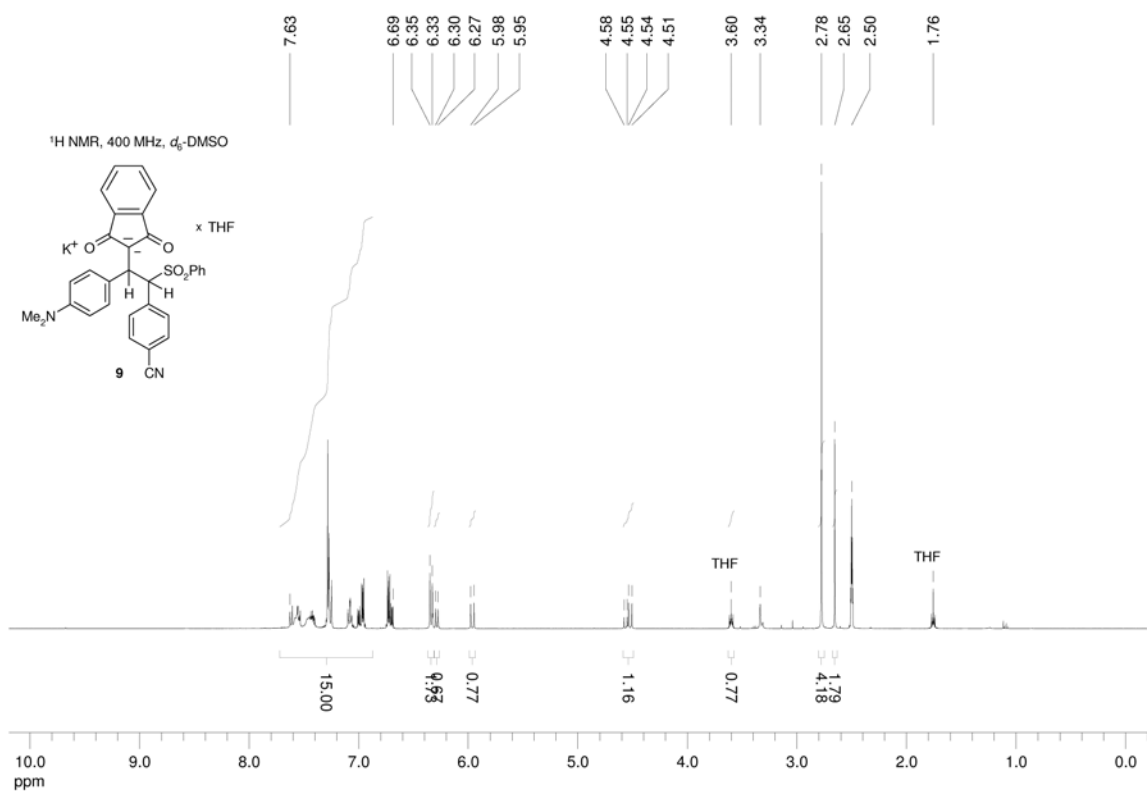
# NMR spectra

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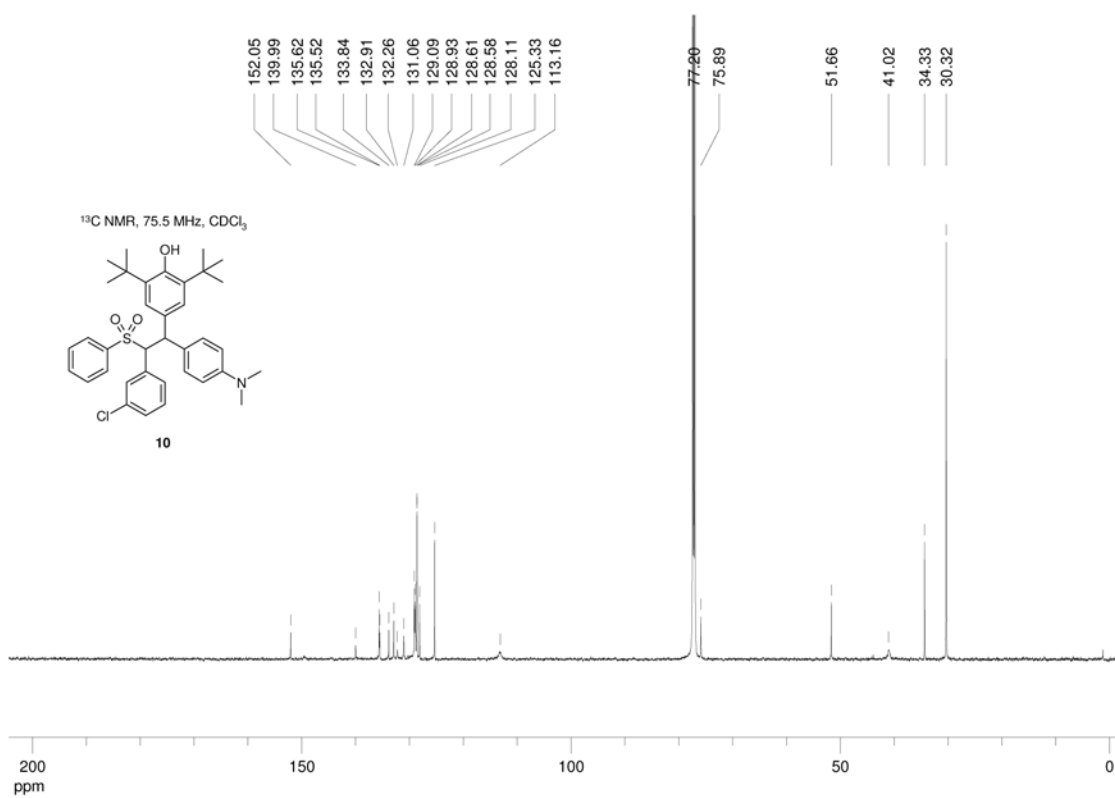
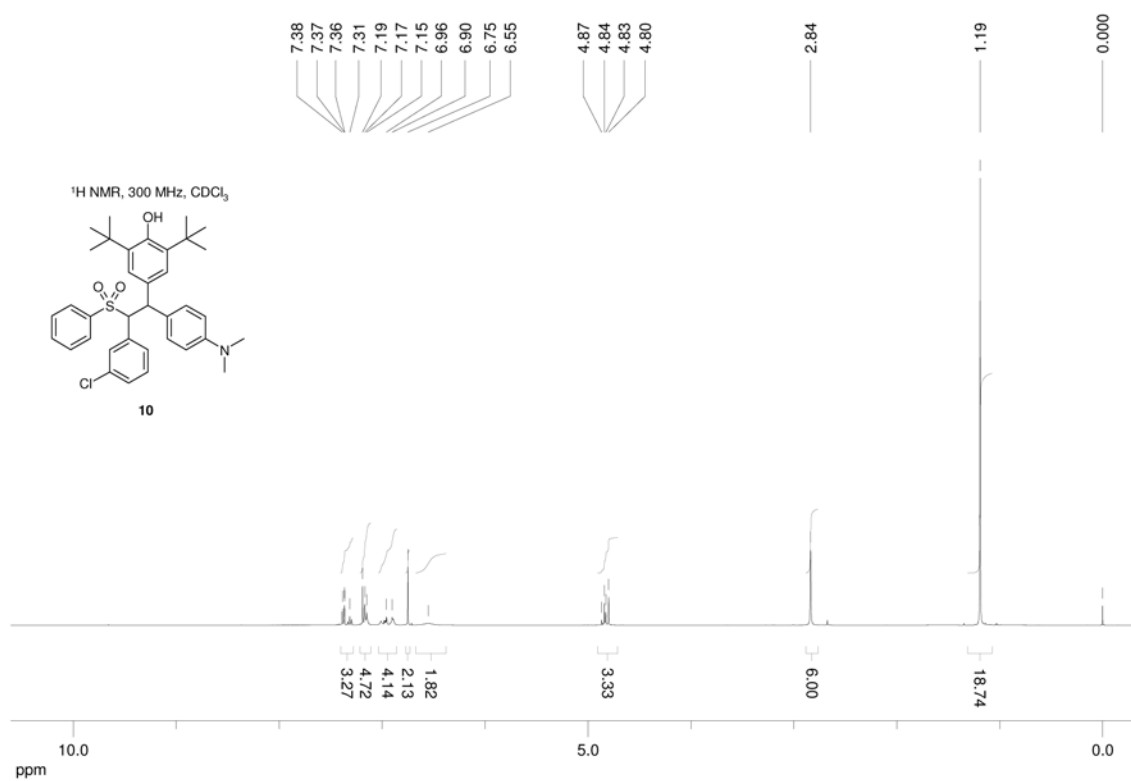




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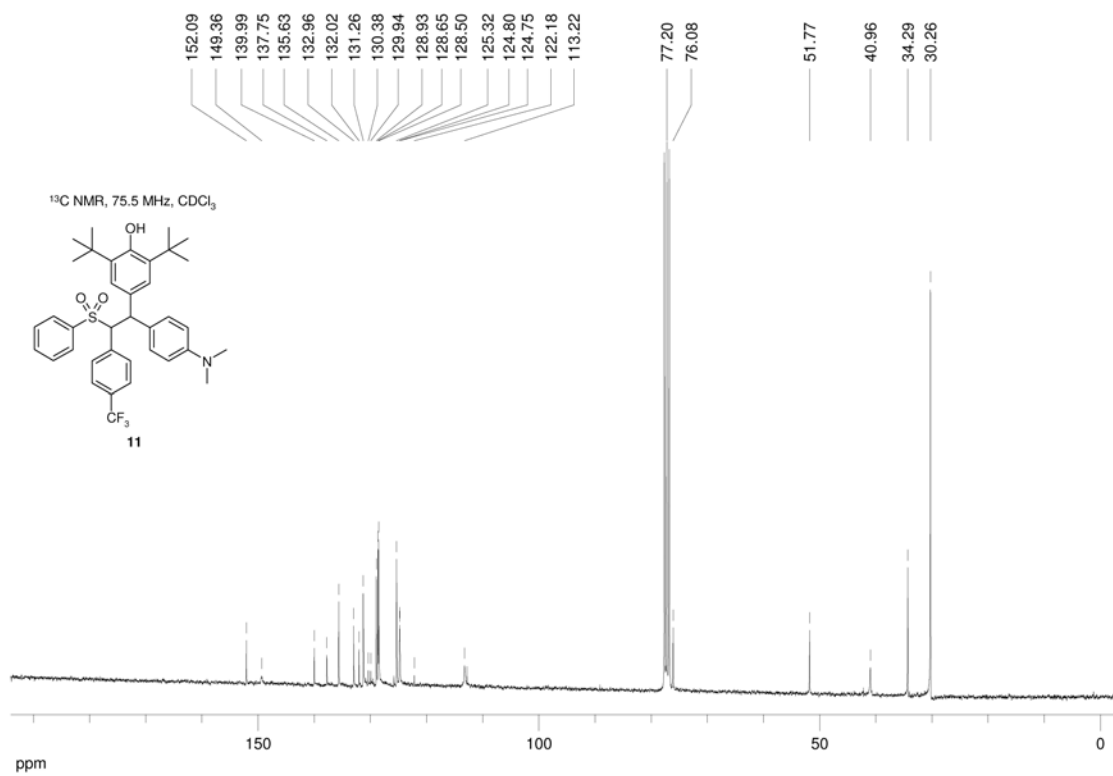
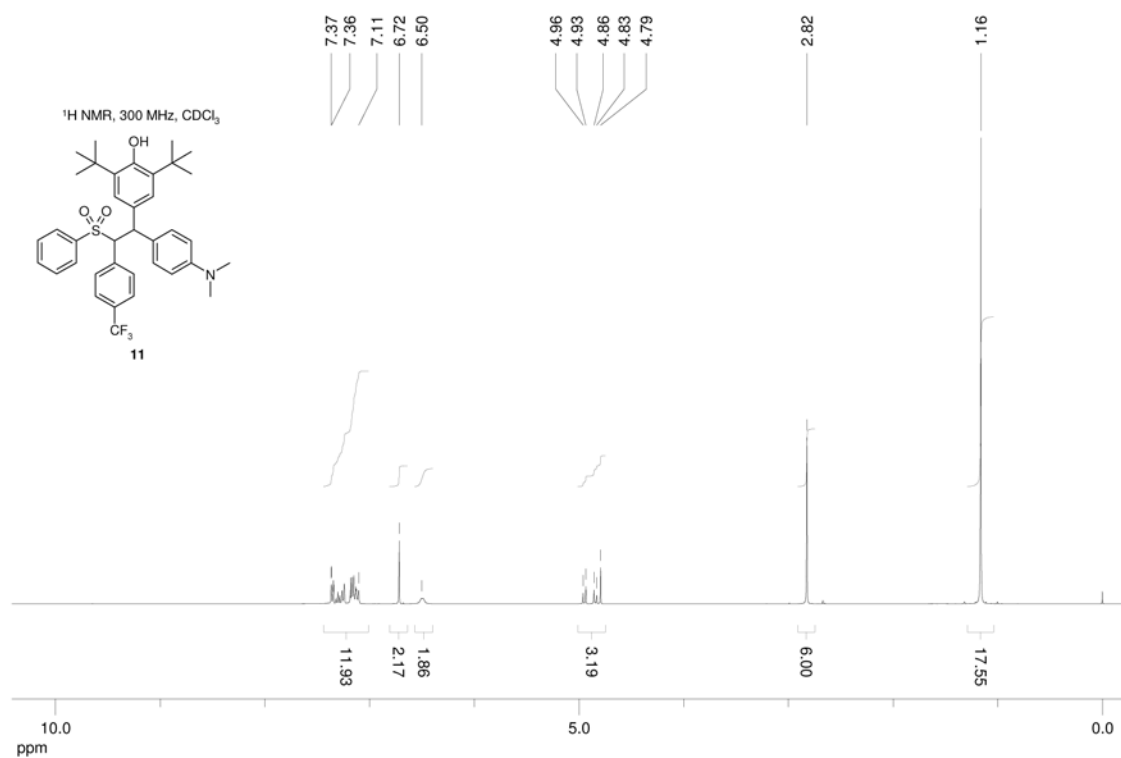


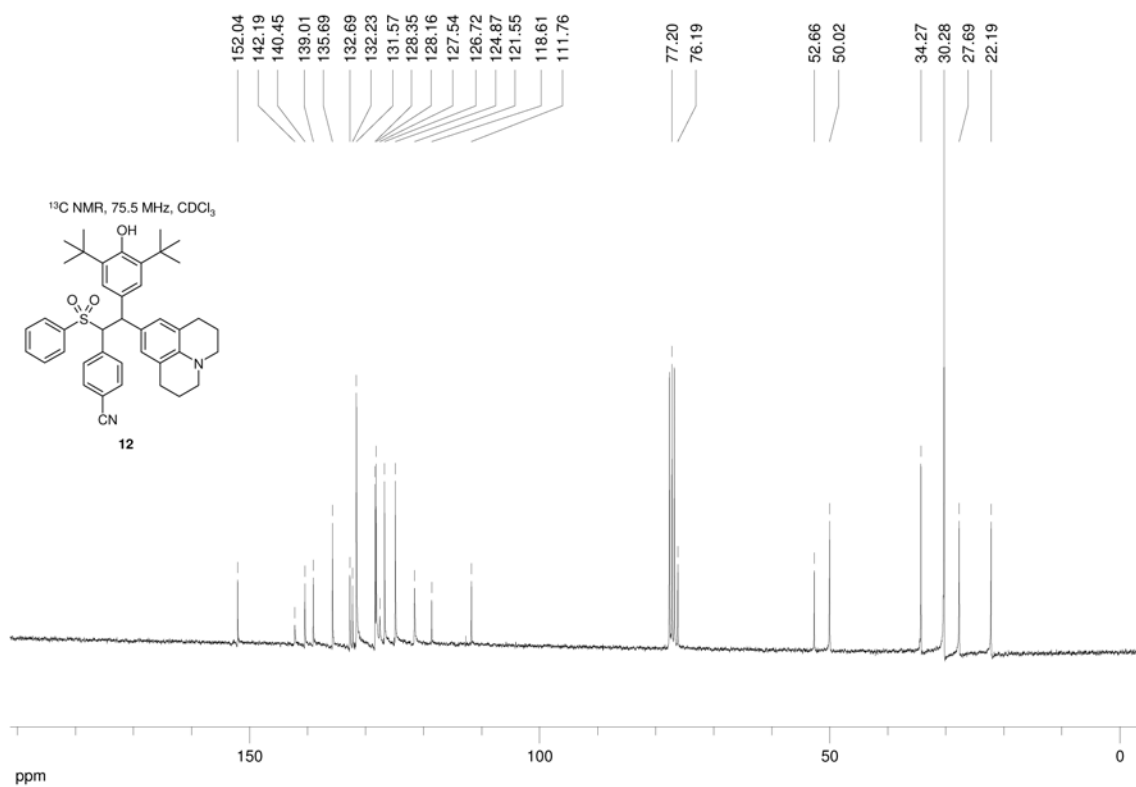
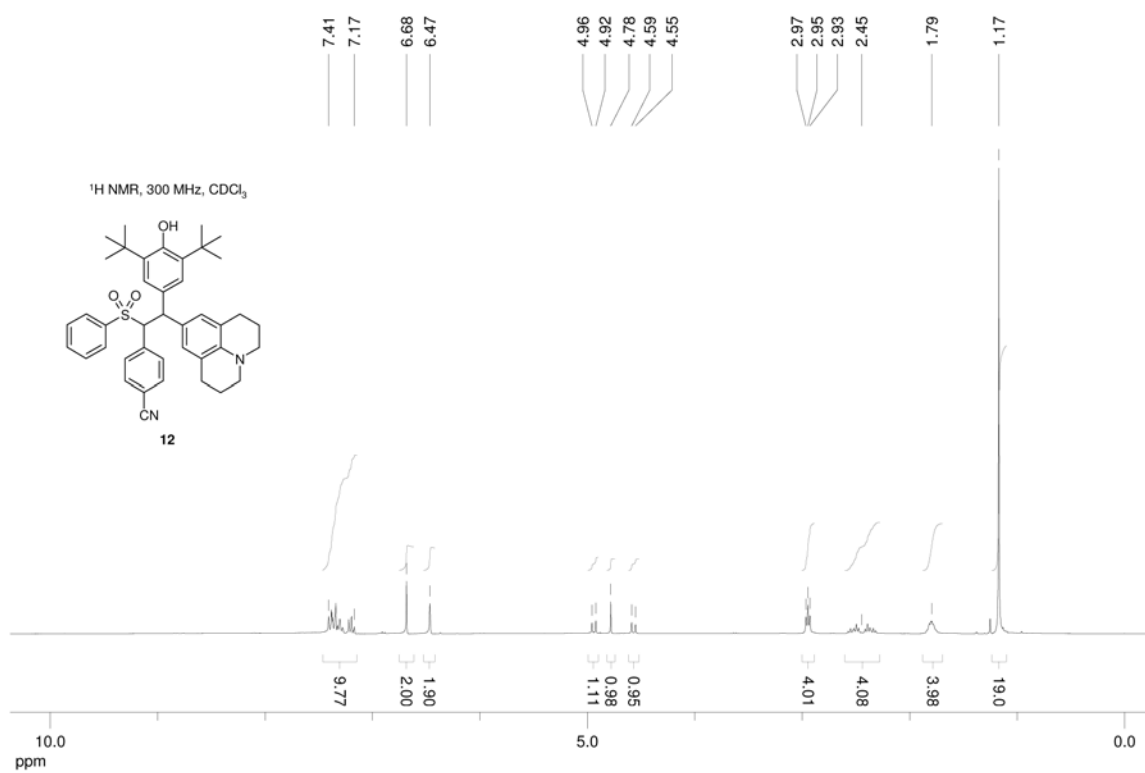
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