

SUPPORTING INFORMATION

**Tuneable Access to Isoquinolines *via* a Transition-Metal-Free
C(sp³)-C(sp³) Bond Cleavage Rearrangement Reaction**

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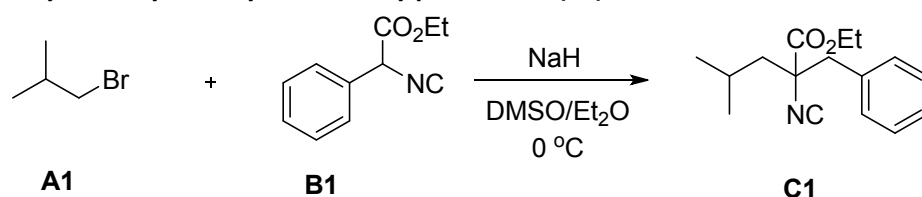
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I. General Information

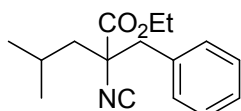
^1H NMR (500 MHz) and ^{13}C NMR (125 MHz) were registered on 500 M spectrometers. Chemical shifts were reported in units (ppm) by assigning TMS resonance in the ^1H spectrum as 0.00 ppm, CDCl_3 resonance in the ^{13}C spectrum as 77.0 ppm. All coupling constants (J values) were reported in Hertz (Hz). NMR analysis was carried out at 298 K unless noted otherwise. HRMS was obtained on an ESI-LC-MS/MS or APCI-LC-MS/MS spectrometer.

II. Preparation of Starting Materials

ethyl 2-benzyl-2-isocyano-4-methylpentanoate (**C1**)¹

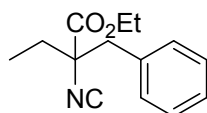


An oven-dried 100 mL schlenk tube charged with **B1** (5 mmol) was refilled with Ar for 3 times. The mixture of 16 mL of Et_2O and 4 mL of DMSO was added by syringe and the reaction mixture was cooled to 0 °C. After NaH (60%) (15 mmol, 3.0 equiv) being added slowly, the reaction mixture was stirred for 20 min. Then 3.0 equivalent of **A1** was added by syringe. After the reaction completed, the crude reaction mixture was quenched with saturated NH_4Cl (H_2O), extracted with DCM (20 mL \times 3) and washed with brine (50 mL). The organic phase was concentrated in vacuo and the residue was purified by silica gel flash column chromatography to afford **C1** as a colorless oil in 86% yield.



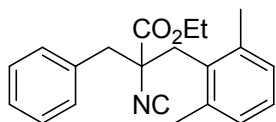
ethyl 2-benzyl-2-isocyano-4-methylpentanoate (**C1**)

Colorless oil. ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 7.37-7.32 (m, 3H), 7.30-7.26 (m, 2H), 4.18-4.12 (m, 2H), 3.21 (d, $J = 13.6$ Hz, 1H), 3.01 (d, $J = 13.6$ Hz, 1H), 2.07-1.92 (m, 2H), 1.85-1.81 (m, 1H), 1.20 (t, $J = 7.2$ Hz, 3H), 1.05 (d, $J = 6.4$ Hz, 2H), 0.90 (d, $J = 6.4$ Hz, 2H). ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 168.8, 160.4, 133.6, 130.3, 128.4, 127.9, 68.5, 62.5, 46.9, 46.4, 25.1, 23.7, 22.1, 13.9. HRMS (ESI) calcd for $\text{C}_{16}\text{H}_{21}\text{NO}_2$ [$\text{M}+\text{H}$] $^+$: 260.1645, Found: 260.1643.



(S)-ethyl 2-benzyl-2-isocyanobutanoate (**C2**)

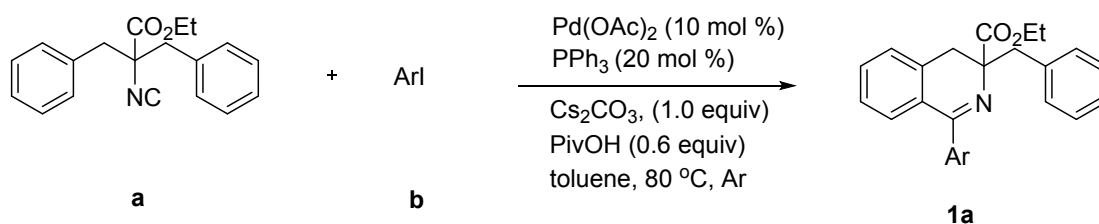
This compound was prepared similarly to **C1**. Colorless oil. 89% yield. ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 7.33-7.26 (m, 5H), 4.18 (q, $J = 7.1$ Hz, 2H), 3.23 (d, $J = 13.6$ Hz, 1H), 3.04 (d, $J = 13.6$ Hz, 1H), 2.15-2.06 (m, 1H), 1.91-1.82 (m, 1H), 1.21 (dd, $J = 7.8, 6.4$ Hz, 3H), 1.06 (dd, $J = 9.6, 5.2$ Hz, 3H). ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 168.3, 160.0, 133.9, 130.2, 128.4, 127.8, 70.1, 62.5, 44.6, 32.5, 14.0, 8.6. HRMS (ESI) calcd for $\text{C}_{14}\text{H}_{17}\text{NO}_2$ [$\text{M}+\text{H}$] $^+$: 232.1332, Found: 232.1338.



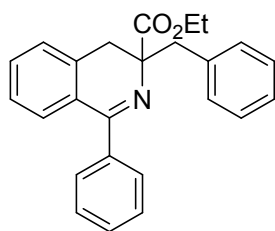
(S)-ethyl 2-benzyl-3-(2,6-dimethylphenyl)-2-isocyanopropanoate (C3)

This compound was prepared similarly to **C1**. Colorless oil. 85% yield. ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 7.35-7.33 (m, 5H), 7.15-7.07 (m, 3H), 4.17-4.08 (m, 2H), 3.58 (d, $J = 14.7$ Hz, 1H), 3.48-3.40 (m, 2H), 3.12 (d, $J = 13.4$ Hz, 1H), 2.35 (s, 1H), 1.15 (t, $J = 7.2$ Hz, 1H). ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 169.0, 162.0, 138.2, 133.7, 131.6, 130.6, 128.7, 128.4, 127.9, 127.5, 69.0, 62.9, 45.6, 37.8, 21.2, 13.8. HRMS (ESI) calcd for $\text{C}_{21}\text{H}_{23}\text{NO}_2$ $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$: 322.1802, Found: 322.1800.

ethyl 3-benzyl-1-phenyl-3,4-dihydroisoquinoline-3-carboxylate (1a)¹

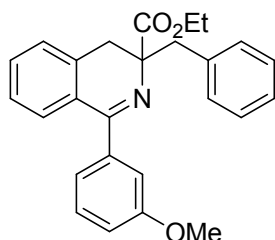


Compound **1a** was prepared according to similar route of literature reported methods: An oven-dried 25 mL schlenk tube charged with $\text{Pd}(\text{OAc})_2$ (0.1 mmol, 22.4 mg, 10 mol%) triphenylphosphine (0.2 mmol, 52.4 mg, 20 mol%) and Cs_2CO_3 (1 mmol, 326 mg, 1.0 equiv) was refilled with Ar for 3 times. Then a solution of **b** (1.5 mmol, 1.5 equiv) and PivOH (0.6 mmol, 61 mg, 0.6 equiv) in 0.5 mL of toluene was added by syringe and the tube was placed in an 80 °C oil-bath. A solution of **a** (1 mmol, 1.0 equiv) in 1.0 mL of toluene was added dropwise with a syringe pump to the reaction mixture. The addition was finished within 1 h. The crude reaction mixture was extracted with EtOAc (20 mL \times 3) and washed with brine (20 mL). The organic phase was concentrated in *vacuo* and the residue was purified by silica gel flash column chromatography to afford the corresponding products.



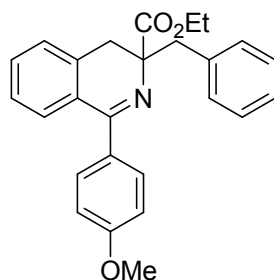
ethyl 3-benzyl-1-phenyl-3,4-dihydroisoquinoline-3-carboxylate (1a)

Colorless oil, 81%. ^1H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 7.67 (dd, $J = 7.5, 2.0$ Hz, 2H), 7.47-7.39 (m, 4H), 7.27-7.19 (m, 8H), 4.07-4.03 (m, 2H), 3.35 (d, $J = 13.5$ Hz, 1H), 3.25 (d, $J = 16.0$ Hz, 1H), 3.11 (d, $J = 11.0$ Hz, 1H), 2.95 (d, $J = 16.0$ Hz, 1H), 1.09 (t, $J = 7.0$ Hz, 3H). ^{13}C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 174.0, 167.8, 137.0, 136.9, 131.8, 130.9, 130.1, 129.7, 128.8, 128.7, 128.6, 128.4, 127.3, 127.1, 67.4, 61.5, 43.1, 33.6, 14.4; HRMS (ESI) calcd for $\text{C}_{25}\text{H}_{24}\text{NO}_2$ $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$: 370.1802, Found: 370.1805.

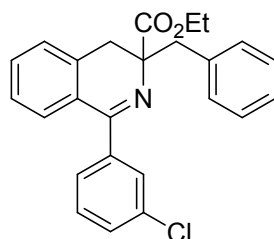


ethyl 3-benzyl-1-(3-methoxyphenyl)-3,4-dihydroisoquinoline-3-carboxylate (1b)

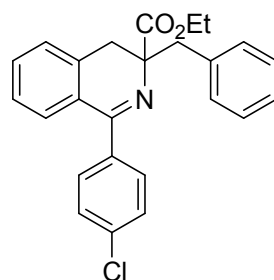
This compound was prepared similarly to **1a**. Colorless oil, 70% yield. ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.41 (td, *J* = 7.5, 1.5 Hz, 1H), 7.36 (t, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.31- 7.24 (m, 5H), 7.23-7.20 (m, 5H), 7.03-7.01 (m, 1H), 4.06 (qd, *J* = 7.0, 1.5 Hz, 2H), 3.85 (s, 3H), 3.34 (d, *J* = 13.5 Hz, 1H), 3.26 (d, *J* = 16.0 Hz, 1H), 3.07 (d, *J* = 13.5 Hz, 1H), 2.95 (d, *J* = 16.0 Hz, 1H), 1.10 (t, *J* = 7.0 Hz, 3H). ¹³C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 173.7, 167.3, 159.9, 140.4, 137.0, 136.9, 131.7, 130.9, 129.5, 128.8, 128.7, 128.4, 127.3, 127.1, 122.1, 116.0, 114.8, 67.4, 61.5, 55.8, 43.1, 33.3, 14.4; HRMS (APCI) calcd for C₂₆H₂₅NO₃ [M+H]⁺: 400.1907, Found: 400.1910.

**ethyl 3-benzyl-1-(4-methoxyphenyl)-3,4-dihydroisoquinoline-3-carboxylate (1c)**

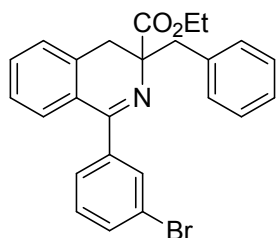
This compound was prepared similarly to **1a**. Colorless oil, 79% yield. ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.64 (d, *J* = 7.5, 2H), 7.39 (td, *J* = 7.5, 1.0 Hz, 1H), 7.31-7.31 (m, 1H), 7.25-7.19 (m, 7H), 7.01-6.91 (m, 2H), 4.05-4.01 (m, 2H), 3.85 (s, 3H), 3.32 (d, *J* = 13.5 Hz, 1H), 3.23 (d, *J* = 16.0 Hz, 1H), 3.03 (d, *J* = 13.5 Hz, 1H), 2.92 (d, *J* = 16.0 Hz, 1H), 1.07 (t, *J* = 7.0 Hz, 3H). ¹³C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 173.4, 166.3, 160.9, 136.8, 136.7, 131.1, 130.8, 130.4, 128.5, 128.4, 128.3, 128.0, 126.8, 126.6, 113.5, 66.8, 61.0, 55.4, 42.7, 33.0, 14.0; HRMS (APCI) calcd for C₂₆H₂₅NO₃ [M+H]⁺: 400.1907, Found: 400.1909.

**ethyl 3-benzyl-1-(3-chlorophenyl)-3,4-dihydroisoquinoline-3-carboxylate (1d)**

This compound was prepared similarly to **1a**. Colorless oil, 90% yield. ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.67 (t, *J* = 2.0 Hz, 1H), 7.53 (d, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 7.46-7.37 (m, 3H), 7.29-7.20 (m, 8H), 4.10-4.05 (m, 2H), 3.33 (d, *J* = 13.5 Hz, 1H), 3.25 (d, *J* = 16.0 Hz, 1H), 3.07 (d, *J* = 13.5 Hz, 1H), 2.95 (d, *J* = 16.0 Hz, 1H), 1.11 (t, *J* = 7.0 Hz, 3H). ¹³C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 173.6, 166.28, 140.8, 136.9, 136.8, 134.7, 132.0, 130.9, 130.1, 129.9, 129.7, 128.9, 128.4, 128.4, 127.8, 127.5, 127.2, 67.5, 61.6, 43.0, 33.2, 14.4; HRMS (APCI) calcd for C₂₅H₂₀Cl₂NO₂ [M+H]⁺: 472.0632, Found: 472.0627.

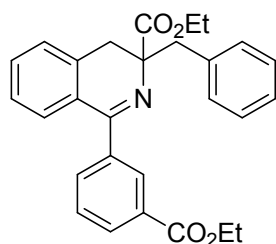
**ethyl 3-benzyl-1-(4-chlorophenyl)-3,4-dihydroisoquinoline-3-carboxylate (1e)**

This compound was prepared similarly to **1a**. Colorless oil, 76% yield. ^1H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 7.62 (d, $J = 8.2$ Hz, 2H), 7.47 (dd, $J = 56.0, 48.0$ Hz, 3H), 7.28-7.20 (m, 8H), 4.05 (q, $J = 7.0$ Hz, 2H), 3.32 (d, $J = 13.5$ Hz, 1H), 3.24 (d, $J = 16.0$ Hz, 1H), 3.11 (d, $J = 12.0$ Hz, 1H), 2.95 (d, $J = 16.0$ Hz, 1H), 1.08 (t, $J = 7.0$ Hz, 3H). ^{13}C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 173.1, 166.5, 136.7, 136.4, 131.6, 130.7, 130.5, 130.1, 129.7, 128.5, 128.5, 128.0, 127.0, 126.8, 67.0, 61.2, 42.7, 33.0, 14.0; HRMS (ESI) calcd for $\text{C}_{25}\text{H}_{22}\text{ClNO}_2$ $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$: 404.1412, Found: 404.1418.



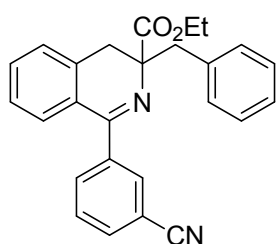
ethyl 3-benzyl-1-(3-bromophenyl)-3,4-dihydroisoquinoline-3-carboxylate (1f)

This compound was prepared similarly to **1a**. Colorless oil, 78% yield. ^1H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 7.81 (t, $J = 1.5$ Hz, 1H), 7.60-7.55 (m, 2H), 7.41 (td, $J = 7.5, 1.5$ Hz, 1H), 7.31 (t, $J = 8.0$ Hz, 1H), 7.27-7.18 (m, 8H), 4.08-4.04 (m, 2H), 3.31 (d, $J = 13.5$ Hz, 1H), 3.24 (d, $J = 16.0$ Hz, 1H), 3.05 (d, $J = 13.5$ Hz, 1H), 2.93 (d, $J = 16.0$ Hz, 1H), 1.10 (t, $J = 7.0$ Hz, 3H). ^{13}C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 173.1, 165.7, 140.6, 136.5, 136.4, 132.5, 132.1, 131.5, 130.4, 129.7, 128.5, 128.0, 127.9, 127.9, 127.8, 127.0, 126.7, 122.4, 67.0, 61.2, 42.6, 32.8, 14.0; HRMS (APCI) calcd for $\text{C}_{25}\text{H}_{23}\text{BrNO}_2$ $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$: 448.0907, Found: 448.0910.



ethyl 3-benzyl-1-(3-(ethoxycarbonyl)phenyl)-3,4-dihydroisoquinoline-3-carboxylate (1g)

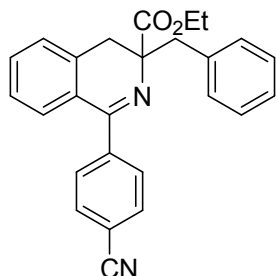
This compound was prepared similarly to **1a**. Colorless oil, 93% yield. ^1H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 8.30 (t, $J = 1.5$ Hz, 1H), 8.17-8.15 (m, 1H), 7.87 (d, $J = 7.5$ Hz, 1H), 7.54 (t, $J = 7.7$ Hz, 1H), 7.42 (td, $J = 7.5, 1.0$ Hz, 1H), 7.29 – 7.20 (m, 8H), 4.40 (q, $J = 7.1$ Hz, 2H), 4.09-4.05 (m, 2H), 3.34 (d, $J = 13.5$ Hz, 1H), 3.27 (d, $J = 16.0$ Hz, 1H), 3.08 (d, $J = 13.5$ Hz, 1H), 2.96 (d, $J = 16.0$ Hz, 1H), 1.40 (t, $J = 7.0$ Hz, 3H), 1.11 (t, $J = 7.0$ Hz, 3H). ^{13}C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 173.6, 166.7, 139.4, 136.9, 136.9, 134.0, 131.9, 131.0, 130.9, 130.8, 130.6, 128.9, 128.8, 128.5, 128.4, 128.3, 127.5, 127.1, 67.5, 61.6, 61.5, 43.0, 33.2, 14.8, 14.4; HRMS (APCI) calcd for $\text{C}_{28}\text{H}_{28}\text{NO}_4$ $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$: 442.2013, Found: 442.2016.



ethyl 3-benzyl-1-(3-cyanophenyl)-3,4-dihydroisoquinoline-3-carboxylate (1h)

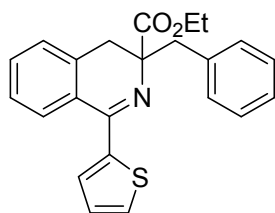
This compound was prepared similarly to **1a**. Colorless oil, 84% yield. ^1H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 7.98 (t, $J = 1.3$ Hz, 1H), 7.91-7.89 (m, 1H), 7.76-7.73 (m, 1H), 7.56 (t, $J = 8.0$ Hz, 1H), 7.44 (td, $J =$

7.5, 1.0 Hz, 1H), 7.31-7.16 (m, 8H), 4.07 (qd, $J = 7.0, 1.5$ Hz, 2H), 3.32-3.25 (m, 2H), 3.09 (d, $J = 13.5$ Hz, 1H), 2.97 (d, $J = 16.0$ Hz, 1H), 1.10 (t, $J = 7.0$ Hz, 3H). ^{13}C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 173.4, 165.6, 140.2, 137.0, 136.7, 133.9, 133.4, 133.3, 132.3, 130.8, 129.5, 129.1, 128.5, 128.0, 127.6, 127.3, 119.0, 112.9, 67.6, 61.7, 43.0, 33.3, 14.4; HRMS (APCI) calcd for $\text{C}_{26}\text{H}_{23}\text{N}_2\text{O}_2$ $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$: 395.1754, Found: 395.1758.



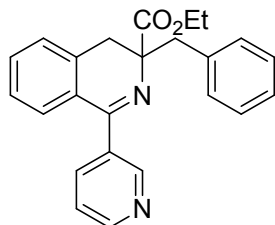
ethyl 3-benzyl-1-(4-cyanophenyl)-3,4-dihydroisoquinoline-3-carboxylate (1i)

This compound was prepared similarly to **1a**. Colorless oil, 86% yield. ^1H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 7.78-7.74 (m, 4H), 7.44 (td, $J = 7.5, 1.0$ Hz, 1H), 7.31-7.15 (m, 8H), 4.08-4.03 (m, 2H), 3.30 (d, $J = 13.5$ Hz, 1H), 3.26 (d, $J = 16.0$ Hz, 1H), 3.10 (d, $J = 13.5$ Hz, 1H), 2.96 (d, $J = 16.0$ Hz, 1H), 1.09 (t, $J = 7.0$ Hz, 3H). ^{13}C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 173.3, 166.1, 143.2, 136.9, 136.6, 132.5, 132.3, 130.8, 130.3, 129.1, 128.5, 128.0, 128.0, 127.6, 127.2, 119.0, 113.6, 67.6, 61.7, 43.0, 33.3, 14.4. HRMS (ESI) calcd for $\text{C}_{26}\text{H}_{22}\text{N}_2\text{O}_2$ $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$: 395.1754, Found: 395.1758.



ethyl 3-benzyl-1-(thiophen-2-yl)-3,4-dihydroisoquinoline-3-carboxylate (1j)

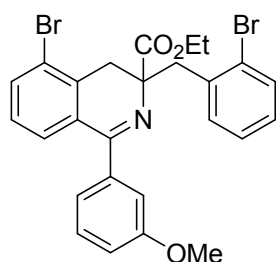
This compound was prepared similarly to **1a**. Colorless oil, 66% yield. ^1H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 7.71 (d, $J = 7.5$ Hz, 1H), 7.49-7.48 (m, 1H), 7.44-7.41 (m, 2H), 7.34-7.20 (m, 7H), 7.12 (dd, $J = 5.0, 3.5$ Hz, 1H), 4.05-3.96 (m, 2H), 3.29 (d, $J = 13.5$ Hz, 1H), 3.21 (d, $J = 15.5$ Hz, 1H), 3.13 (d, $J = 13.5$ Hz, 1H), 2.89 (d, $J = 15.5$ Hz, 1H), 1.02 (t, $J = 7.0$ Hz, 3H). ^{13}C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 173.1, 160.4, 143.1, 136.7, 136.6, 131.1, 130.7, 129.4, 128.8, 128.5, 127.9, 127.3, 127.1, 127.0, 126.6, 66.8, 61.0, 43.1, 33.6, 13.9; HRMS (APCI) calcd for $\text{C}_{23}\text{H}_{21}\text{NO}_2\text{S}$ $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$: 376.1366, Found: 376.1362.



ethyl 3-benzyl-1-(pyridin-3-yl)-3,4-dihydroisoquinoline-3-carboxylate (1k)

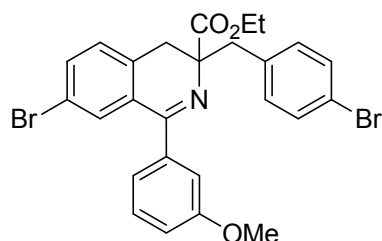
This compound was prepared similarly to **1a**. Colorless oil, 77% yield. ^1H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 8.89 (d, $J = 1.5$ Hz, 1H), 8.70 (dd, $J = 5.0, 1.5$ Hz, 1H), 7.99 (dt, $J = 7.5, 2.0$ Hz, 1H), 7.44-7.38 (m, 2H), 7.29-7.19 (m, 8H), 4.07-4.02 (m, 2H), 3.31-3.24 (m, 2H), 3.09 (d, $J = 13.5$ Hz, 1H), 2.96 (d, $J = 16.0$ Hz, 1H), 1.08 (t, $J = 7.0$ Hz, 3H). ^{13}C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 173.1, 164.6, 150.4, 150.1, 136.8, 136.4, 136.4, 134.4, 131.7, 130.4, 128.6, 128.0, 127.8, 127.6, 127.2, 126.8, 123.2, 67.1,

61.2, 42.8, 33.0, 14.0; HRMS (APCI) calcd for C₂₄H₂₂N₂O₂ [M+H]⁺: 371.1754, Found: 371.1753.



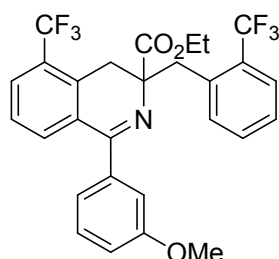
ethyl 5-bromo-3-(2-bromobenzyl)-1-(3-methoxyphenyl)-3,4-dihydroisoquinoline-3-carboxylate (1l)

This compound was prepared similarly to **1a**. Colorless oil, 65% yield. ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.59 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.53-7.50 (m, 2H), 7.34 (t, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.21-7.14 (m, 4H), 7.09-7.00 (m, 3H), 4.11-4.04 (m, 2H), 3.84 (s, 3H), 3.66-3.55 (m, 3H), 2.99 (d, *J* = 16.5 Hz, 1H), 1.10 (t, *J* = 7.0 Hz, 3H). ¹³C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 172.6, 167.1, 159.4, 139.5, 136.4, 136.3, 135.1, 132.7, 132.5, 130.3, 129.1, 128.2, 127.9, 127.4, 127.0, 126.1, 124.3, 121.7, 115.8, 114.4, 66.9, 61.4, 55.4, 42.6, 33.4, 13.9; HRMS (APCI) calcd for C₂₆H₂₃Br₂NO₃ [M+H]⁺: 556.0117, Found: 556.0118.



ethyl 7-bromo-3-(4-bromobenzyl)-1-(3-methoxyphenyl)-3,4-dihydroisoquinoline-3-carboxylate (1m)

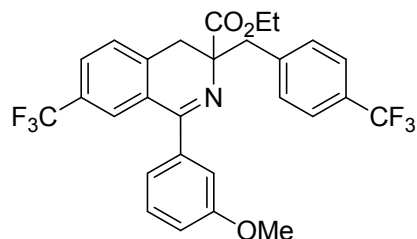
This compound was prepared similarly to **1a**. Colorless oil, 89% yield. ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.52 (dd, *J* = 8.0, 2.0 Hz, 1H), 7.42 (d, *J* = 2.0 Hz, 1H), 7.39-7.36 (m, 3H), 7.18-7.16 (m, 2H), 7.14-7.11 (m, 3H), 7.06-7.03 (m, 1H), 4.02 (q, *J* = 7.0 Hz, 2H), 3.86 (s, 3H), 3.25 (d, *J* = 13.5 Hz, 1H), 3.19 (d, *J* = 16.0 Hz, 1H), 3.11 (d, *J* = 13.5 Hz, 1H), 2.84 (d, *J* = 16.0 Hz, 1H), 1.07 (t, *J* = 7.0 Hz, 3H). ¹³C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 173.1, 166.3, 160.0, 139.5, 135.8, 135.5, 134.5, 132.7, 131.5, 130.3, 130.2, 129.8, 121.9, 121.3, 120.9, 116.4, 114.7, 67.1, 61.7, 55.8, 43.1, 33.4, 14.4; HRMS (APCI) calcd for C₂₆H₂₃Br₂NO₃ [M+H]⁺: 556.0117, Found: 556.0111.



ethyl 1-(3-methoxyphenyl)-5-(trifluoromethyl)-3-(2-(trifluoromethyl)benzyl)-3,4-dihydroisoquinoline-3-carboxylate (1n)

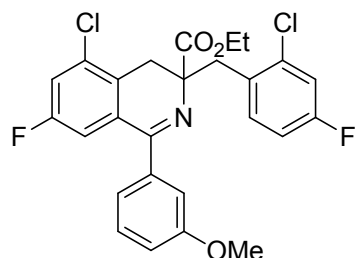
This compound was prepared similarly to **1a**. Colorless oil, 68% yield. ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.97 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.69 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.63 (d, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 7.47 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.43 (t, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 7.38 (t, *J* = 2.0 Hz, 1H), 7.35-7.28 (m, 2H), 7.20 (s, 1H), 7.17 (d, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 7.05 (dd, *J* = 8.0, 2.0 Hz, 1H), 3.98-3.93 (m, 2H), 3.86 (s, 3H), 3.76 (d, *J* = 15.0 Hz, 1H), 3.66-

3.60 (m, 2H), 2.88 (d, $J = 16.5$ Hz, 1H), 0.98 (t, $J = 7.0$ Hz, 3H). ^{13}C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 170.9, 166.2, 158.6, 138.4, 134.9, 134.2, 131.3, 130.6, 130.3, 128.4, 128.3 (q, $J = 31.1$ Hz), 128.2, 127.7, 127.5 (q, $J = 30.3$ Hz), 127.4, 125.8, 125.5, 124.8 (q, $J = 5.9$ Hz), 123.5 (q, $J = 272.1$ Hz), 122.8 (q, $J = 272.5$ Hz), 120.6, 114.9, 113.4, 64.9, 60.4, 54.4, 38.4, 30.5, 12.6; HRMS (APCI) calcd for $\text{C}_{28}\text{H}_{21}\text{Br}_2\text{F}_2\text{NO}_3$ $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$: 536.1655, Found: 536.1649.



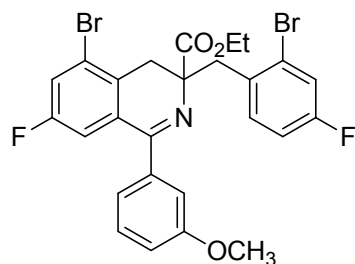
ethyl 1-(3-methoxyphenyl)-7-(trifluoromethyl)-3-(4-(trifluoromethyl)benzyl)-3,4-dihydroisoquinoline-3-carboxylate (1o)

This compound was prepared similarly to **1a**. Colorless oil, 84% yield. ^1H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 7.66-7.65 (m, 1H), 7.55 (br s, 1H), 7.51 (d, $J = 8.0$ Hz, 2H), 7.41-7.38 (m, 4H), 7.20-7.17 (m, 2H), 7.08-7.06 (m, 2H), 4.03-4.00 (m, 2H), 3.86 (s, 3H), 3.39-3.31 (m, 3H), 2.97 (d, $J = 16.0$ Hz, 1H), 1.03 (t, $J = 7.0$ Hz, 3H). ^{13}C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 172.7, 166.6, 160.1, 140.8, 140.7, 139.1, 131.3, 130.2, 129.9, 129.5 (q, $J = 32.3$ Hz), 129.2, 129.0, 128.3, 125.2 (q, $J = 3.5$ Hz), 124.6 (q, $J = 270.3$ Hz), 124.0 (q, $J = 270.9$ Hz), 121.9, 116.8, 114.6, 67.0, 61.9, 55.8, 43.7, 34.2, 14.3; HRMS (APCI) calcd for $\text{C}_{28}\text{H}_{23}\text{F}_6\text{NO}_3$ $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$: 536.1655, Found: 536.1659.



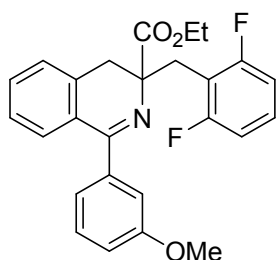
ethyl 5-chloro-3-(2-chloro-4-fluorobenzyl)-7-fluoro-1-(3-methoxyphenyl)-3,4-dihydroisoquinoline-3-carboxylate (1p)

This compound was prepared similarly to **1a**. Colorless oil, 96% yield. ^1H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 7.49 (dd, $J = 8.7, 6.5$ Hz, 1H), 7.38-7.35 (m, 1H), 7.19 (dd, $J = 8.0, 2.5$ Hz, 1H), 7.15-7.12 (m, 2H), 7.09-7.02 (m, 2H), 6.92-6.85 (m, 2H), 4.11-4.04 (m, 2H), 3.85 (s, 3H), 3.57-3.48 (m, $J = 14.0, 10.0$ Hz, 3H), 2.89 (dd, $J = 16.5, 1.0$ Hz, 1H), 1.11 (t, $J = 7.0$ Hz, 3H). ^{13}C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 172.4, 166.0, 161.6, 161.3 (d, $J = 247.4$ Hz), 159.6, 138.8, 135.7 (d, $J = 10.0$ Hz), 134.2 (d, $J = 9.8$ Hz), 133.5 (d, $J = 8.4$ Hz), 130.7 (d, $J = 7.4$ Hz), 130.3 (d, $J = 3.4$ Hz), 130.2 (d, $J = 3.3$ Hz), 129.4, 121.5, 119.2 (d, $J = 24.8$ Hz), 116.5 (d, $J = 24.3$ Hz), 116.0, 114.4, 114.1 (d, $J = 22.5$ Hz), 113.7 (d, $J = 20.5$ Hz), 66.8, 61.6, 55.4, 39.4, 30.1, 14.0; HRMS (APCI) calcd for $\text{C}_{26}\text{H}_{21}\text{Cl}_2\text{F}_2\text{NO}_3$ $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$: 504.0939, Found: 504.0940.



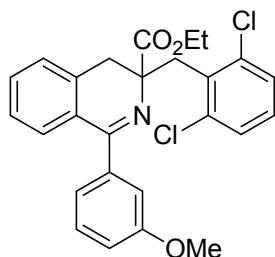
ethyl 5-bromo-3-(2-bromo-4-fluorobenzyl)-7-fluoro-1-(3-methoxyphenyl)-3,4-dihydroisoquinoline-3-carboxylate (1q)

This compound was prepared similarly to **1a**. Colorless oil, 76% yield. ^1H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 7.55 (dd, $J = 8.5, 6.5$ Hz, 1H), 7.38-7.35 (m, 2H), 7.27 (dd, $J = 8.5, 1.5$ Hz, 2H), 7.17-7.12 (m, 2H), 7.05 (dd, $J = 8.0, 2.5$ Hz, 1H), 6.98-6.90 (m, 2H), 4.12-4.04 (m, 2H), 3.86 (s, 3H), 3.61-3.55 (m, 3H), 2.86 (d, $J = 16.5$ Hz, 1H), 1.11 (t, $J = 7.0$ Hz, 3H). ^{13}C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 172.1, 166.5, 161.1 (d, $J = 248.6$ Hz), 160.7 (d, $J = 248.9$ Hz), 159.6, 138.3, 133.3 (d, $J = 8.0$ Hz), 132.1 (d, $J = 2.9$ Hz), 132.0 (d, $J = 2.9$ Hz), 130.8 (d, $J = 6.8$ Hz), 129.4, 125.9 (d, $J = 9.3$ Hz), 124.1 (d, $J = 8.9$ Hz), 122.4 (d, $J = 22.6$ Hz), 121.6, 119.7 (d, $J = 23.9$ Hz), 116.2, 114.9 (d, $J = 23.3$ Hz), 114.5, 114.3 (d, $J = 20.6$ Hz), 67.1, 61.6, 55.4, 41.8, 32.9, 14.0; HRMS (APCI) calcd for $\text{C}_{26}\text{H}_{21}\text{Br}_2\text{F}_2\text{NO}_3$ $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$: 591.9929, Found: 591.9931.



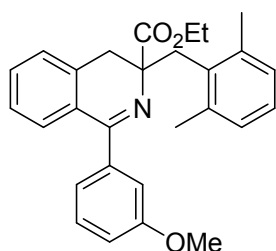
ethyl 3-(2,6-difluorobenzyl)-1-(3-methoxyphenyl)-3,4-dihydroisoquinoline-3-carboxylate (1r)

This compound was prepared similarly to **1a**. Colorless oil, 86% yield. ^1H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 7.26-7.22 (m, 2H), 7.15-7.03 (m, 6H), 6.90 (dd, $J = 8.0, 2.5$ Hz, 1H), 6.71 (t, $J = 7.5$ Hz, 2H), 4.01-3.95 (m, 2H), 3.74 (s, 3H), 3.43 (d, $J = 14.0$ Hz, 1H), 3.24 (d, $J = 14.0$ Hz, 1H), 3.19 (d, $J = 16.0$ Hz, 1H), 3.01 (d, $J = 16.0$ Hz, 1H), 1.03 (t, $J = 7.0$ Hz, 3H). ^{13}C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 173.3, 167.6, 162.4 (dd, $J = 246.3, 8.25$ Hz), 159.9, 140.4, 136.9, 131.5, 129.5, 128.9 (dd, $J = 10.3$ Hz), 128.7, 128.5, 127.2, 122.1, 116.1, 114.7, 113.3 (dd, $J = 20.1, 20.1$ Hz), 111.3 (dd, $J = 26.3, 15.0$ Hz), 66.4, 61.6, 55.7, 33.9, 31.8, 14.3. HRMS (APCI) calcd for $\text{C}_{26}\text{H}_{23}\text{F}_2\text{NO}_3$ $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$: 436.1719, Found: 436.1726.



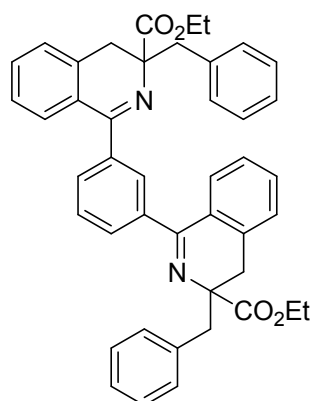
ethyl 3-(2,6-dichlorobenzyl)-1-(3-methoxyphenyl)-3,4-dihydroisoquinoline-3-carboxylate (1s)

This compound was prepared similarly to **1a**. Colorless oil, 81% yield. ^1H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 7.34-7.29 (m, 2H), 7.26-7.25 (m, 3H), 7.23-7.16 (m, 4H), 7.06-7.05 (m, 1H), 7.01-7.00 (m, 1H), 4.00-3.95 (m, 2H), 3.91 (d, $J = 14.0$ Hz, 1H), 3.84 (s, 3H), 3.80 (d, $J = 14.0$ Hz, 1H), 3.28 (s, 2H), 0.98 (t, $J = 7.0$ Hz, 3H). ^{13}C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 173.1, 167.5, 159.9, 140.3, 137.5, 137.1, 134.3, 131.4, 129.4, 129.0, 128.7, 128.6, 128.5, 128.4, 127.2, 122.3, 116.2, 114.7, 67.1, 61.5, 55.8, 40.2, 35.2, 14.2; HRMS (APCI) calcd for $\text{C}_{26}\text{H}_{23}\text{Cl}_2\text{NO}_3$ $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$: 468.1128, Found: 468.1123.



ethyl 3-(2,6-dimethylbenzyl)-1-(3-methoxyphenyl)-3,4-dihydroisoquinoline-3-carboxylate (1t)

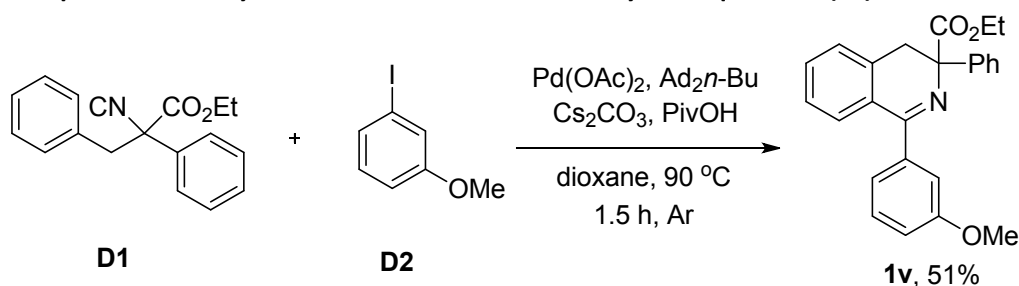
This compound was prepared similarly to **1a**. Colorless oil. 80% yield. ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 7.39-7.33 (m, $J = 7.2, 6.4, 3.2$ Hz, 1H), 7.28-7.22 (m, 2H), 7.05-7.00 (m, 2H), 3.94-3.88 (m, 1H), 3.88 (s, 1H), 3.71 (d, $J = 14.2$ Hz, 1H), 3.58 (d, $J = 14.2$ Hz, 1H), 3.32 (d, $J = 15.2$ Hz, 1H), 2.95 (d, $J = 15.2$ Hz, 1H), 2.47 (s, 3H), 0.98 (t, $J = 7.2$ Hz, 3H). ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 173.9, 166.3, 159.4, 140.0, 138.7, 136.9, 134.7, 130.9, 129.0, 128.3, 128.1, 127.8, 126.8, 126.4, 121.7, 115.6, 114.2, 67.9, 60.9, 55.4, 39.4, 34.7, 21.7, 13.8. HRMS (ESI) calcd for $\text{C}_{28}\text{H}_{29}\text{NO}_3$ $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$: 428.2220, Found: 428.2227.



diethyl 1,1'-(1,3-phenylene)bis(3-benzyl-3,4-dihydroisoquinoline-3-carboxylate) (1u)

This compound was prepared similarly to **1a**. Colorless oil, 69% yield. ^1H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 7.92 (dd, $J = 12.0, 1.0$ Hz, 1H), 7.82-7.78 (m, 2H), 7.56 (dd, $J = 14.5, 7.5$ Hz, 1H), 7.44-7.40 (m, 2H), 7.36 (d, $J = 7.5$ Hz, 2H), 7.30-7.19 (m, 14H), 4.07 (dq, $J = 14.0, 7.0$ Hz, 4H), 3.37-3.26 (m, 4H), 3.11-2.95 (m, 4H), 1.11 (dt, $J = 10.5, 7.0$ Hz, 6H). ^{13}C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 173.9, 173.7, 167.2, 167.1, 139.1, 139.0, 137.0, 136.9, 136.9, 131.7, 131.7, 130.9, 130.8, 130.3, 130.2, 128.9, 128.8, 128.7, 128.6, 128.6, 128.4, 128.4, 127.4, 127.1, 67.5, 67.4, 61.6, 61.5, 43.3, 42.6, 33.3, 33.1, 14.4, 14.4; HRMS (APCI) calcd for $\text{C}_{44}\text{H}_{40}\text{N}_2\text{O}_4$ $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$: 661.3061, Found: 661.3060.

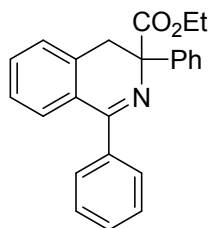
General procedure for synthesis of six-membered 3,4-dihydroisoquinoline (1v)²



General procedure for synthesis of six-membered 3,4-dihydroisoquinoline (1v)

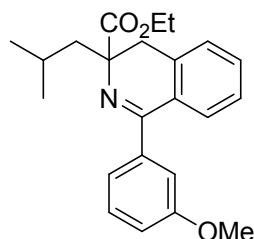
To a mixture of **D2** (0.12 mmol), $\text{Pd}(\text{OAc})_2$ (2.2 mg, 0.01 mmol, 10 mol %), $\text{Ad}_2\text{Pn-Bu}$ (7.2 mg, 0.02 mmol, 20 mol %), Cs_2CO_3 (39.0 mg, 0.12 mmol) and PivOH (6.1 mg, 0.06 mmol) in 1,4-dioxane (1 mL) was added a solution of **D1** (0.1 mmol) in 1,4-dioxane (1 mL) via a syringe pump

during period of 1.5 h (1 mL) in Ar at 90 °C. The solvent was removed under reduced pressure and the residue was purified by silica gel flash Column chromatography to afford the product **1v** as a colorless oil in 51% yield.



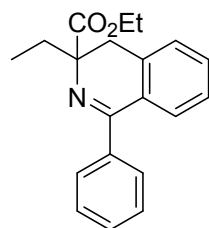
ethyl 1,3-diphenyl-3,4-dihydroisoquinoline-3-carboxylate (**1v**)

This compound was prepared similarly to **1a**. Colorless oil. 51% yield. ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 7.78-7.76 (m, 2H), 7.41-7.25 (m, 10H), 7.08-7.05 (m, 1H), 4.06 (qd, $J = 7.2, 2.4$ Hz, 2H), 3.90 (s, 3H), 3.79 (d, $J = 15.6$ Hz, 1H), 3.31 (d, $J = 15.6$ Hz, 1H), 1.06 (t, $J = 7.2$ Hz, 3H). ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 172.8, 167.7, 159.5, 141.5, 140.0, 136.7, 131.4, 129.2, 128.7, 128.4, 128.3, 128.2, 127.5, 127.0, 126.7, 122.0, 115.6, 114.7, 67.9, 61.4, 55.5, 35.8, 13.9. HRMS (ESI) calcd for $\text{C}_{25}\text{H}_{23}\text{NO}_3$ $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$:386.1751, Found: 386.1753.



ethyl 3-isobutyl-1-(3-methoxyphenyl)-3,4-dihydroisoquinoline-3-carboxylate (**1w**)

This compound was prepared similarly to **1a**. Colorless oil. 91% yield. ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 7.41-7.34 (m, 2H), 7.30-7.22 (m, 5H), 7.03-7.00 (m, 1H), 4.11 (qd, $J = 7.2, 1.6$ Hz, 2H), 3.86 (s, 3H), 3.27 (d, $J = 15.6$ Hz, 1H), 2.96 (d, $J = 15.6$ Hz, 1H), 2.03-1.79 (m, 3H), 1.16 (t, $J = 7.2$ Hz, 3H), 1.02 (d, $J = 6.4$ Hz, 3H), 0.93 (d, $J = 6.4$ Hz, 3H). ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 174.4, 166.4, 159.4, 140.3, 136.46, 130.9, 129.1, 128.6, 128.1, 128.0, 126.9, 121.8, 115.4, 114.5, 65.8, 60.9, 55.4, 46.2, 35.3, 24.9, 24.1, 23.7, 14.1. HRMS (ESI) calcd for $\text{C}_{23}\text{H}_{27}\text{NO}_3$ $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$:366.2064, Found: 366.2069.

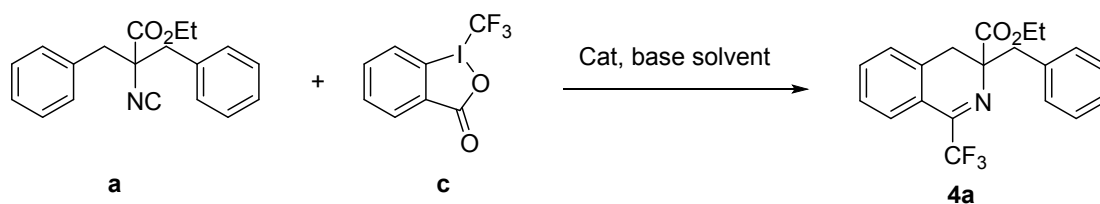


ethyl 3-ethyl-1-(3-methoxyphenyl)-3,4-dihydroisoquinoline-3-carboxylate (**1x**)

This compound was prepared similarly to **1a**. Colorless oil. 84% yield. ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 7.70-7.66 (m, 2H), 7.48-7.43 (m, 3H), 7.41-7.37 (m, 1H), 7.29-7.20 (m, 2H), 4.10 (q, $J = 7.2$ Hz, 2H), 3.29 (d, $J = 15.6$ Hz, 1H), 2.98 (d, $J = 15.6$ Hz, 1H), 2.05-1.97 (m, 2H), 1.14 (t, $J = 7.2$ Hz, 3H), 1.09 (t, $J = 7.2$ Hz, 3H). ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 173.8, 167.3, 138.9, 136.5, 131.0, 129.5, 129.2, 128.7, 128.3, 128.2, 128.1, 126.9, 66.3, 60.9, 34.1, 31.3, 14.2, 8.8. HRMS (ESI) calcd for $\text{C}_{20}\text{H}_{21}\text{NO}_2$ $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$:308.1645, Found: 308.1637.

III. Synthesis of 1-CF₃-Dihydroisoquinoline Compounds 4

(1) Optimization of the trifluoromethylation of isocyanides

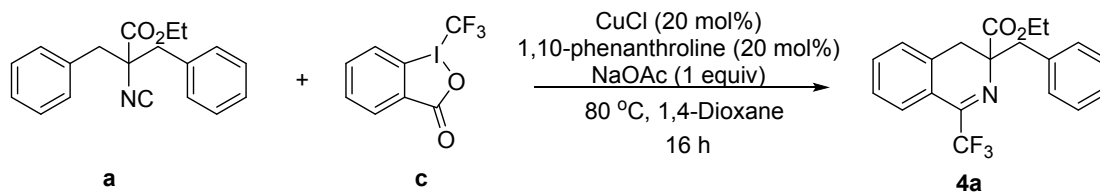


Entry	Catalyst	Ligand	Base (equiv)	solvent	Yield(%)
1	CuCl	Phenanthroline	NaOAc	MeCN	56
2	CuCl	Phenanthroline	NaOAc	DMSO	44
3	CuCl	Phenanthroline	NaOAc	THF	40
4	CuCl	Phenanthroline	NaOAc	Dioxane	60
5	CuCl	Phenanthroline	NaOAc	DMF	38
6	CuCl	Phenanthroline	NaOAc	MeOH	trace
7	CuCl	Phenanthroline	NaOAc	DCE	35
8	CuCl	Phenanthroline	NaOAc	MTBE	34
9	CuCl	Phenanthroline	C ₅ F	Dioxane	52
10	CuCl	Phenanthroline	K ₂ CO ₃	Dioxane	58
11	CuCl	Phenanthroline	K ₂ HPO ₄	Dioxane	50
12	CuCl	Phenanthroline	K ₃ PO ₄	Dioxane	60
13	CuI	Phenanthroline	NaOAc	Dioxane	48
14	CuTc	Phenanthroline	NaOAc	Dioxane	53
15	CuCl		NaOAc	Dioxane	43

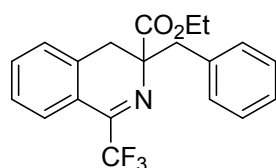
a (0.1 mmol), **c** (0.15 mmol), catalyst (20 mol%), ligand: 20 mol%, base: 1.0 equiv, solvent: 0.5 mL, 80 °C, Ar.

(b) Synthesis and Characterization Data of Compound 4

ethyl 3-benzyl-1-(trifluoromethyl)-3,4-dihydroisoquinoline-3-carboxylate (4a)

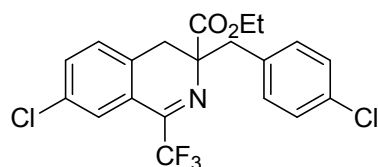


An oven-dried 25 mL Schlenk tube charged with 1-TrifluoroMethyl-1,2-benziodoxol-3(1H)-one (0.15 mmol, 23.7 mg) CuCl (0.02 mmol, 2.0 mg, 20 mol%), 1,10-phenanthroline (0.02 mmol, 20 mol%), NaOAc (0.1 mmol, 8.2 mg, 1 equiv) and **a** (0.1 mmol, 36.9 mg) in 0.5 mL of dioxane was added by syringe and the tube was placed in an 80 °C oil-bath for 16 h. The crude reaction mixture was extracted with EtOAc (20 mL \times 3) and washed with brine (20 mL). The organic phase was concentrated in *vacuo* and the residue was purified by silica gel flash column chromatography to afford the corresponding products.



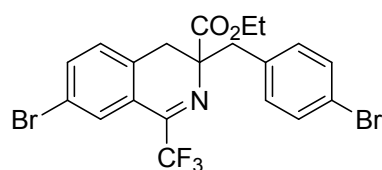
ethyl 3-benzyl-1-(trifluoromethyl)-3,4-dihydroisoquinoline-3-carboxylate (4a)

^1H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 7.60 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.45-7.42 (m, 1H), 7.34-7.30 (m, 1H), 7.27-7.19 (m, 6H), 4.14-4.03 (m, 2H), 3.25 (d, J = 13.5 Hz, 1H), 3.17 (dd, J = 19.5, 15.0 Hz, 2H), 2.89 (d, J = 16.5 Hz, 1H), 1.09 (t, J = 7.0 Hz, 3H). ^{13}C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 171.9, 155.5 (q, J = 33.1 Hz), 136.0, 135.5, 132.5, 130.6, 128.6, 128.2, 127.6, 127.0, 125.7 (q, J = 2.5 Hz), 123.3, 120.0 (q, J = 277.3 Hz), 66.9, 61.6, 42.5, 32.4, 13.9; HRMS (APCI) calcd for $\text{C}_{20}\text{H}_{18}\text{F}_3\text{NO}_2$ $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$: 362.1362, Found: 362.1365.



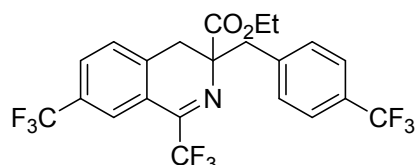
ethyl 7-chloro-3-(4-chlorobenzyl)-1-(trifluoromethyl)-3,4-dihydroisoquinoline-3-carboxylate (4b)

This compound was prepared similarly to **4a**. Colorless oil, 48% yield. ^1H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 7.57 (br s, 1H), 7.42 (dd, J = 8.0, 2.0 Hz, 1H), 7.25-7.23 (m, 2H), 7.18-7.15 (m, 3H), 4.08-4.01 (m, 2H), 3.20-3.16 (m, 3H), 2.81 (d, J = 16.5 Hz, 1H), 1.07 (t, J = 7.0 Hz, 3H). ^{13}C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 171.6, 155.6 (q, J = 33.6 Hz), 134.4, 134.1, 133.9, 133.6, 132.9, 132.43, 130.1, 128.7, 126.2 (q, J = 2.6 Hz), 124.8, 120.1 (q, J = 274.1 Hz), 67.2, 62.3, 42.8, 32.8, 14.3; HRMS (APCI) calcd for $\text{C}_{20}\text{H}_{16}\text{Cl}_2\text{F}_3\text{NO}_2$ $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$: 430.0583, Found: 430.0584.



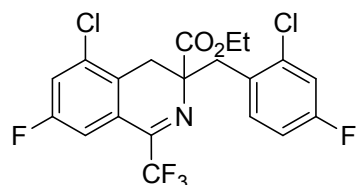
ethyl 7-bromo-3-(4-bromobenzyl)-1-(trifluoromethyl)-3,4-dihydroisoquinoline-3-carboxylate (4c)

This compound was prepared similarly to **4a**. Colorless oil, 54% yield. ^1H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 7.70 (s, 1H), 7.57 (dd, $J = 8.0, 2.0$ Hz, 1H), 7.38 (d, $J = 8.5$ Hz, 2H), 7.26 (d, $J = 0.5$ Hz, 1H), 7.10 (dd, $J = 8.0, 3.5$ Hz, 3H), 4.08-4.00 (m, 2H), 3.18-3.14 (m, 3H), 2.78 (d, $J = 16.5$ Hz, 1H), 1.07 (t, $J = 7.0$ Hz, 3H). ^{13}C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 171.1, 154.4 (q, $J = 34.3$ Hz), 135.5, 134.5, 134.3, 132.3, 131.3, 130.0, 128.6 (q, $J = 2.9$ Hz), 124.7, 121.3, 121.2, 119.7 (q, $J = 277.0$ Hz), 66.7, 61.9, 42.5, 32.5, 13.9; HRMS (APCI) calcd for $\text{C}_{20}\text{H}_{16}\text{Br}_2\text{F}_3\text{NO}_2$ $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$: 517.9573, Found: 517.9570.



ethyl 1,7-bis(trifluoromethyl)-3-(4-(trifluoromethyl)benzyl)-3,4-dihydroisoquinoline-3-carboxylate (4d)

This compound was prepared similarly to **4a**. Colorless oil, 68% yield. ^1H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 7.79 (s, 1H), 7.70 (d, $J = 8.0$ Hz, 1H), 7.52 (d, $J = 8.0$ Hz, 2H), 7.37 (d, $J = 8.0$ Hz, 3H), 4.08-4.01 (m, 2H), 3.38-3.29 (m, 3H), 2.92 (d, $J = 16.5$ Hz, 1H), 1.05 (t, $J = 7.0$ Hz, 3H). ^{13}C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 170.9, 154.9 (q, $J = 34.1$ Hz), 139.6, 139.3, 131.1, 130.5 (q, $J = 33.3$ Hz), 129.6 (q, $J = 32.1$ Hz), 129.2, 129.1, 125.1 (q, $J = 3.5$ Hz), 124.1 (q, $J = 270.5$ Hz), 123.6, 123.4 (q, $J = 270.9$ Hz), 122.5 (q, $J = 2.6$ Hz), 119.7 (q, $J = 276.9$ Hz), 66.5, 62.1, 43.1, 33.2, 13.8; HRMS (APCI) calcd for $\text{C}_{22}\text{H}_{16}\text{F}_9\text{NO}_2$ $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$: 498.1110, Found: 498.1109.

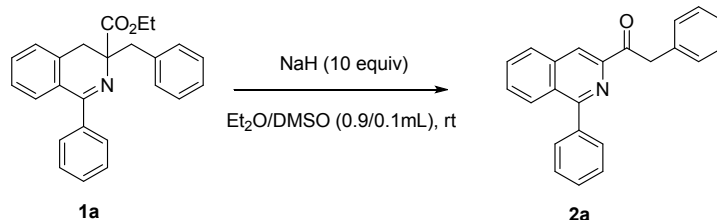


ethyl 5-chloro-3-(2-chloro-4-fluorobenzyl)-7-fluoro-1-(trifluoromethyl)-3,4-dihydroisoquinoline-3-carboxylate (4e)

This compound was prepared similarly to **4a**. Colorless oil, 43% yield. ^1H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 7.39 (dd, $J = 9.0, 6.0$ Hz, 1H), 7.25 (dd, $J = 8.0, 2.5$ Hz, 1H), 7.19 (d, $J = 8.5$ Hz, 1H), 7.06 (dd, $J = 8.5, 3.0$ Hz, 1H), 6.92-6.88 (m, 1H), 4.12 (q, $J = 7.0$ Hz, 2H), 3.59 (d, $J = 14.0$ Hz, 1H), 3.51 (d, $J = 17.0$ Hz, 1H), 3.45 (d, $J = 14.0$ Hz, 1H), 2.85 (dd, $J = 17.0, 1.5$ Hz, 1H), 1.14 (t, $J = 7.0$ Hz, 3H). ^{13}C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 170.8, 162.2 (d, $J = 48.3$ Hz), 160.2 (d, $J = 248.9$ Hz), 154.6 (d, $J = 34.0$ Hz), 135.9 (d, $J = 9.9$ Hz), 134.7 (d, $J = 9.6$ Hz), 133.7 (d, $J = 8.5$ Hz), 129.7 (d, $J = 3.3$ Hz), 129.3 (d, $J = 3.3$ Hz), 125.2 (d, $J = 8.1$ Hz), 120.5 (d, $J = 24.5$ Hz), 119.6 (q, $J = 275.6$ Hz), 116.7 (d, $J = 24.4$ Hz), 114 (d, $J = 20.8$ Hz), 111.6 (d, $J = 23.8$ Hz), 67.0, 62.2, 39.1, 29.4, 13.9; HRMS (APCI) calcd for $\text{C}_{20}\text{H}_{14}\text{Cl}_2\text{F}_5\text{NO}_2$ $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$: 466.0395, Found: 466.0392.

IV. Detailed Optimization and General Procedures of the C-C Bond Cleavage Reactions

Table 1. Detailed Information of Conditions Optimization

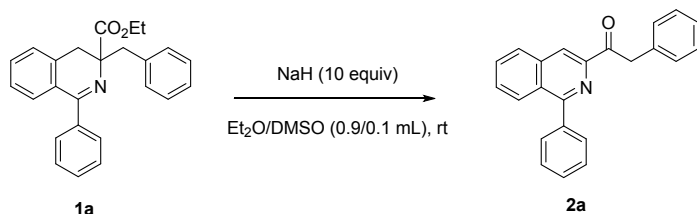


Entry	solvent	base	yield (%) ^b
1 ^c	Et ₂ O/DMSO (9:1)	NaH	73
2 ^d	Et ₂ O/DMSO (9:1)	NaH	73
3 ^e	Et ₂ O/DMSO (9:1)	NaH	51
4 ^f	Et ₂ O/DMSO (9:1)	NaH	46
5 ^c	Et ₂ O/DMSO (9:1)	LiOtBu	trace
6 ^c	Et ₂ O/DMSO (9:1)	Cs ₂ CO ₃	0
7 ^c	Et ₂ O/DMSO (9:1)	K ₂ CO ₃	0
8 ^c	Et ₂ O/DMSO (9:1)	DBU	0
9 ^c	Et ₂ O/DMSO (9:1)	DIPEA	0
10 ^c	Et ₂ O	NaH	0
11 ^c	THF	NaH	0
12 ^c	toluene	NaH	0
13 ^c	DMSO	NaH	49

^a Reaction conditions: **1a** (0.1 mmol), 1 mL of solvent, rt, Ar. ^b Isolated yields. ^c Base (10 eq). ^d Base (12 eq). ^e Base (8 eq). ^f Base (6 eq).

Procedure A:

2-phenyl-1-(1-phenylisoquinolin-3-yl)ethanone (**2a**)

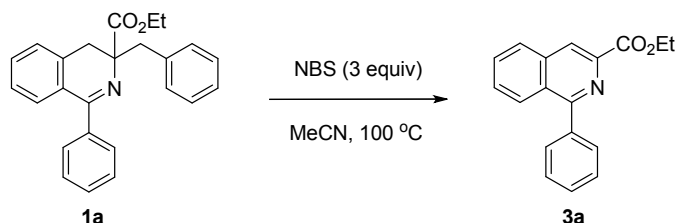


An oven-dried 25 mL Schlenk tube charged with NaH (1 mmol, 40 mg) and ethyl 3-benzyl-1-phenyl-3,4-dihydroisoquinoline-3-carboxylate **1a** (0.1 mmol, 36.9 mg) was vacuumed and refilled with Ar for 3 times. Then a solution of Et₂O (0.9 mL) and DMSO (0.1 mL) was added in room temperature for 40 min. The crude reaction mixture was quenched with saturated NH₄Cl. The crude reaction mixture was extracted with EtOAc (20 mL × 3) and washed with brine (20 mL). The

organic phase was concentrated in *vacuo* and the residue was purified by silica gel flash column chromatography to afford the corresponding products.

Procedure B:

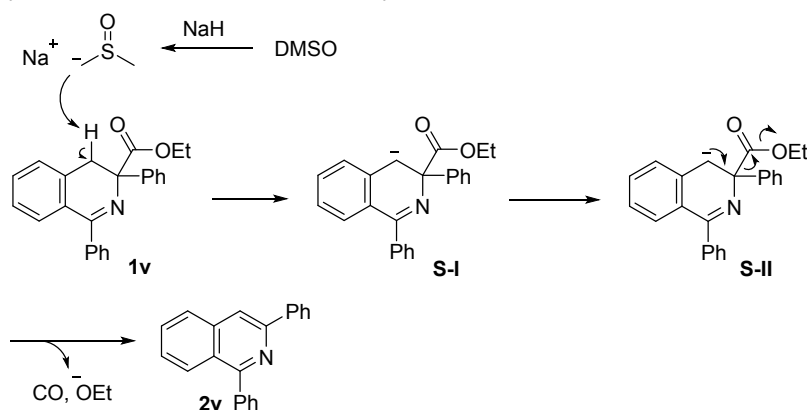
ethyl 1-phenylisoquinoline-3-carboxylate (3a)



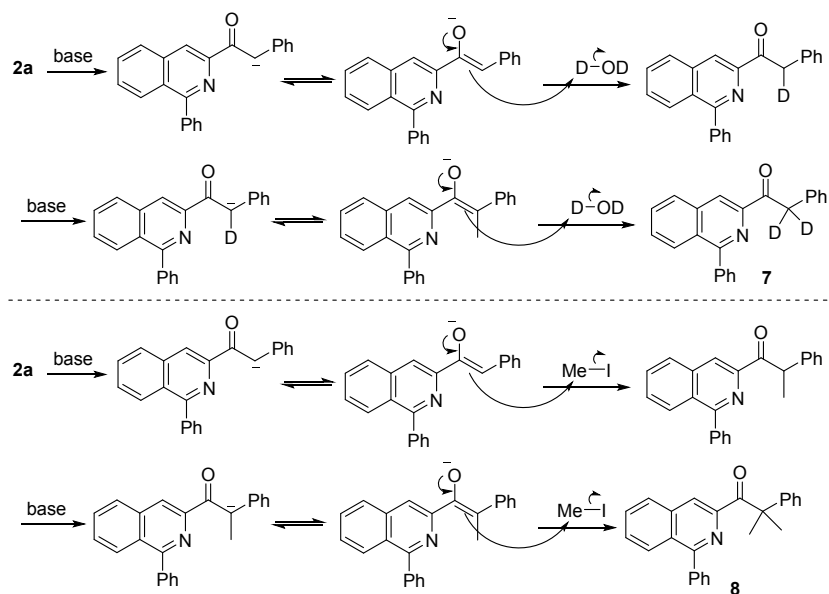
A 25 mL Schlenk tube charged with 3-benzyl-1-phenyl-3,4-dihydroisoquinoline-3-carboxylate **1a** (0.1 mmol, 36.9 mg) and NBS (0.3 mmol, 53.4 mg, 3 equiv) in the solvent of MeCN (1mL) was heated at 100 °C for 12 h. The crude reaction mixture was extracted with EtOAc (20 mL × 3) and washed with brine (20 mL). The organic phase was concentrated in *vacuo* and the residue was purified by silica gel flash column chromatography to afford the corresponding products.

V. Mechanism of the Formation of Products 2v, 7 and 8

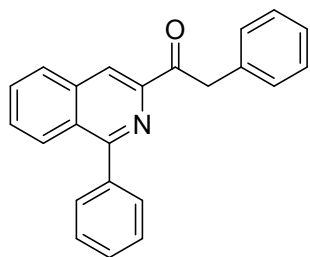
Sodium methylsulfinylmethylide, which was formed by NaH and DMSO, abstracted one of the cyclic benzylic protons of **1v**, generating the anion intermediate **S-I**. The carbanion underwent an intramolecular electron transfer to promote the C-CO₂Et bond cleavage. The title product **2v** was yielded with the release of ethoxy anion and carbon monoxide as the by-products.



The formed product **2a** was deprotonated to generate an anion intermediate, which underwent a deuteration to deliver the mono deuterated intermediate. Product **7** was generated by repeating the above process. (Dimethyl substituted product **8** was generated with a similar mechanism.)

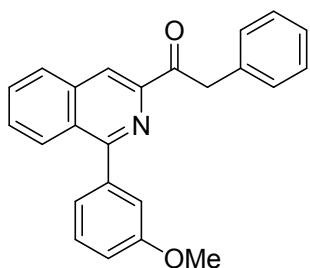


VI. Characterization Data



2-phenyl-1-(1-phenylisoquinolin-3-yl)ethanone (**2a**)

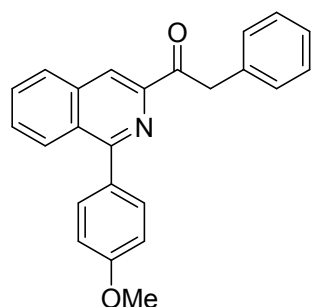
Prepared from ethyl 3-benzyl-1-phenyl-3,4-dihydroisoquinoline-3-carboxylate **1a** (50 mg, 0.14 mmol, 1.0 equiv) and NaH (54 mg, 1.4 mmol, 10 equiv) according to the general procedure. Column chromatography purification (Petroleum ether : EtOAc 15 : 1) furnished the product **2a** as white solid (23 mg, 0.1 mmol, 73% yield). (new compound). mp: 120-122 °C; ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.48 (d, *J* = 0.5 Hz, 1H), 8.20-8.18 (m, 1H), 8.04 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.79-7.73 (m, 3H), 7.61-7.56 (m, 4H), 7.40-7.39 (m, 2H), 7.33-7.30 (m, 2H), 7.25-7.22 (m, 1H), 4.69 (s, 2H). ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 199.8, 159.9, 146.2, 139.2, 136.8, 135.3, 130.5, 130.2, 130.1, 129.4, 129.20, 129.0, 128.4, 127.6, 126.6, 120.2, 44.9; HRMS (APCI) calcd for C₂₃H₁₇NO [M+H]⁺: 354.1489, Found: 354.1381.



1-(1-(3-methoxyphenyl)isoquinolin-3-yl)-2-phenylethanone (**2b**)

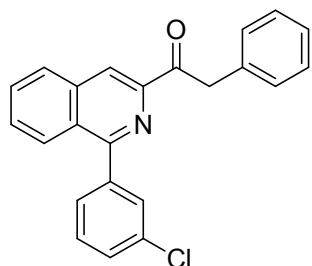
Prepared from 1-(1-(3-methoxyphenyl)isoquinolin-3-yl)-2-phenylethanone **1b** (40 mg, 0.1

mmol, 1.0 equiv) and NaH (40 mg, 0.1 mmol, 10 equiv) according to the general procedure. Column chromatography purification (Petroleum ether : EtOAc 15 : 1) furnished the product **2b** as white solid (27 mg, 0.077 mmol, 77% yield). (new compound). mp: 58-60 °C; ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.40 (d, *J* = 0.5 Hz, 1H), 8.12 (dd, *J* = 8.5, 1.0 Hz, 1H), 7.95 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.68-7.64 (m, 1H), 7.59-7.56 (m, 1H), 7.44-7.41 (m, 1H), 7.32-7.30 (m, 2H), 7.27-7.12 (m, 5H), 7.04-7.02 (m, 1H), 4.60 (s, 2H), 3.84 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 199.8, 159.8, 159.7, 146.2, 140.6, 136.8, 135.3, 130.5, 130.1, 129.4, 129.4, 129.2, 128.4, 128.3, 127.6, 126.6, 122.6, 120.2, 115.7, 114.6, 55.5, 44.9; HRMS (APCI) calcd for C₂₆H₁₉NO₂ [M+H]⁺: 354.1489, Found: 354.1483.



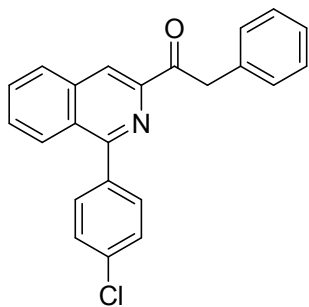
1-(1-(4-methoxyphenyl)isoquinolin-3-yl)-2-phenylethanone (**2c**)

Prepared from ethyl 3-benzyl-1-(4-methoxyphenyl)-3,4-dihydroisoquinoline-3-carboxylate **1c** (25 mg, 0.06 mmol, 1.0 equiv) and NaH (25 mg, 0.6 mmol, 10 equiv) according to the general procedure. Column chromatography purification (Petroleum ether : EtOAc 15 : 1) furnished the product **2c** as white solid (13 mg, 0.035 mmol, 58% yield). (new compound). mp: 136-138 °C; ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.44 (s, 1H), 8.23 (d, *J* = 8.5 Hz, 1H), 8.01 (d, *J* = 8.5 Hz, 1H), 7.75-7.71 (m, 3H), 7.67-7.63 (m, 1H), 7.39 (d, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 2H), 7.32 (t, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 2H), 7.26-7.22 (m, 1H), 7.14-7.12 (m, 2H), 4.69 (s, 2H), 3.94 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 200.3, 160.8, 160.0, 146.6, 137.3, 135.6, 132.1, 132.0, 130.8, 130.4, 129.7, 129.6, 128.8, 128.7, 128.1, 127.0, 120.1, 114.29, 55.9, 45.3; HRMS (APCI) calcd for C₂₆H₁₉NO₂ [M+H]⁺: 354.1489, Found: 354.1491.



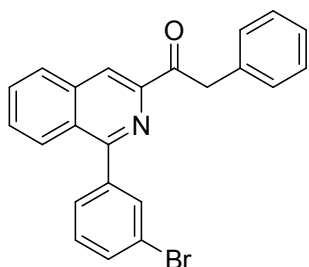
1-(1-(3-chlorophenyl)isoquinolin-3-yl)-2-phenylethanone (**2d**)

Prepared from ethyl 3-benzyl-1-(3-chlorophenyl)-3,4-dihydroisoquinoline-3-carboxylate **1d** (42 mg, 0.1 mmol, 1.0 equiv) and NaH (40 mg, 1 mmol, 10 equiv) according to the general procedure. Column chromatography purification (Petroleum ether : EtOAc 15 : 1) furnished the product **2d** as white solid (23.4 mg, 0.065 mmol, 65% yield). (new compound). mp: 95-97 °C; ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.49 (s, 1H), 8.13 (d, *J* = 8.5 Hz, 1H), 8.05 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.78-7.75 (m, 2H), 7.70-7.67 (m, 1H), 7.65-7.63 (m, 1H), 7.55-7.51 (m, 2H), 7.38 (d, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 2H), 7.32 (t, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 2H), 7.24-7.21 (m, 1H), 4.65 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 199.9, 158.7, 146.6, 141.3, 137.2, 135.6, 134.9, 131.1, 130.7, 130.4, 130.1, 130.0, 129.7, 129.4, 128.8, 128.7, 128.5, 127.5, 127.0, 121.0, 45.5; HRMS (APCI) calcd for C₂₃H₁₆ClNO [M+H]⁺: 358.0993, Found: 358.0984.



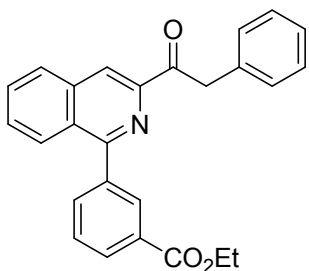
1-(1-(4-chlorophenyl)isoquinolin-3-yl)-2-phenylethanone (2e)

Prepared from ethyl 3-benzyl-1-(4-chlorophenyl)-3,4-dihydroisoquinoline-3-carboxylate **1e** (40 mg, 0.1 mmol, 1.0 equiv) and NaH (40 mg, 1 mmol, 10 equiv) according to the general procedure. Column chromatography purification (Petroleum ether : EtOAc 15 : 1) furnished the product **2e** as white solid (28 mg, 0.07 mmol, 72% yield). (new compound). mp: 138-140 °C; ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.49 (s, 1H), 8.14 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 8.05 (d, *J* = 8.1 Hz, 1H), 7.79-7.65 (m, 4H), 7.59-7.56 (m, 2H), 7.38-7.23 (m, 5H), 4.65 (s, 2H). ¹³C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 199.6, 158.7, 146.2, 137.6, 136.9, 135.2, 131.5, 130.7, 130.0, 129.6, 129.4, 128.7, 128.5, 128.1, 127.2, 126.7, 120.4, 105.0, 45.0; HRMS (APCI) calcd for C₂₃H₁₆ClNO [M+H]⁺: 358.0993, Found: 358.0987.



1-(1-(3-bromophenyl)isoquinolin-3-yl)-2-phenylethanone (2f)

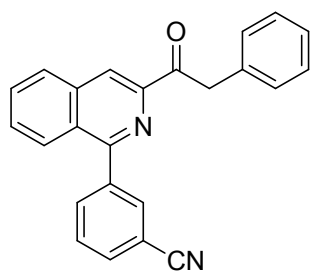
Prepared from ethyl 3-benzyl-1-(3-bromophenyl)-3,4-dihydroisoquinoline-3-carboxylate **1f** (28 mg, 0.06 mmol, 1.0 equiv) and NaH (25 mg, 0.6 mmol, 10 equiv) according to the general procedure. Column chromatography purification (Petroleum ether : EtOAc 15 : 1) furnished the product **2f** as white solid (18 mg, 0.04 mmol, 65% yield). (new compound). mp: 90-92 °C; ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.50 (s, 1H), 8.12 (d, *J* = 8.5 Hz, 1H), 8.04 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.91 (t, *J* = 2.0 Hz, 1H), 7.75 (t, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 7.71-7.66 (m, 3H), 7.47 (t, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.40 (d, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 2H), 7.35-7.32 (m, 2H), 7.26-7.23 (m, 1H), 4.65 (s, 2H). ¹³C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 199.9, 158.6, 146.6, 141.6, 137.2, 135.6, 133.5, 132.4, 131.1, 130.4, 130.3, 130.1, 129.7, 129.1, 128.9, 128.5, 127.5, 127.0, 123.0, 121.0, 45.5; HRMS (APCI) calcd for C₂₃H₁₆BrNO [M+H]⁺: 402.0488, Found: 402.0485.



ethyl 3-(3-(2-phenylacetyl)isoquinolin-1-yl)benzoate (2g)

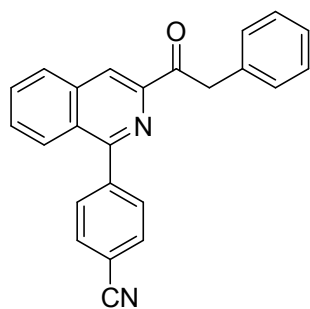
Prepared from ethyl 3-benzyl-1-(3-(ethoxycarbonyl)phenyl)-3,4-dihydroisoquinoline-3-

carboxylate **1g** (19 mg, 0.04 mmol, 1.0 equiv) and NaH (18 mg, 0.4 mmol, 10 equiv) according to the general procedure. Column chromatography purification (EtOAc : petroleum ether 15 : 1) furnished the product **2g** as white solid (7 mg, 0.016 mmol, 40% yield). (new compound). mp: 88-90 °C; ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.50 (s, 1H), 8.46 (s, 1H), 8.25 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 8.11 (d, *J* = 8.5 Hz, 1H), 8.05 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.95 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.76 (t, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 7.68 (t, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 2H), 7.39 (d, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 2H), 7.31 (t, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 2H), 7.22 (t, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 4.66 (s, 2H), 4.45 (q, *J* = 7.0 Hz, 2H), 1.43 (t, *J* = 7.0 Hz, 3H). ¹³C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 200.0, 166.7, 159.3, 146.6, 139.9, 137.2, 135.5, 134.8, 131.6, 131.3, 131.1, 130.5, 130.4, 130.1, 129.7, 129.0, 128.8, 128.6, 127.6, 127.0, 120.9, 61.6, 45.4, 14.8; HRMS (APCI) calcd for C₂₆H₂₁NO₃ [M+H]⁺: 396.1594, Found: 396.1593.



3-(3-(2-phenylacetyl)isoquinolin-1-yl)benzonitrile (**2h**)

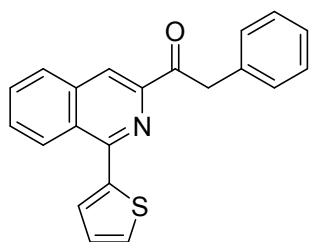
Prepared from ethyl 3-benzyl-1-(3-cyanophenyl)-3,4-dihydroisoquinoline-3-carboxylate **1h** (27 mg, 0.07 mmol, 1.0 equiv) and NaH (27 mg, 0.7 mmol, 10 equiv) according to the general procedure. Column chromatography purification (Petroleum ether : EtOAc 15 : 1) furnished the product **2h** as white solid (15 mg, 0.046 mmol, 65% yield). (new compound). mp: 130-132 °C; ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.53 (s, 1H), 8.08-7.99 (m, 4H), 7.86-7.84 (m, 1H), 7.81-7.77 (m, 1H), 7.73-7.69 (m, 2H), 7.37-7.30 (m, 4H), 7.25-7.22 (m, 2H), 4.62 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 199.6, 157.6, 146.6, 140.7, 137.2, 135.4, 134.7, 134.1, 132.7, 131.2, 130.4, 130.3, 129.8, 129.6, 128.8, 128.2, 127.0, 126.9, 121.3, 118.9, 113.2, 45.4; HRMS (APCI) calcd for C₂₄H₁₆N₂O [M+H]⁺: 349.1335, Found: 349.1334.



4-(3-(2-phenylacetyl)isoquinolin-1-yl)benzonitrile (**2i**)

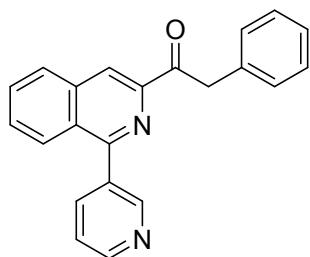
Prepared from ethyl 3-benzyl-1-(4-cyanophenyl)-3,4-dihydroisoquinoline-3-carboxylate **1i** (37 mg, 0.09 mmol, 1.0 equiv) and NaH (38 mg, 0.9 mmol, 10 equiv) according to the general procedure. Column chromatography purification (Petroleum ether : EtOAc 15 : 1) furnished the product **2i** as white solid (14 mg, 0.039 mmol, 43% yield). (new compound). mp: 153-155 °C; ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.53 (s, 1H), 8.08-8.06 (m, 2H), 7.89-7.87 (m, 4H), 7.79 (t, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 7.72-7.69 (m, 1H), 7.35-7.29 (m, 4H), 7.23 (t, *J* = 7.0 Hz, 1H), 4.63 (s, 2H). ¹³C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 199.6, 158.1, 146.7, 144.0, 137.3, 135.4, 132.7, 131.3, 130.4, 130.3, 129.9, 128.8, 128.3, 127.1, 127.0, 121.5, 121.4, 119.0, 113.2, 45.3; HRMS (APCI) calcd for C₂₄H₁₆N₂O [M+H]⁺: 349.1335,

Found: 349.1333.



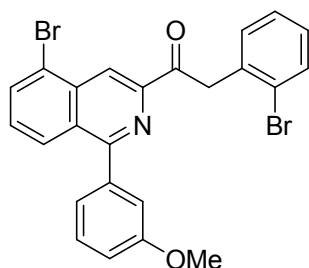
2-phenyl-1-(1-(thiophen-2-yl)isoquinolin-3-yl)ethanone (2j)

Prepared from ethyl 3-benzyl-1-(thiophen-2-yl)-3,4-dihydroisoquinoline-3-carboxylate **1j** (28 mg, 0.07 mmol, 1.0 equiv) and NaH (29 mg, 0.7 mmol, 10 equiv) according to the general procedure. Column chromatography purification (Petroleum ether : EtOAc 15 : 1) furnished the product **2j** as white solid (18 mg, 0.05 mmol, 73% yield). (new compound). mp: 82-84 °C; ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.61-8.60 (m, 1H), 8.39 (s, 1H), 8.03-8.01 (m, 1H), 7.77-7.71 (m, 3H), 7.62-7.60 (m, 1H), 7.45-7.43 (m, 2H), 7.32-7.27 (m, 3H), 7.23-7.20 (m, 1H), 4.68 (s, 2H). ¹³C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 199.8, 153.0, 146.3, 143.4, 137.6, 135.5, 131.0, 130.5, 130.5, 129.8, 129.8, 129.0, 128.8, 128.1, 127.9, 127.2, 127.0, 120.3, 45.1; HRMS (APCI) calcd for C₂₁H₁₅NOS [M+H]⁺: 330.0957, Found: 330.0946.



2-phenyl-1-(1-(pyridin-3-yl)isoquinolin-3-yl)ethanone (2k)

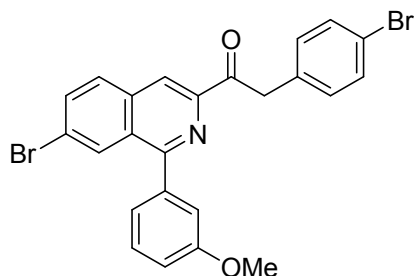
Prepared from ethyl 3-benzyl-1-(pyridin-3-yl)-3,4-dihydroisoquinoline-3-carboxylate **1k** (19 mg, 0.05 mmol, 1.0 equiv) and NaH (20 mg, 0.5 mmol, 10 equiv) according to the general procedure. Column chromatography purification (Petroleum ether : EtOAc 15 : 1) furnished the product **2k** as white solid (10 mg, 0.04 mmol, 73% yield). (new compound). mp: 90-92 °C; ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 9.05 (s, 1H), 8.83 (d, *J* = 4.9 Hz, 1H), 8.54 (s, 1H), 8.19 (d, *J* = 7.9 Hz, 1H), 8.13-8.08 (m, 2H), 7.80 (t, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 7.72 (t, *J* = 7.7 Hz, 1H), 7.64-7.61 (m, 1H), 7.36 (d, *J* = 7.4 Hz, 2H), 7.31 (t, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 7.23 (t, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 1H), 4.64 (s, 2H). ¹³C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 199.7, 156.7, 150.5, 149.6, 146.8, 138.6, 137.3, 135.7, 135.4, 131.3, 130.4, 130.3, 129.9, 128.8, 128.6, 127.1, 127.0, 124.0, 121.3, 45.3; HRMS (APCI) calcd for C₂₂H₁₆N₂O [M+H]⁺: 325.1335, Found: 325.1337.



1-(5-bromo-1-(3-methoxyphenyl)isoquinolin-3-yl)-2-(2-bromophenyl)ethanone (2l)

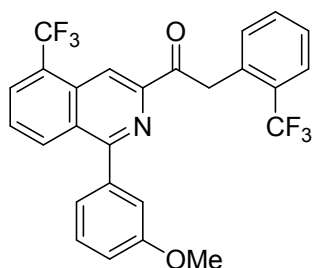
Prepared from ethyl 5-bromo-3-(2-bromobenzyl)-1-(3-methoxyphenyl)-3,4-

Dihydroisoquinoline-3-carboxylate **1l** (18 mg, 0.032 mmol, 1.0 equiv) and NaH (13 mg, 0.32 mmol, 10 equiv) according to the general procedure. Column chromatography purification (Petroleum ether : EtOAc 15 : 1) furnished the product **2l** as white solid (12 mg, 0.022 mmol, 70% yield). (new compound). mp: 143-145 °C; ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.85 (s, 1H), 8.19 (d, *J* = 8.5 Hz, 1H), 8.03 (d, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 7.60 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.52-7.48 (m, 2H), 7.32-7.26 (m, 4H), 7.17-7.10 (m, 2H), 4.87 (s, 2H), 3.91 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 198.4, 160.9, 160.1, 147.6, 140.5, 136.6, 136.2, 134.8, 133.1, 132.4, 130.1, 129.9, 129.8, 128.9, 127.8, 127.8, 125.8, 124.7, 123.1, 119.2, 116.4, 115.1, 55.9, 46.3.; HRMS (APCI) calcd for C₂₄H₁₇Br₂NO₂ [M+H]⁺: 509.9699, Found: 509.9691.



1-(7-bromo-1-(3-methoxyphenyl)isoquinolin-3-yl)-2-(4-bromophenyl)ethanone (**2m**)

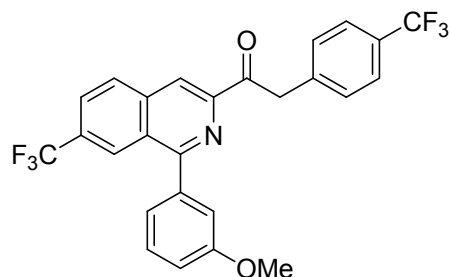
Prepared from ethyl 7-bromo-3-(4-bromobenzyl)-1-(3-methoxyphenyl)-3,4-dihydroisoquinoline-3-carboxylate **1m** (58 mg, 0.1 mmol, 1.0 equiv) and NaH (40 mg, 1 mmol, 10 equiv) according to the general procedure. Column chromatography purification (Petroleum ether : EtOAc 15 : 1) furnished the product **2m** as white solid (29 mg, 0.05 mmol, 54% yield). (new compound). mp: 178-180 °C; ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.43 (s, 1H), 8.34 (s, 1H), 7.91 (d, *J* = 9.0 Hz, 1H), 7.84-7.82 (m, 1H), 7.54-7.51 (m, 1H), 7.43-7.41 (m, 2H), 7.27-7.25 (m, 4H), 7.14-7.12 (m, 1H), 4.59 (s, 2H), 3.93 (s, 4H). ¹³C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 199.2, 160.2, 159.4, 146.6, 140.2, 135.7, 134.7, 134.4, 132.2, 131.9, 131.1, 130.3, 130.1, 129.6, 124.3, 122.8, 121.1, 120.3, 116.1, 115.2, 105.4, 55.9, 44.7; HRMS (APCI) calcd for C₂₄H₁₇Br₂NO₂ [M+H]⁺: 509.9699, Found: 509.9698.



1-(1-(3-methoxyphenyl)-5-(trifluoromethyl)isoquinolin-3-yl)-2-(2-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl)ethanone (**2n**)

Prepared from ethyl 1-(3-methoxyphenyl)-5-(trifluoromethyl)-3-(2-(trifluoromethyl)benzyl)-3,4-dihydroisoquinoline-3-carboxylate **1n** (20 mg, 0.04 mmol, 1.0 equiv) and NaH (15 mg, 0.4 mmol, 10 equiv) according to the general procedure. Column chromatography purification (Petroleum ether : EtOAc 15 : 1) furnished the product **2n** as white solid (9.6 mg, 0.02 mmol, 53% yield). (new compound). mp: 170-172 °C; ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.76 (s, 1H), 8.45 (d, *J* = 8.5 Hz, 1H), 8.14 (d, *J* = 7.0 Hz, 1H), 7.73-7.69 (m, 2H), 7.55-7.49 (m, 2H), 7.42-7.37 (m, 2H), 7.32-7.30 (m, 2H), 7.26-7.25 (m, 1H), 7.14-7.12 (m, 1H), 4.93 (s, 2H), 3.92 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 198.1, 161.0, 159.8, 147.0, 140.0, 133.9, 133.2, 133.1, 132.2, 131.7, 129.6, 129.1 (q, *J* = 5.6 Hz),

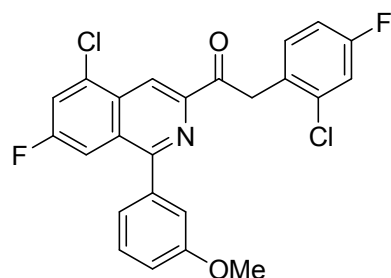
128.7, 127.6, 127.0, 126.1 (q, $J = 5.4$ Hz), 126.0 (q, $J = 272.4$ Hz), 123.8 (q, $J = 272.0$ Hz), 122.7, 115.9, 115.5, 115.0, 55.5, 42.5; HRMS (APCI) calcd for $C_{26}H_{17}F_6NO_2$ $[M+H]^+$: 490.1236, Found: 490.1242.



1-(1-(3-methoxyphenyl)-

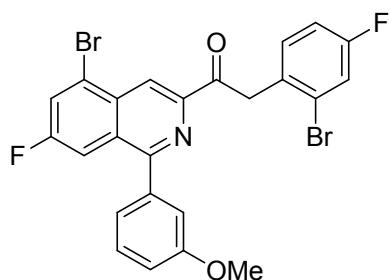
7-(trifluoromethyl)isoquinolin-3-yl)-2-(4-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl)ethanone (2o)

Prepared from ethyl 1-(3-methoxyphenyl)-7-(trifluoromethyl)-3-(4-(trifluoromethyl)benzyl)-3,4-dihydroisoquinoline-3-carboxylate **1o** (24 mg, 0.045 mmol, 1.0 equiv) and NaH (18 mg, 0.45 mmol, 10 equiv) according to the general procedure. Column chromatography purification (Petroleum ether : EtOAc 15 : 1) furnished the product **2o** as white solid (15 mg, 0.03 mmol, 67% yield). (new compound). mp: 127-129 °C; 1H NMR (500 MHz, $CDCl_3$) δ 8.51 (d, $J = 4.0$ Hz, 2H), 8.18 (d, $J = 8.5$ Hz, 1H), 7.94-7.92 (m, 1H), 7.58-7.53 (m, 3H), 7.48 (d, $J = 8.0$ Hz, 2H), 7.28-7.23 (m, 2H), 7.17-7.15 (m, 1H), 4.73 (s, 2H), 3.92 (s, 3H). ^{13}C NMR (125 MHz, $CDCl_3$) δ 198.5, 161.0, 159.9, 147.4, 139.5, 139.0, 138.3, 130.5, 130.4, 129.8, 127.4, 126.4 (q, $J = 2.6$ Hz), 125.5 (q, $J = 4.9$ Hz), 125.4 (q, $J = 3.8$ Hz), 124.7 (q, $J = 273.5$ Hz), 123.5 (q, $J = 278.0$ Hz), 122.4, 119.6, 115.8, 115.1, 55.5, 44.8; HRMS (APCI) calcd for $C_{26}H_{17}F_6NO_2$ $[M+H]^+$: 490.1236, Found: 490.1244.



2-(2-chloro-4-fluorophenyl)-1-(5-chloro-7-fluoro-1-(3-methoxyphenyl)isoquinolin-3-yl)ethanone (2p)

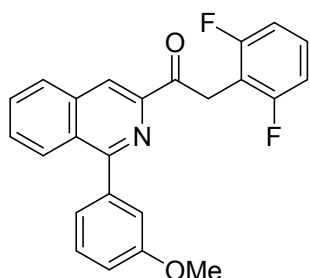
Prepared from ethyl 5-chloro-3-(2-chloro-4-fluorobenzyl)-7-fluoro-1-(3-methoxyphenyl)-3,4-dihydroisoquinoline-3-carboxylate **1p** (19 mg, 0.04 mmol, 1.0 equiv) and NaH (16 mg, 0.4 mmol, 10 equiv) according to the general procedure. Column chromatography purification (Petroleum ether : EtOAc 15 : 1) furnished the product **2p** as white solid (11 mg, 0.026 mmol, 65% yield). (new compound). mp: 107-109 °C; 1H NMR (500 MHz, $CDCl_3$) δ 8.84 (d, $J = 1.0$ Hz, 1H), 7.80-7.77 (m, 1H), 7.68-7.66 (m, 1H), 7.52-7.49 (m, 1H), 7.28-7.26 (m, 3H), 7.18-7.16 (m, 1H), 7.13-7.11 (m, 1H), 6.99-6.95 (m, 1H), 4.79 (s, 2H), 3.91 (s, 3H). ^{13}C NMR (125 MHz, $CDCl_3$) δ 197.6, 161.7 (d, $J = 247.0$ Hz), 161.1 (d, $J = 252.5$ Hz), 159.9, 159.8, 146.6 (d, $J = 2.6$ Hz), 139.6, 135.7 (d, $J = 10.6$ Hz), 135.4 (d, $J = 10.5$ Hz), 132.8 (d, $J = 8.6$ Hz), 132.3, 129.9 (d, $J = 9.1$ Hz), 129.7, 129.6, 122.3, 121.6 (d, $J = 28.4$ Hz), 116.8 (d, $J = 24.6$ Hz), 116.0, 115.8, 114.8, 114.0 (d, $J = 20.9$ Hz), 110.7 (d, $J = 22.1$ Hz), 55.5, 42.7; HRMS (APCI) calcd for $C_{24}H_{15}Cl_2F_2NO_2$ $[M+H]^+$: 458.0521, Found: 458.0522.



2-(2-bromo

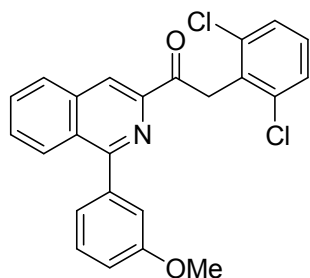
-4-fluorophenyl)-1-(5-bromo-7-fluoro-1-(3-methoxyphenyl)isoquinolin-3-yl)ethanone (2q)

Prepared from ethyl 5-bromo-3-(2-bromo-4-fluorobenzyl)-7-fluoro-1-(3-methoxyphenyl)-3,4-dihydroisoquinoline-3-carboxylate **1q** (32 mg, 0.054 mmol, 1.0 equiv) and NaH (22 mg, 0.54 mmol, 10 equiv) according to the general procedure. Column chromatography purification (Petroleum ether : EtOAc 15 : 1) furnished the product **2q** as white solid (14 mg, 0.035 mmol, 65% yield). (new compound). mp: 139-141 °C; ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.81 (d, *J* = 1.0 Hz, 1H), 7.86-7.82 (m, 2H), 7.53-7.49 (m, 1H), 7.36-7.34(m, 1H), 7.29-7.26 (m, 3H), 7.13-7.11 (m, 1H), 7.04-7.00 (m, 1H), 4.82 (s, 2H), 3.91 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 198.0, 161.8 (d, *J* = 247.6 Hz), 161.5 (d, *J* = 253.4 Hz), 160.4, 160.2, 147.2, 140.0, 133.9, 133.1 (d, *J* = 8.3 Hz), 132.0, 130.4 (d, *J* = 8.5 Hz), 130.1, 125.6 (d, *J* = 27.9 Hz), 122.7, 120.3 (d, *J* = 24.3 Hz), 118.9, 116.3, 115.2, 114.9 (d, *J* = 20.6 Hz), 111.7 (d, *J* = 22.0 Hz), 55.9, 44.5; HRMS (APCI) calcd for C₂₄H₁₅Br₂F₂NO₂ [M+H]⁺: 545.9510, Found: 545.9511.



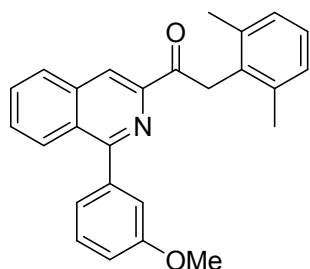
2-(2,4-difluorophenyl)-1-(1-(3-methoxyphenyl)isoquinolin-3-yl)ethanone (2r)

Prepared from 2-(2,4-difluorophenyl)-1-(1-(3-methoxyphenyl)isoquinolin-3-yl)ethanone **1r** (45 mg, 0.1 mmol, 1.0 equiv) and NaH (40 mg, 1 mmol, 10 equiv) according to the general procedure. Column chromatography purification (Petroleum ether : EtOAc 15 : 1) furnished the product **2r** as white solid (16 mg, 0.041 mmol, 41% yield). (new compound). mp: 70-72 °C; ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.42 (s, 1H), 8.16 (d, *J* = 8.5 Hz, 1H), 7.99 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.70 (t, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 7.61 (t, *J* = 7.0 Hz, 1H), 7.42 (t, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.29-7.28 (m, 2H), 7.20-7.14 (m, 1H), 7.04-7.02 (m, 1H), 6.87-6.82 (m, 2H), 4.74 (s, 2H), 3.84 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 196.8, 161.6 (dd, *J* = 245.8, 8.4 Hz), 159.7, 159.5, 145.7, 140.2, 136.5, 130.4, 129.2, 129.1, 129.0, 128.2 (dd, *J* = 20.0, 3.1 Hz), 127.5, 122.4, 119.8, 115.6, 114.3, 111.7 (dd, *J* = 20.9, 20.0 Hz), 110.7 (dd, *J* = 25.6, 14.4 Hz), 55.2, 32.8. HRMS (ESI) calcd for C₂₄H₁₇F₂NO₂ [M+H]⁺: 390.1300, Found: 390.1294.



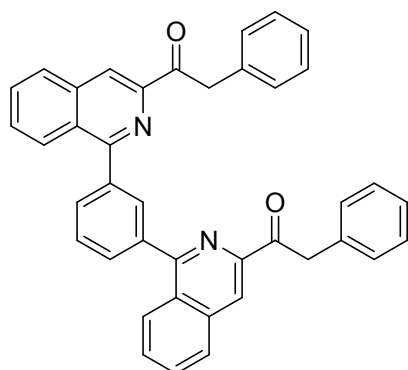
2-(2,6-dichlorophenyl)-1-(1-(3-methoxyphenyl)isoquinolin-3-yl)ethanone (2s)

Prepared from ethyl 3-(2,6-dichlorobenzyl)-1-(3-methoxyphenyl)-3,4-dihydroisoquinoline-3-carboxylate **1s** (20 mg, 0.041 mmol, 1.0 equiv) and NaH (17 mg, 0.41 mmol, 10 equiv) according to the general procedure. Column chromatography purification (Petroleum ether : EtOAc 15 : 1) furnished the product **2s** as white solid (6.3 mg, 0.014 mmol, 35% yield). (new compound). mp: 138-140 °C; ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.51 (s, 1H), 8.25 (d, *J* = 8.5 Hz, 1H), 8.07 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.77 (t, *J* = 7.0 Hz, 1H), 7.70-7.67 (m, 1H), 7.52-7.49 (m, 1H), 7.40-7.34 (m, 4H), 7.20-7.17 (m, 1H), 7.12-7.10 (m, 1H), 5.13 (s, 2H), 3.92 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 197.5, 160.3, 160.1, 146.4, 140.9, 137.2, 136.7, 133.6, 130.1, 129.8, 129.7, 128.9, 128.3, 128.1, 123.1, 120.1, 116.4, 114.9, 55.9, 42.2; HRMS (APCI) calcd for C₂₄H₁₇Cl₂NO₂ [M+H]⁺: 422.0709, Found: 422.0710.



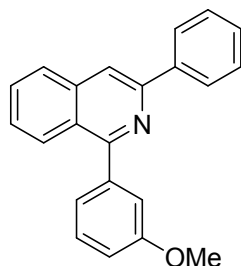
2-(2,6-dimethylphenyl)-1-(1-(3-methoxyphenyl)isoquinolin-3-yl)ethanone (2t)

Prepared from ethyl 3-(2,6-dimethylbenzyl)-1-(3-methoxyphenyl)-3,4-dihydroisoquinoline-3-carboxylate **1t** (43 mg, 0.1 mmol, 1.0 equiv) and NaH (40 mg, 1 mmol, 10 equiv) according to the general procedure. Column chromatography purification (Petroleum ether : EtOAc 15 : 1) furnished the product **2t** as Colorless oil (13 mg, 0.034 mmol, 34% yield). (new compound). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.51 (s, 1H), 8.27 (dd, *J* = 8.5, 0.8 Hz, 1H), 8.09 (d, *J* = 8.2 Hz, 1H), 7.79 (ddd, *J* = 8.2, 6.8, 1.2 Hz, 1H), 7.70 (ddd, *J* = 8.4, 6.8, 1.2 Hz, 1H), 7.54 (t, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.41-7.38 (m, 2H), 7.14-7.08 (m, 4H), 4.83 (s, 2H), 3.94 (s, 3H), 2.29 (s, 6H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 199.7, 159.6, 146.6, 140.5, 137.2, 136.8, 133.5, 130.6, 129.5, 129.4, 129.2, 127.9, 127.7, 126.7, 122.7, 119.6, 115.9, 114.5, 55.5, 39.7, 20.6. HRMS (ESI) calcd for C₂₆H₂₃NO₂ [M+H]⁺: 382.1802, Found: 382.1796.



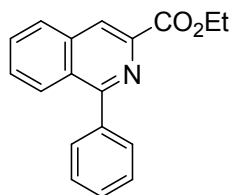
1,1'-(1,1'-(1,3-phenylene)bis(isoquinoline-3,1-diyl))bis(2-phenylethanone) (**2u**)

Prepared from diethyl 1,1'-(1,3-phenylene)bis(3-benzyl-3,4-dihydroisoquinoline-3-carboxylate) **1u** (23 mg, 0.035 mmol, 1.0 equiv) and NaH (14 mg, 0.35 mmol, 10 equiv) according to the general procedure. Column chromatography purification (Petroleum ether : EtOAc 15 : 1) furnished the product **2u** as white solid (8 mg, 0.013 mmol, 37% yield). (new compound). mp: 173-175 °C; ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.53 (s, 2H), 8.37 (d, *J* = 8.5 Hz, 2H), 8.20 (t, *J* = 1.5 Hz, 1H), 8.08 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 8.00-7.99 (m, 2H), 7.84 (t, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 7.79-7.76 (m, 2H), 7.70-7.74 (m, 2H), 7.36-7.35 (m, 4H), 7.21-7.18 (m, 4H), 7.16-7.13 (m, 2H), 4.70 (s, 4H). ¹³C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 200.0, 159.8, 146.7, 139.8, 137.4, 135.6, 132.7, 131.1, 131.0, 130.4, 130.0, 129.7, 129.0, 128.8, 128.7, 127.9, 127.0, 120.8, 45.3; HRMS (APCI) calcd for C₄₀H₂₈N₂O₂ [M+H]⁺: 569.2224, Found: 569.2226.



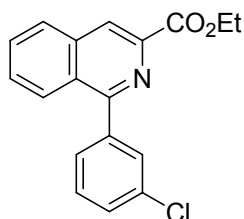
1-(3-methoxyphenyl)-3-phenylisoquinoline (**2v**)

Prepared from ethyl 1,3-diphenyl-3,4-dihydroisoquinoline-3-carboxylate **1v** (36 mg, 0.1 mmol, 1.0 equiv) and NaH (40 mg, 1 mmol, 10 equiv) according to the general procedure. Column chromatography purification (Petroleum ether : EtOAc 15 : 1) furnished the product **2v** as colorless oil (11 mg, 0.034 mmol, 34% yield). (new compound). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.26 - 8.25 (m, 2H), 8.18 (dd, *J* = 8.4, 0.8 Hz, 1H), 8.11 (s, 1H), 7.96 (d, *J* = 8.2 Hz, 1H), 7.73-7.69 (m, 1H), 7.54-7.37 (m, 7H), 7.11-7.06 (m, 1H), 3.93 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 160.2, 159.6, 150.1, 141.2, 139.6, 137.8, 130.1, 129.3, 128.7, 128.5, 127.6, 127.5, 127.1, 127.0, 125.8, 122.7, 115.9, 115.7, 114.4, 55.5. HRMS (ESI) calcd for C₂₂H₁₇NO [M+H]⁺: 312.1388, Found: 312.1379.



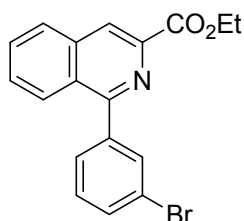
ethyl 1-phenylisoquinoline-3-carboxylate (**3a**)

Prepared from ethyl 3-benzyl-1-phenyl-3,4-dihydroisoquinoline-3-carboxylate **1a** (37 mg, 0.1 mmol, 1.0 equiv) and NBS (54 mg, 0.3 mmol, 3 equiv) according to the general procedure. Column chromatography purification (Petroleum ether : EtOAc 15 : 1) furnished the product **3a** as white solid (18 mg, 0.066 mmol, 66% yield). (new compound). mp: 90-92 °C; ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.56 (s, 1H), 8.15 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 8.03 (d, *J* = 8.1 Hz, 1H), 7.80-7.64 (m, 4H), 7.54-7.52 (m, 3H), 4.53 (q, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 1.47 (t, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 3H). ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 166.0, 161.2, 141.1, 138.9, 136.6, 130.7, 130.3, 129.4, 128.9, 128.4, 128.4, 128.2, 127.9, 123.1, 61.8, 14.4; HRMS (APCI) calcd for C₁₈H₁₅NO₂ [M+H]⁺: 278.1176, Found: 278.1182.



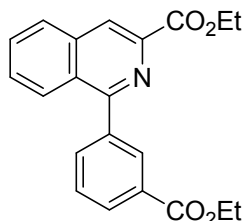
ethyl 1-(3-chlorophenyl)isoquinoline-3-carboxylate (**3b**)

Prepared from ethyl 3-benzyl-1-(3-chlorophenyl)-3,4-dihydroisoquinoline-3-carboxylate **1d** (35 mg, 0.087 mmol, 1.0 equiv) and NBS (47 mg, 0.26 mmol, 3 equiv) according to the general procedure. Column chromatography purification (Petroleum ether : EtOAc 15 : 1) furnished the product **3b** as white solid (12 mg, 0.055 mmol, 63% yield). (new compound). mp: 110-112 °C; ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.58 (s, 1H), 8.09 (d, *J* = 8.5 Hz, 1H), 8.04 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.79 (t, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 7.73 (t, *J* = 2.0 Hz, 1H), 7.71-7.68 (m, 1H), 7.61-7.59 (m, 1H), 7.50-7.46 (m, 2H), 4.53 (q, *J* = 7.0 Hz, 2H), 1.47 (t, *J* = 7.0 Hz, 3H). ¹³C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 166.1, 160.0, 141.5, 141.0, 137.0, 134.9, 131.3, 130.7, 130.1, 130.0, 129.5, 129.0, 128.8, 128.4, 127.8, 124.0, 62.3, 14.8.; HRMS (APCI) calcd for C₁₈H₁₄ClNO₂ [M+H]⁺: 312.0786, Found: 312.0793.



ethyl 1-(3-bromophenyl)isoquinoline-3-carboxylate (**3c**)

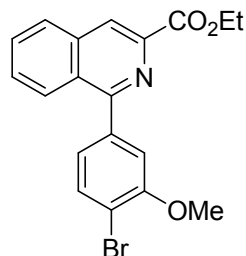
Prepared from ethyl 3-benzyl-1-(3-bromophenyl)-3,4-dihydroisoquinoline-3-carboxylate **1f** (61 mg, 0.14 mmol, 1.0 equiv) and NBS (73 mg, 0.41 mmol, 3 equiv) according to the general procedure. Column chromatography purification (Petroleum ether : EtOAc 15 : 1) furnished the product **3c** as white solid (36 mg, 0.11 mmol, 79% yield). (new compound). mp: 97-99 °C; ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.58 (s, 1H), 8.08 (d, *J* = 8.5 Hz, 1H), 8.04 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.88 (t, *J* = 1.5 Hz, 1H), 7.79 (t, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 7.69 (t, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 7.64 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 7.40 (t, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 4.53 (q, *J* = 7.0 Hz, 2H), 1.47 (t, *J* = 7.0 Hz, 3H). ¹³C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 166.1, 159.8, 141.5, 141.2, 137.0, 133.5, 132.4, 131.3, 130.3, 130.1, 129.3, 129.0, 128.4, 127.8, 124.0, 123.0, 62.3, 14.8; HRMS (APCI) calcd for C₁₈H₁₄BrNO₂ [M+H]⁺: 356.0281, Found: 356.0283.



ethyl 1-(3-(ethoxycarbonyl)phenyl)isoquinoline-3-carboxylate (**3d**)

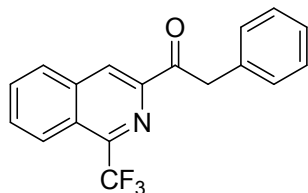
Prepared from ethyl 3-benzyl-1-(3-(ethoxycarbonyl)phenyl)-3,4-dihydroisoquinoline-3-carboxylate **1g** (52 mg, 0.12 mmol, 1.0 equiv) and NBS (64.1 mg, 0.36 mmol, 3 equiv) according to the general procedure. Column chromatography purification (Petroleum ether : EtOAc 15 : 1) furnished the product **3d** as white solid (22 mg, 0.066 mmol, 55% yield). (new compound). mp: 84-86 °C; ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.59 (s, 1H), 8.39 (t, *J* = 1.5 Hz, 1H), 8.19 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H),

8.05 (t, $J = 7.5$ Hz, 2H), 7.92 (d, $J = 7.5$ Hz, 1H), 7.79 (t, $J = 7.5$ Hz, 1H), 7.70-7.67 (m, 1H), 7.62 (t, $J = 7.5$ Hz, 1H), 4.53 (q, $J = 7.0$ Hz, 2H), 4.40 (q, $J = 7.0$ Hz, 2H), 1.47 (t, $J = 7.0$ Hz, 3H), 1.39 (t, $J = 7.0$ Hz, 3H). ^{13}C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 166.7, 166.2, 160.5, 141.6, 139.5, 137.0, 134.9, 131.6, 131.3, 131.1, 130.4, 130.1, 129.0, 128.9, 128.5, 127.9, 123.9, 62.2, 61.5, 14.8, 14.7; HRMS (APCI) calcd for $\text{C}_{21}\text{H}_{19}\text{NO}_4$ $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$: 350.1387, Found: 350.1386.



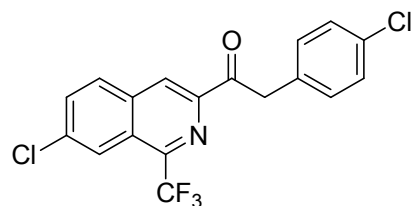
ethyl 1-(4-bromo-3-methoxyphenyl)isoquinoline-3-carboxylate (**3e**)

Prepared from ethyl 3-benzyl-1-(3-(ethoxycarbonyl)phenyl)-3,4-dihydroisoquinoline-3-carboxylate **1g** (14 mg, 0.03 mmol, 1.0 equiv) and NBS (16 mg, 0.09 mmol, 3 equiv) according to the general procedure. Column chromatography purification (Petroleum ether : EtOAc 15 : 1) furnished the product **3e** as white solid (8 mg, 0.012 mmol, 40% yield). (new compound). mp: 114-116 °C; ^1H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 8.63 (s, 1H), 8.03 (d, $J = 8.0$ Hz, 1H), 7.79-7.76 (m, 1H), 7.71-7.69 (m, 1H), 7.66-7.63 (m, 1H), 7.57 (d, $J = 9.0$ Hz, 1H), 7.02 (d, $J = 3.0$ Hz, 1H), 6.94-6.91 (m, 1H), 4.57-4.50 (m, 2H), 3.81 (s, 3H), 1.46 (t, $J = 7.0$ Hz, 3H). ^{13}C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 166.1, 160.7, 159.4, 141.6, 140.8, 136.4, 133.9, 131.3, 130.0, 129.5, 129.1, 128.8, 128.7, 128.1, 124.4, 117.1, 113.97, 62.2, 56.0, 14.9; HRMS (APCI) calcd for $\text{C}_{19}\text{H}_{16}\text{BrNO}_3$ $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$: 386.0386, Found: 386.0391.



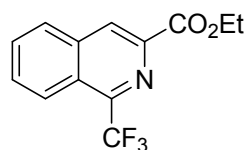
2-phenyl-1-(1-(trifluoromethyl)isoquinolin-3-yl)ethanone (**5a**)

Prepared from ethyl 3-benzyl-1-(trifluoromethyl)-3,4-dihydroisoquinoline-3-carboxylate **4a** (28 mg, 0.078 mmol, 1.0 equiv) and NaH (32 mg, 0.78 mmol, 10 equiv) according to the general procedure. Column chromatography purification (Petroleum ether : EtOAc 15 : 1) furnished the product **4e** as white solid (16 mg, 0.051 mmol, 65% yield). (new compound). mp: 76-78 °C; ^1H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 8.65 (s, 1H), 8.37 (br s, 1H), 8.10-8.08 (m, 1H), 7.86-7.83 (m, 2H), 7.44-7.42 (m, 2H), 7.31 (t, $J = 7.5$ Hz, 2H), 7.22 (t, $J = 7.5$ Hz, 1H), 4.64 (s, 2H). ^{13}C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 198.7, 145.1, 137.7, 134.9, 131.8, 131.4, 130.5, 130.1, 128.9, 127.2, 126.6, 125.2 (q, $J = 2.8$ Hz), 124.9, 122.3 (q, $J = 275.5$ Hz), 45.3; HRMS (APCI) calcd for $\text{C}_{18}\text{H}_{12}\text{F}_3\text{NO}$ $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$: 316.0944, Found: 316.0945.



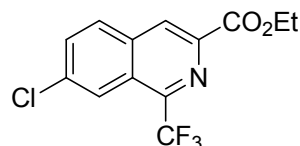
1-(7-chloro-1-(trifluoromethyl)isoquinolin-3-yl)-2-(4-chlorophenyl)ethanone (5b)

Prepared from ethyl 7-chloro-3-(4-chlorobenzyl)-1-(trifluoromethyl)-3,4-dihydroisoquinoline-3-carboxylate **4b** (13 mg, 0.03 mmol, 1.0 equiv) and NaH (36 mg, 0.9 mmol, 10 equiv) according to the general procedure. Column chromatography purification (Petroleum ether : EtOAc 15 : 1) furnished the product **4f** as white solid (8 mg, 0.021 mmol, 70% yield). (new compound). mp: 133-135 °C; ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.63 (s, 1H), 8.34 (s, 1H), 8.05 (d, *J* = 9.0 Hz, 1H), 7.81 (dd, *J* = 9.0, 2.0 Hz, 1H), 7.35 (d, *J* = 8.5 Hz, 2H), 7.29-7.27 (m, 2H), 4.58 (s, 2H). ¹³C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 197.8, 145.1, 138.0, 136.8, 136.0, 133.2, 133.1, 131.8, 131.5, 129.1, 127.0, 124.6, 124.4 (q, *J* = 3.0 Hz), 122.9 (q, *J* = 257.4 Hz), 44.6; HRMS (APCI) calcd for C₁₈H₁₀Cl₂F₃NO [M+H]⁺: 384.0164, Found: 384.0166.



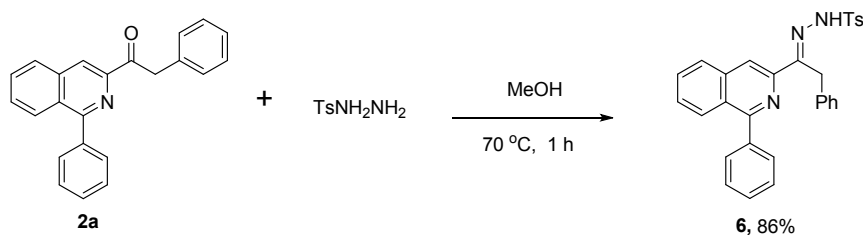
ethyl 1-(trifluoromethyl)isoquinoline-3-carboxylate (5c)

Prepared from ethyl 3-benzyl-1-(trifluoromethyl)-3,4-dihydroisoquinoline-3-carboxylate **4a** (15 mg, 0.042 mmol, 1.0 equiv) and NBS (23 mg, 0.13 mmol, 3 equiv) according to the general procedure. Column chromatography purification (Petroleum ether : EtOAc 15 : 1) furnished the product **4g** as white solid (7 mg, 0.024 mmol, 57% yield). (new compound). mp: 64-66 °C; ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.75 (s, 1H), 8.39 (d, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 8.10 (dd, *J* = 7.0, 2.5 Hz, 1H), 7.91-7.85 (m, 2H), 4.55 (q, *J* = 7.0 Hz, 2H), 1.50 (t, *J* = 7.0 Hz, 3H). ¹³C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 164.8, 140.0, 137.1, 131.7, 131.0, 129.0, 127.4, 125.9, 125.0 (q, *J* = 2.8 Hz), 121.8 (q, *J* = 275.1 Hz), 62.2, 14.4; HRMS (APCI) calcd for C₁₃H₁₀F₃NO₂ [M+H]⁺: 270.0736, Found: 270.0737.



ethyl 6-chloro-1-(trifluoromethyl)isoquinoline-3-carboxylate (5d)

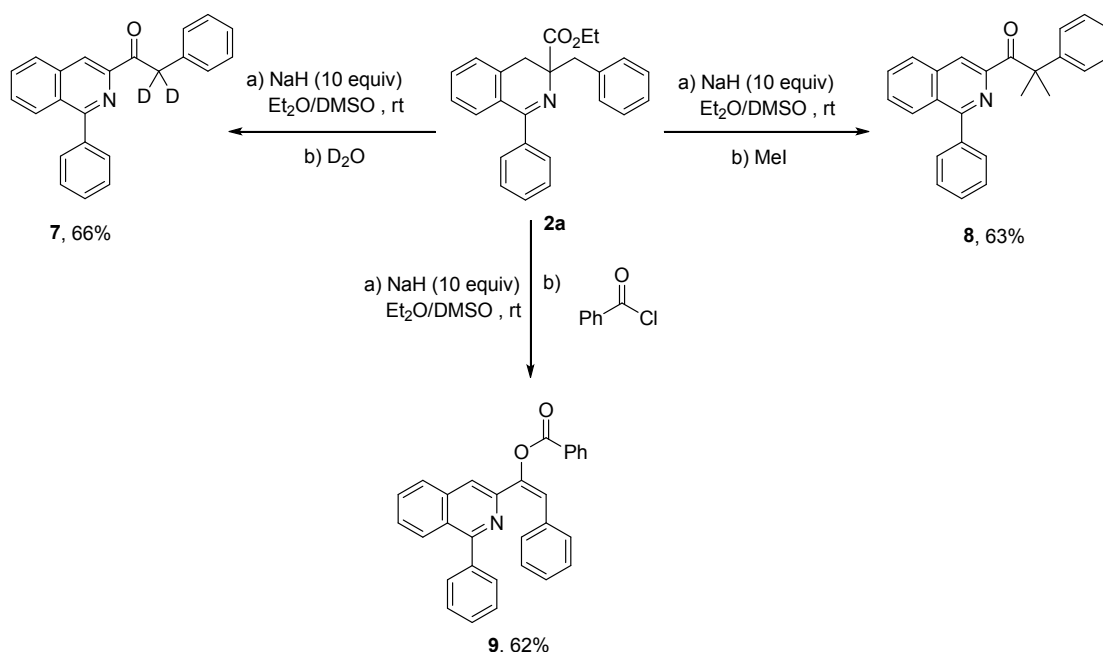
Prepared from ethyl 7-chloro-3-(4-chlorobenzyl)-1-(trifluoromethyl)-3,4-dihydroisoquinoline-3-carboxylate **4b** (19 mg, 0.044 mmol, 1.0 equiv) and NBS (23.7 mg, 0.13 mmol, 3 equiv) according to the general procedure. Column chromatography purification (Petroleum ether : EtOAc 15 : 1) furnished the product **4h** as white solid (9 mg, 0.029 mmol, 65% yield). (new compound). mp: 90-92 °C; ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.72 (s, 1H), 8.35 (s, 1H), 8.05 (d, *J* = 9.0 Hz, 1H), 7.83 (dd, *J* = 9.0, 2.0 Hz, 1H), 4.54 (q, *J* = 7.0 Hz, 2H), 1.49 (t, *J* = 7.0 Hz, 3H). ¹³C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 164.8, 140.8, 137.7, 135.9, 133.3, 130.8, 127.3, 126.7, 124.6 (q, *J* = 3.0 Hz), 121.9 (q, *J* = 272.5 Hz), 62.7, 14.7; HRMS (APCI) calcd for C₁₃H₉ClF₃NO₂ [M+H]⁺: 304.0347, Found: 304.0348.



4-methyl-N'-(2-phenyl-1-(1-phenylisoquinolin-3-yl)ethylidene)benzenesulfonylhydrazide (6)

A mixture of **2a** (0.3 mmol) and tosylhydrazide (0.3 mmol) in MeOH (0.5 mL) were heated at 70 °C for 1 h to obtain the corresponding *N*-tosylhydrazone as white precipitate. The organic phase was concentrated in *vacuo* and the residue was purified by silica gel flash column chromatography to afford the corresponding products.

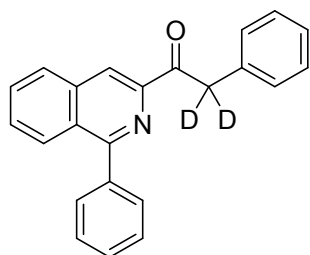
White solid (130 mg, 86% yield). mp: 137-139 °C; ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.40 (s, 0.25H), 8.17 (d, *J* = 8.5 Hz, 1.1H), 8.11 (d, *J* = 8.5 Hz, 0.29H), 7.98 (d, *J* = 8.5 Hz, 0.33H), 7.84-7.82 (m, 3.18H), 7.78 (s, 1.15H), 7.74-7.55 (m, 9.02H), 7.52-7.49 (m, 0.74H), 7.31-7.21 (m, 3.34H), 7.21-7.06 (m, 6.36H), 4.48 (s, 0.49H), 4.13 (s, 2.06H), 2.41 (s, 3H), 2.38 (s, 0.7H). ¹³C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 159.7, 159.4, 145.3, 145.1, 144.4, 143.6, 138.3, 137.9, 137.5, 137.2, 135.7, 135.4, 131.5, 131.1, 130.5, 130.2, 130.1, 129.9, 129.9, 129.6, 129.5, 129.3, 128.9, 128.8, 128.7, 128.3, 128.2, 128.1, 128.0, 127.4, 127.0, 126.9, 126.4, 121.5, 118.1, 42.1, 32.4, 22.0; HRMS (APCI) calcd for C₃₀H₂₅N₃O₂S [M+H]⁺: 492.1740, Found: 492.1746.



Synthesis of Compounds 7-9

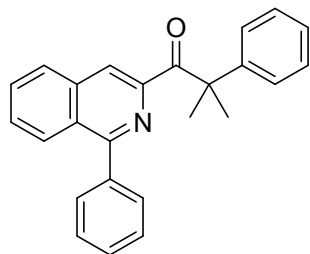
a) An oven-dried 25 mL Schlenk tube charged with NaH (1 mmol, 40 mg) and ethyl 3-benzyl-1-phenyl-3,4-dihydroisoquinoline-3-carboxylate (**1a**) (0.1 mmol, 36.9 mg) was vacuumed and refilled with Ar for 3 times. Then a solution of Et₂O (0.9 mL) and DMSO (0.1 mL) was added in room temperature for 40 min.

b) D₂O (2 equiv)/MeI (2 equiv)/ benzoyl chloride (2 equiv) was added dropwise with a syringe to the reaction mixture when the reaction was completed. The crude reaction mixture was quenched with saturated NH₄Cl. The crude reaction mixture was extracted with EtOAc (20 mL × 3) and washed with brine (20 mL). The organic phase was concentrated in *vacuo* and the residue was purified by silica gel flash column chromatography to afford the corresponding products **7**, **8**, and **9**.



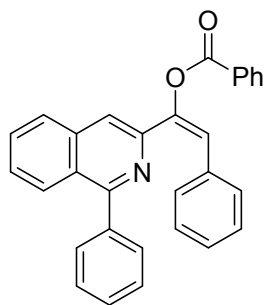
D₂-2-phenyl-1-(1-phenylisoquinolin-3-yl)ethanone (7)

White solid (29 mg, 65% yield). mp: 120-122 °C; ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.48 (s, 1H), 8.19 (d, *J* = 8.5 Hz, 1H), 8.03 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.80-7.78 (m, 2H), 7.76-7.73 (m, 1H), 7.67-7.56 (m, 4H), 7.42-7.40 (m, 2H), 7.33-7.30 (m, 2H), 7.25-7.21 (m, 1H), 4.65 (s, 0.18H). ¹³C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 200.3, 160.3, 146.6, 139.6, 137.2, 135.6, 130.9, 130.6, 130.4, 129.8, 129.6, 129.4, 128.8, 128.8, 128.7, 128.0, 127.0, 120.6, 44.9 (q, *J* = 19.3 Hz); HRMS (APCI) calcd for C₂₄H₁₇D₂N₂O₂ [M+H]⁺: 342.1430, Found: 342.1439.



2-methyl-2-phenyl-1-(1-phenylisoquinolin-3-yl)propan-1-one (8)

White solid (30 mg, 66% yield). ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.43 (s, 1H), 8.08 (d, *J* = 8.5 Hz, 1H), 7.98 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.68 (t, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 7.58 (t, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 7.46-7.41 (m, 3H), 7.29-7.17 (m, 7H), 1.78 (s, 6H). ¹³C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 202.7, 157.2, 145.6, 144.9, 137.6, 135.8, 129.3, 129.1, 128.1, 128.0, 127.5, 127.1, 126.9, 126.3, 126.2, 125.1, 124.6, 120.7, 50.4, 26.4. HRMS (ESI) calcd for C₂₅H₂₁NO [M+H]⁺: 352.1696, Found: 352.1698.



2-phenyl-1-(1-phenylisoquinolin-3-yl)vinyl benzoate (9)

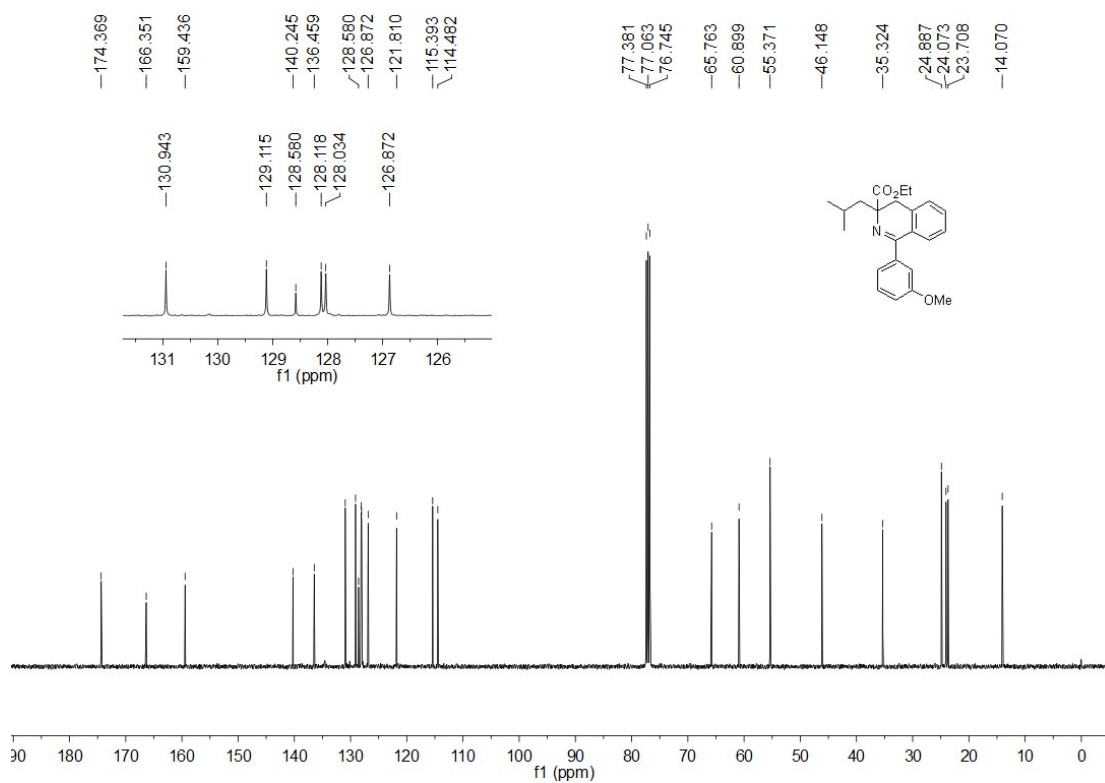
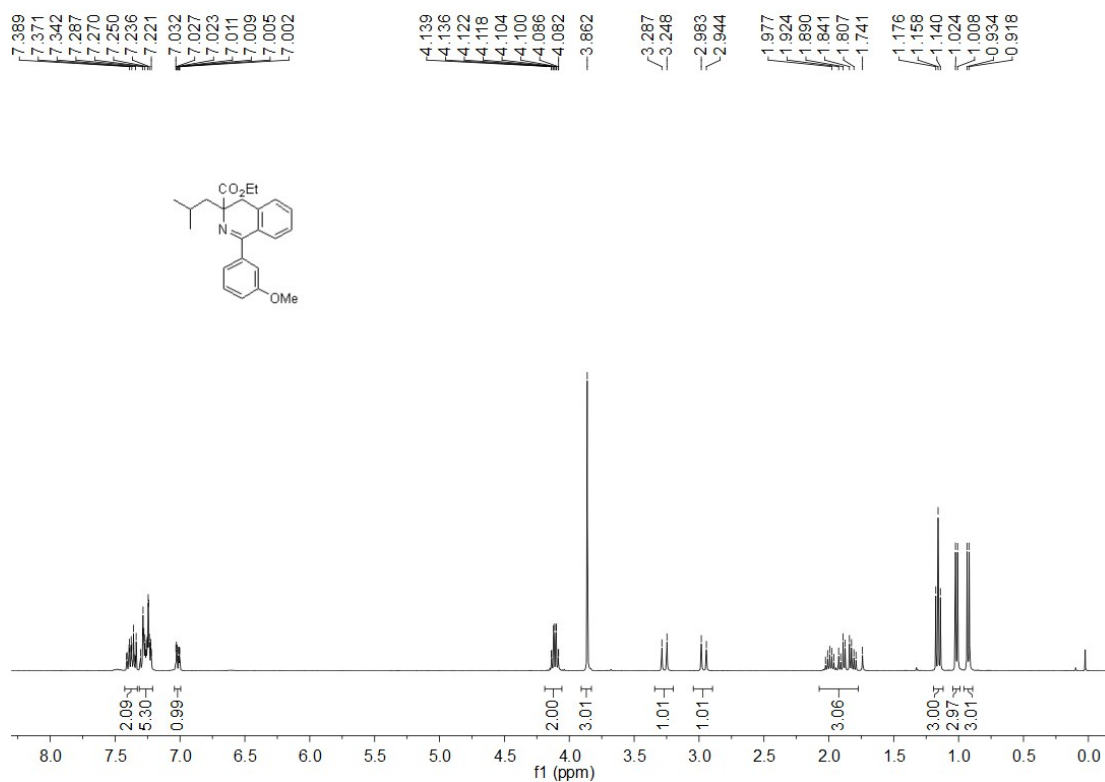
White solid (53 mg, 62% yield). mp: 155-157 °C; ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.36-8.35 (m, 2H), 8.09 (d, *J* = 8.5 Hz, 1H), 7.93 (s, 1H), 7.81-7.78 (m, 3H), 7.75-7.72 (m, 1H), 7.69-7.84 (m, 4H), 7.62-7.49 (m, 6H), 7.30-7.21 (m, 3H). ¹³C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 164.8, 160.9, 145.6, 145.3, 137.9, 134.6, 134.3, 130.9, 130.7, 129.7, 129.3, 128.0, 129.68, 128.3, 128.2, 128.1, 127.8, 126.7, 120.0, 115.0, 105.4; HRMS (APCI) calcd for C₃₀H₂₁NO₂ [M+H]⁺: 428.1645, Found: 428.1647.

VII. References

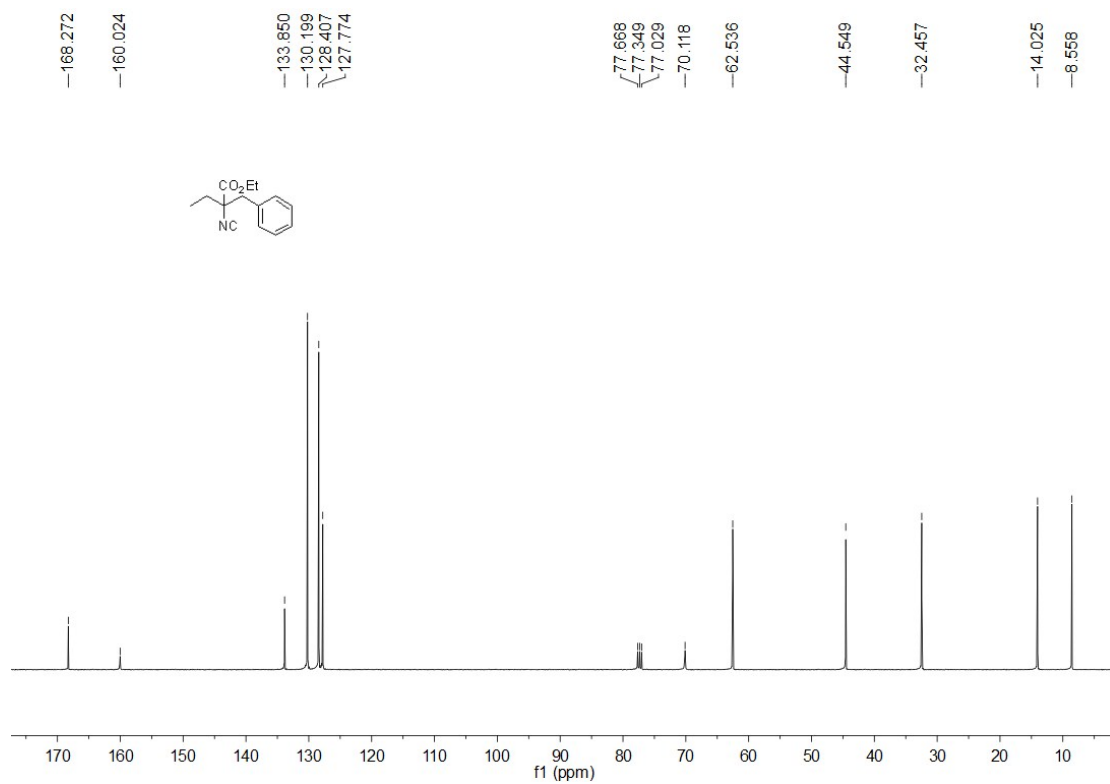
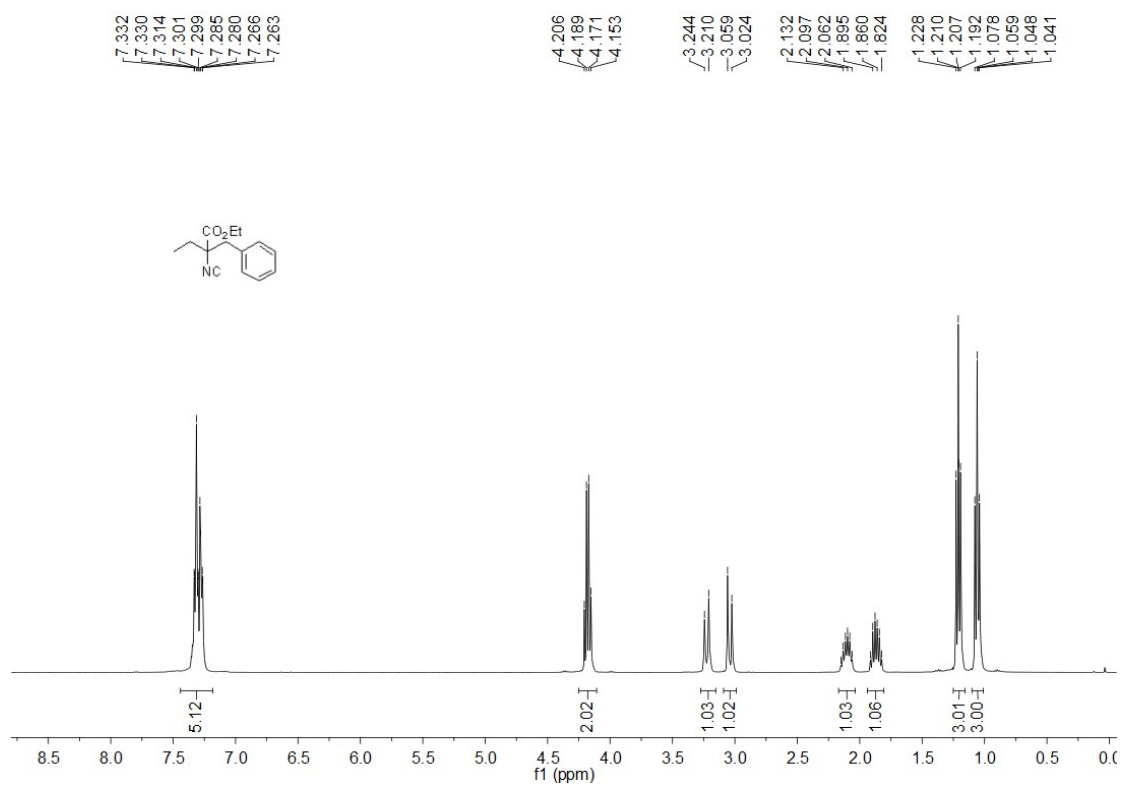
- (1) Wang, J.; Gao, D.; Huang, J.; Tang, S.; Xiong, Z.; Hu, H.; You, S.; Zhu, Q. Palladium-Catalyzed Enantioselective C(sp²)-H Imidoylation by Desymmetrization. *ACS Catal.*, **2017**, *7* (6), pp 3832–3836.
- (2) Tang, S.; Yang, S.; Sun, H.; Zhou, Y.; Li, J. and Zhu, Q. Pd-Catalyzed Divergent C(sp²)-H Activation/Cycloimidoylation of 2-Isocyano-2,3-diarylpropanoates. *Org. Lett.* **2018**, *20*, 1832–1836

VIII. Copies of ^1H and ^{13}C NMR Spectra

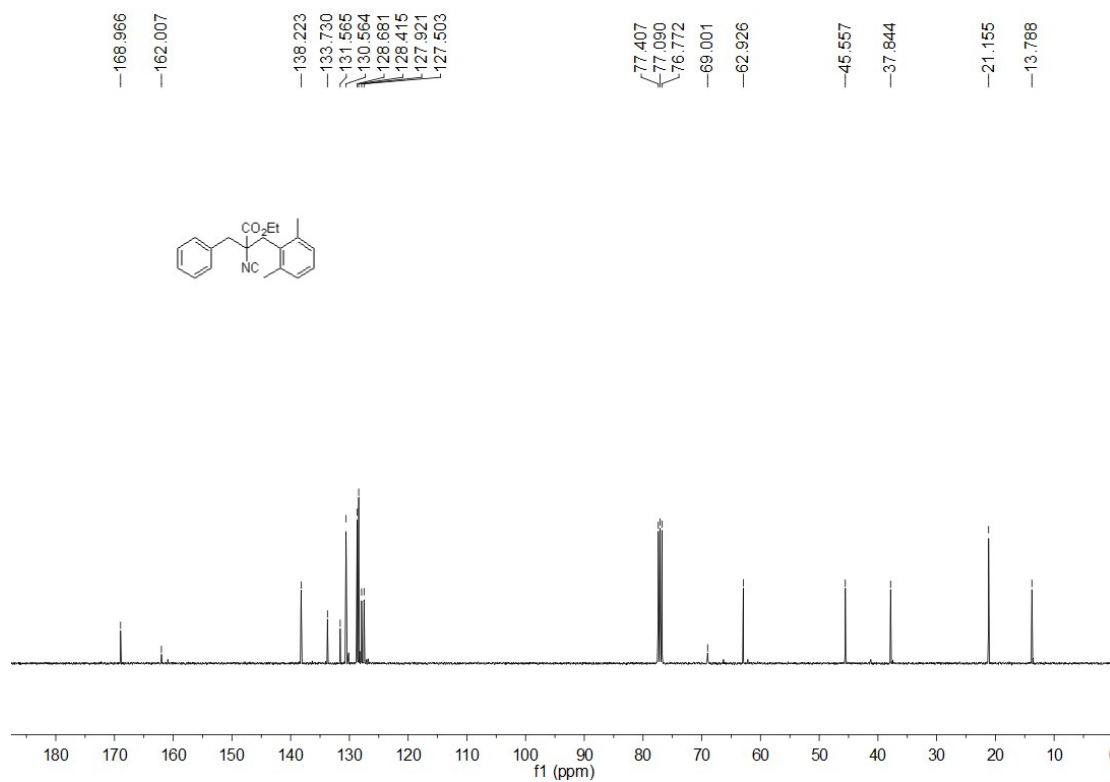
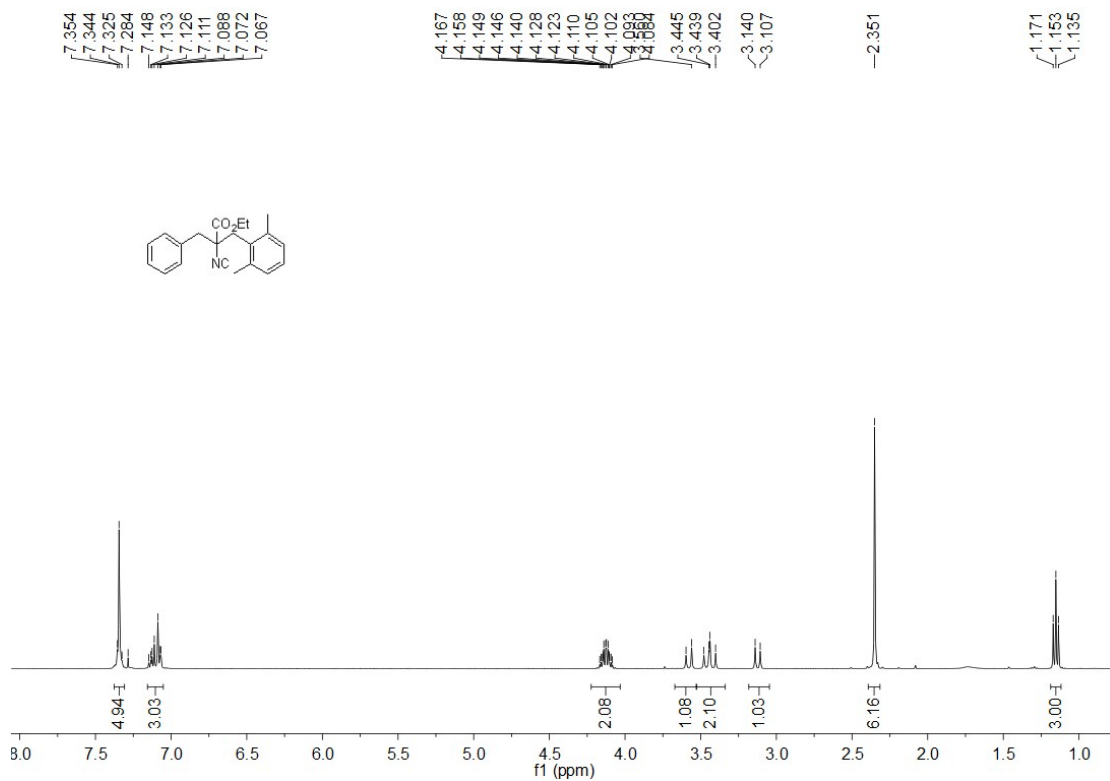
C1



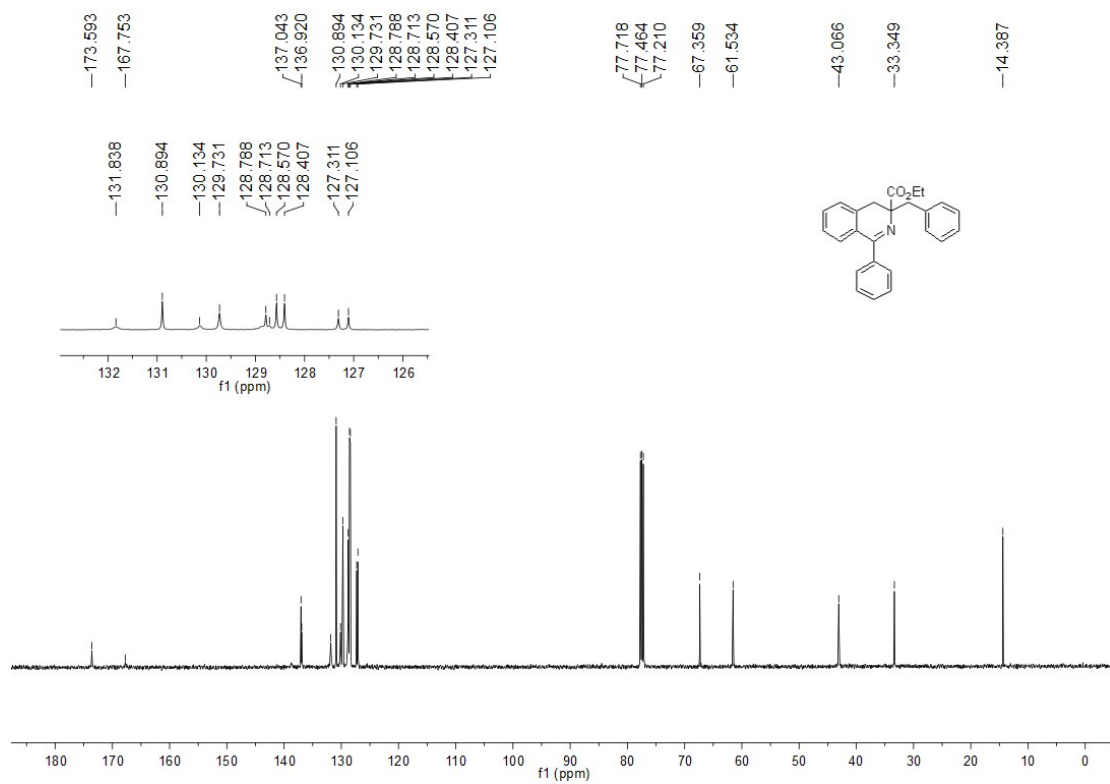
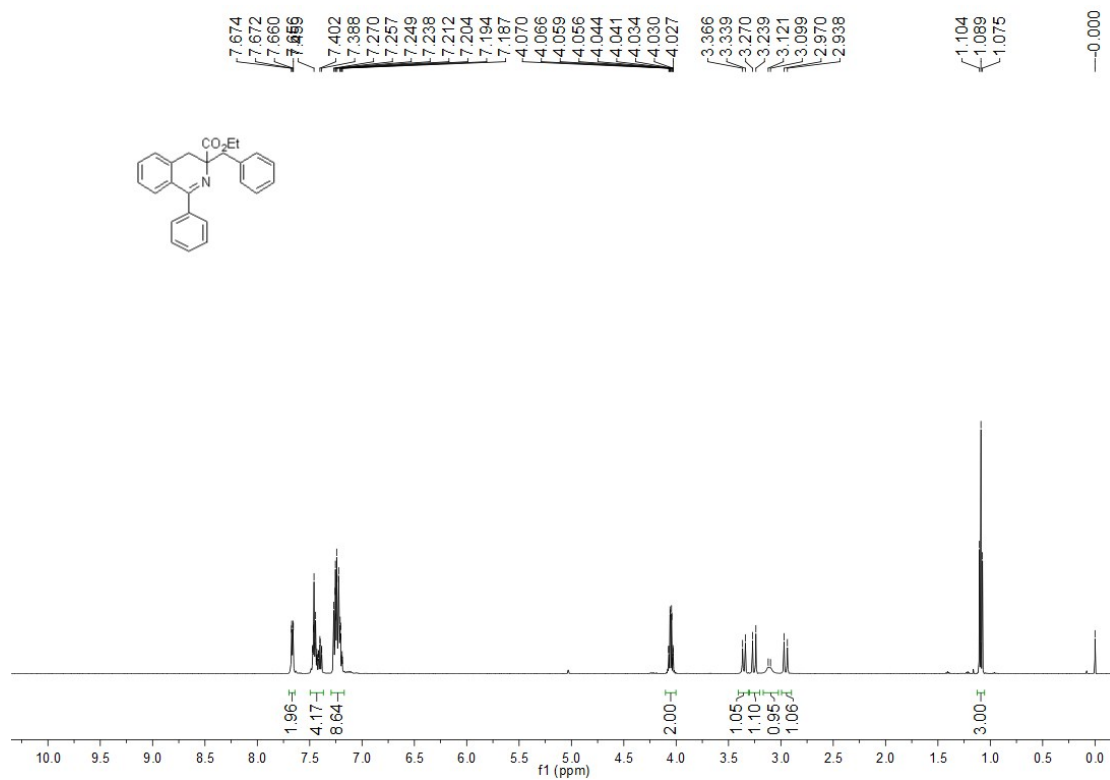
C2



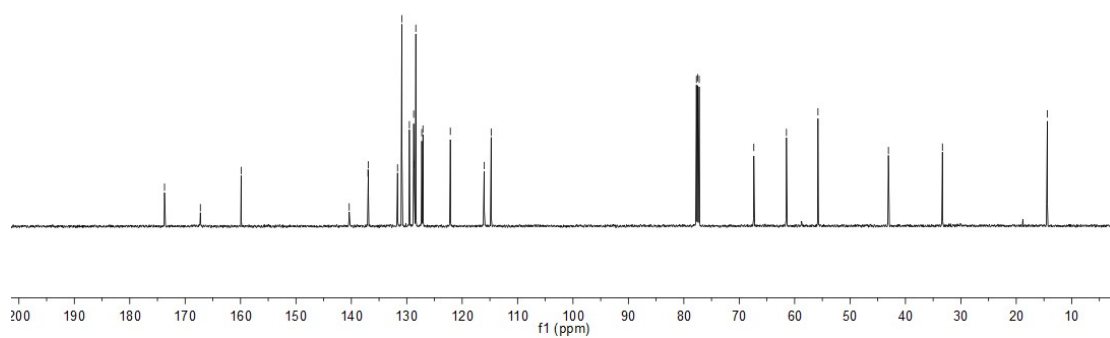
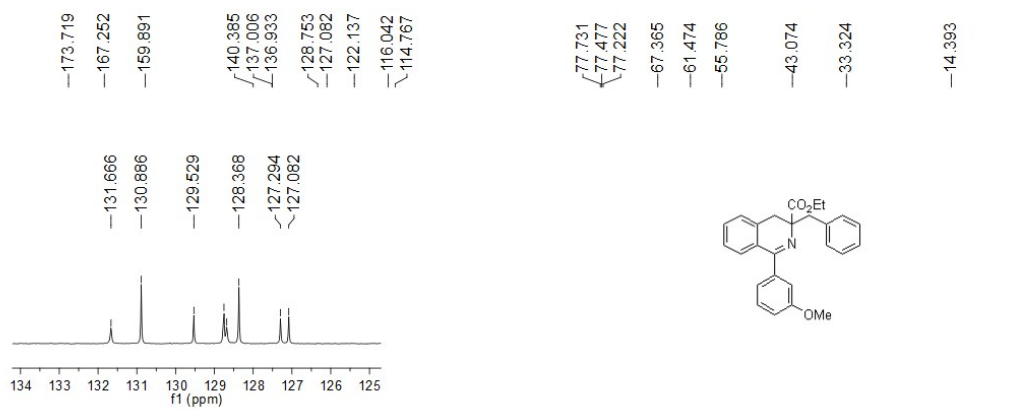
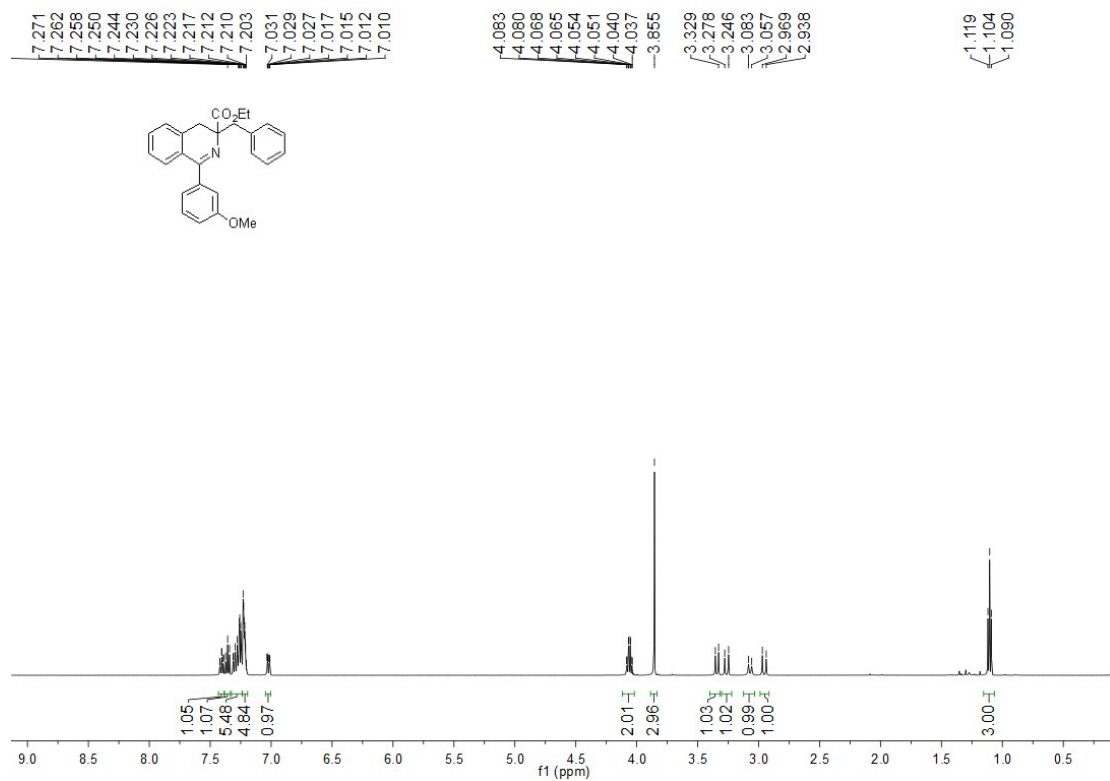
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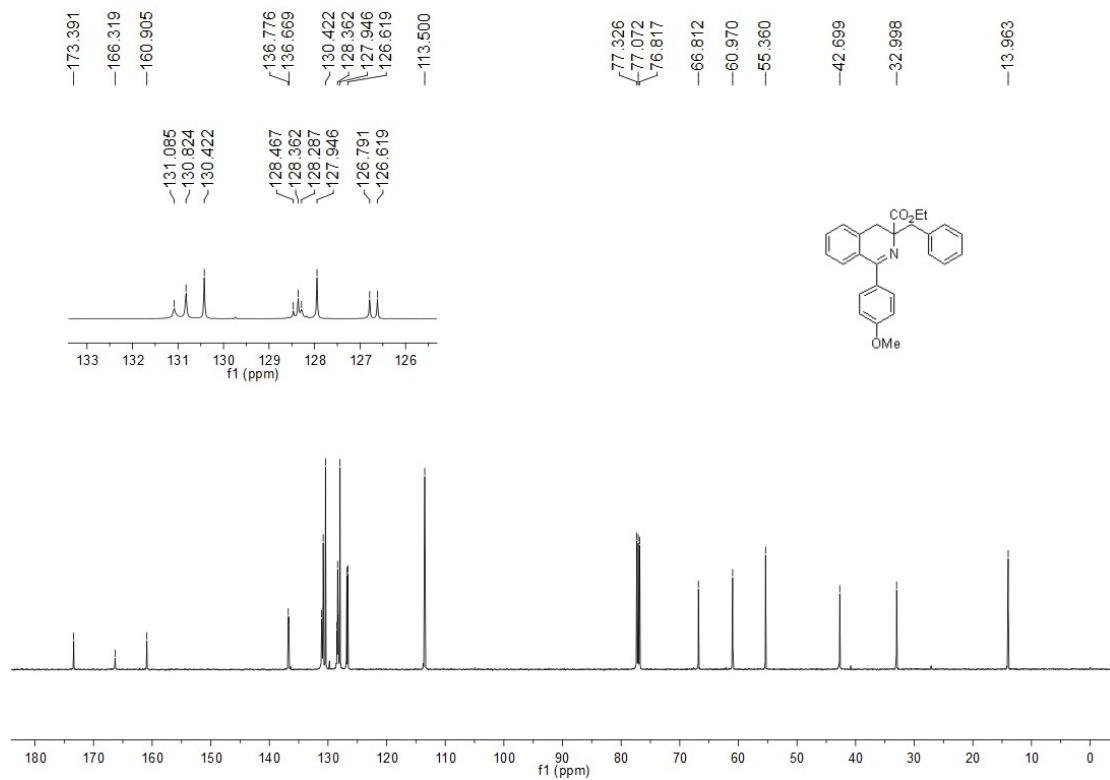
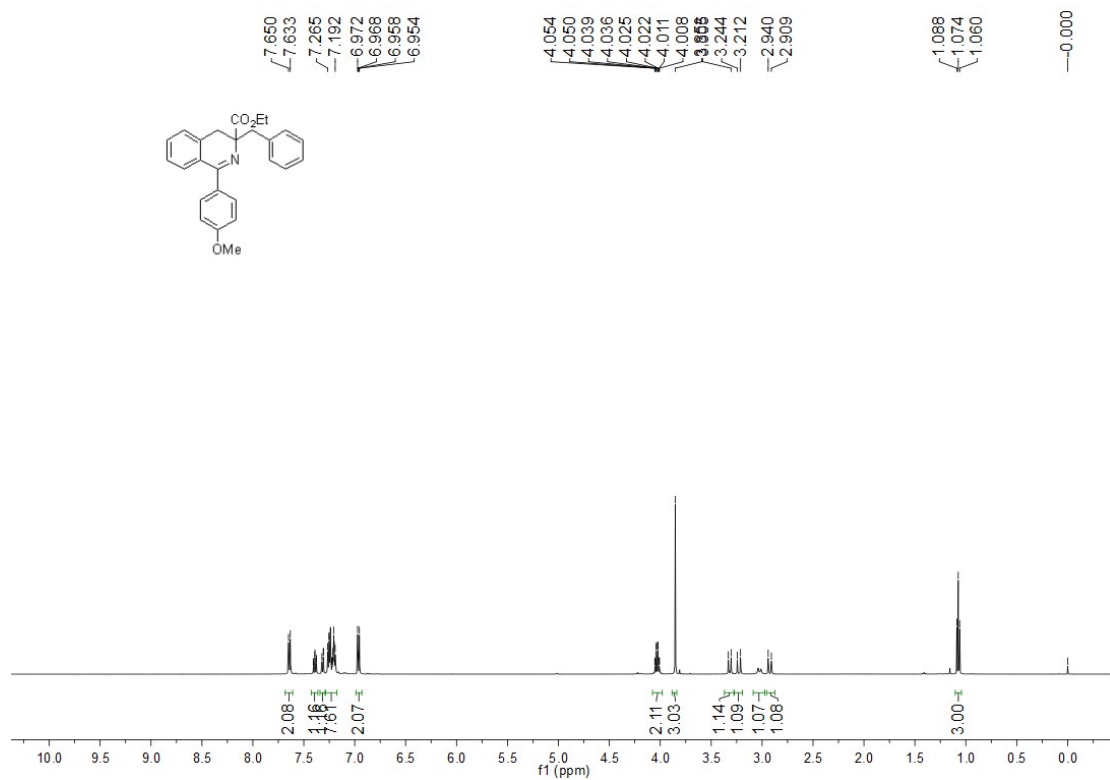
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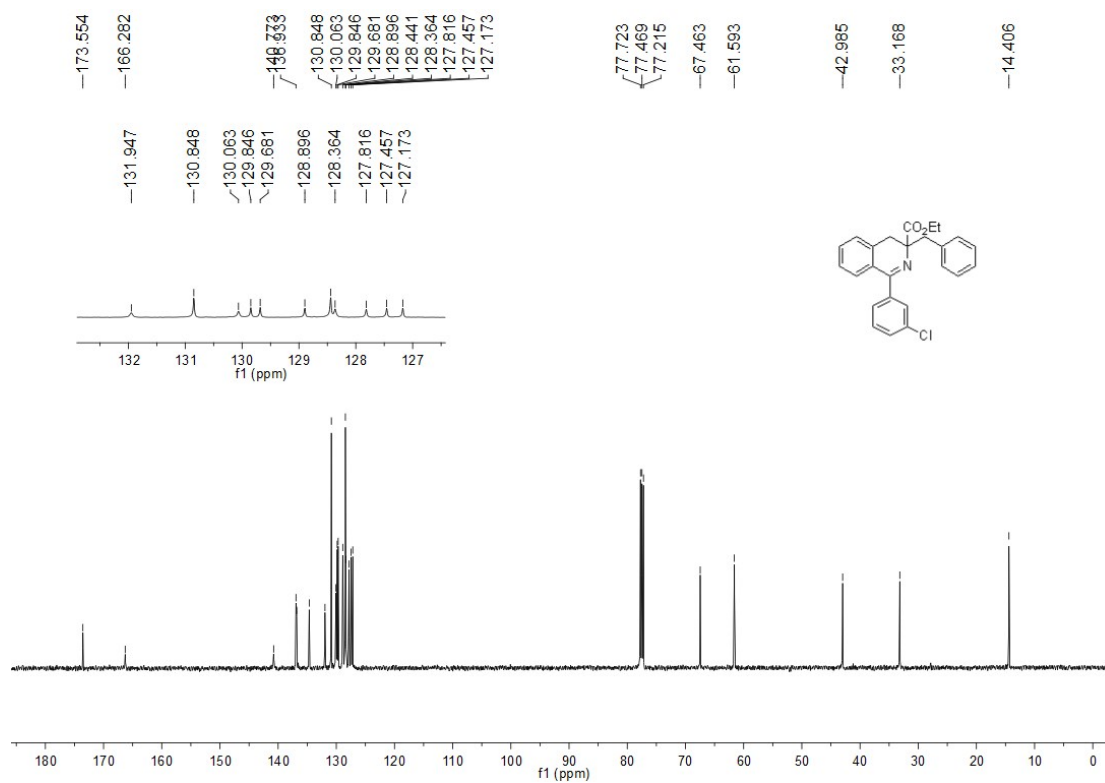
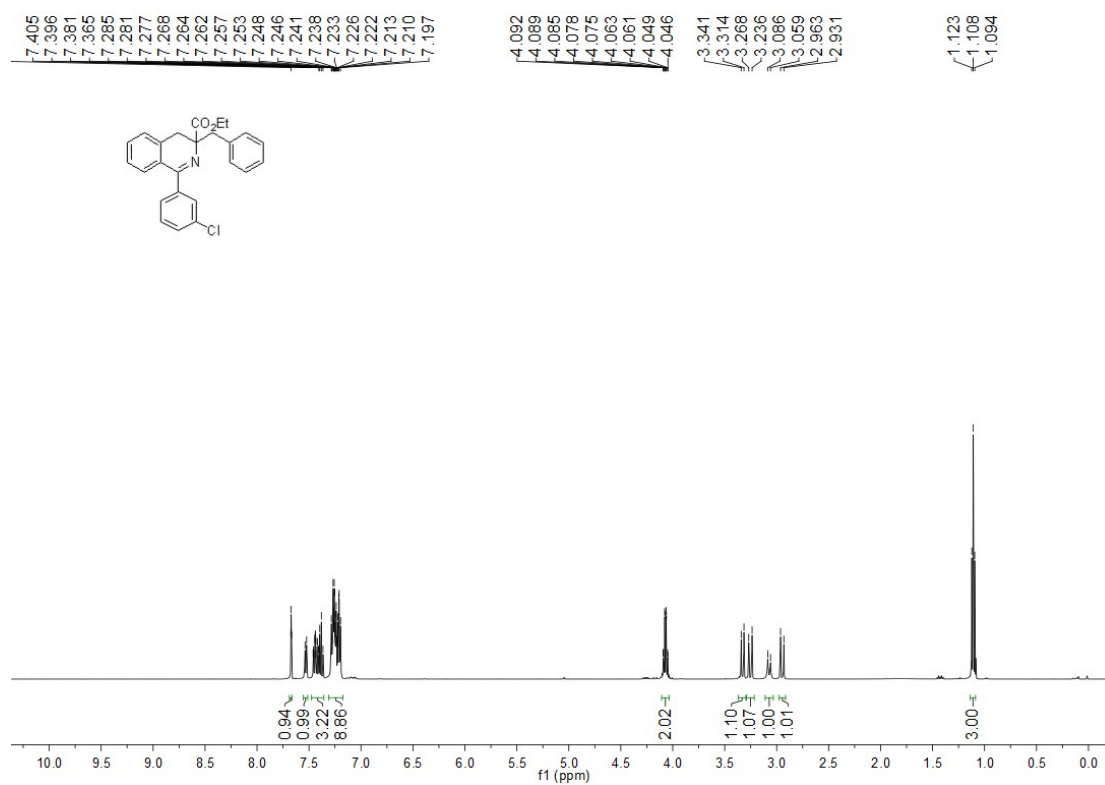
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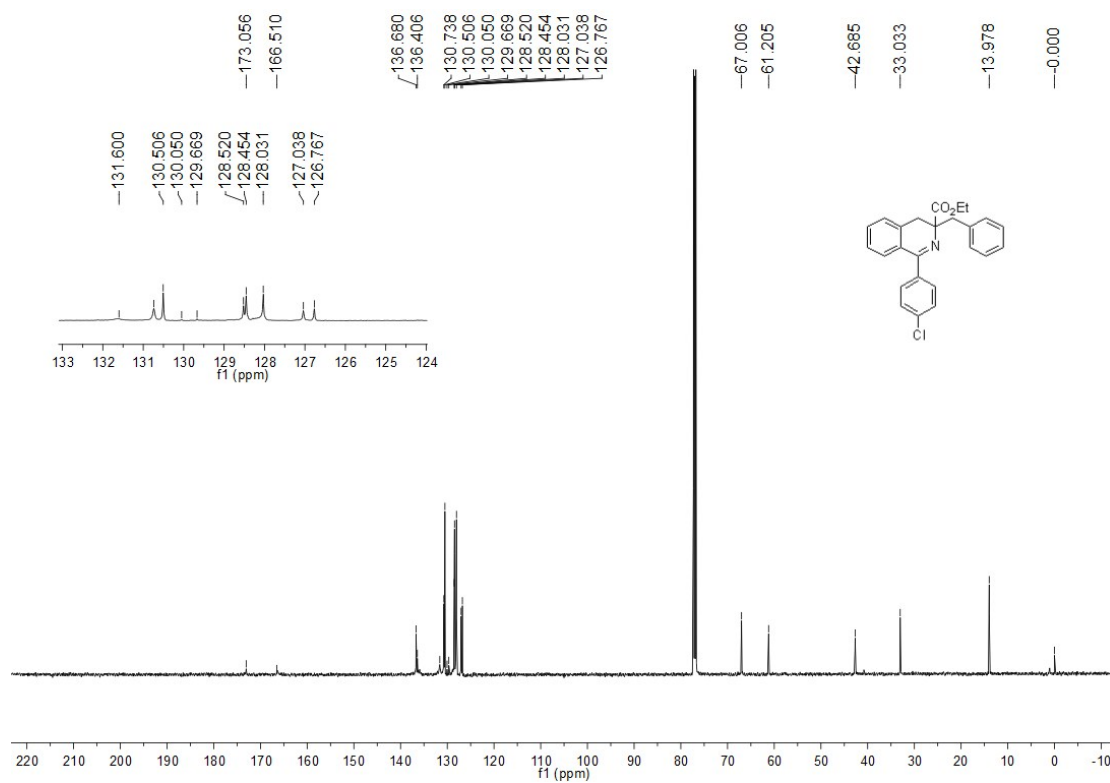
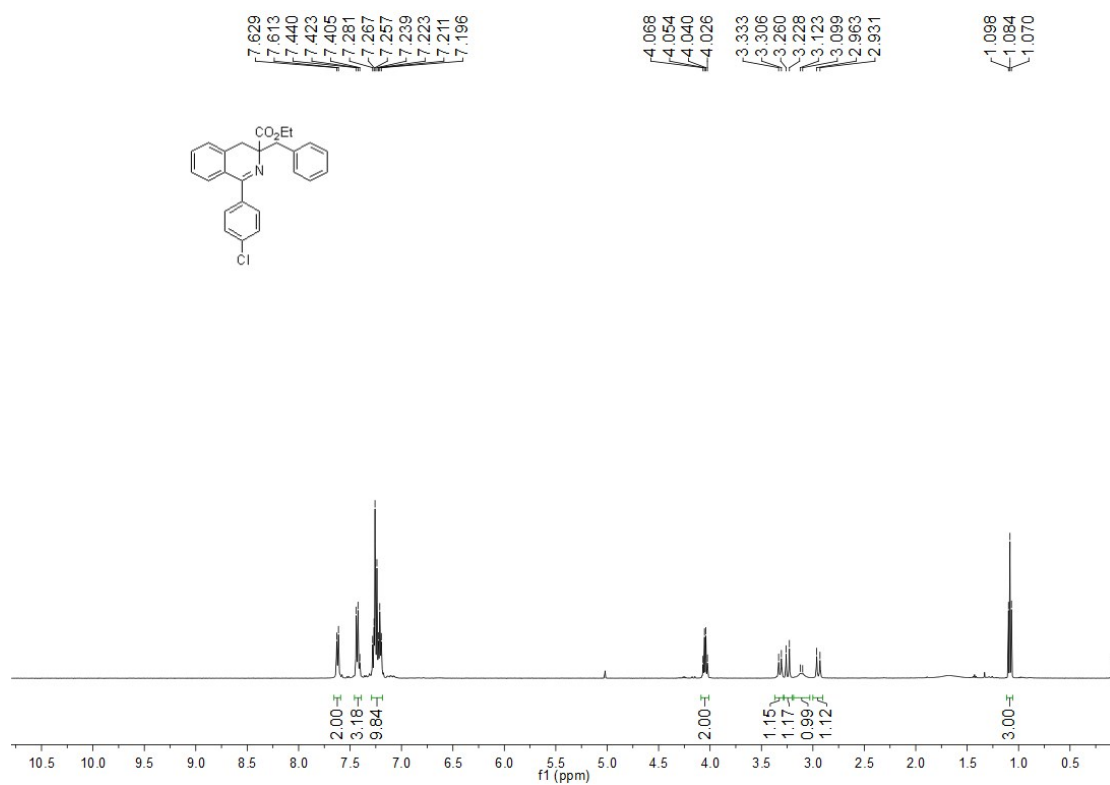
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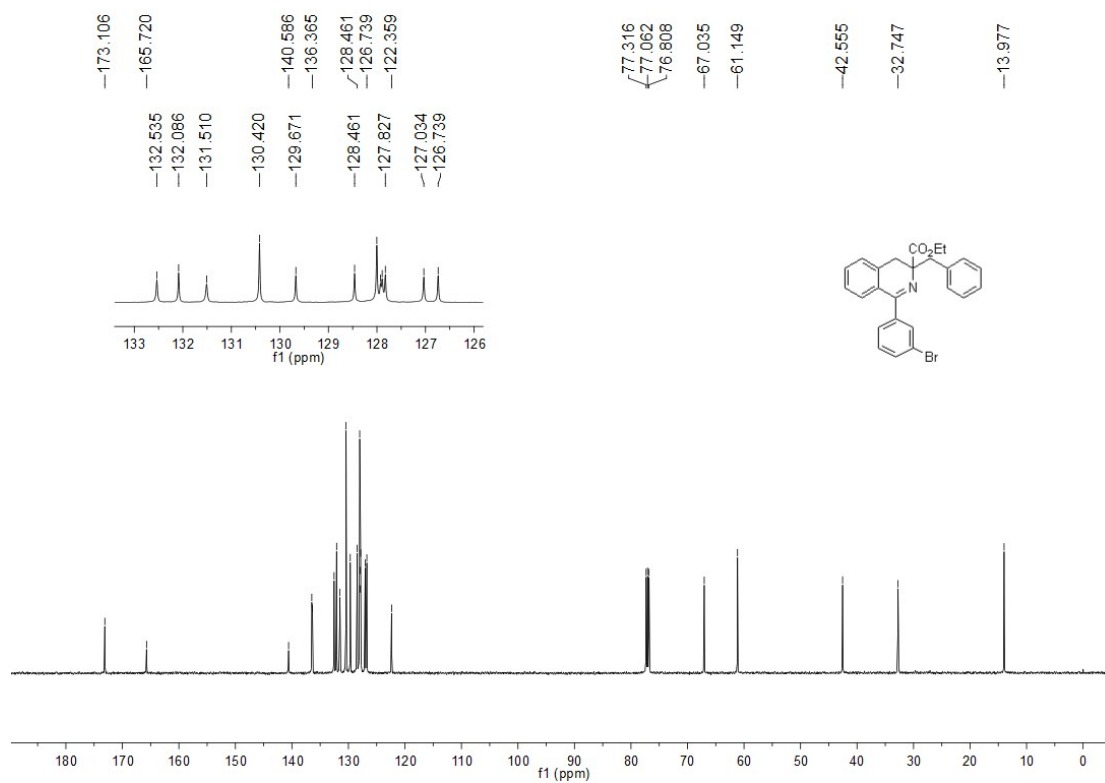
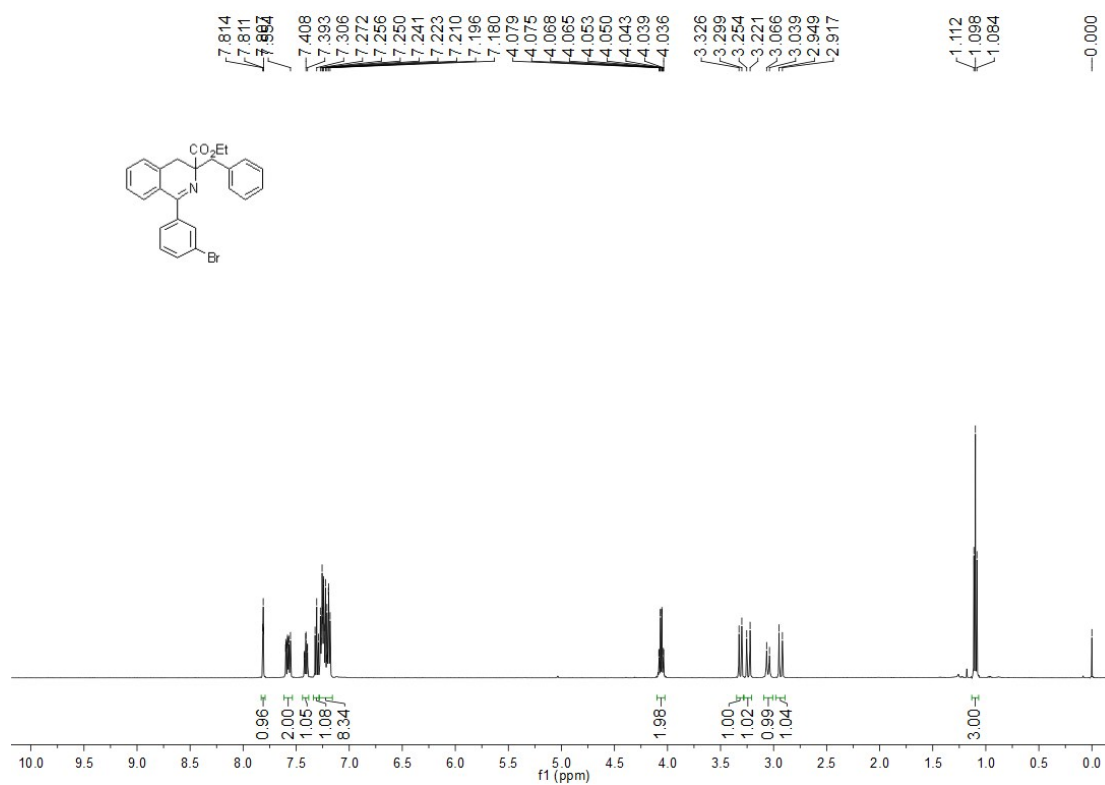
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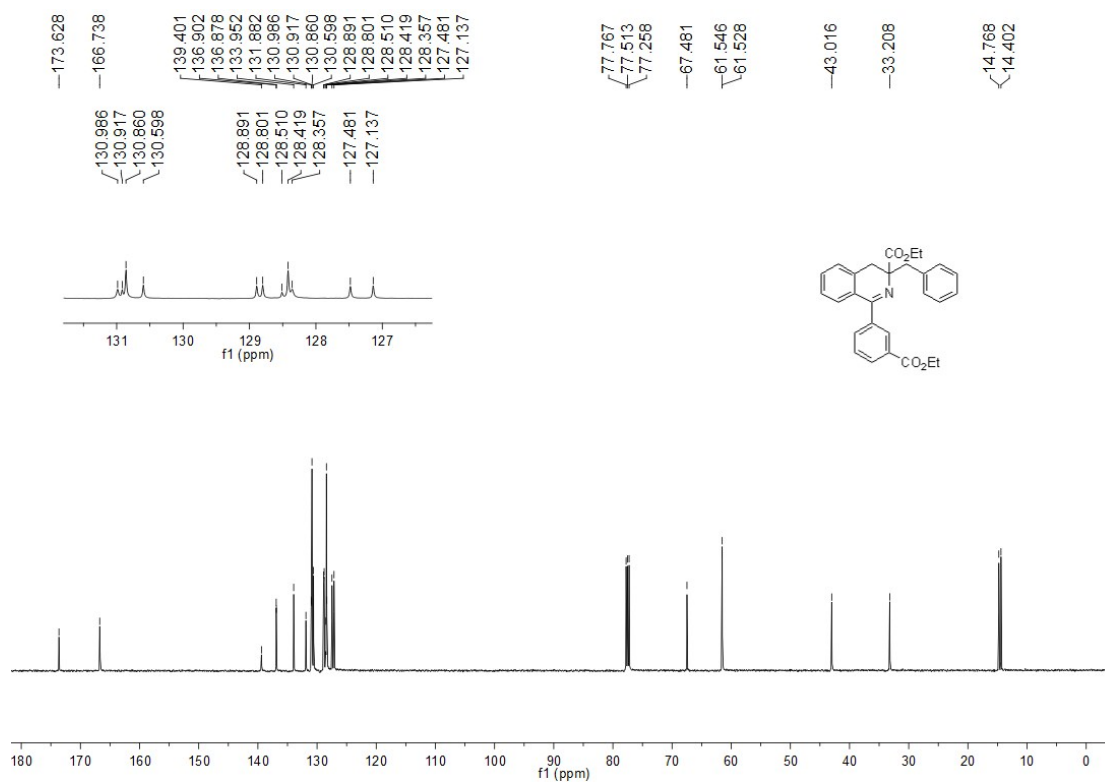
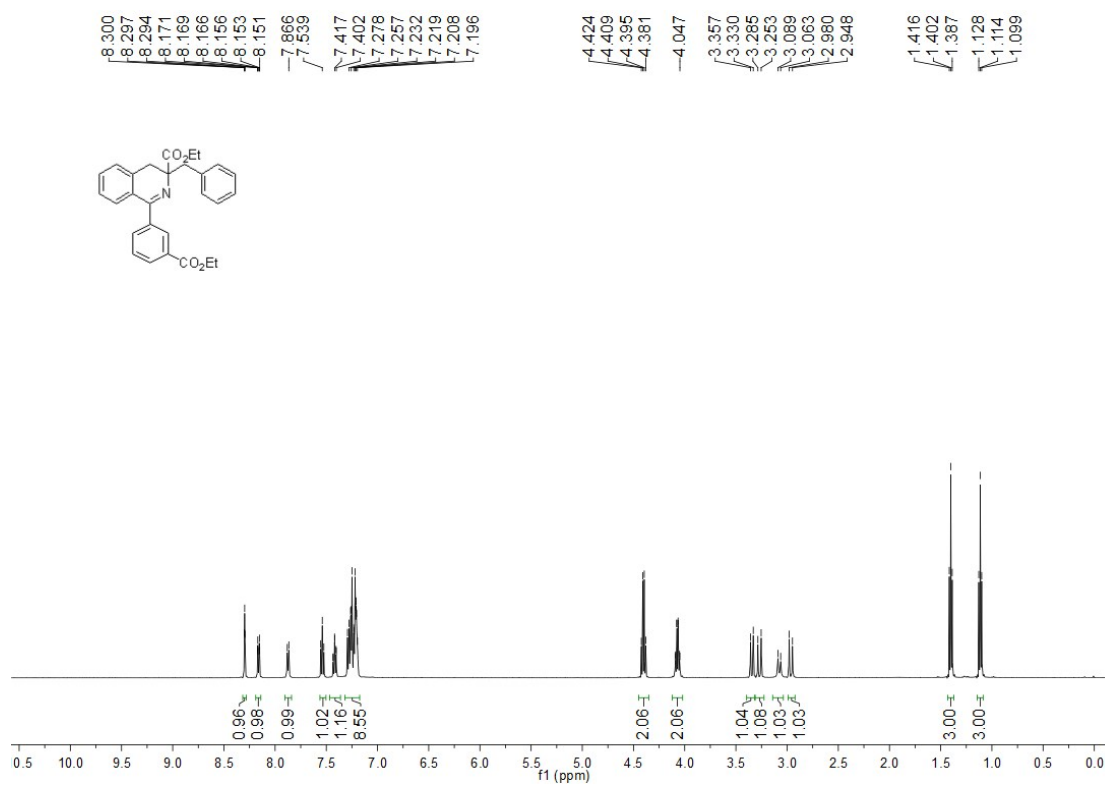
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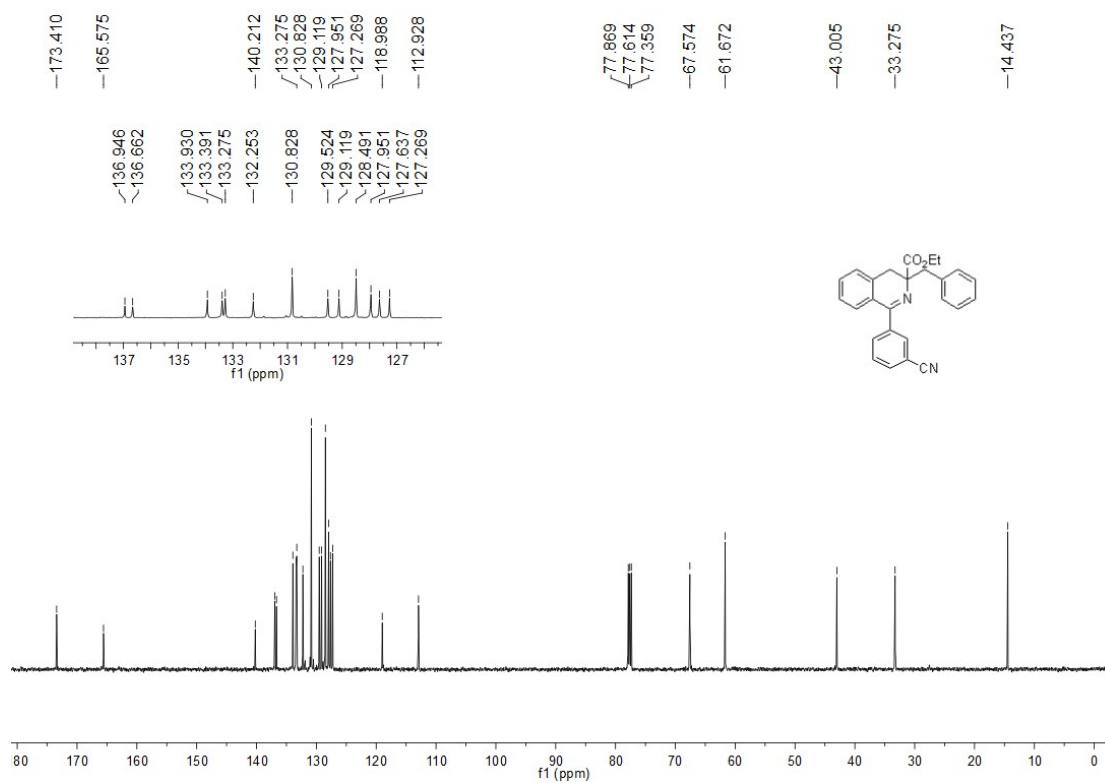
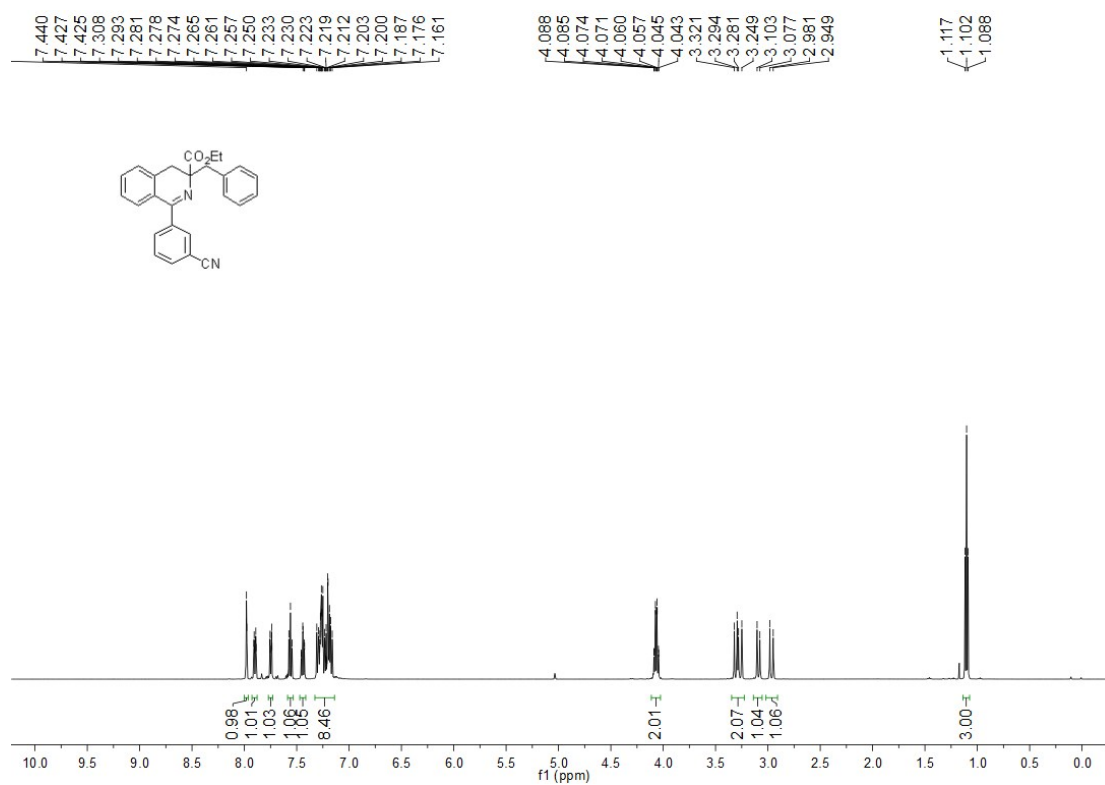
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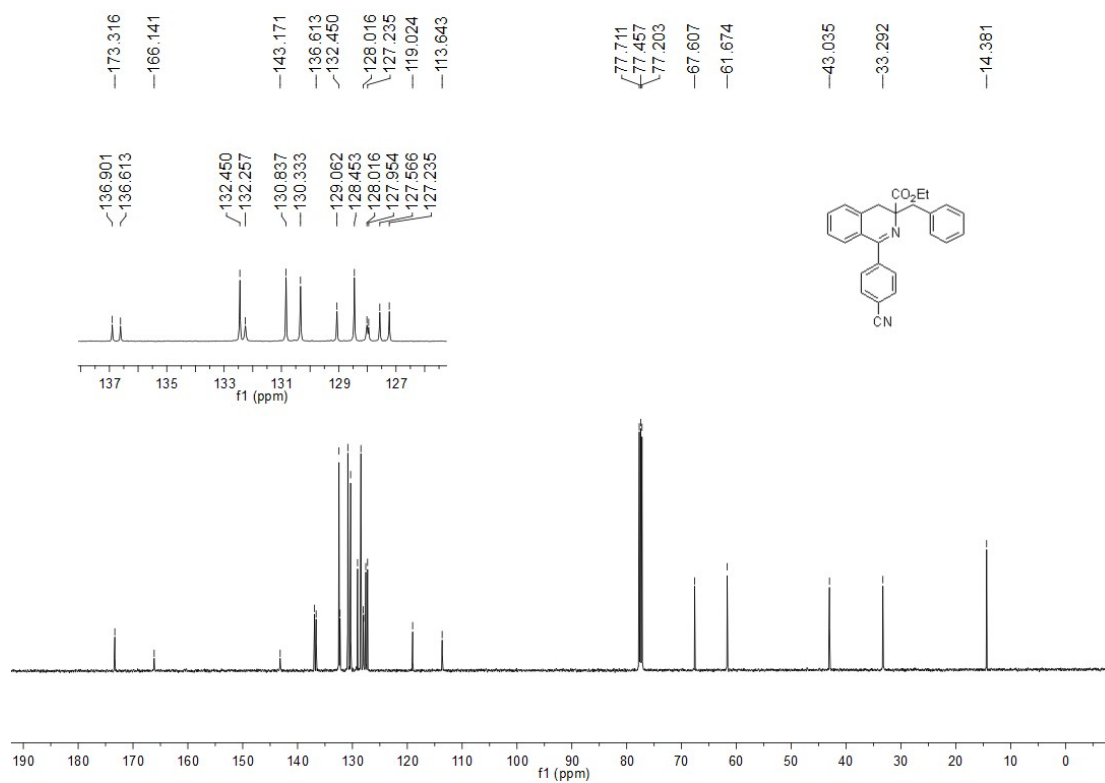
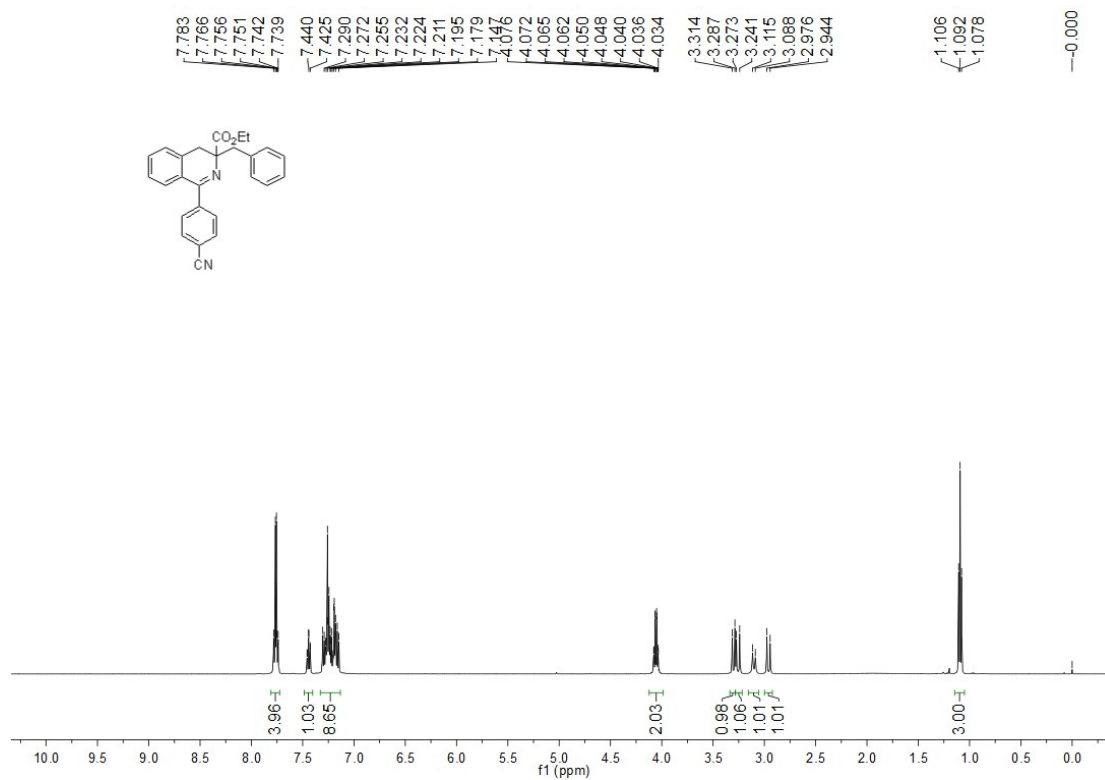
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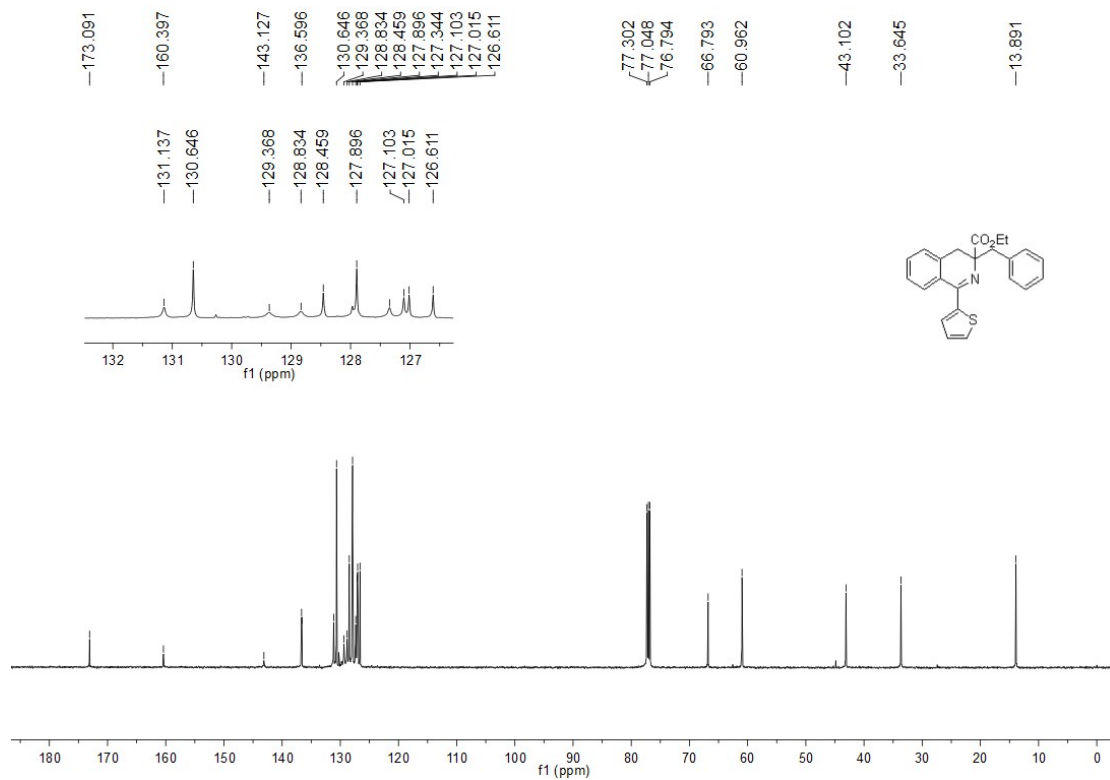
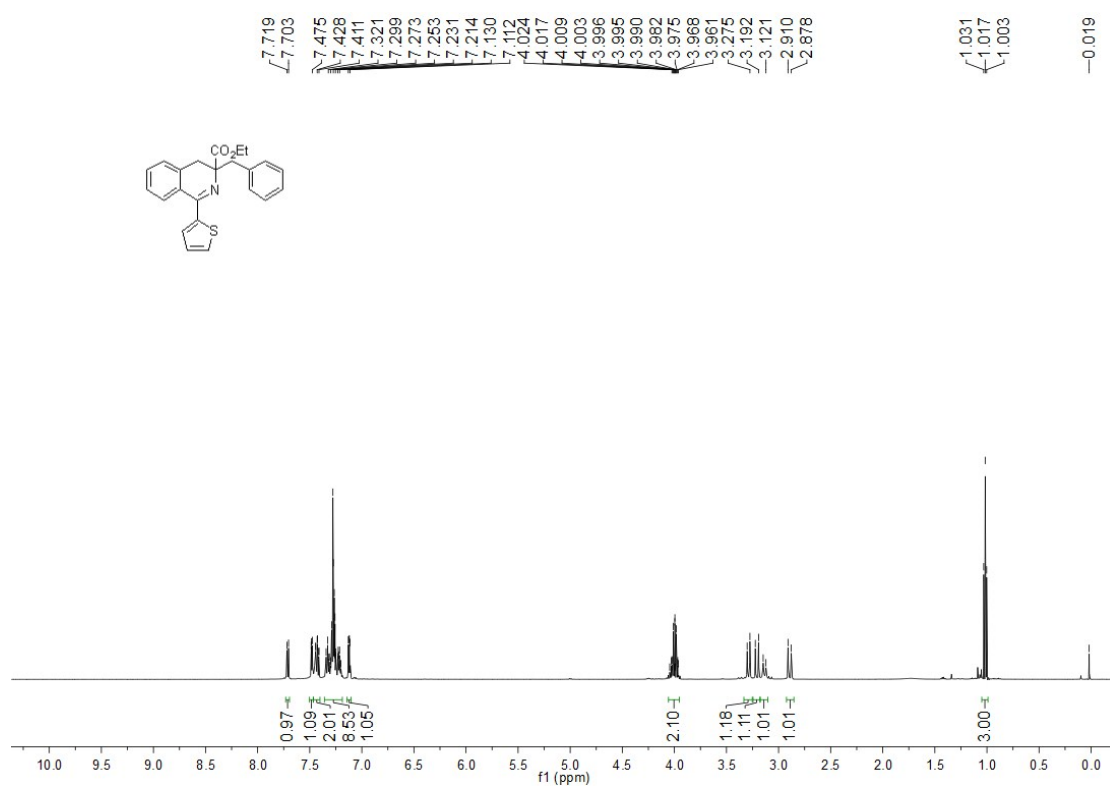
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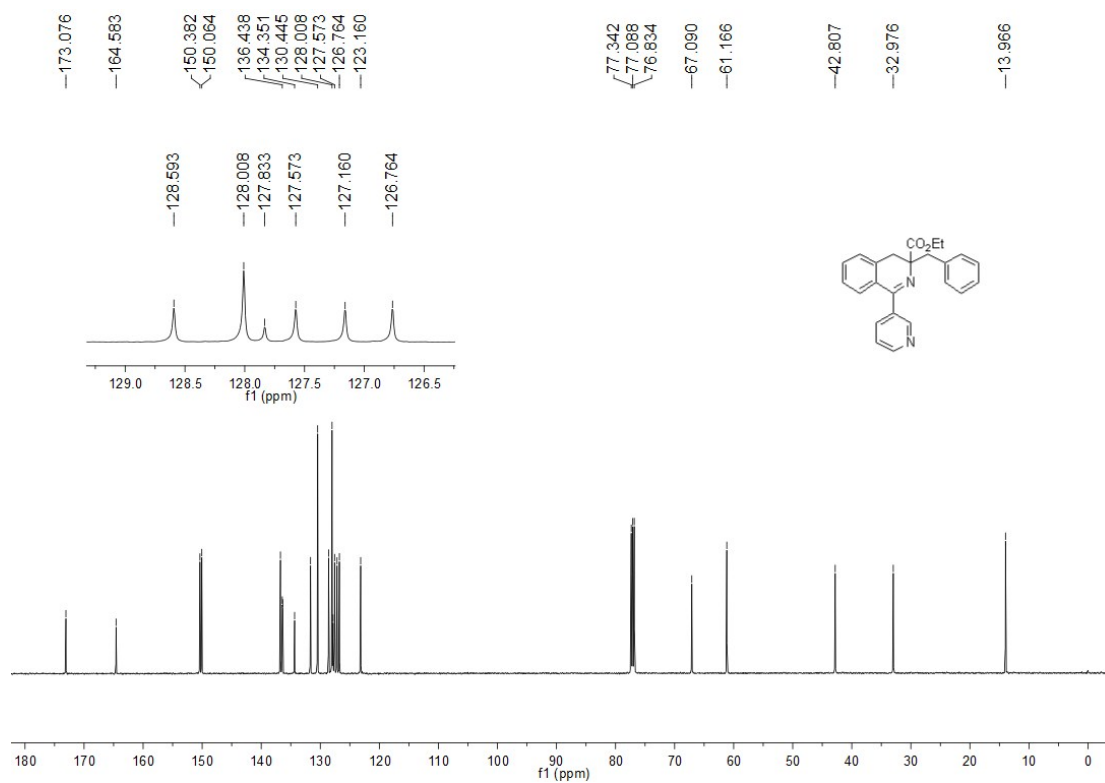
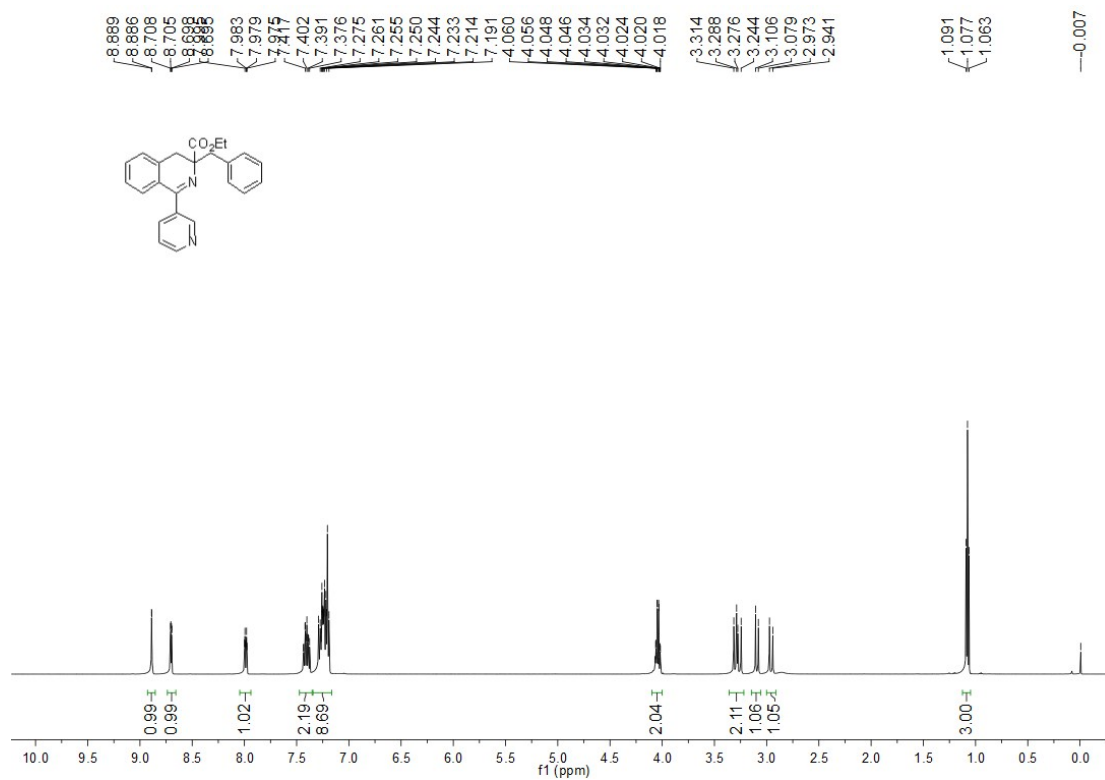
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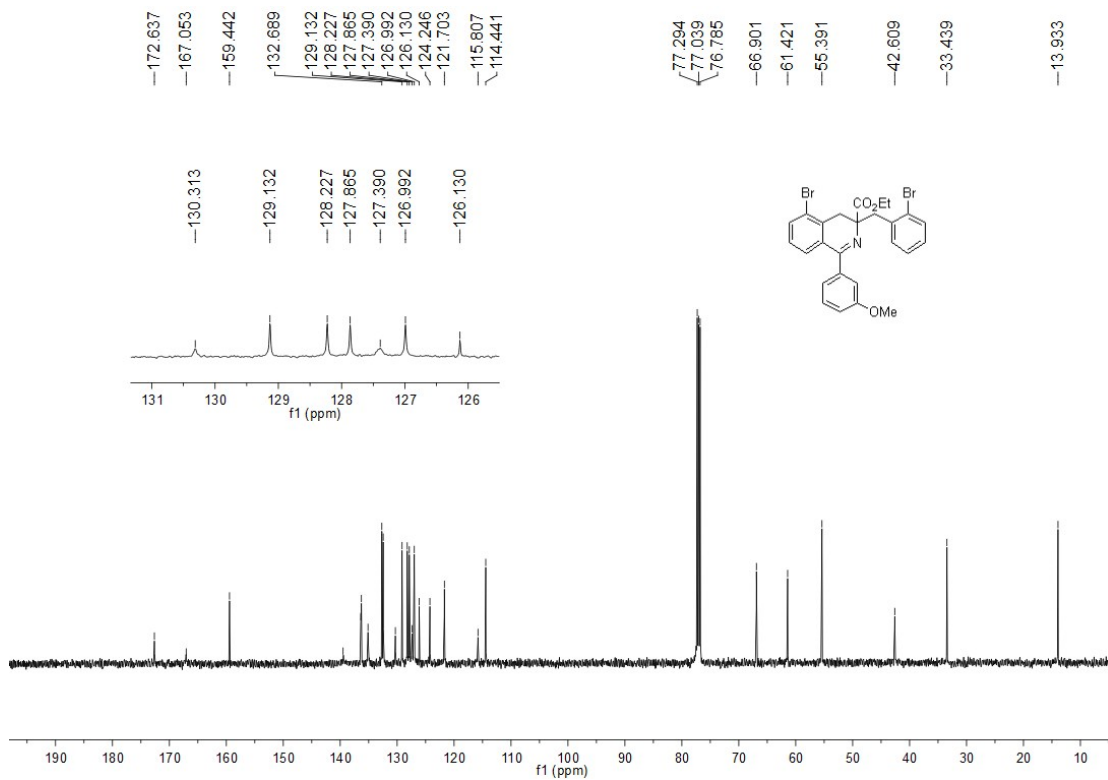
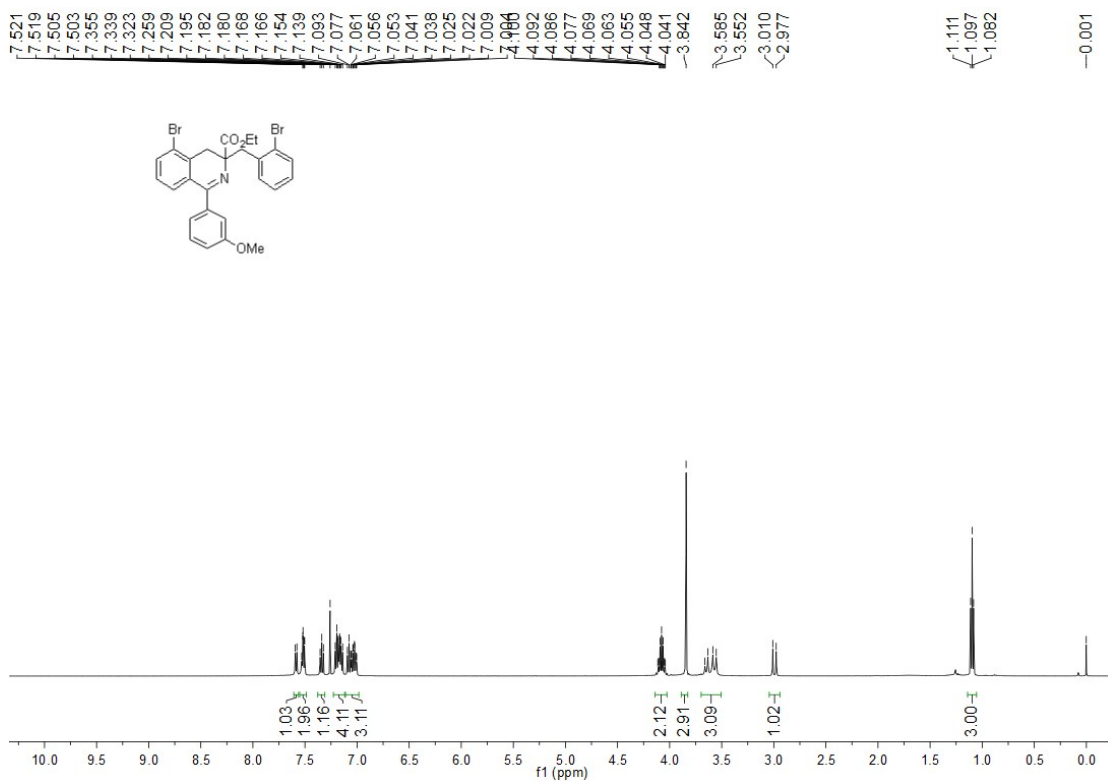
1j



1k



11

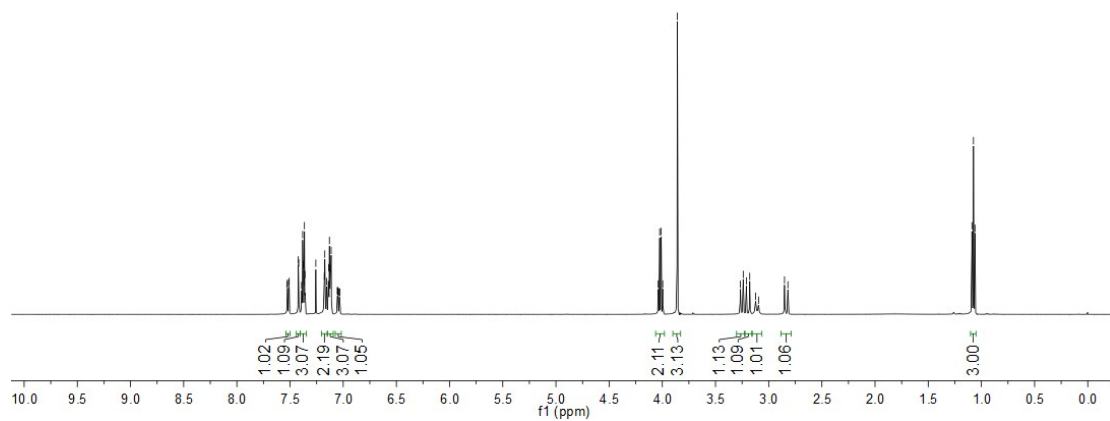
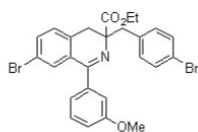


1m

7.514
7.508
7.422
7.418
7.391
7.386
7.381
7.376
7.368
7.365
7.360
7.258
7.178
7.173
7.157
7.138
7.130
7.122
7.113
7.055
7.053
7.050
7.048
7.038
7.037
7.033

4.039
4.025
4.010
3.996
3.859
3.239
3.178
3.096
2.851
2.819

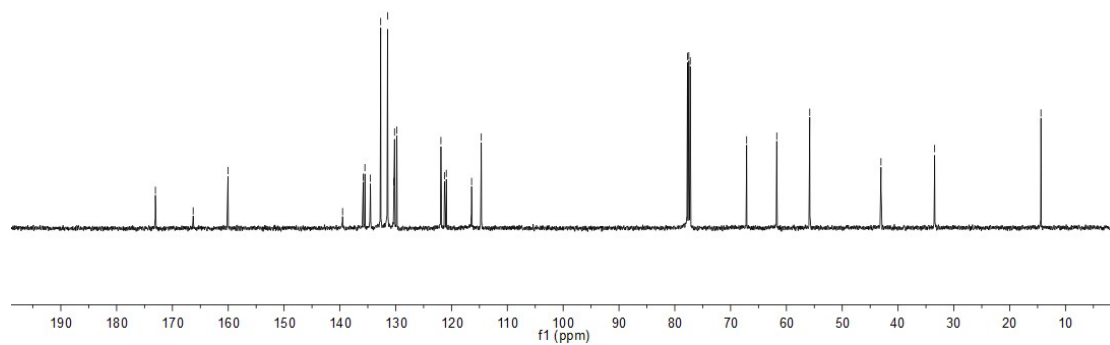
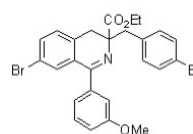
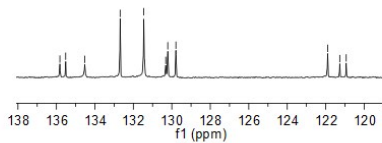
1.089
1.075
1.061



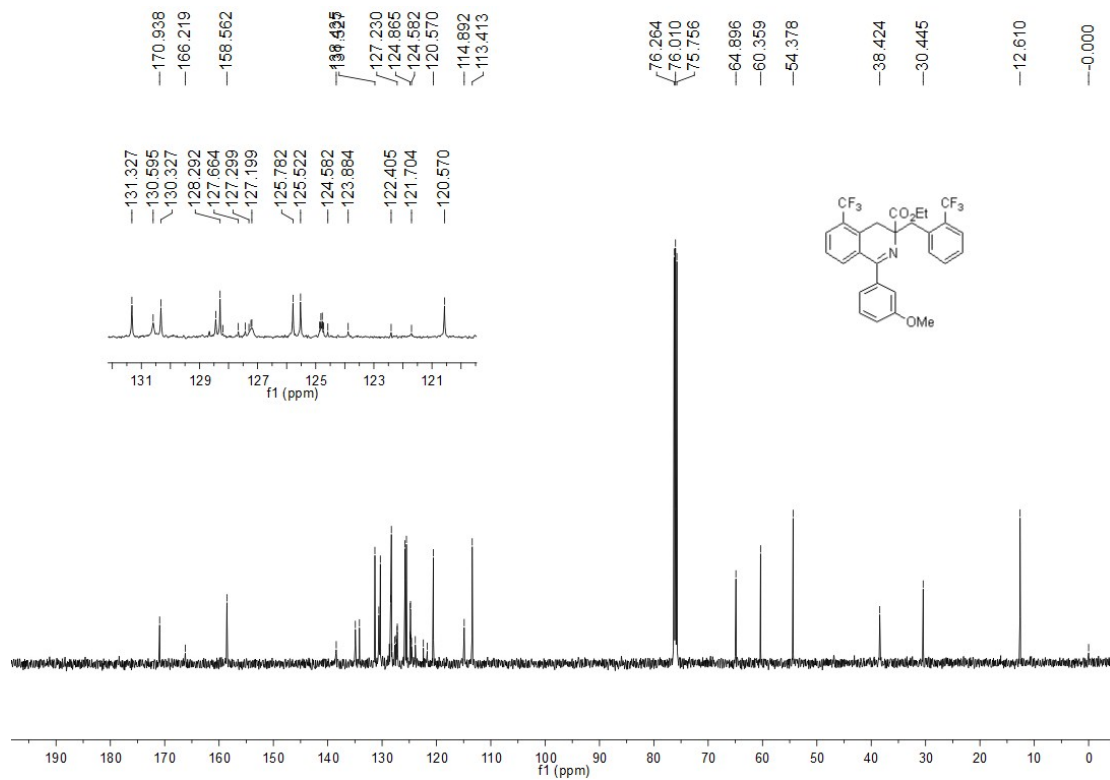
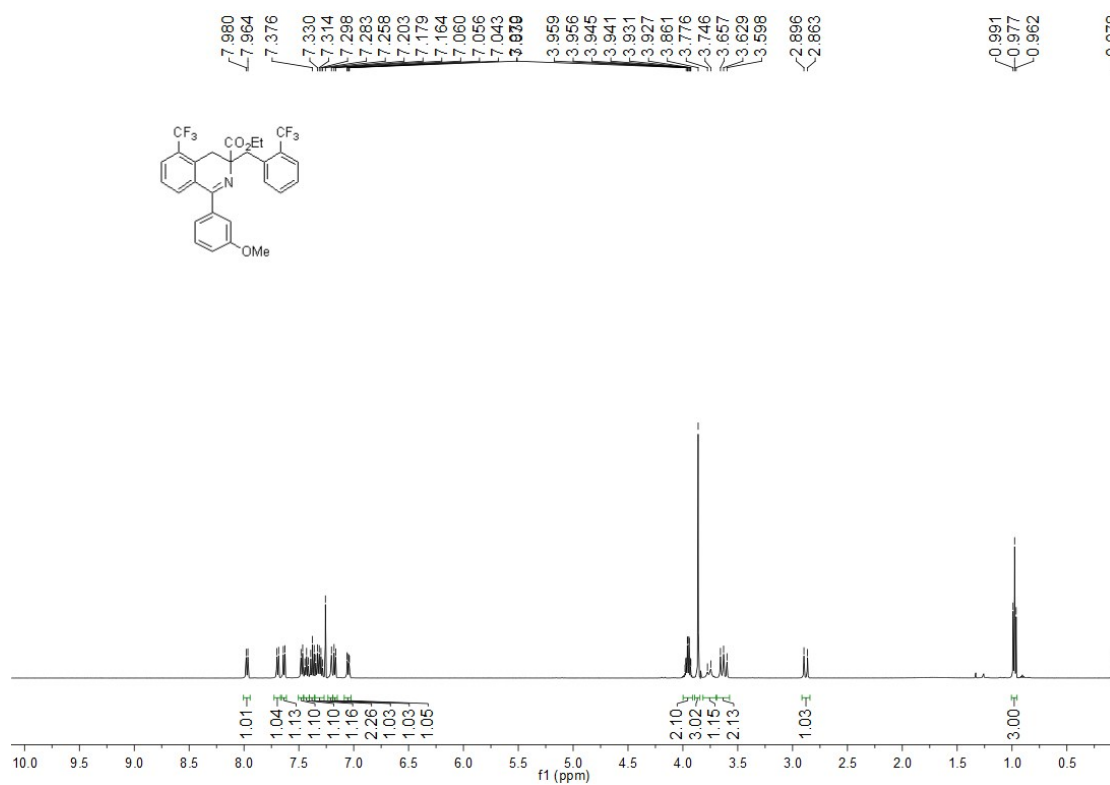
-173.049
-166.283
-160.041
-139.517
-132.686
-129.788
-121.897
-120.933
-116.400
-114.665

77.734
77.480
77.226
67.124
61.735
55.821
43.057
33.443
14.401

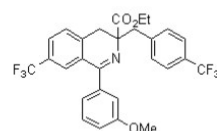
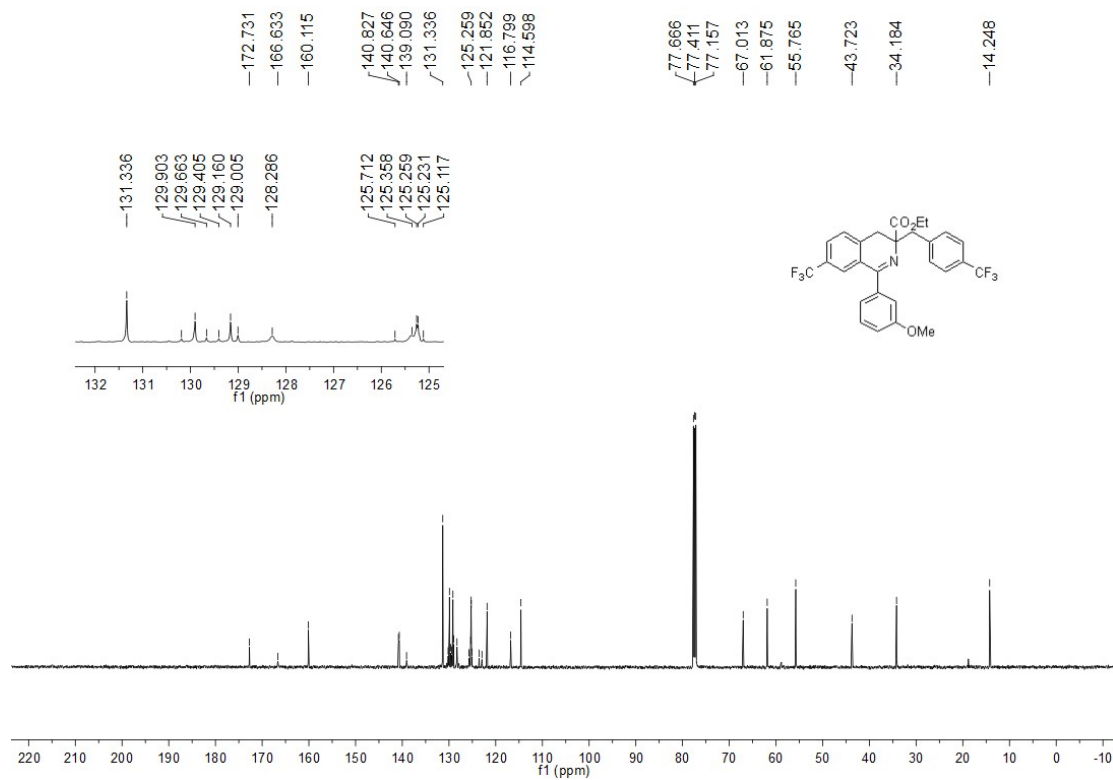
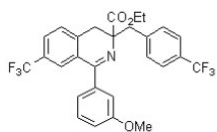
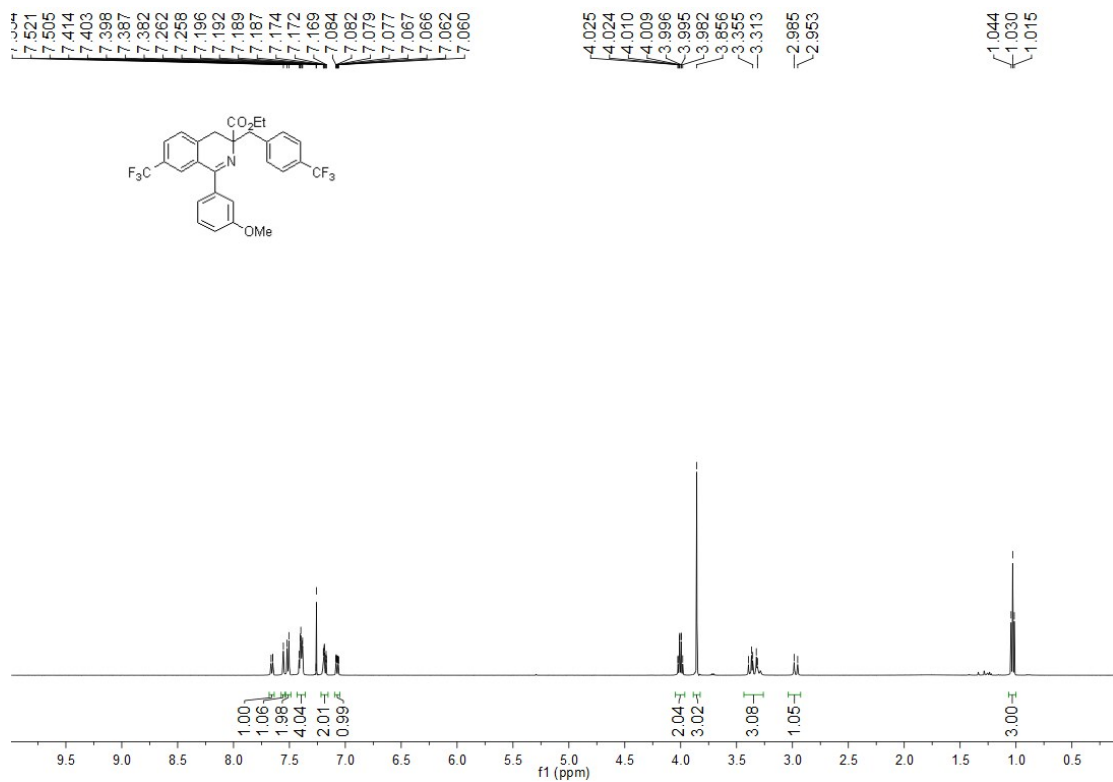
135.819
135.519
134.524
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131.461
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120.933



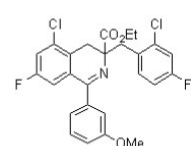
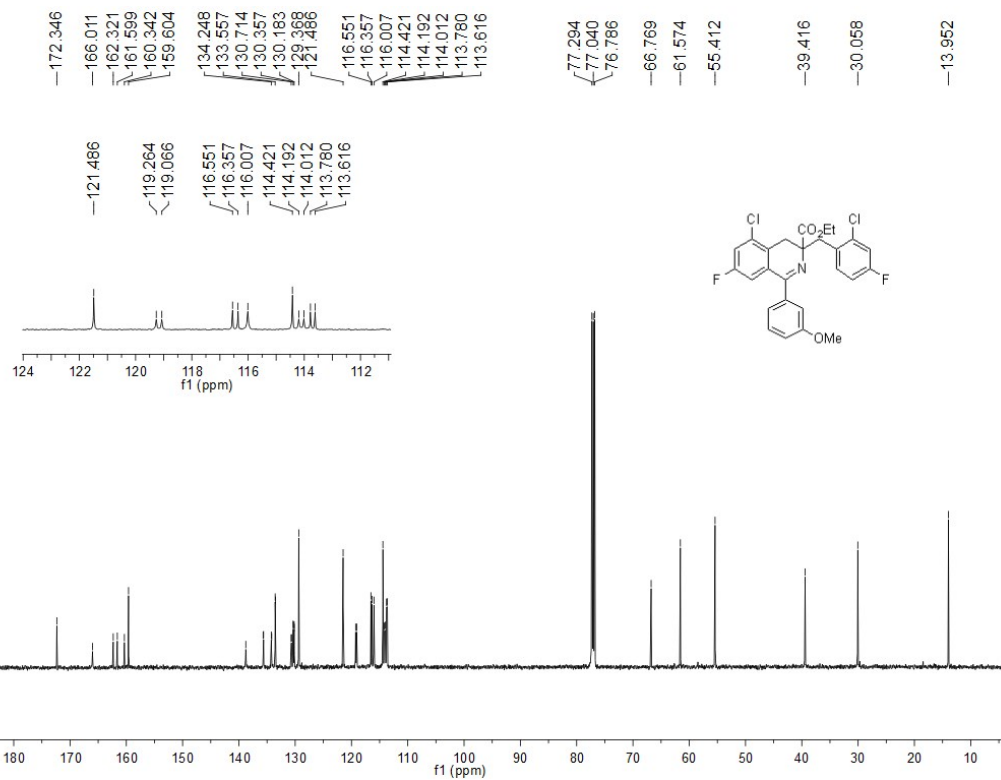
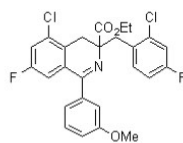
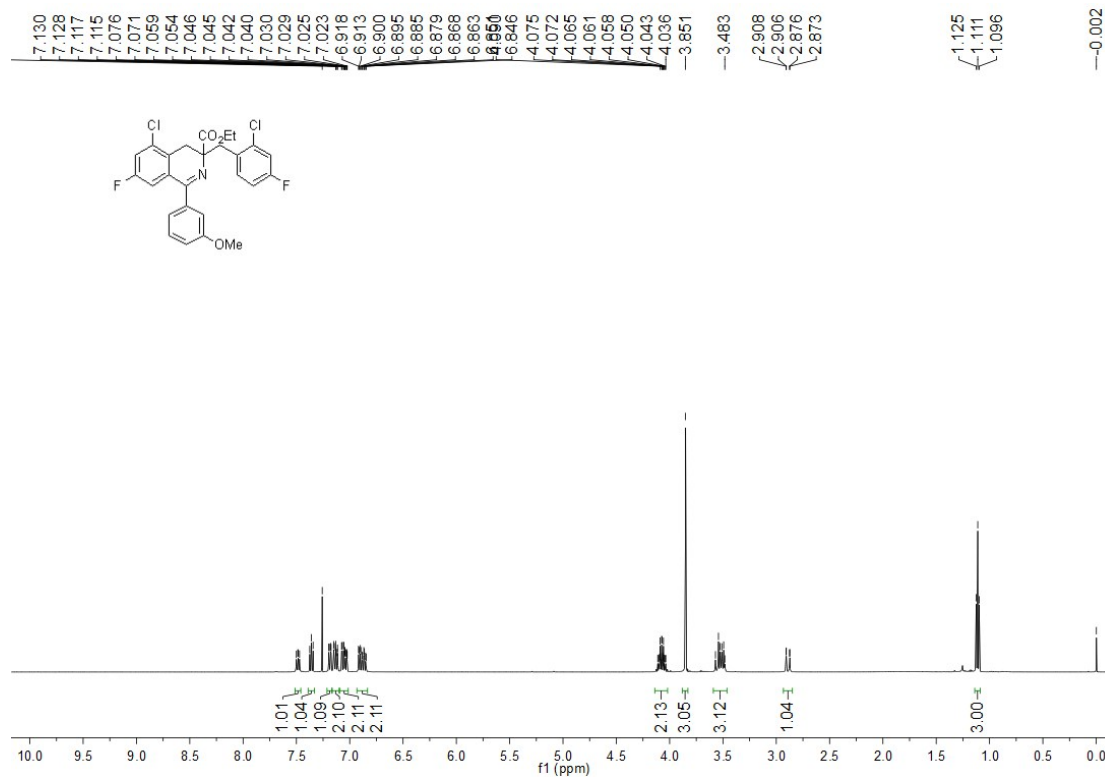
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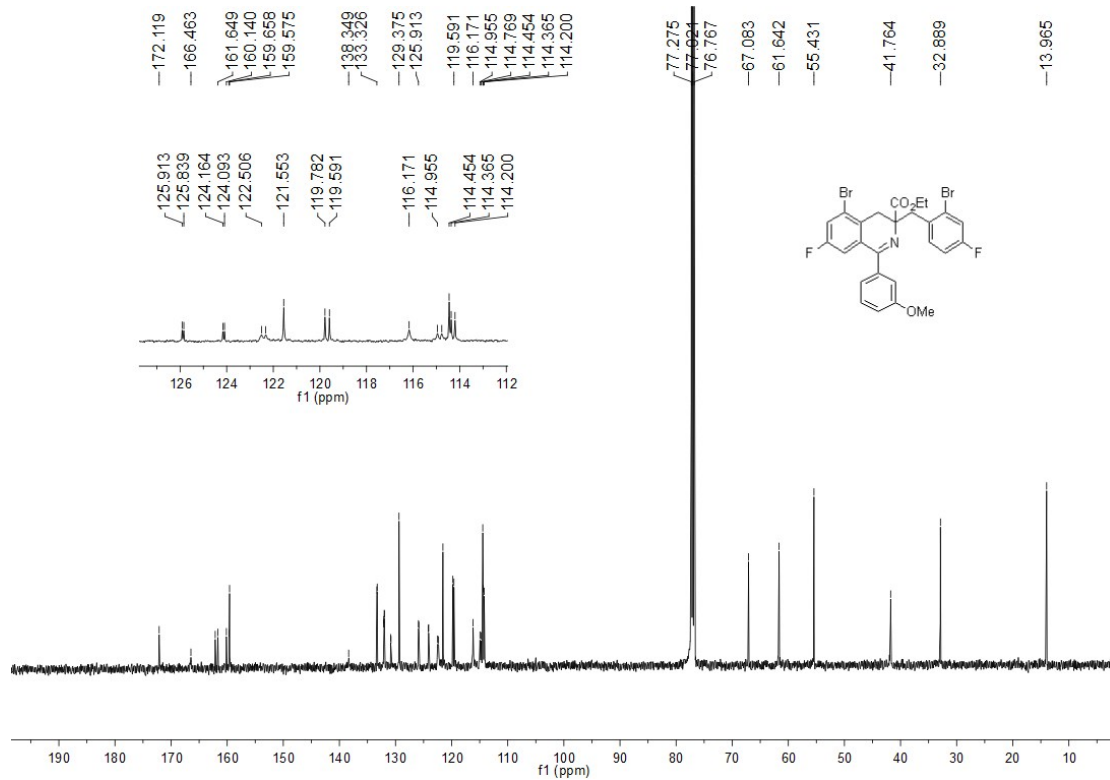
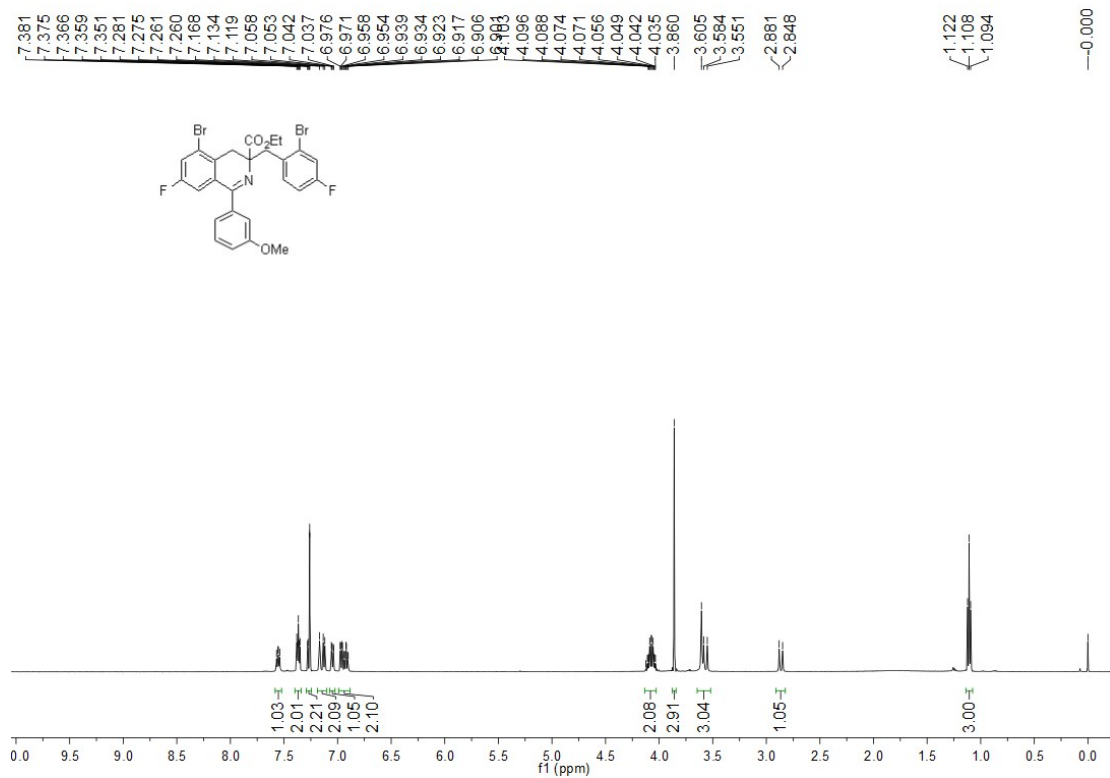
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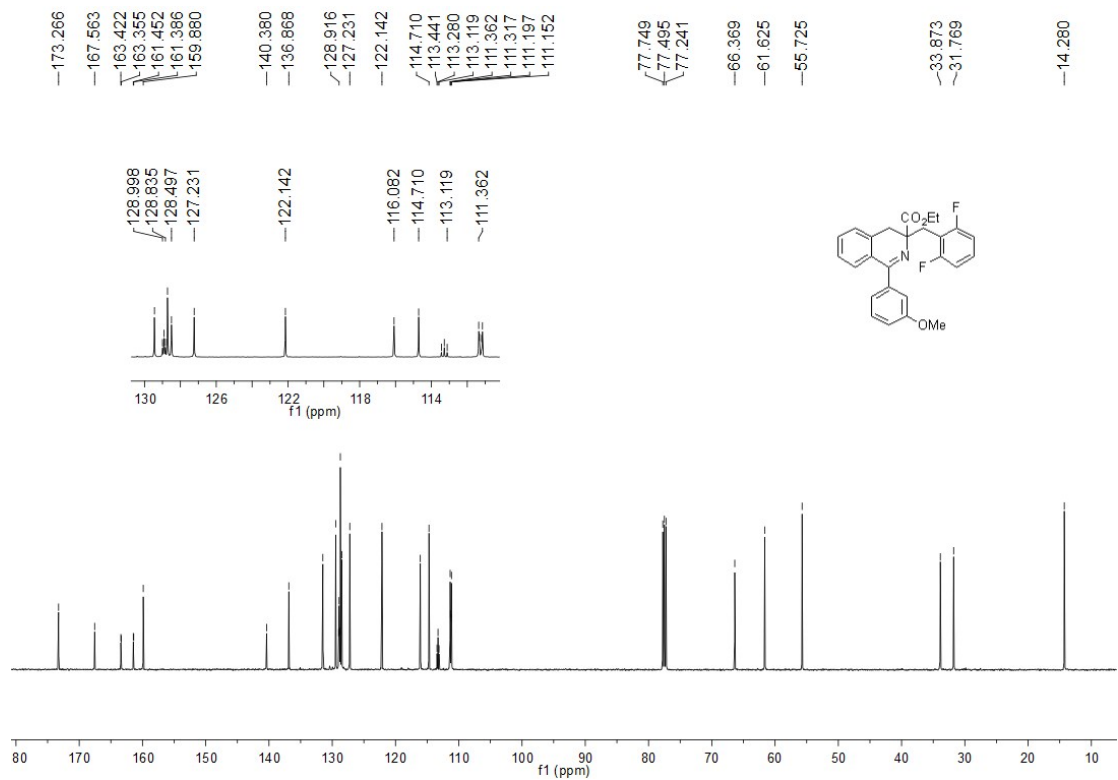
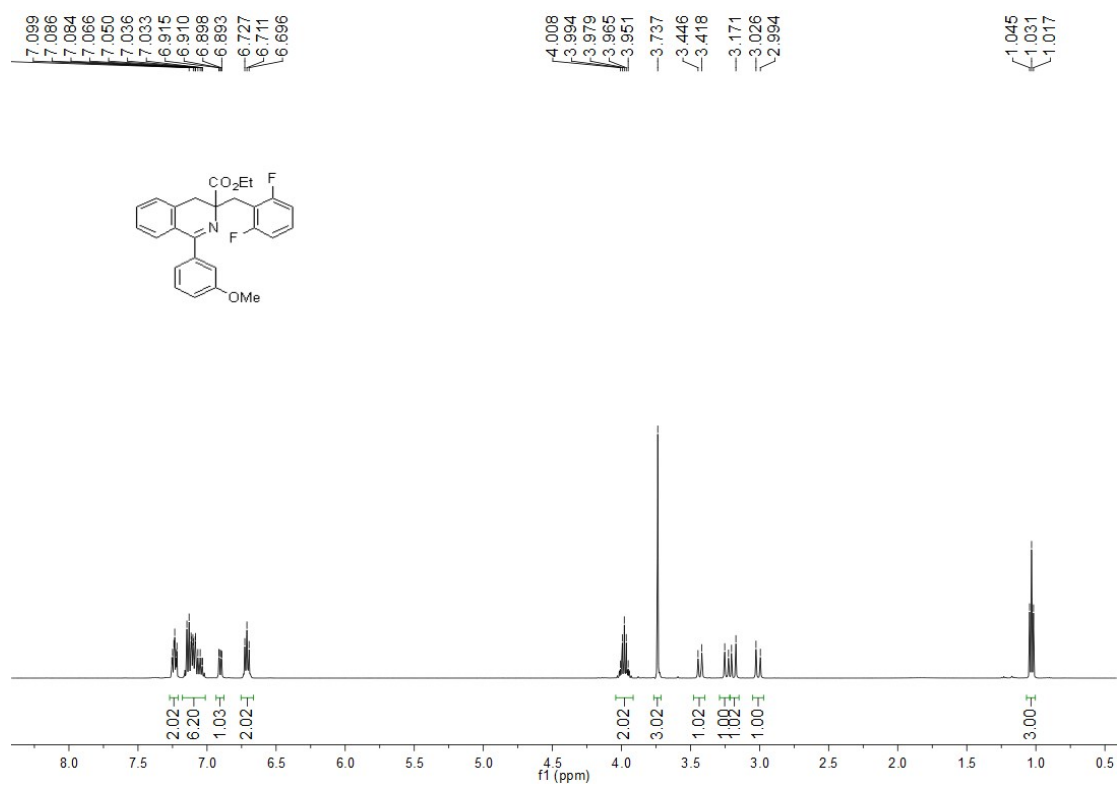
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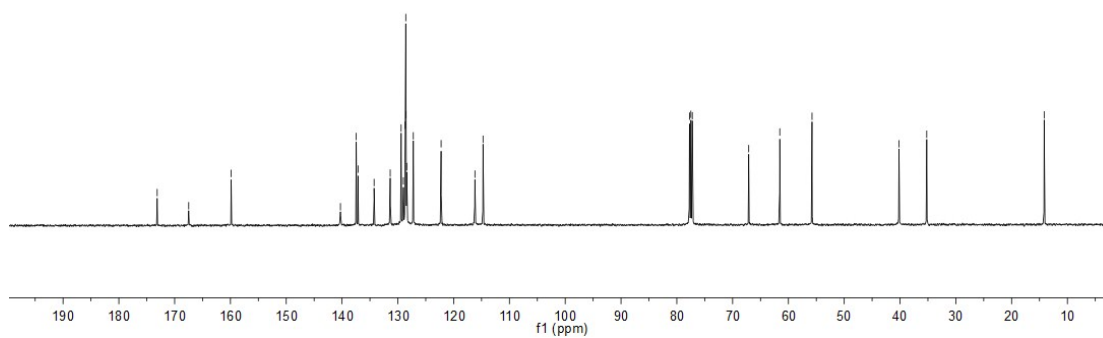
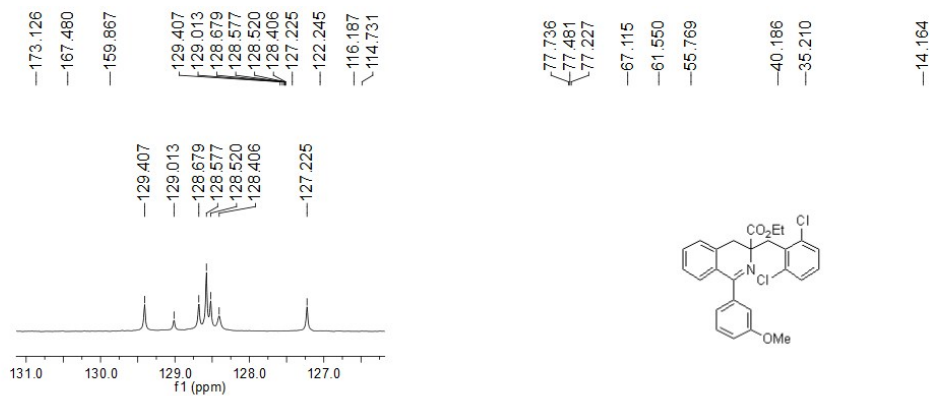
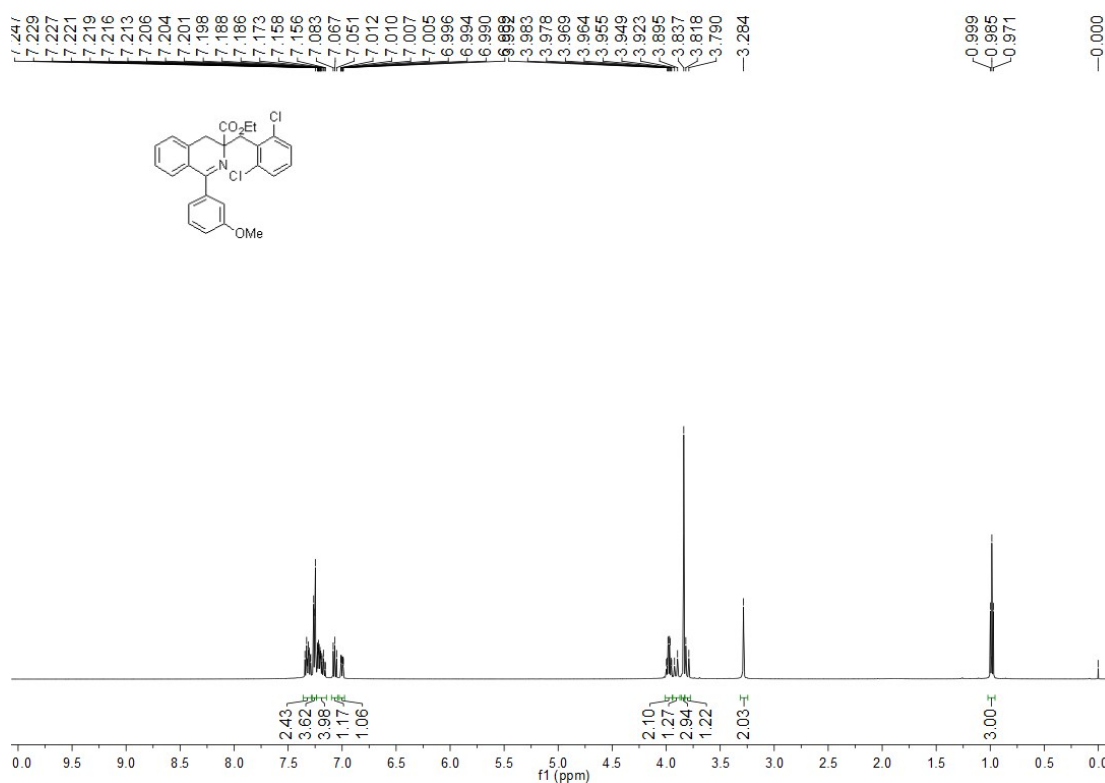
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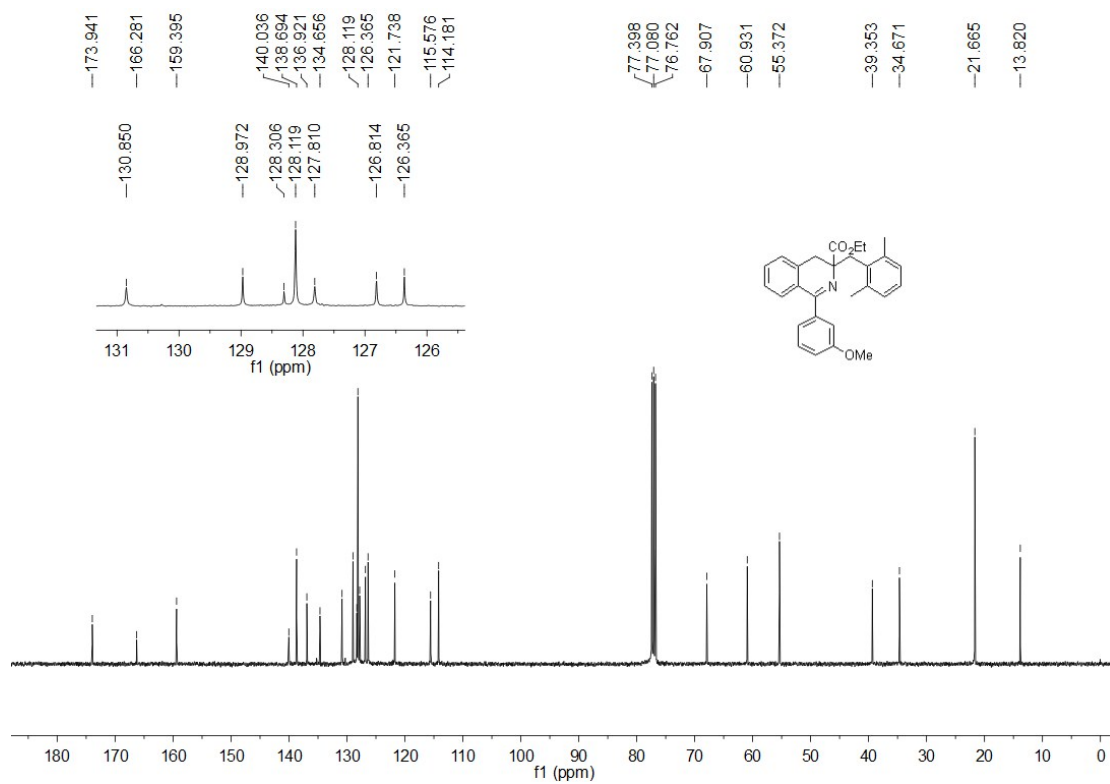
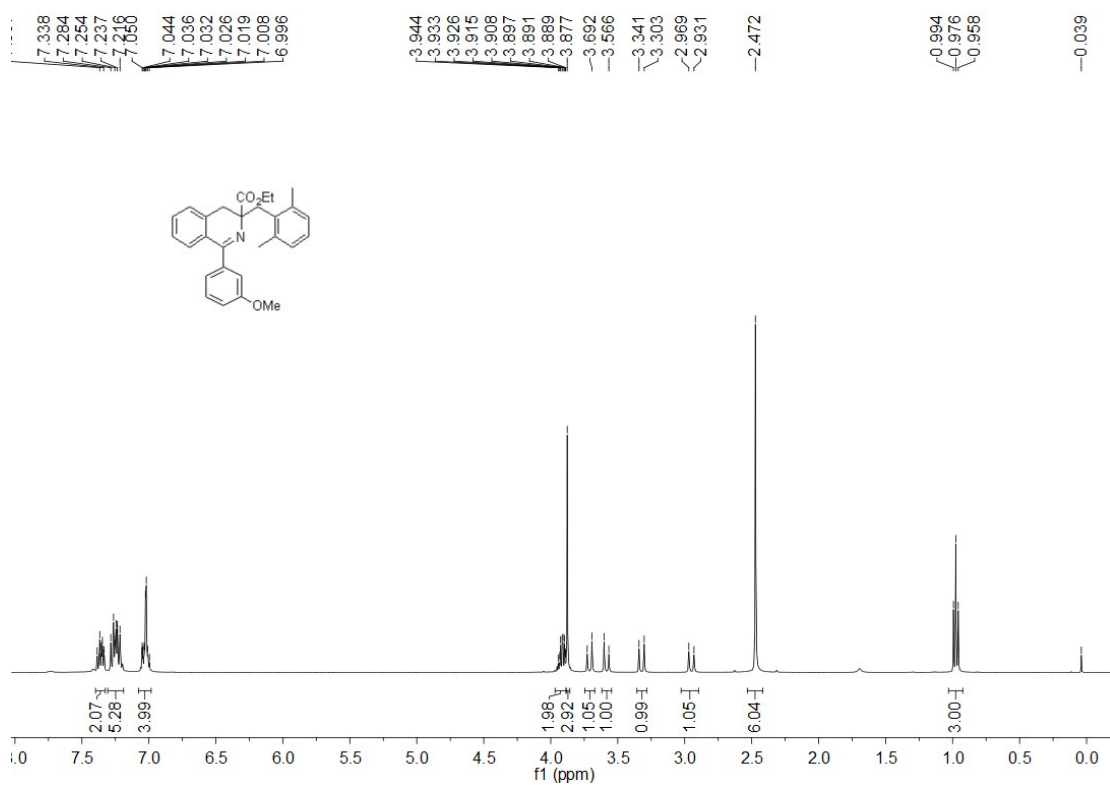
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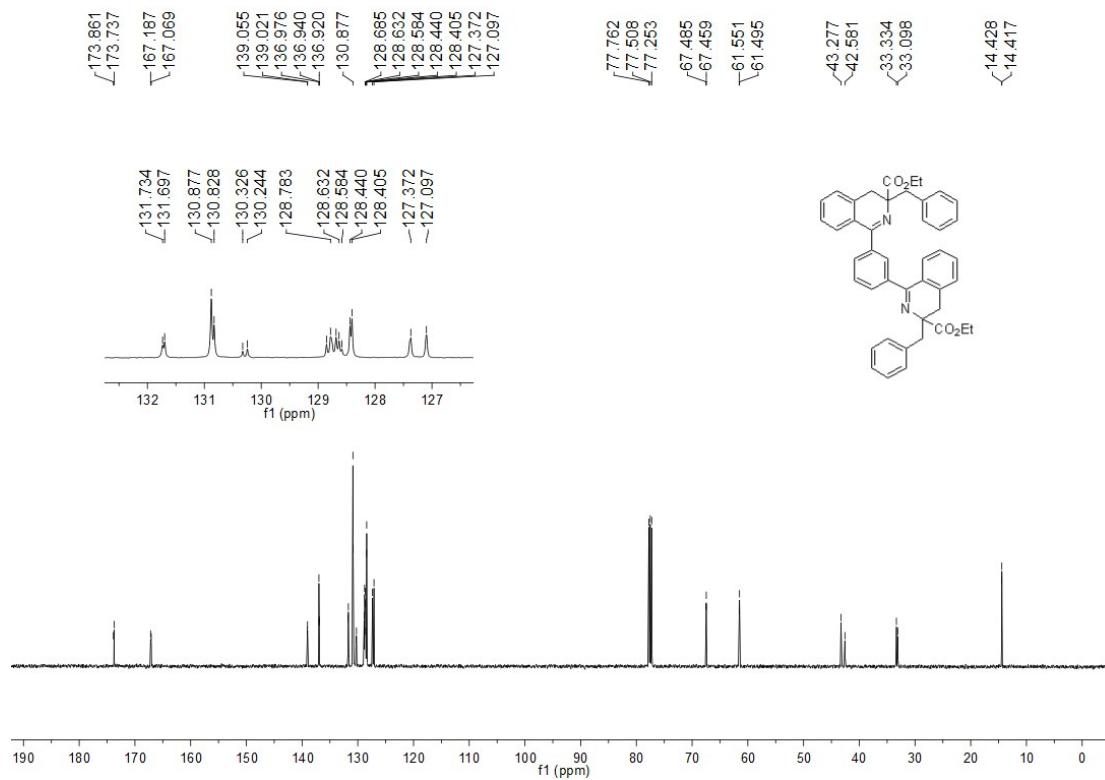
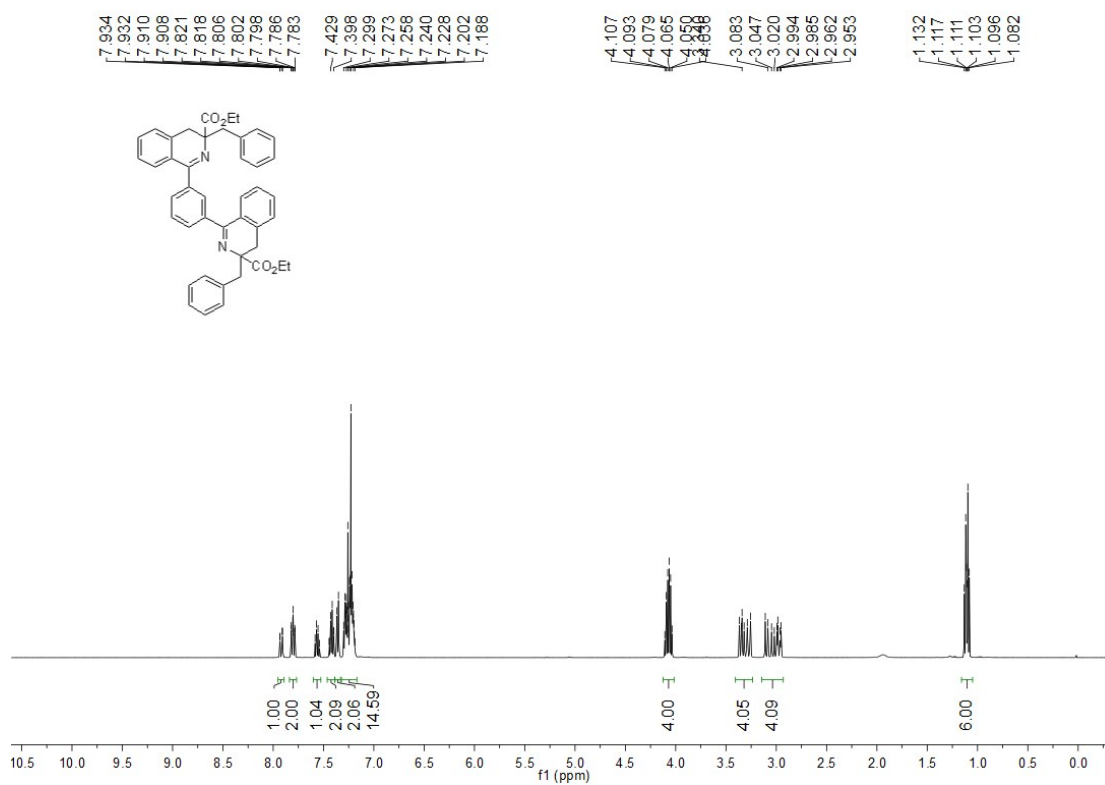
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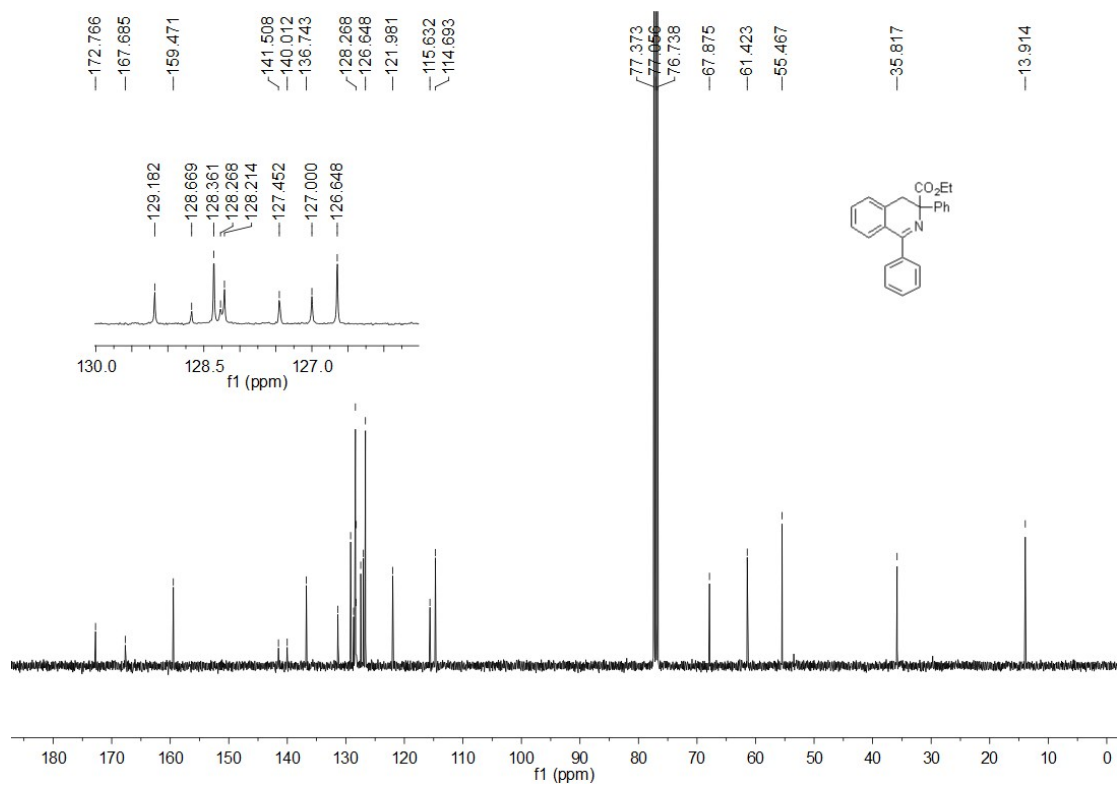
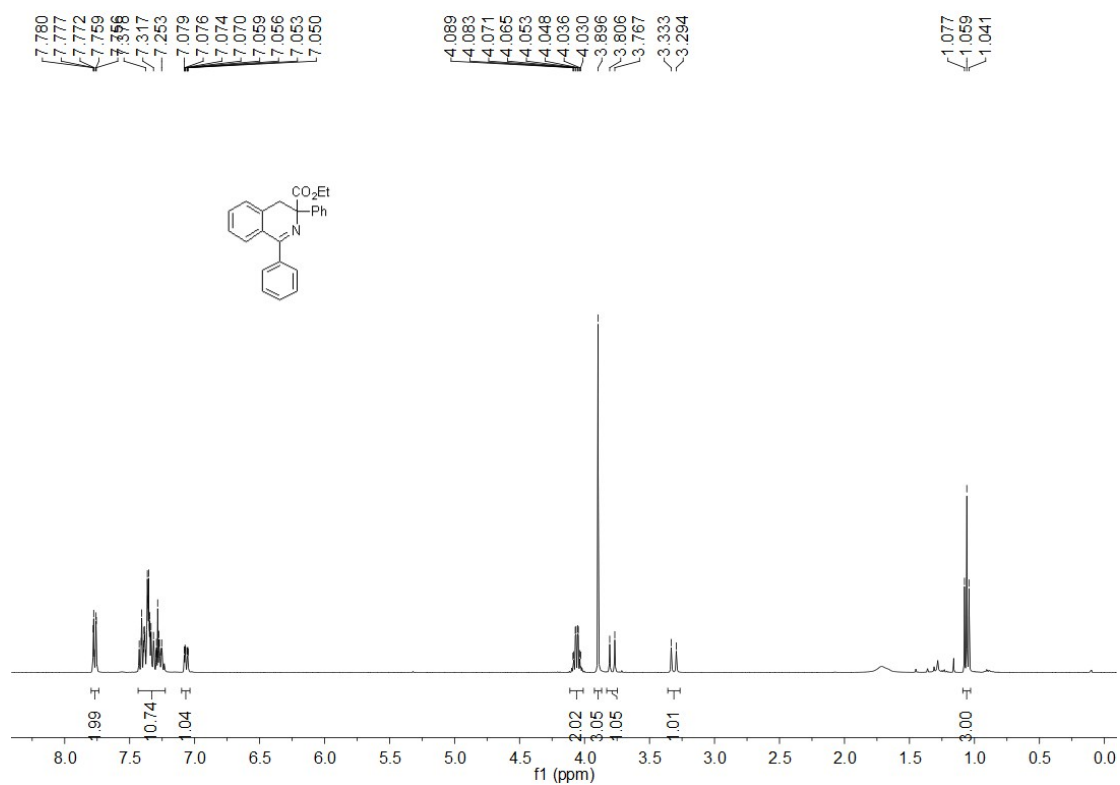
1t



1u



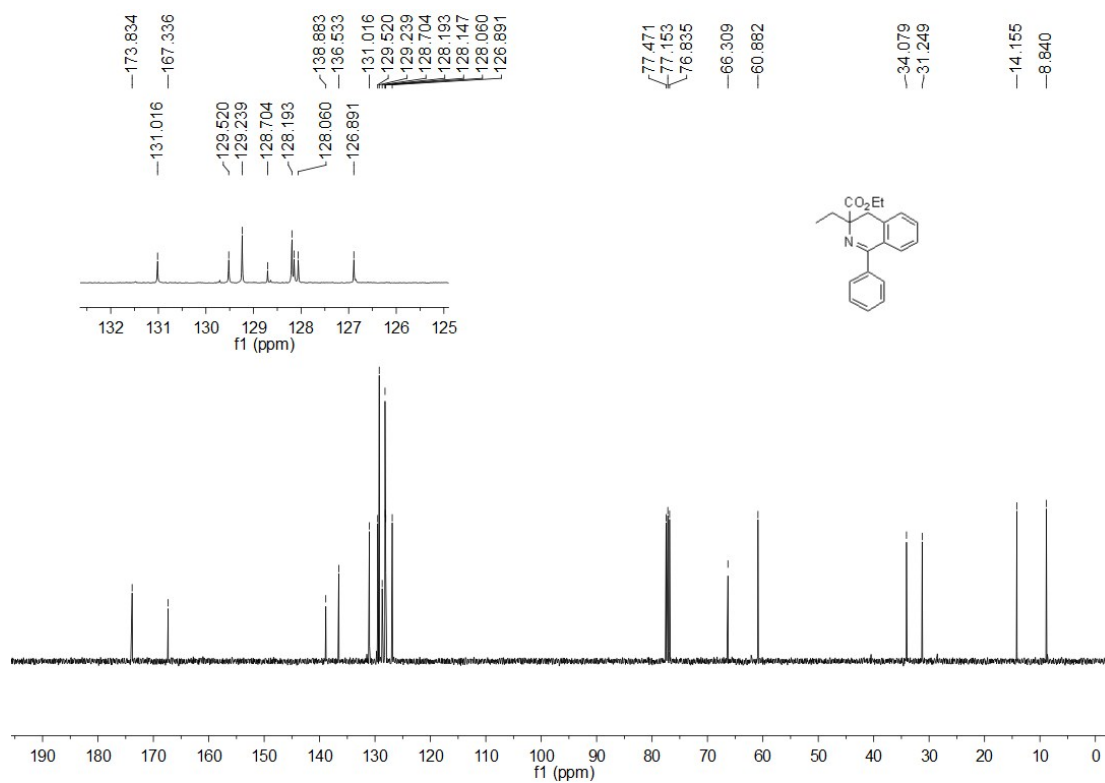
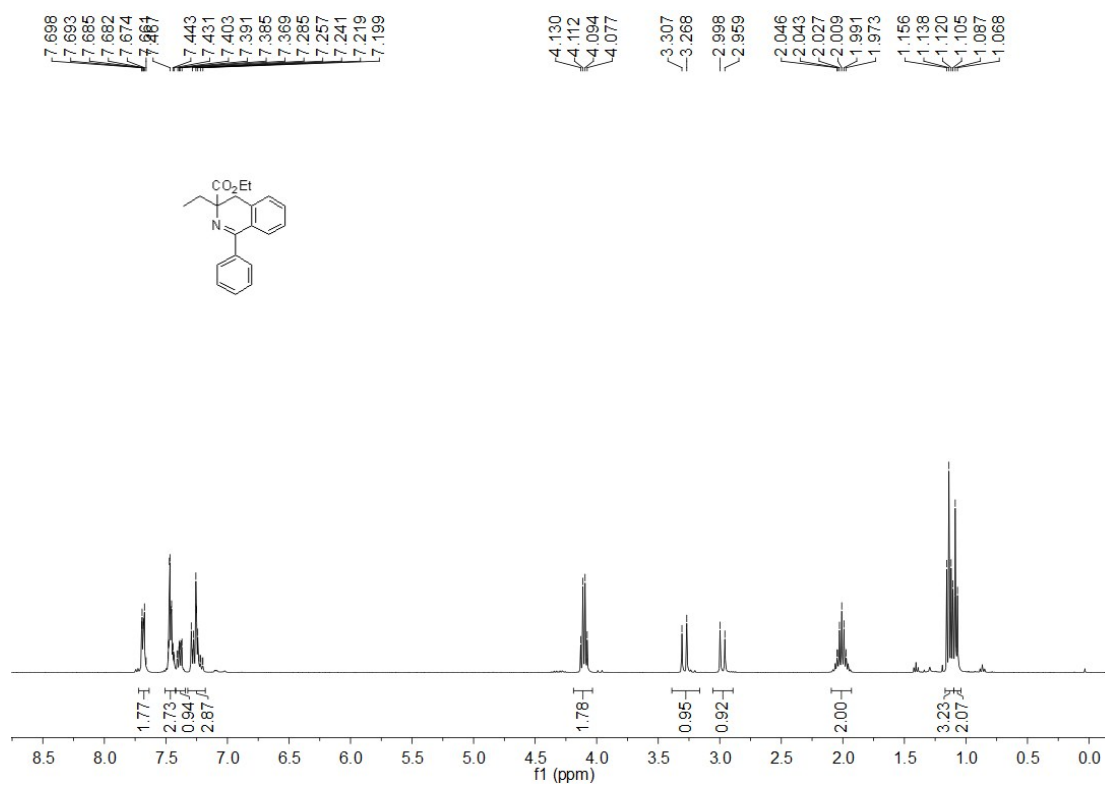
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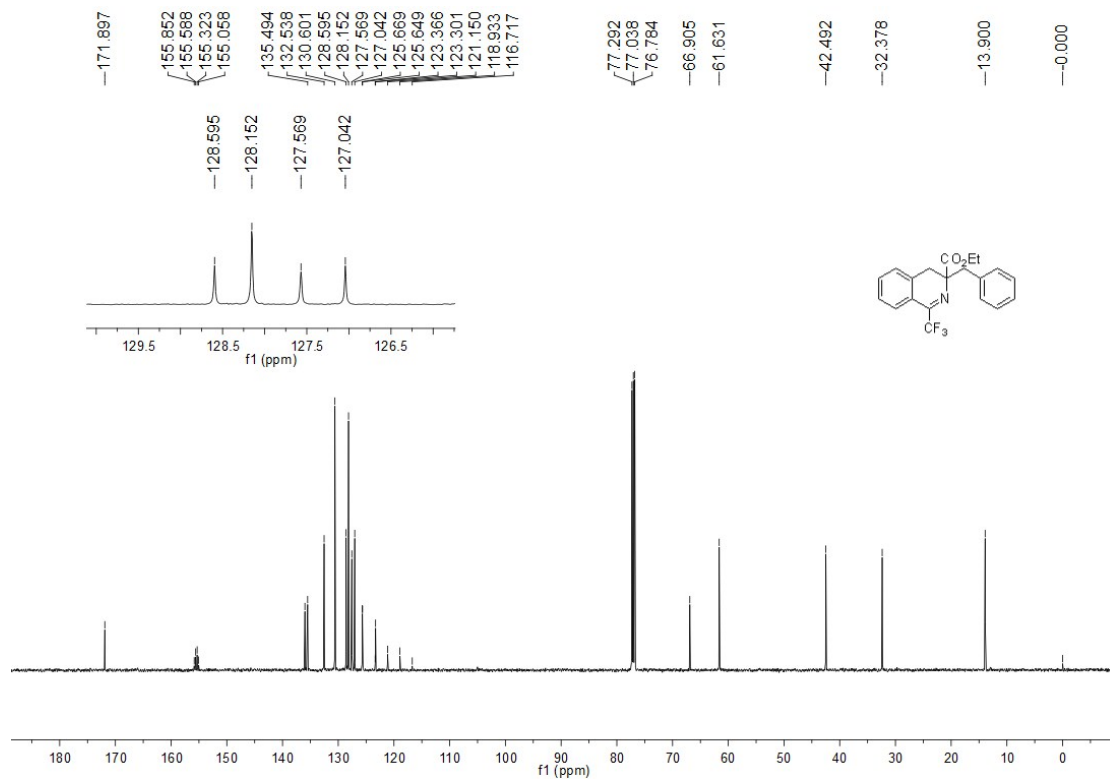
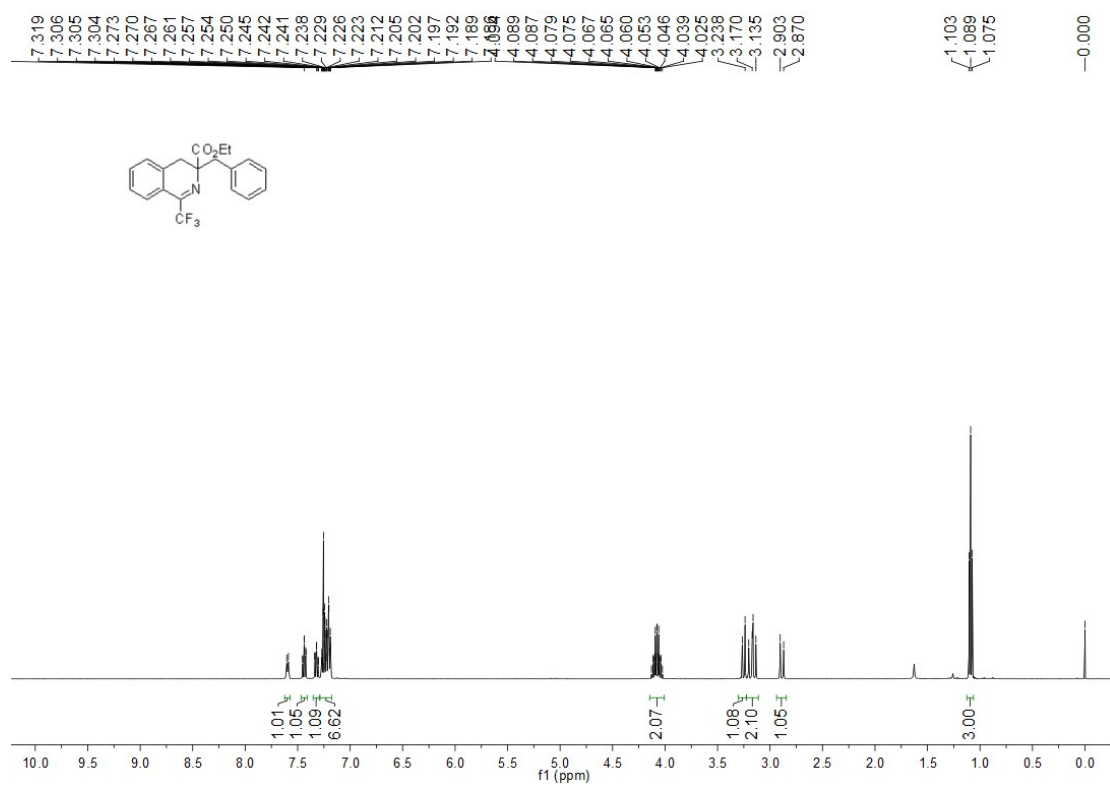
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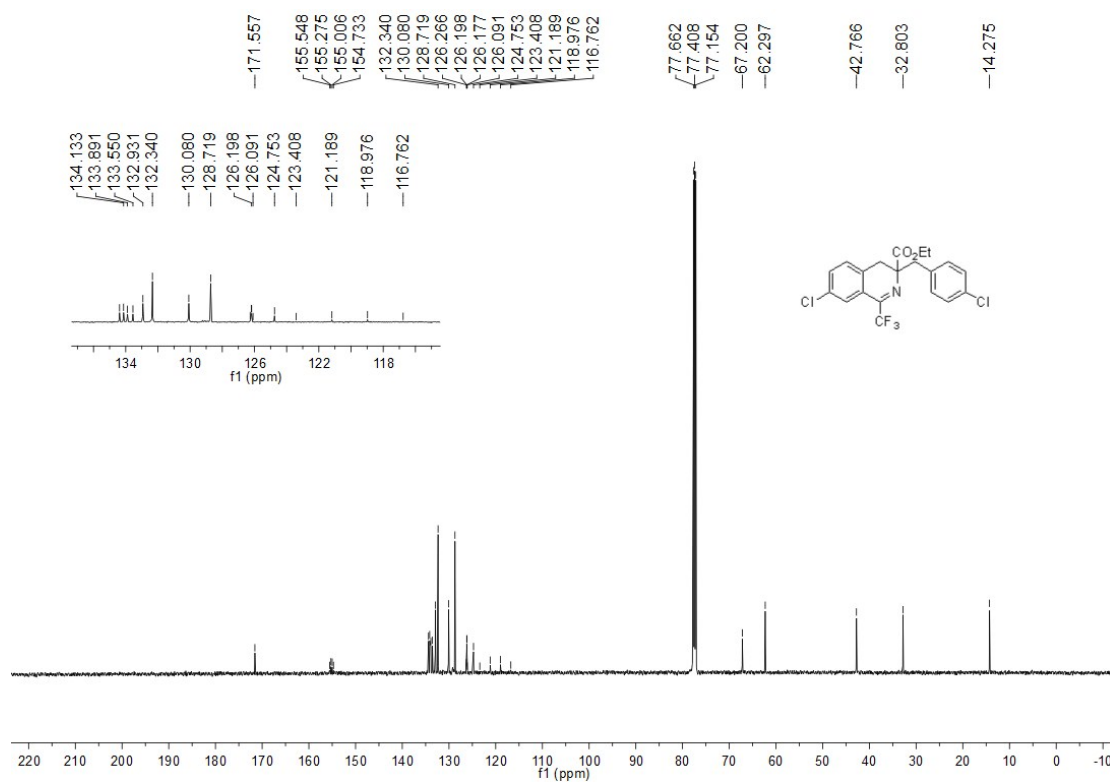
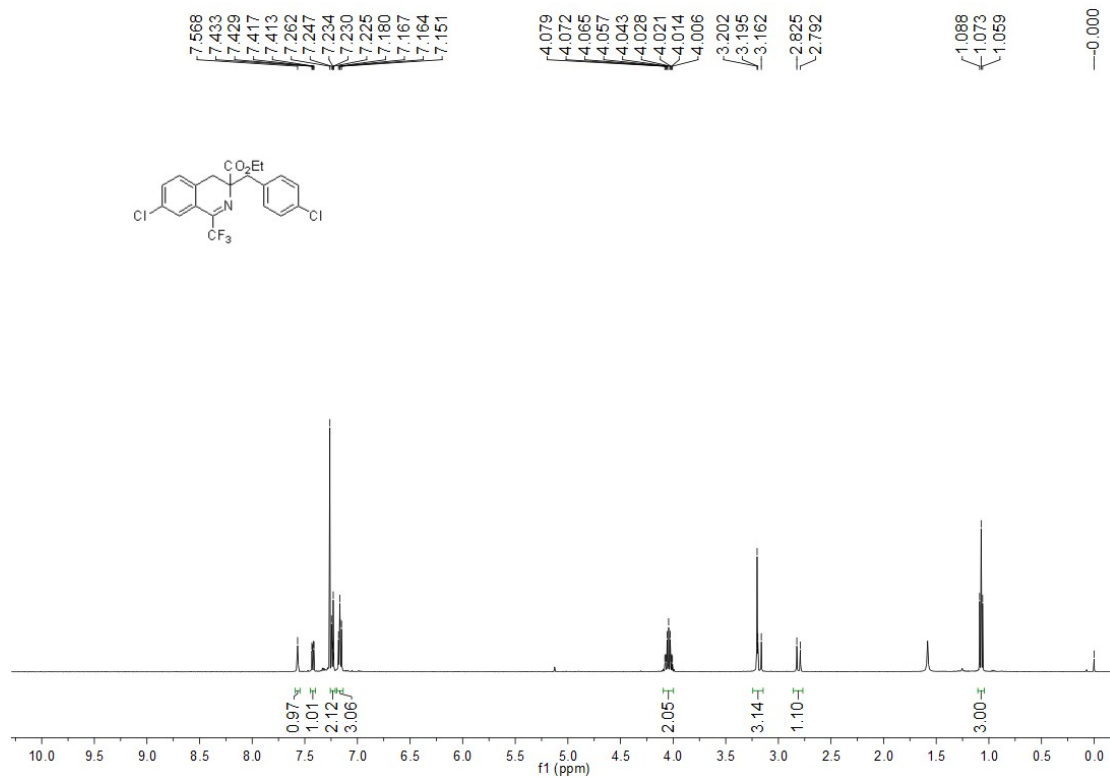
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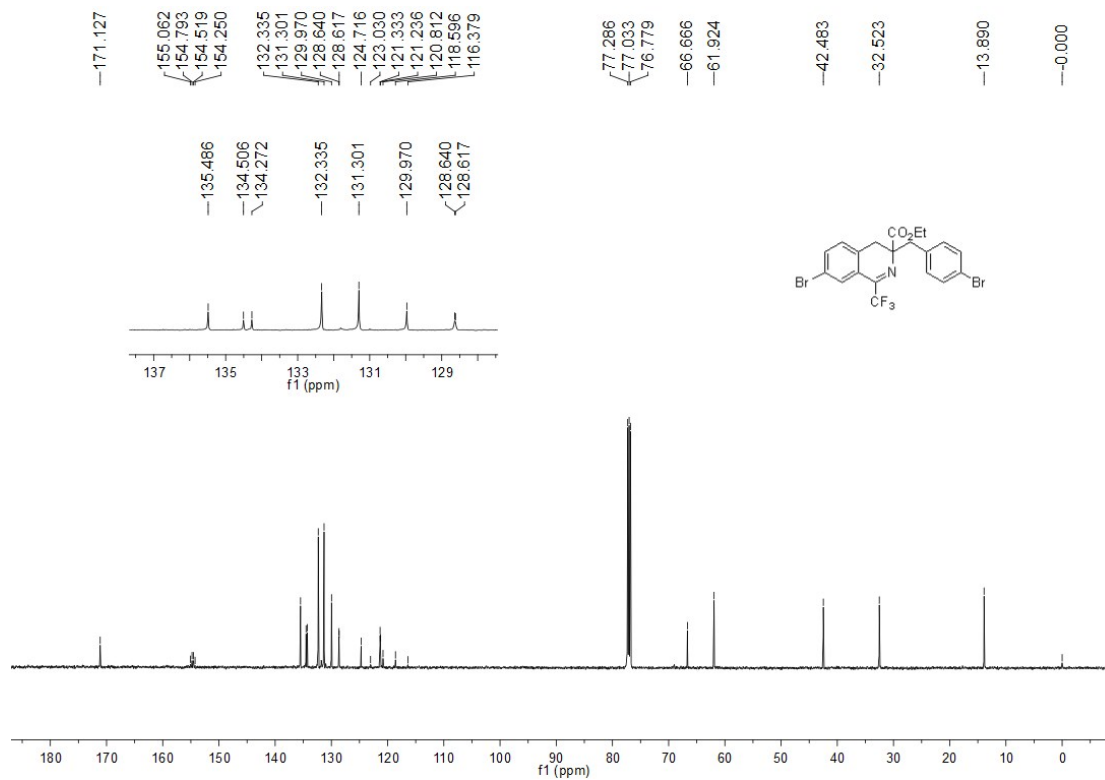
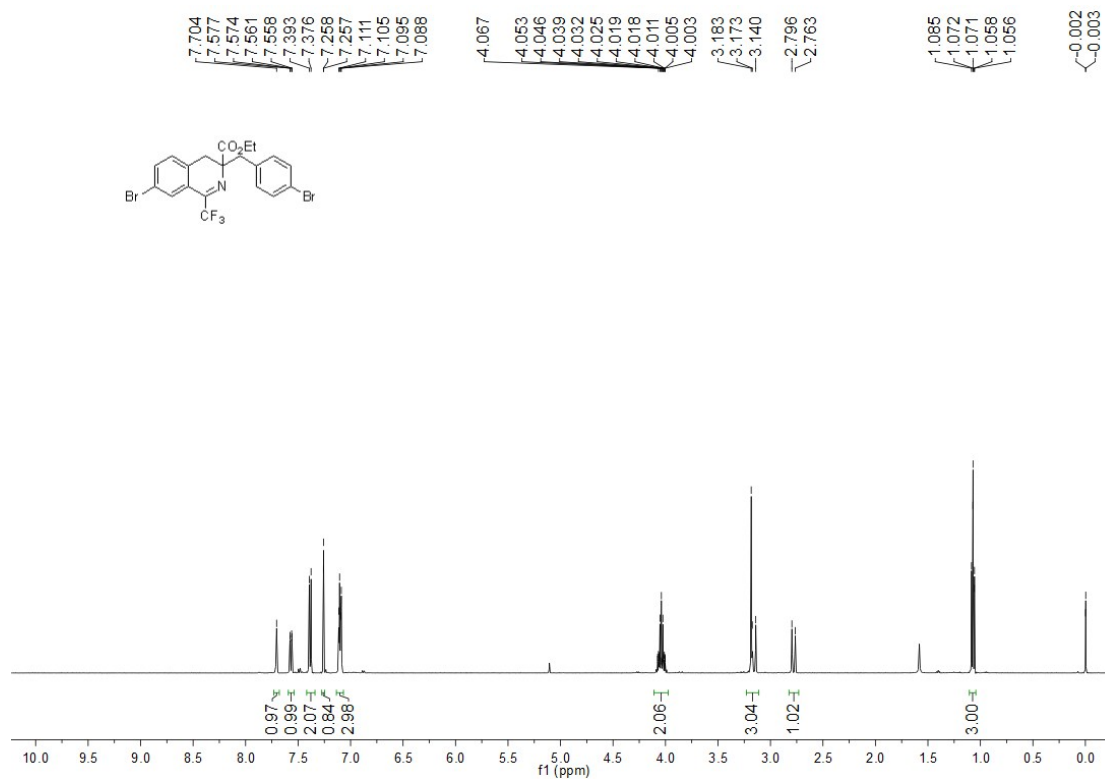
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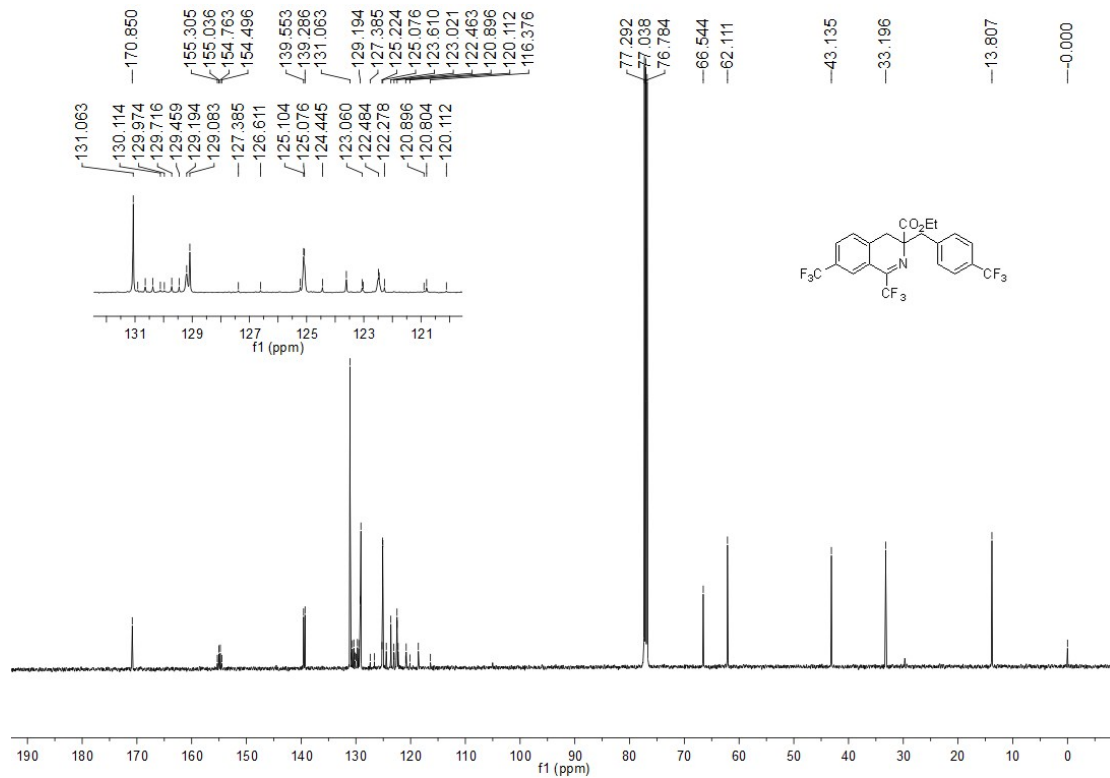
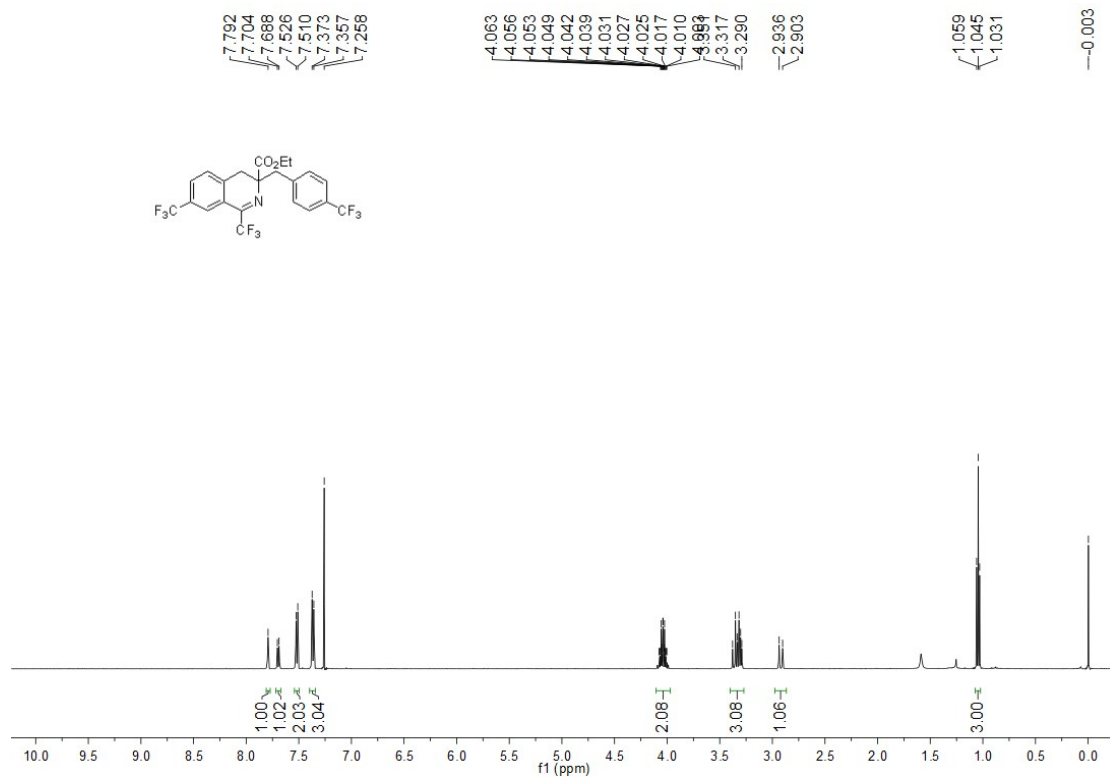
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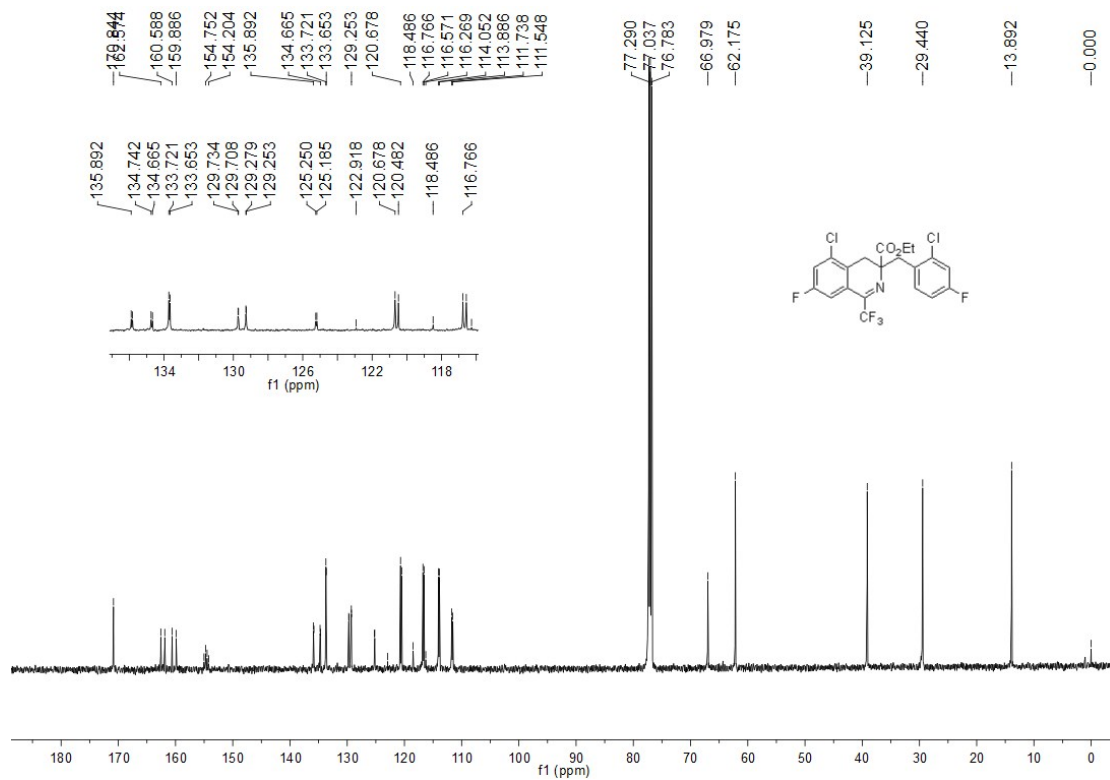
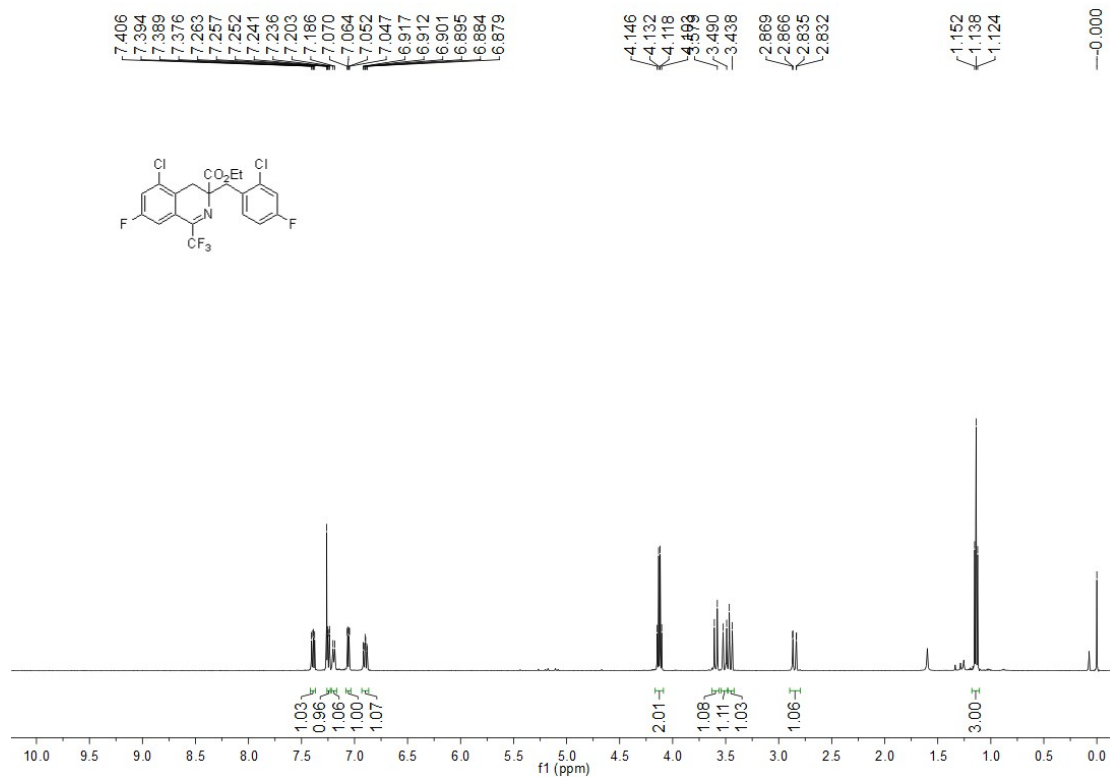
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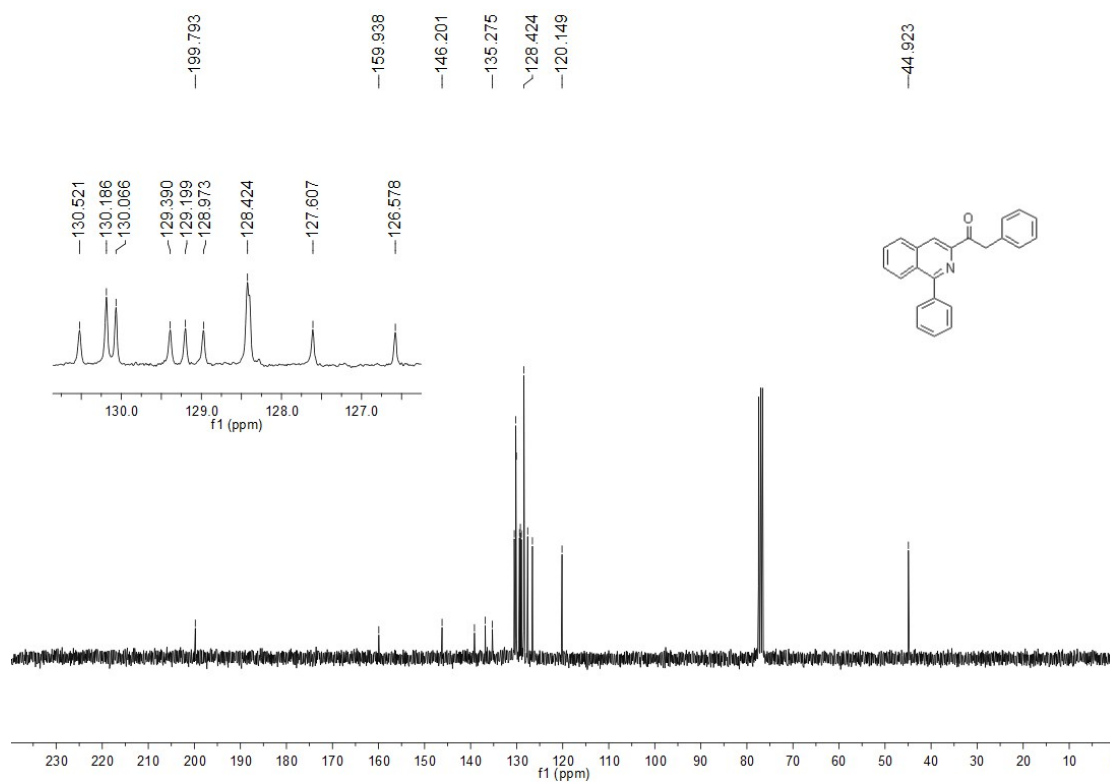
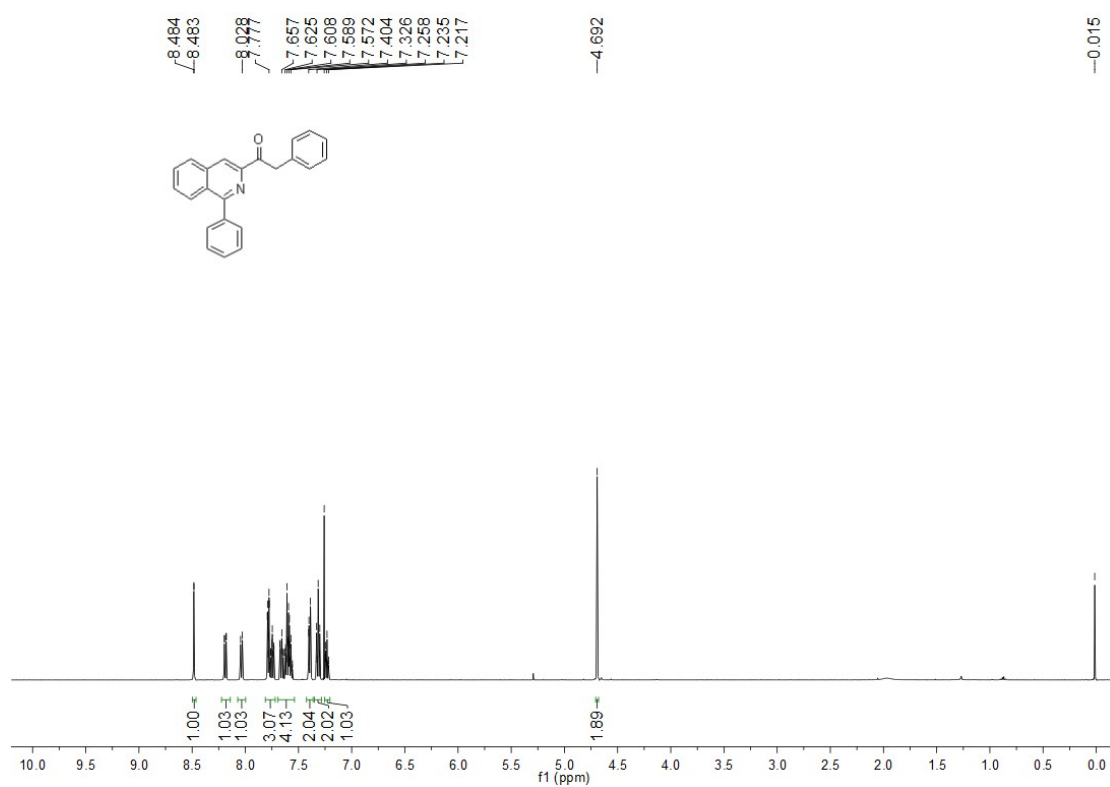
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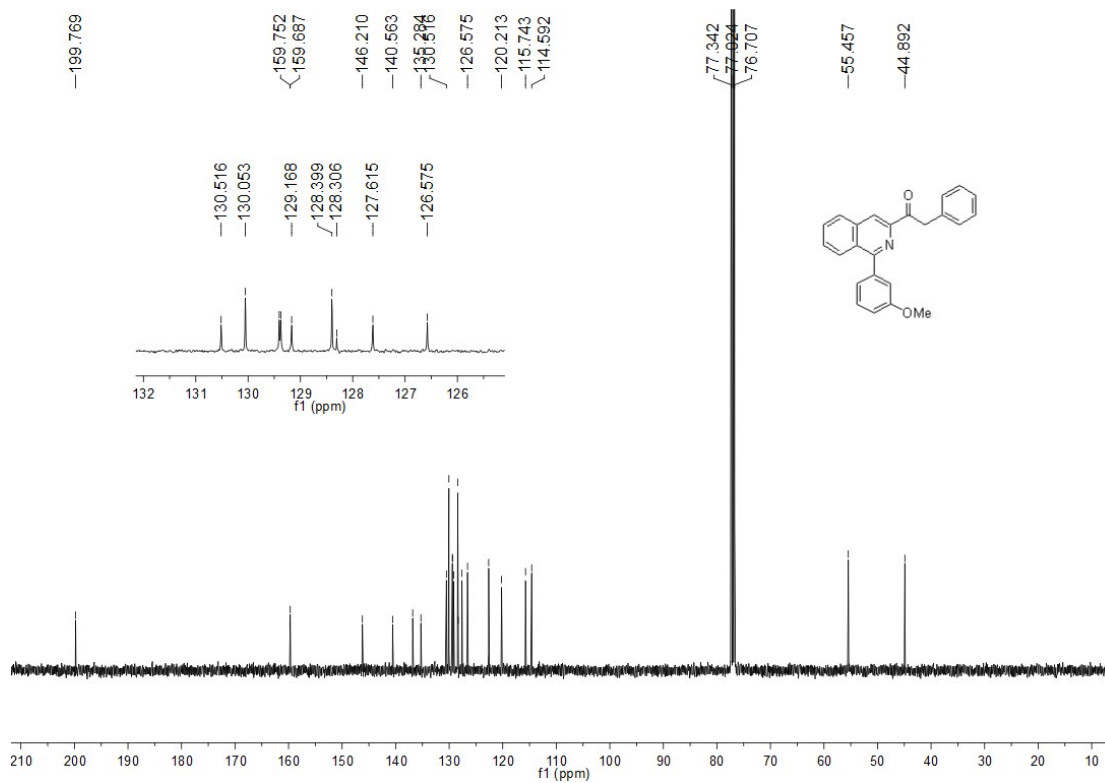
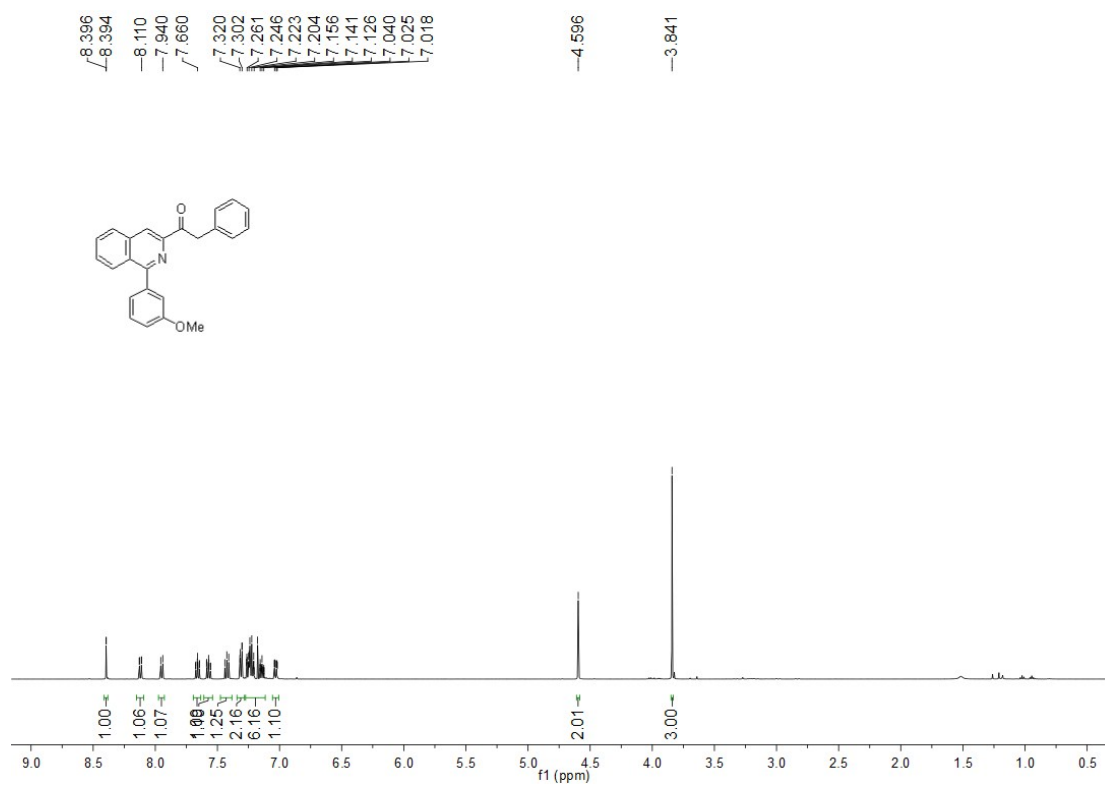
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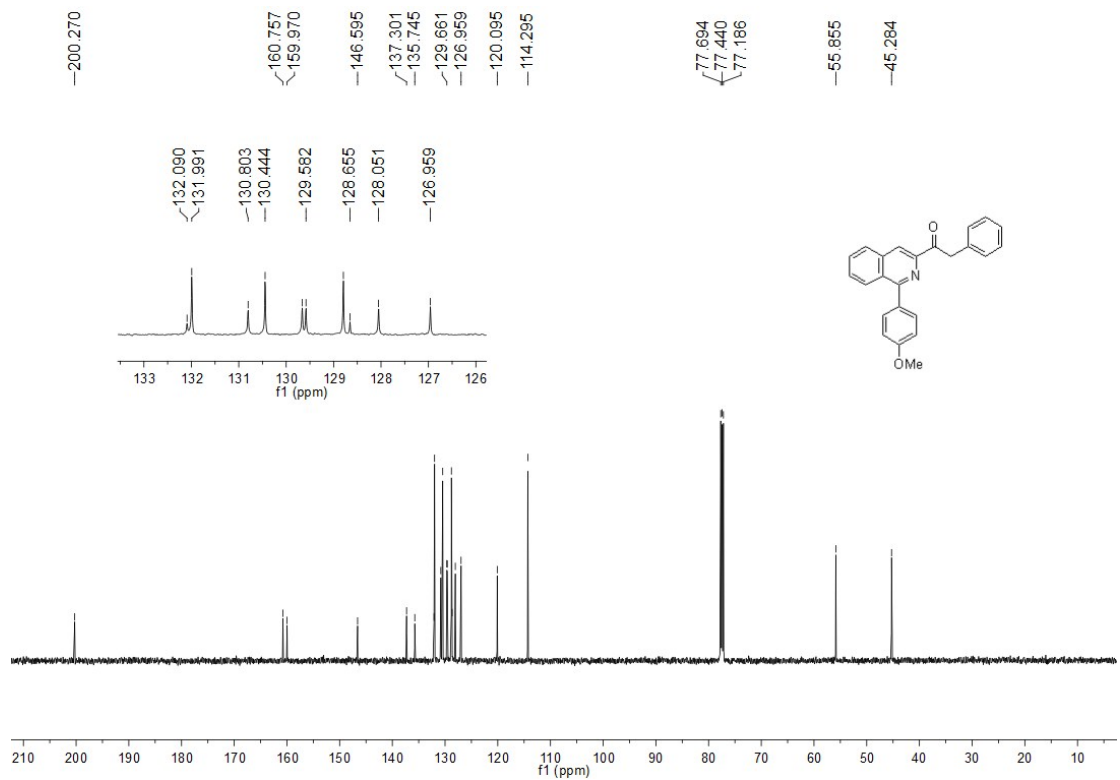
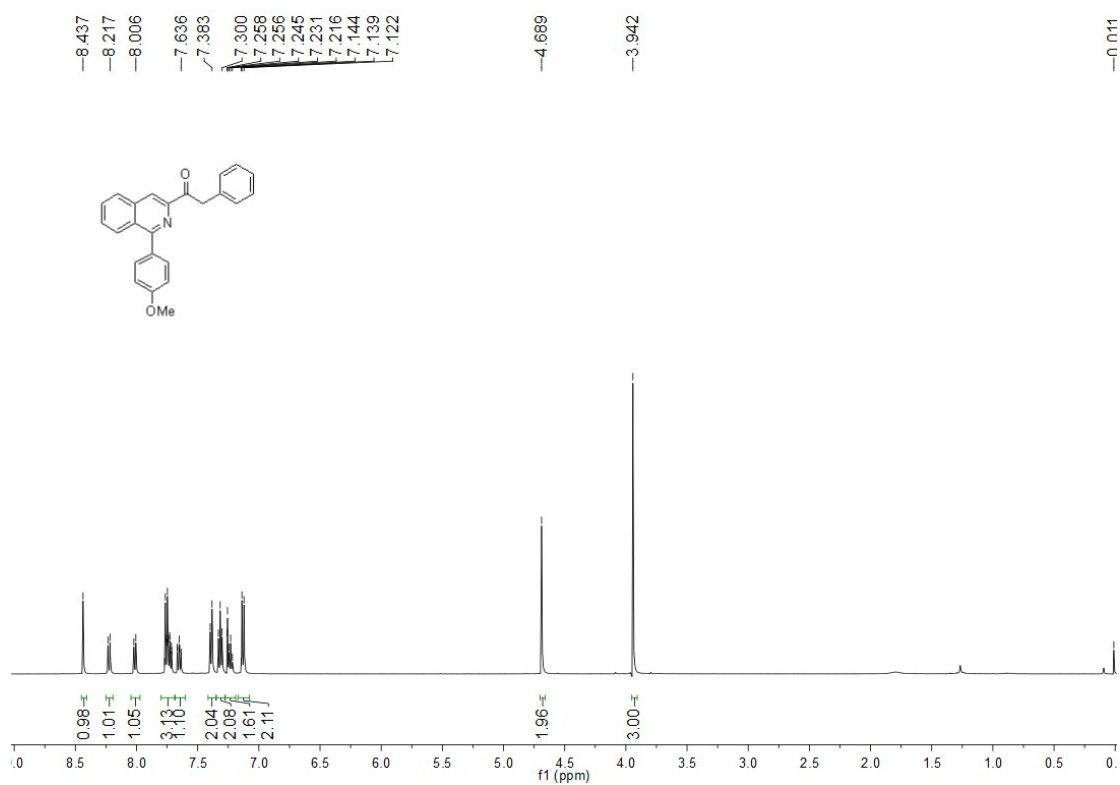
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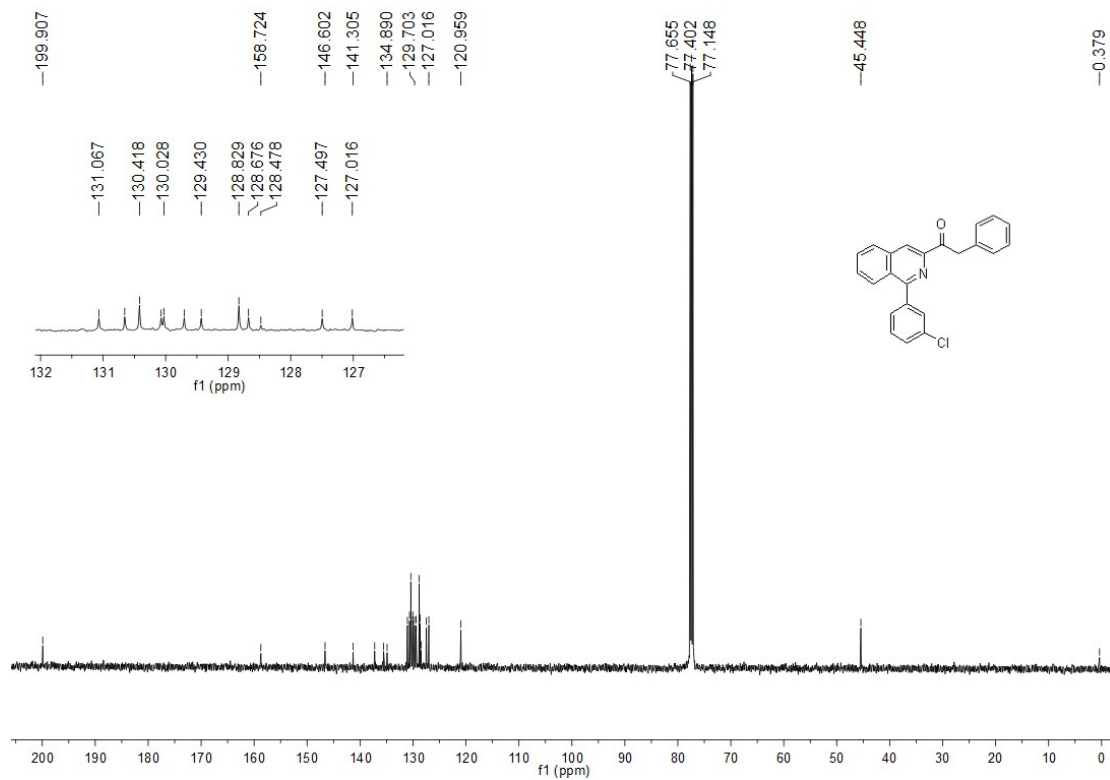
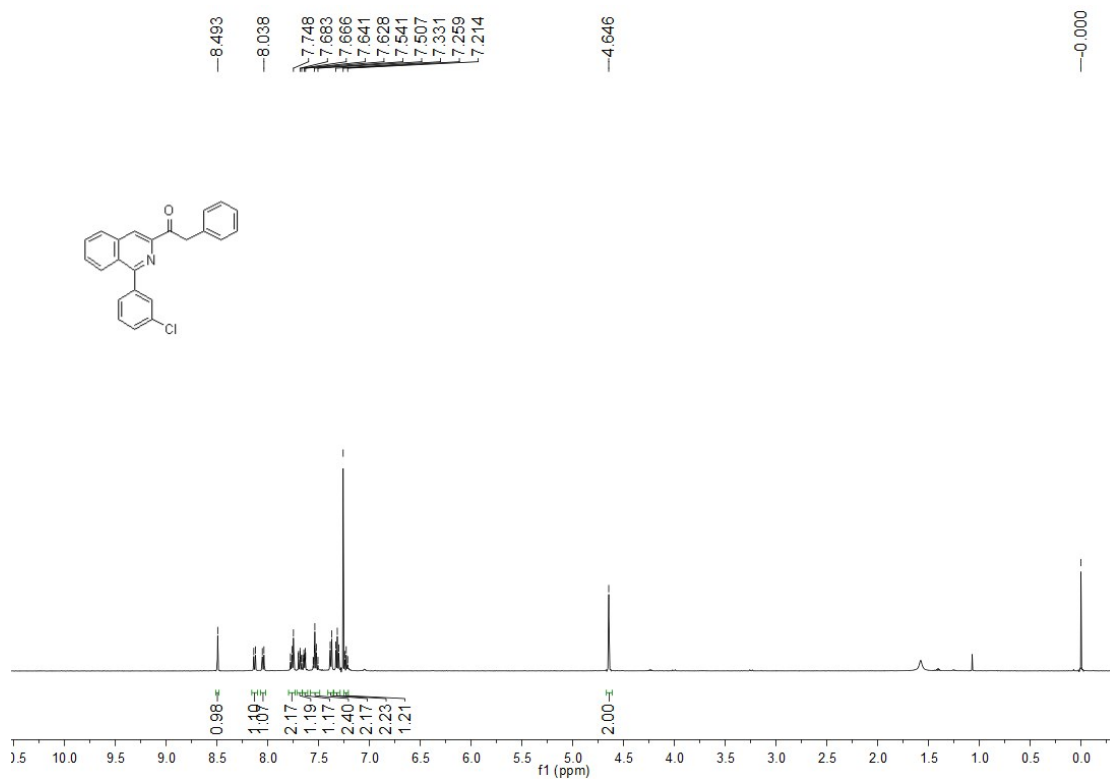
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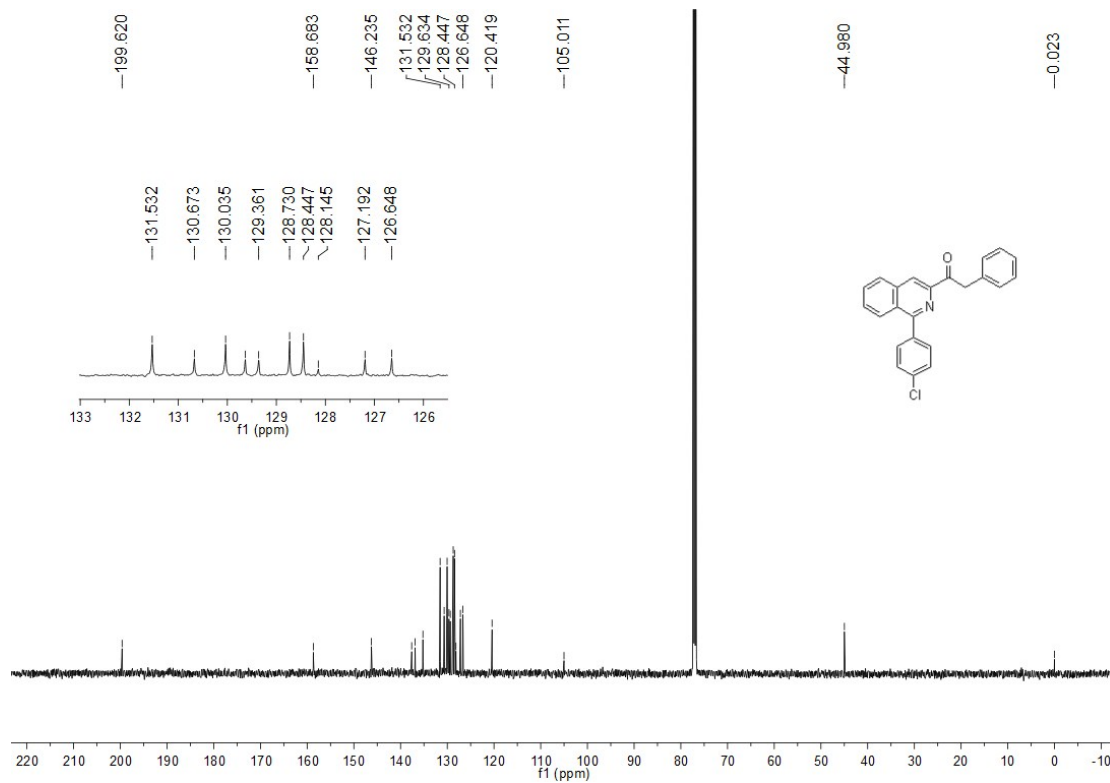
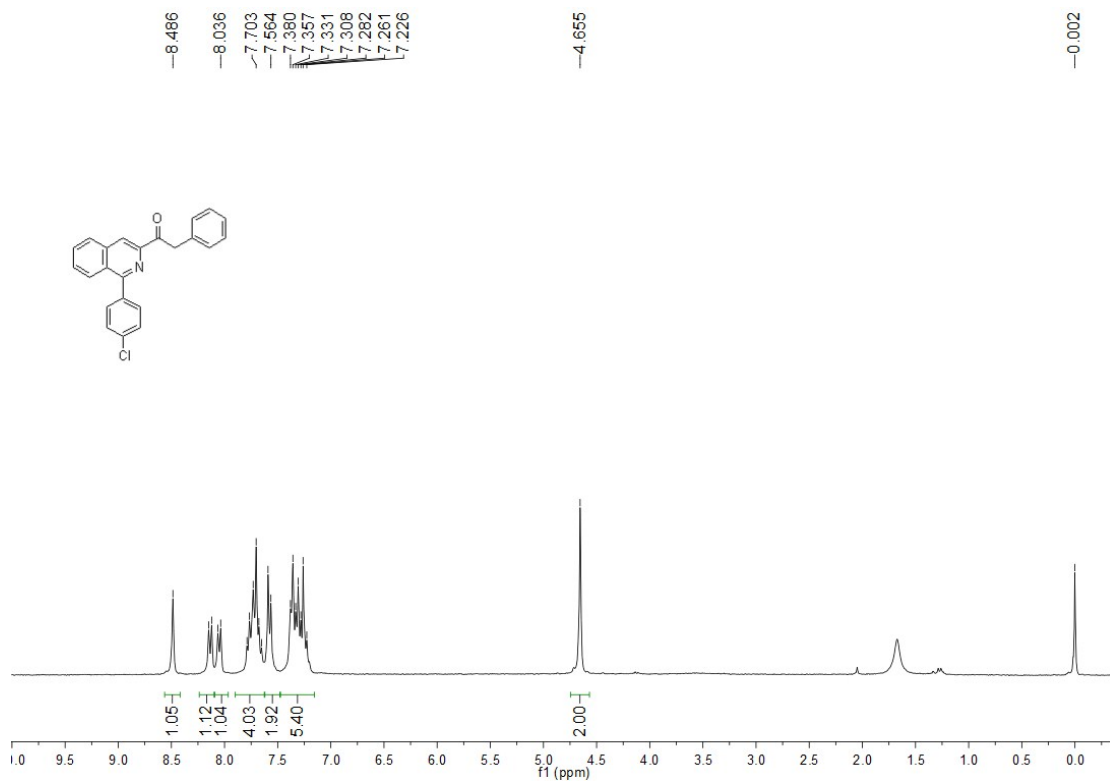
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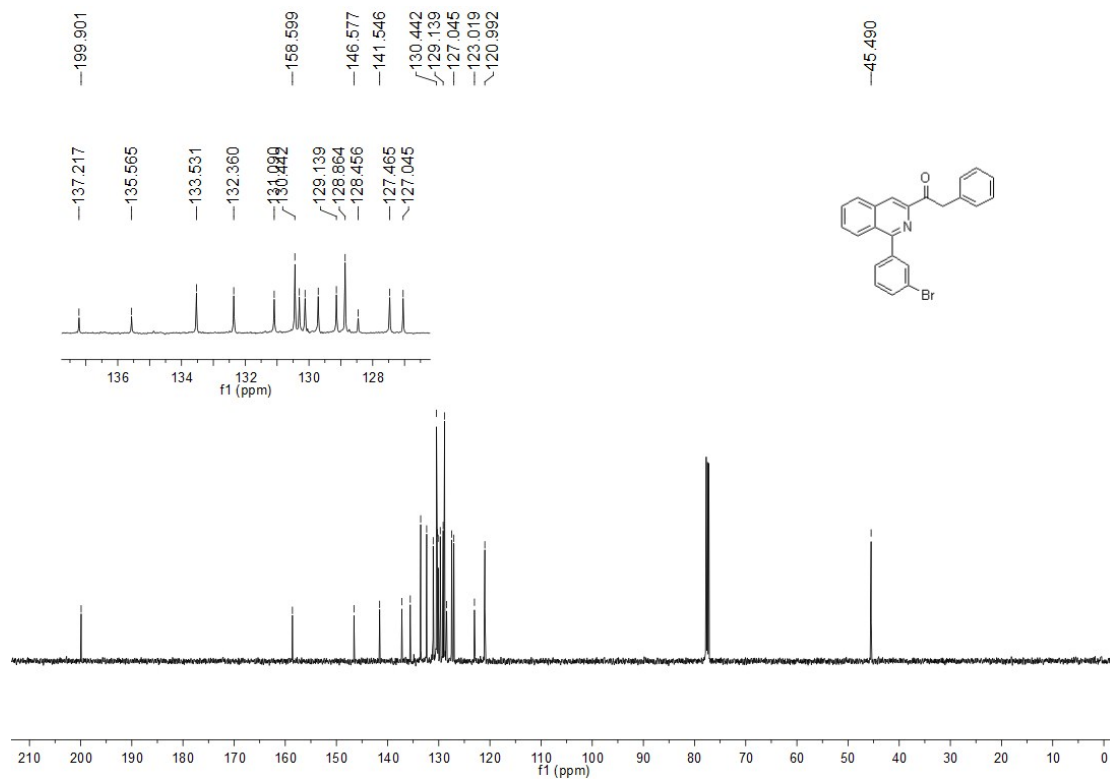
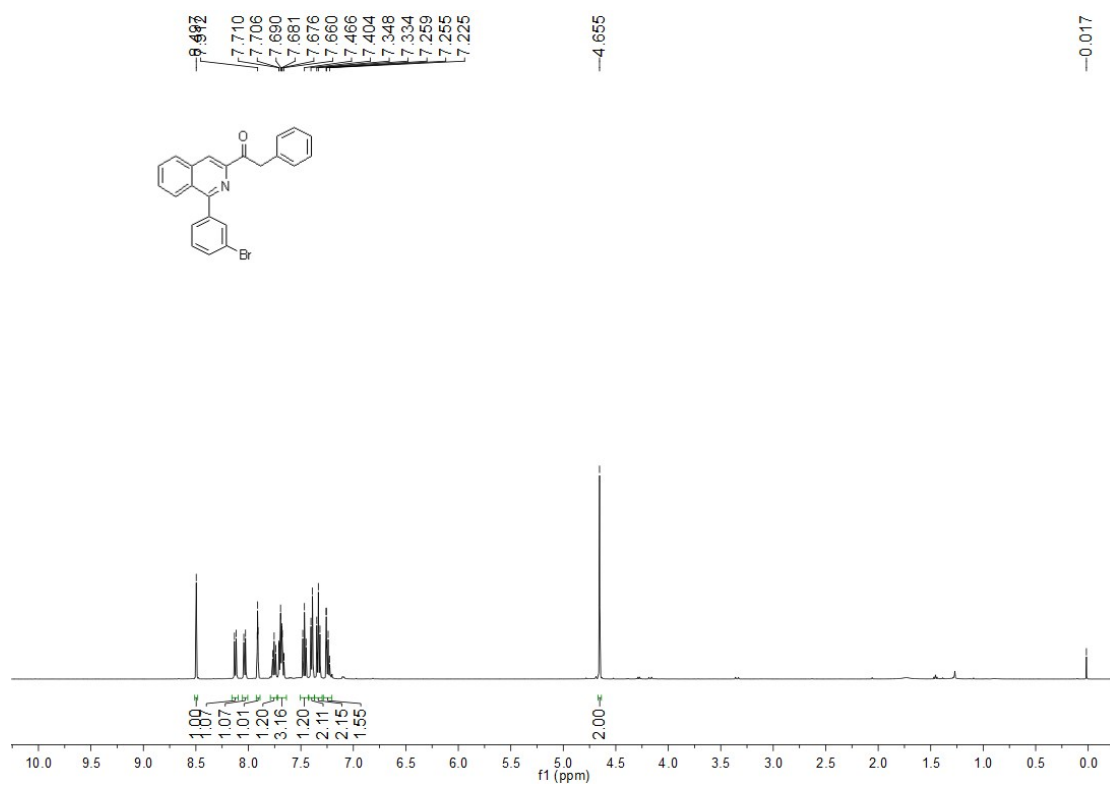
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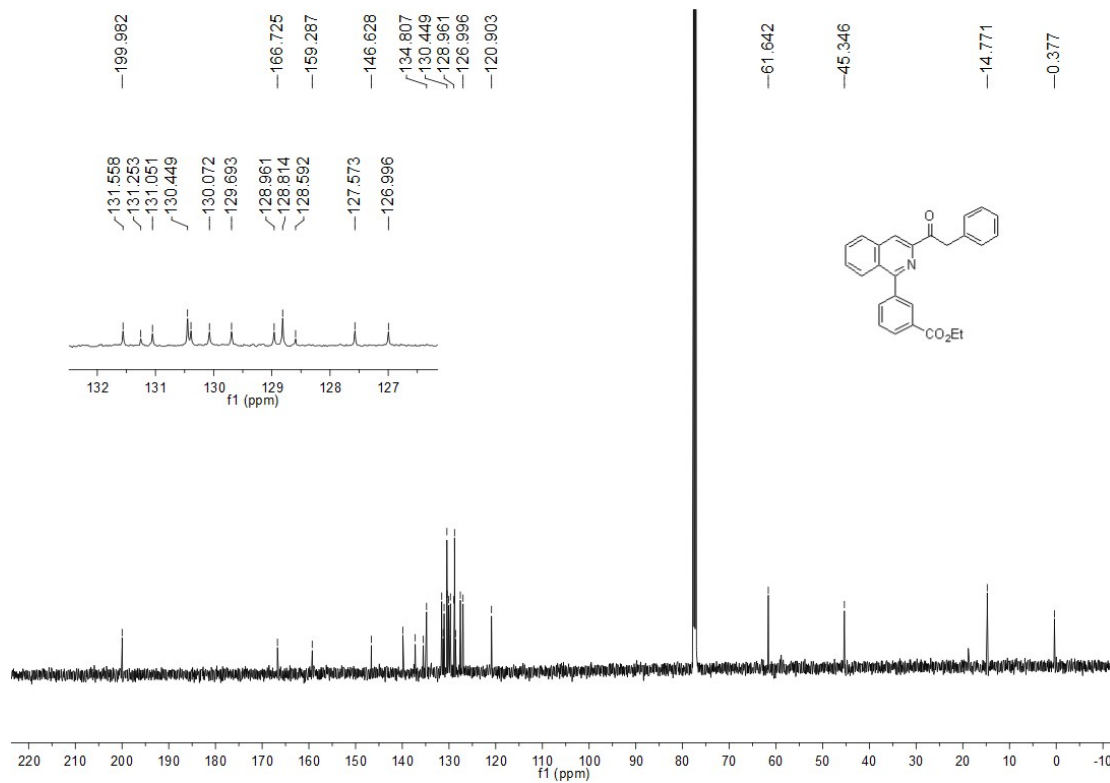
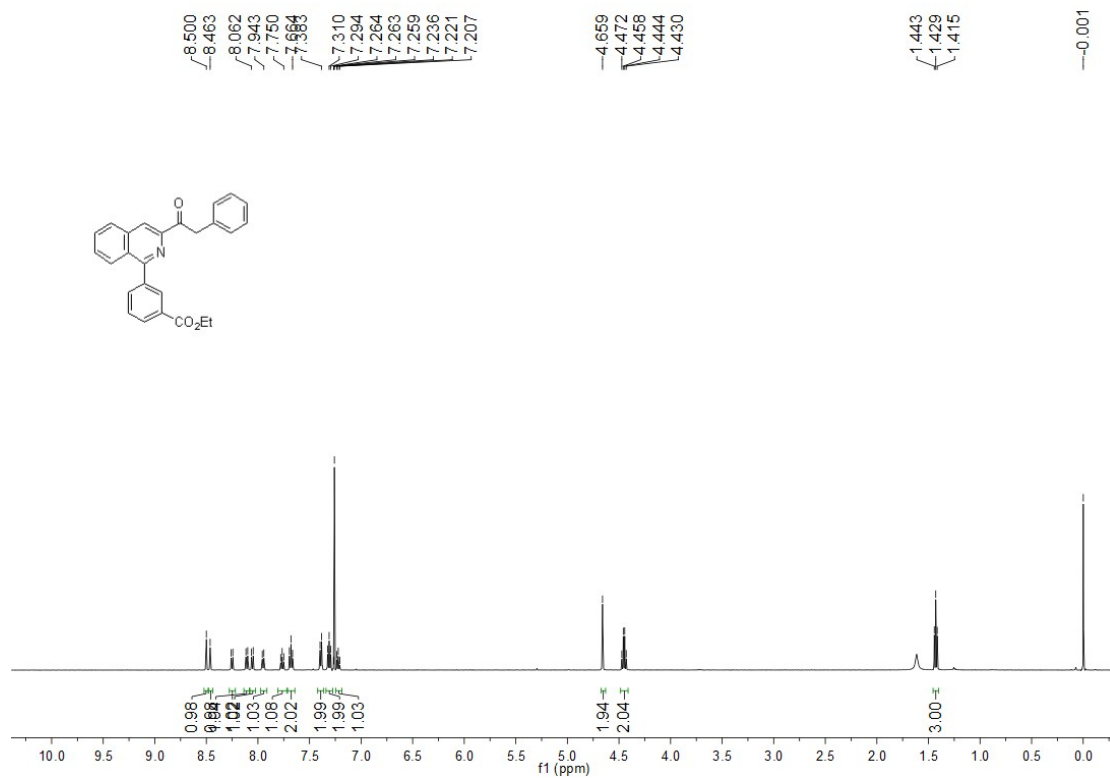
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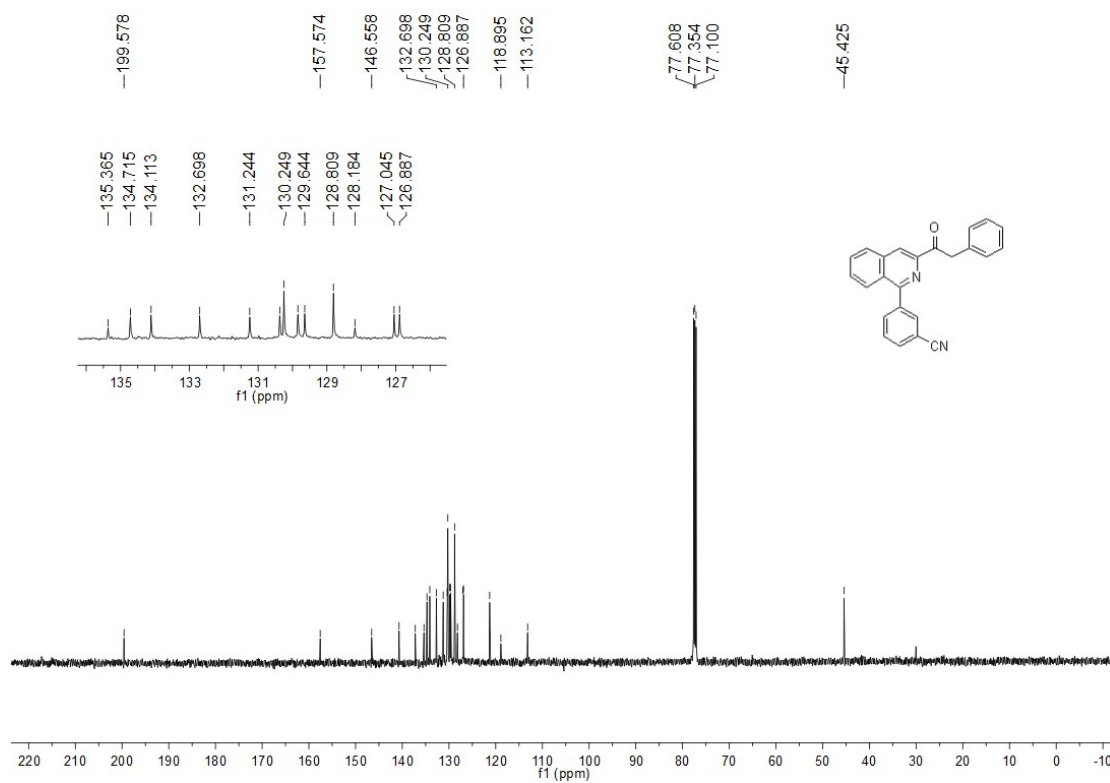
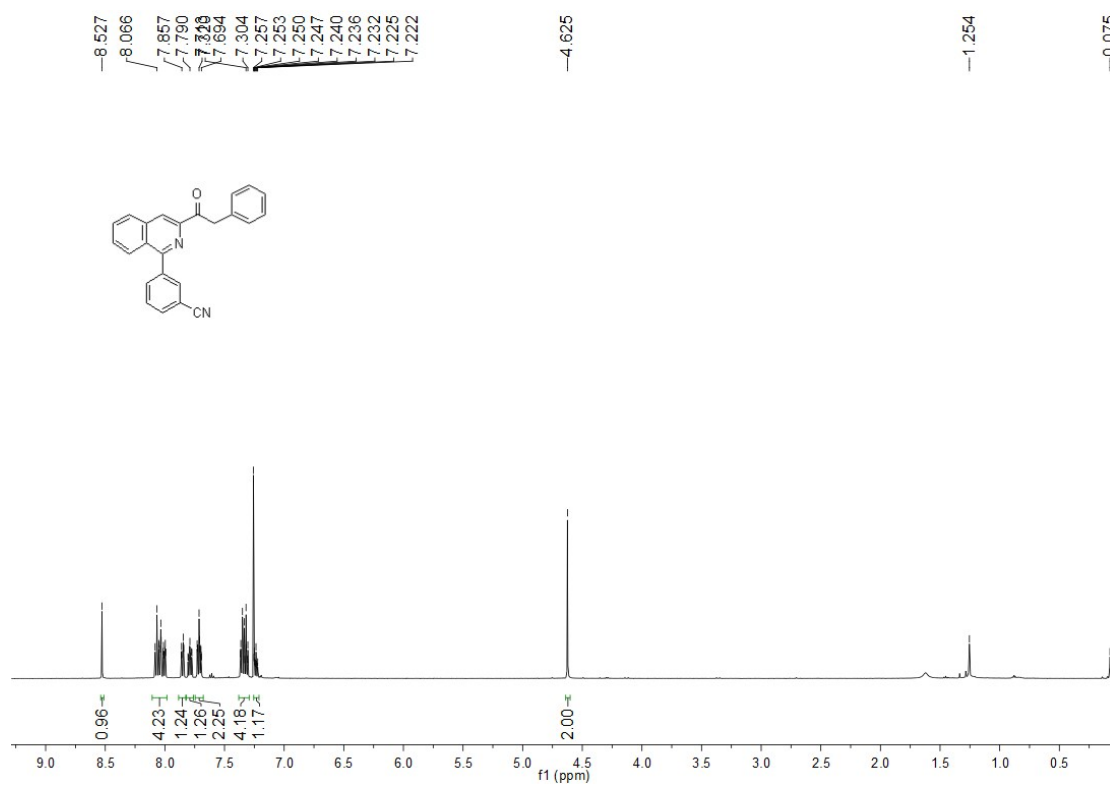
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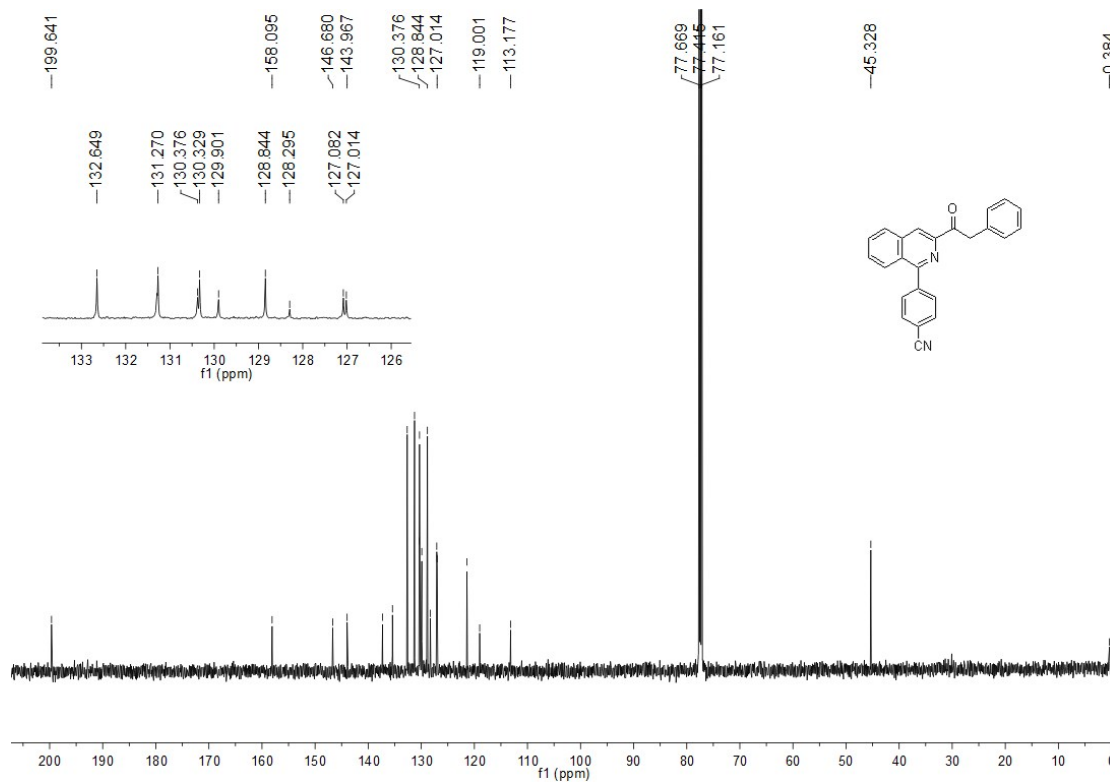
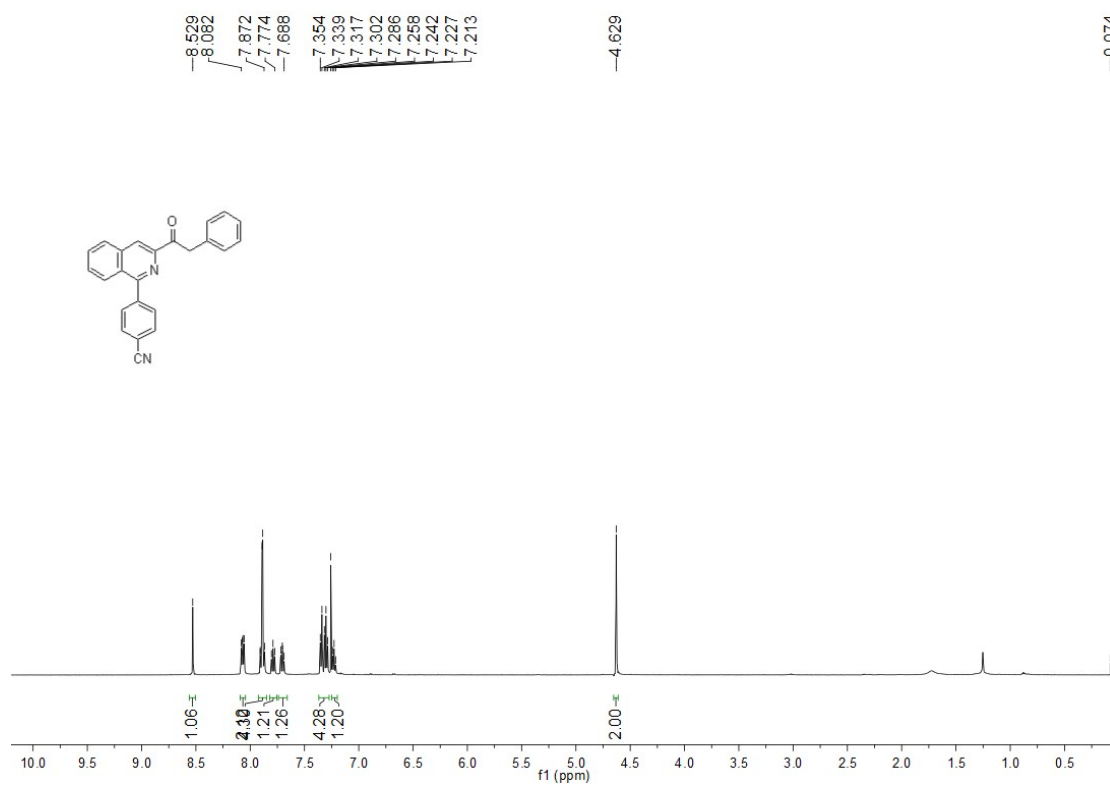
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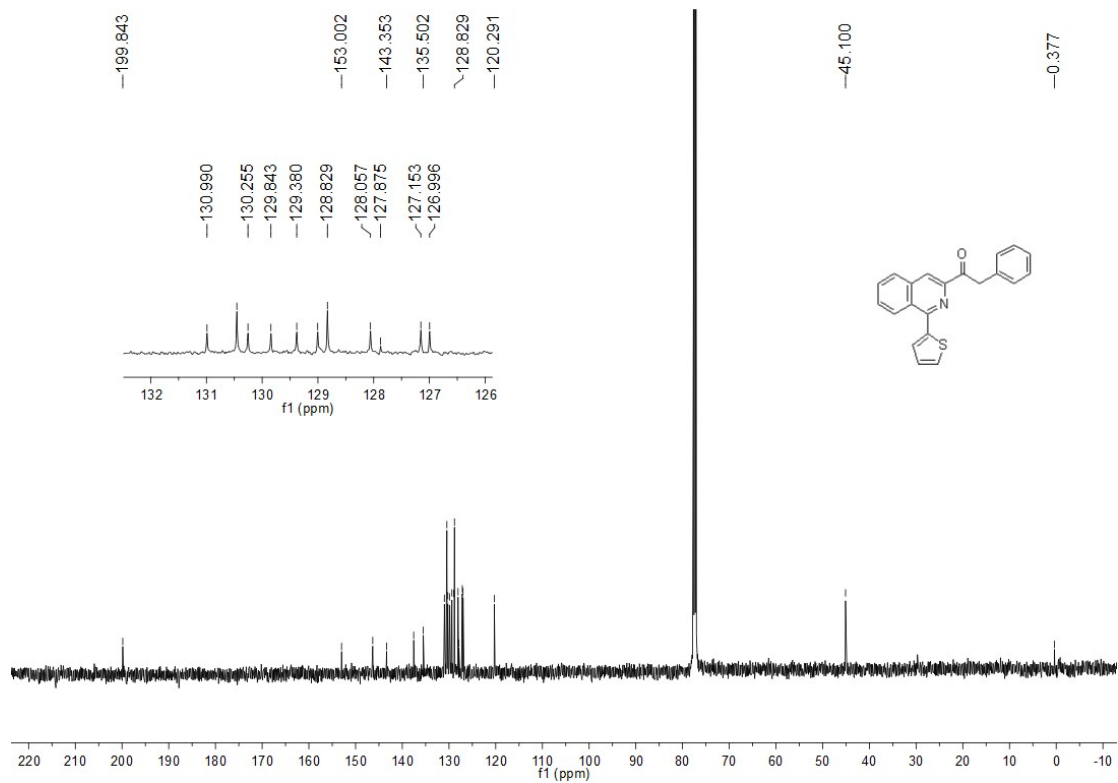
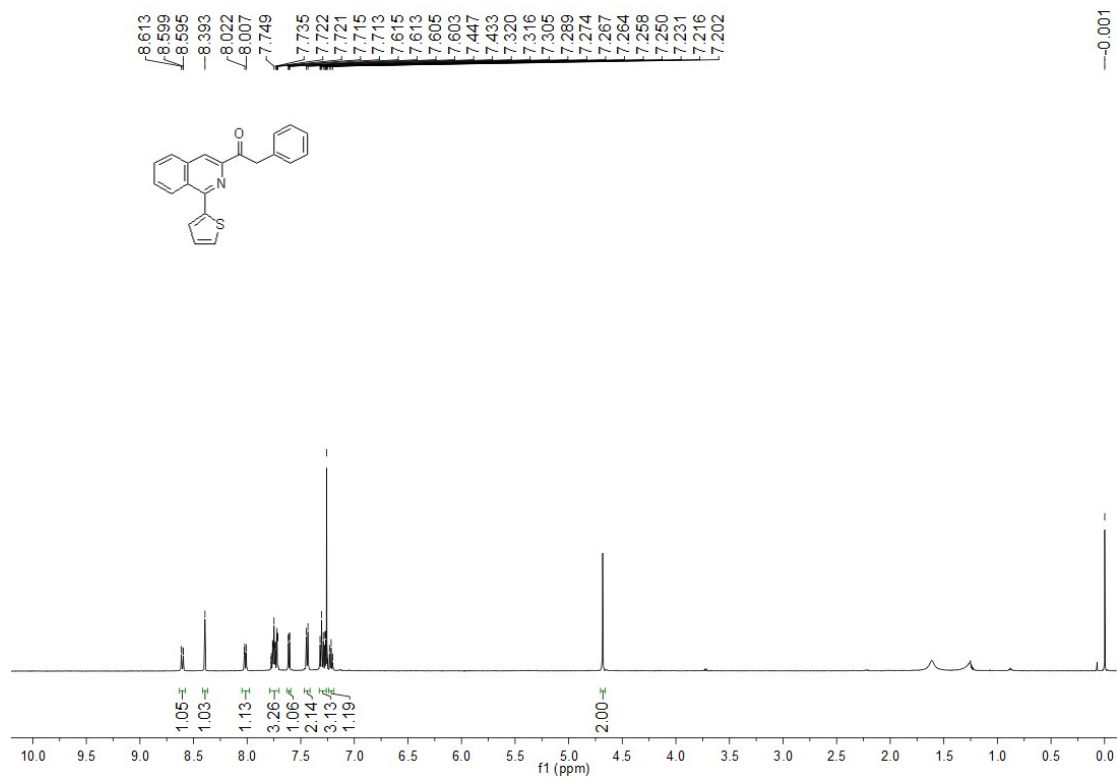
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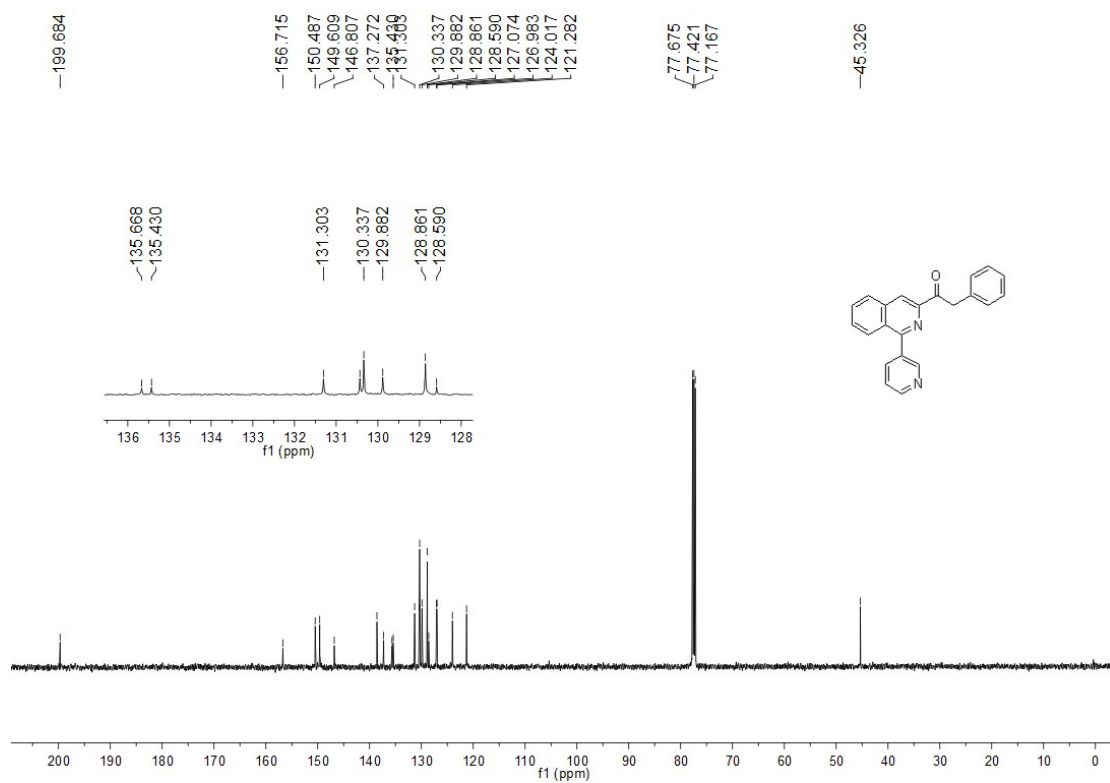
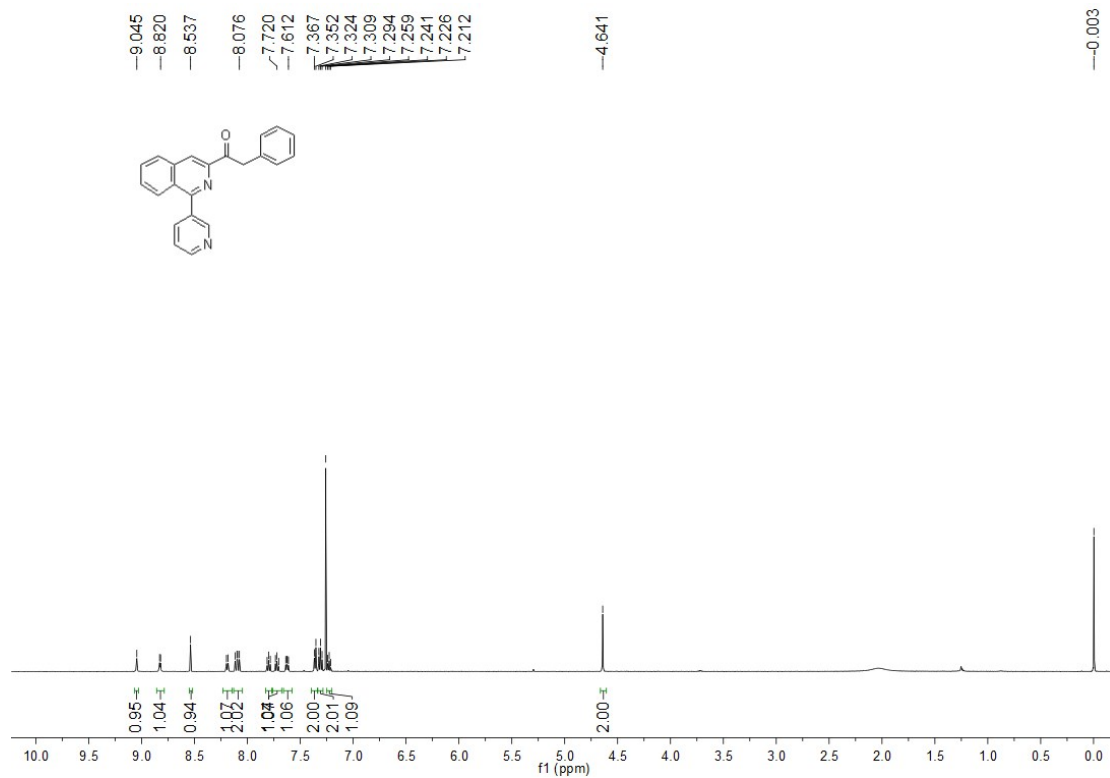
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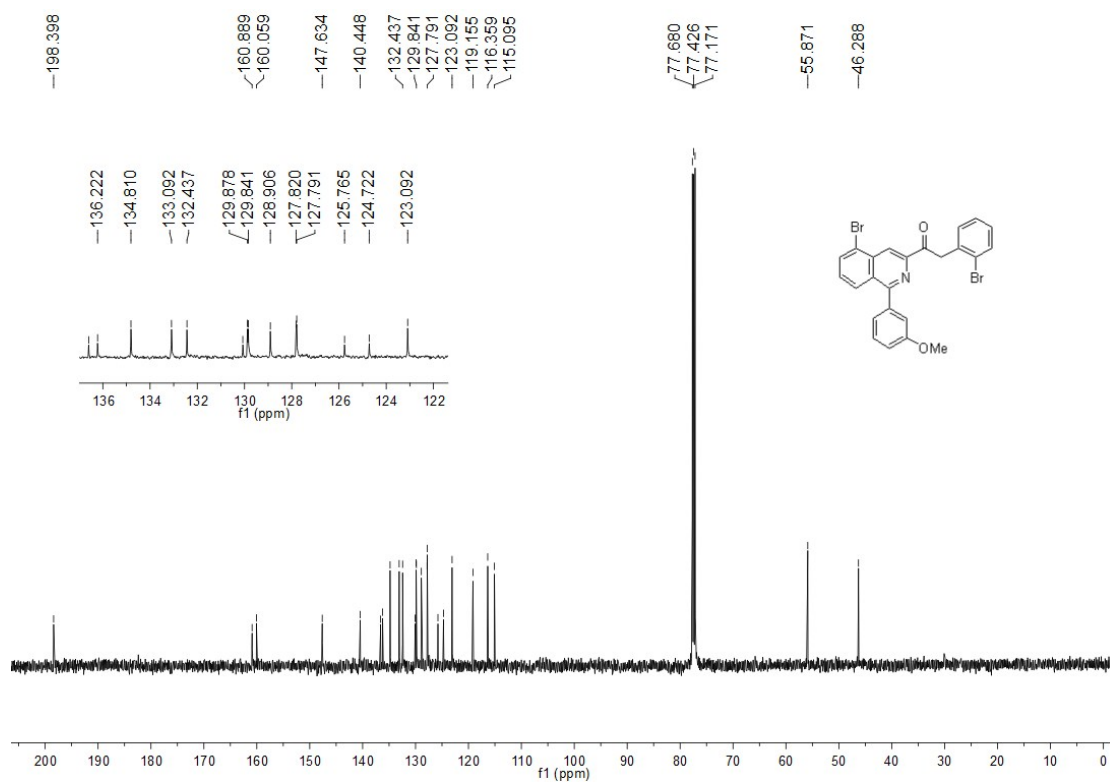
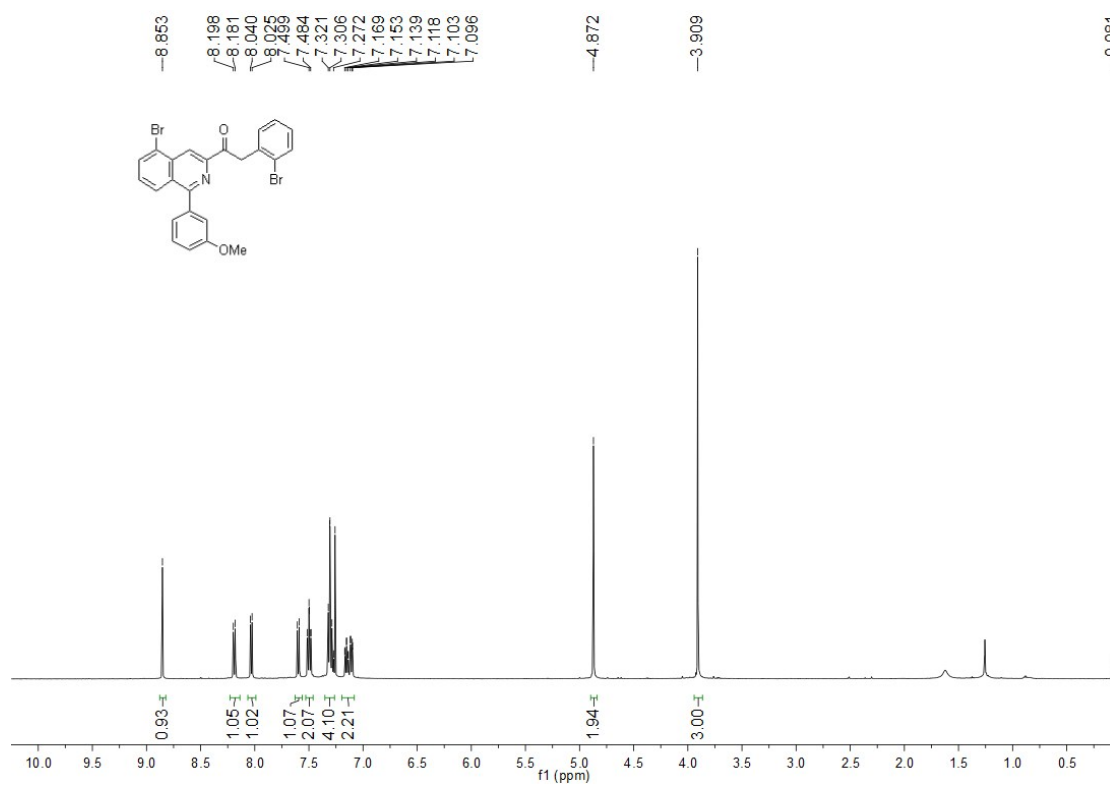
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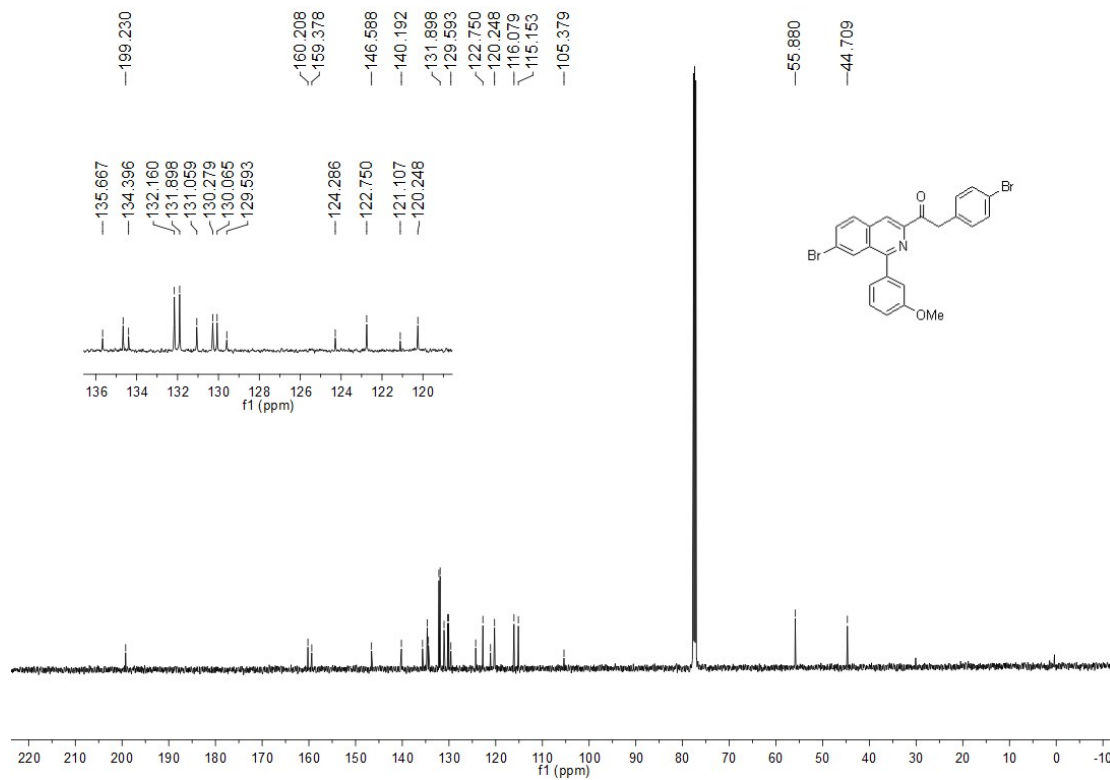
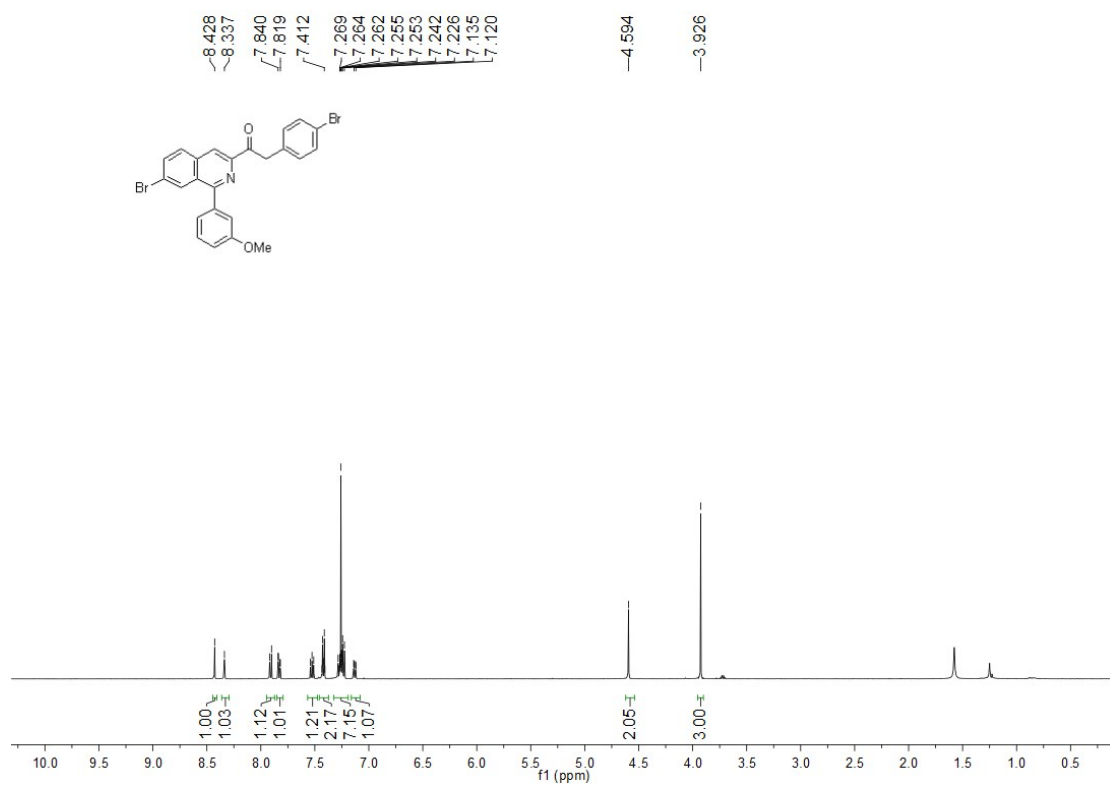
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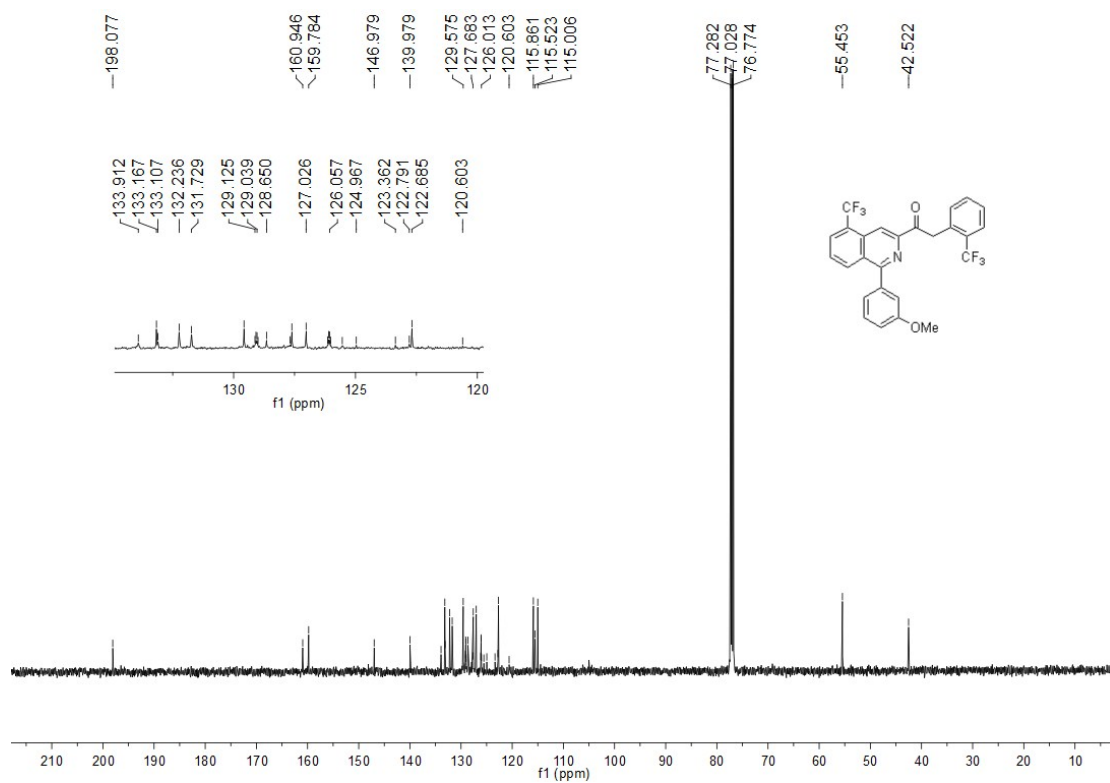
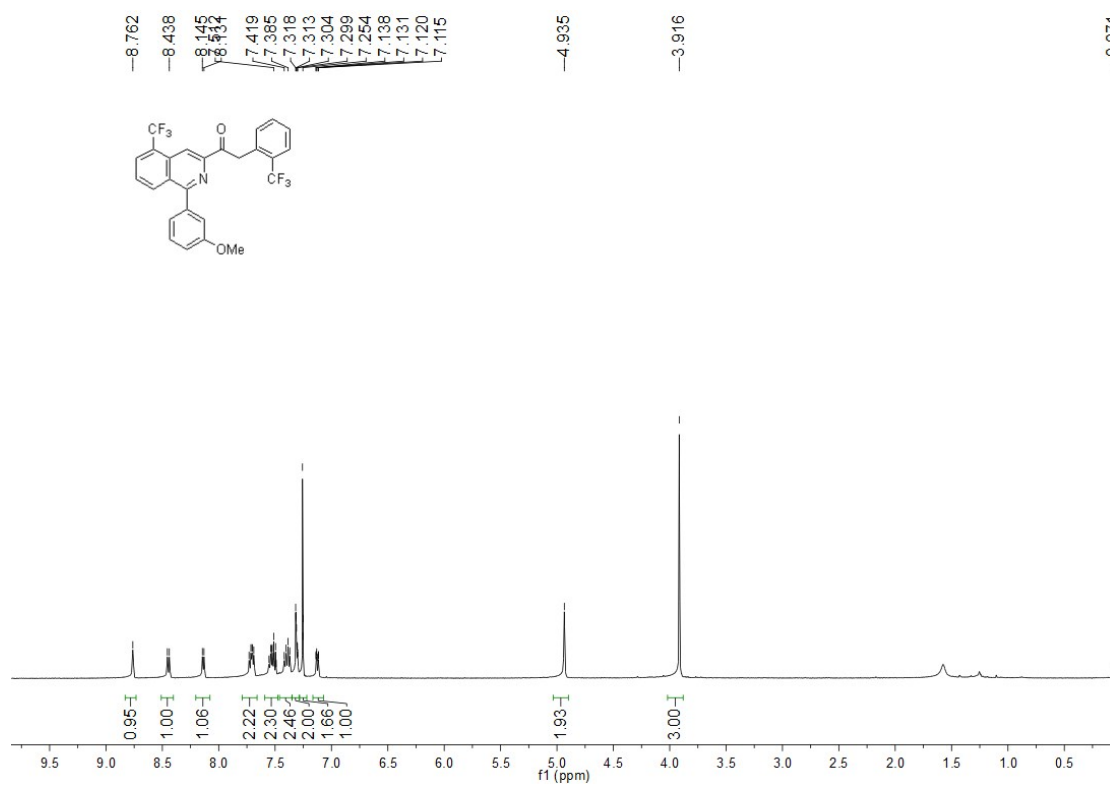
21



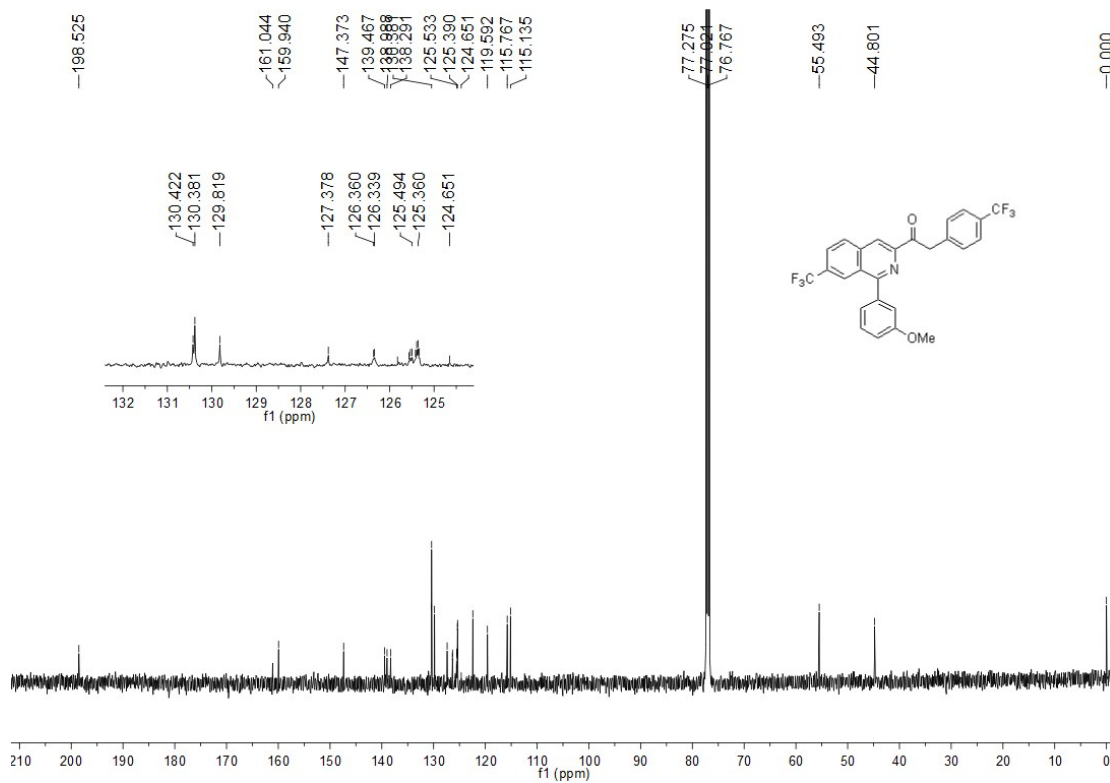
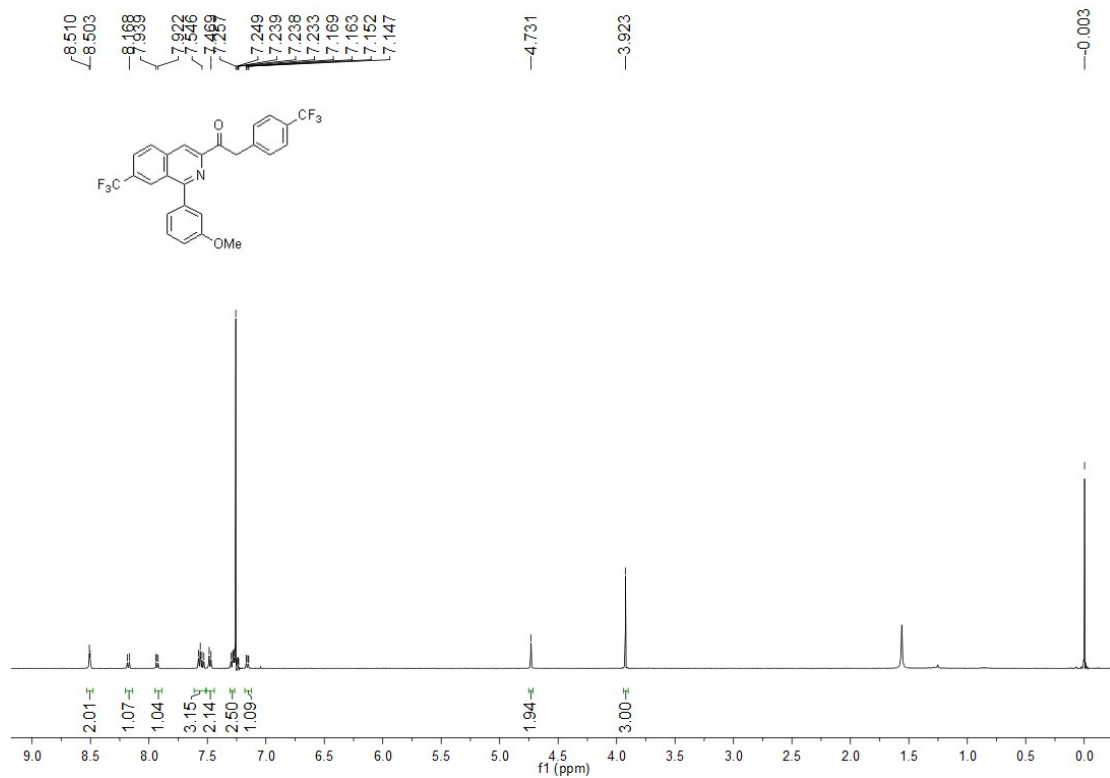
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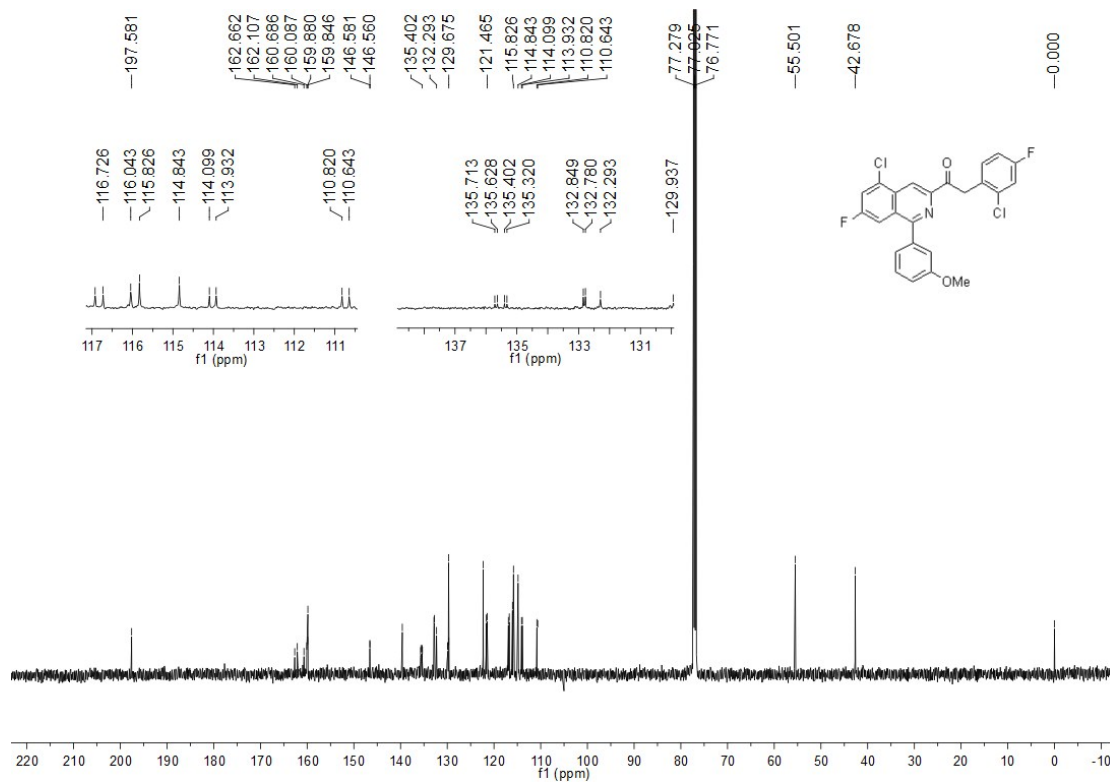
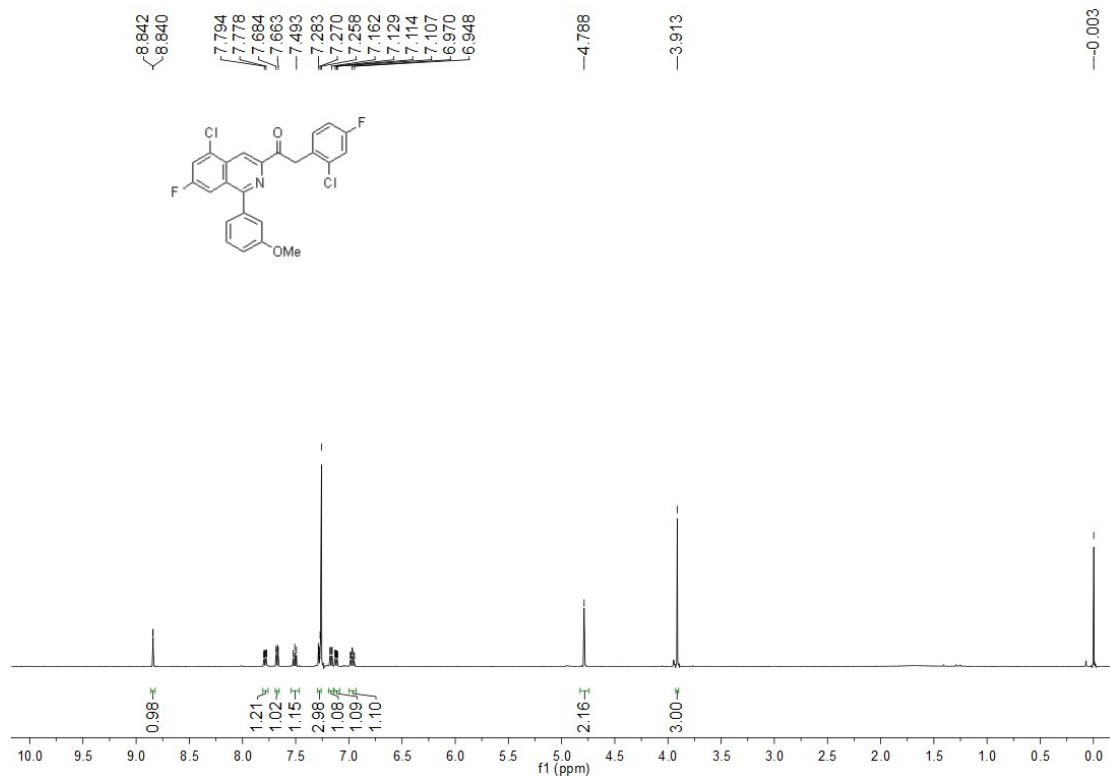
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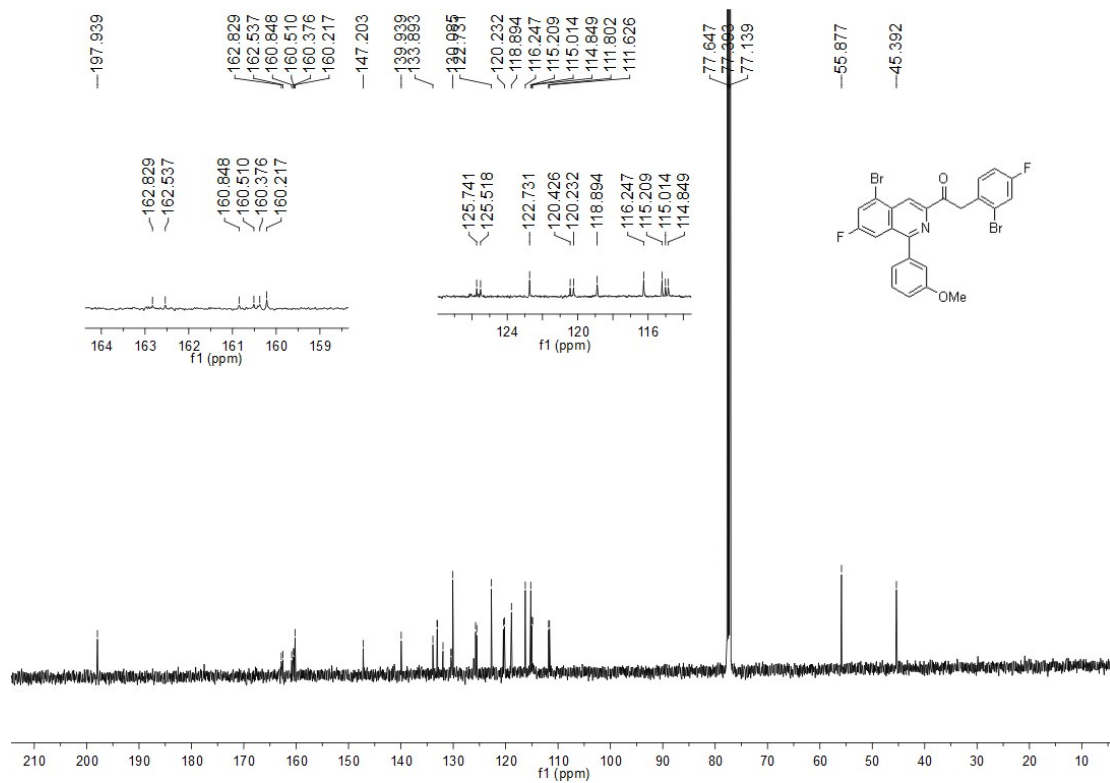
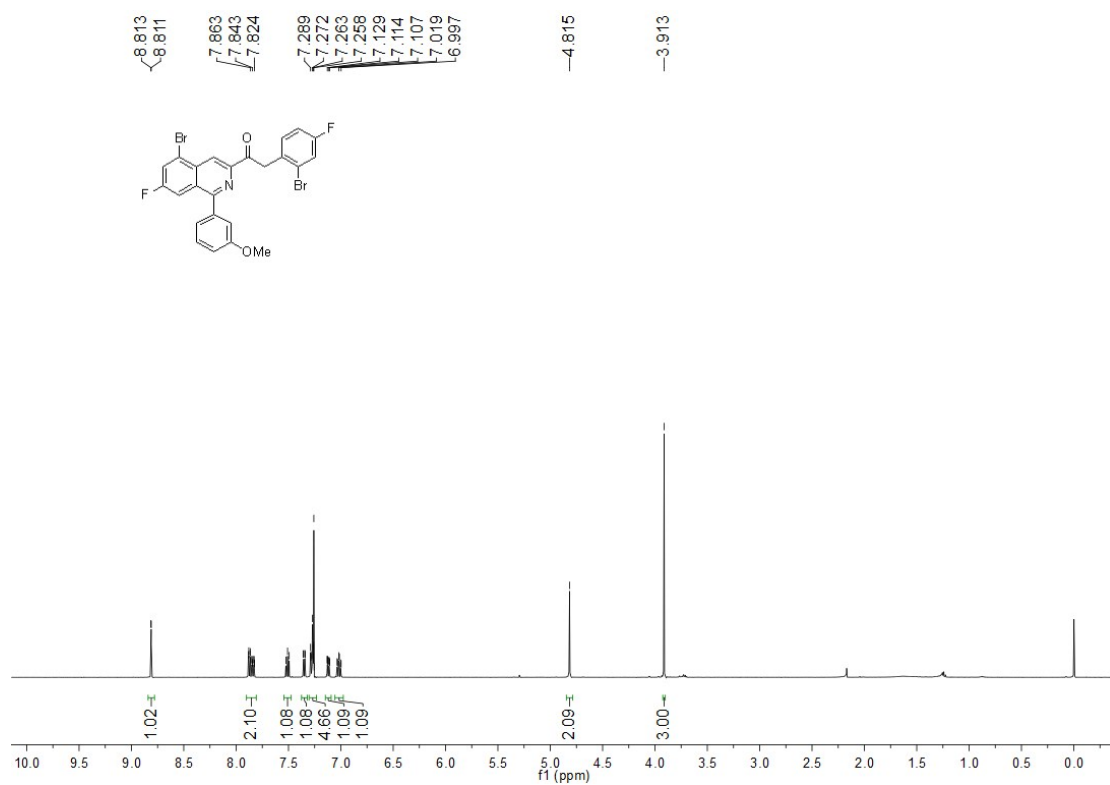
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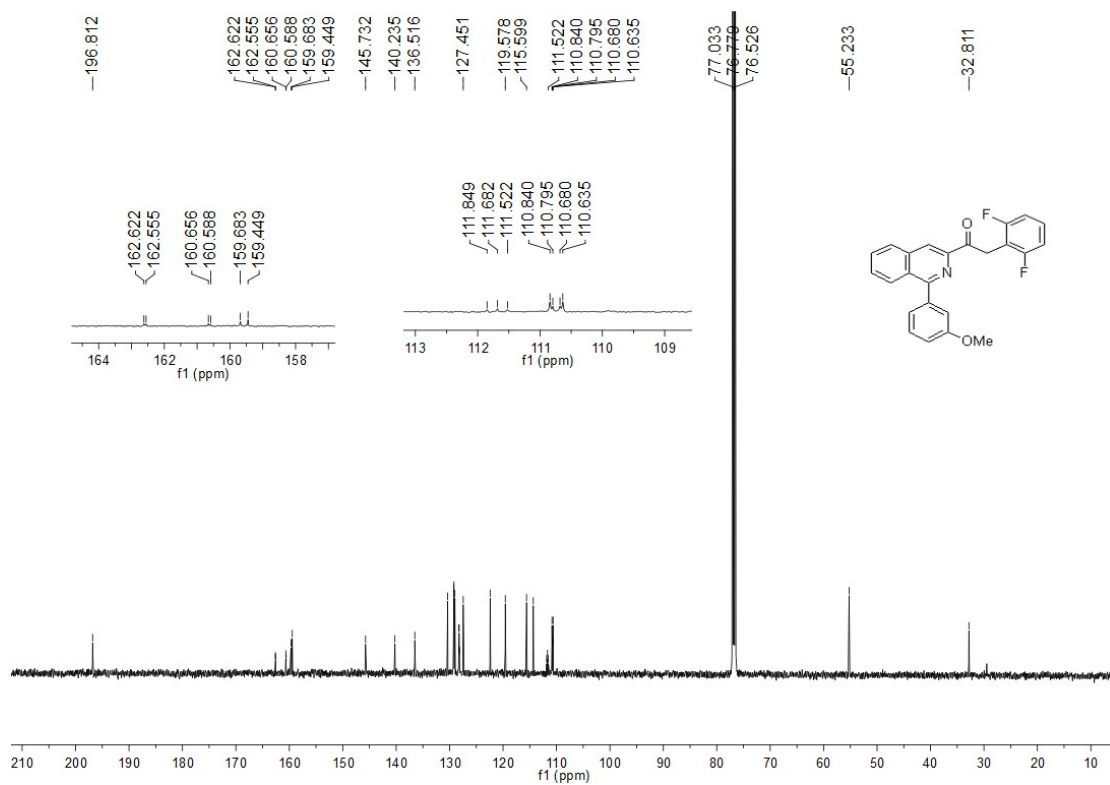
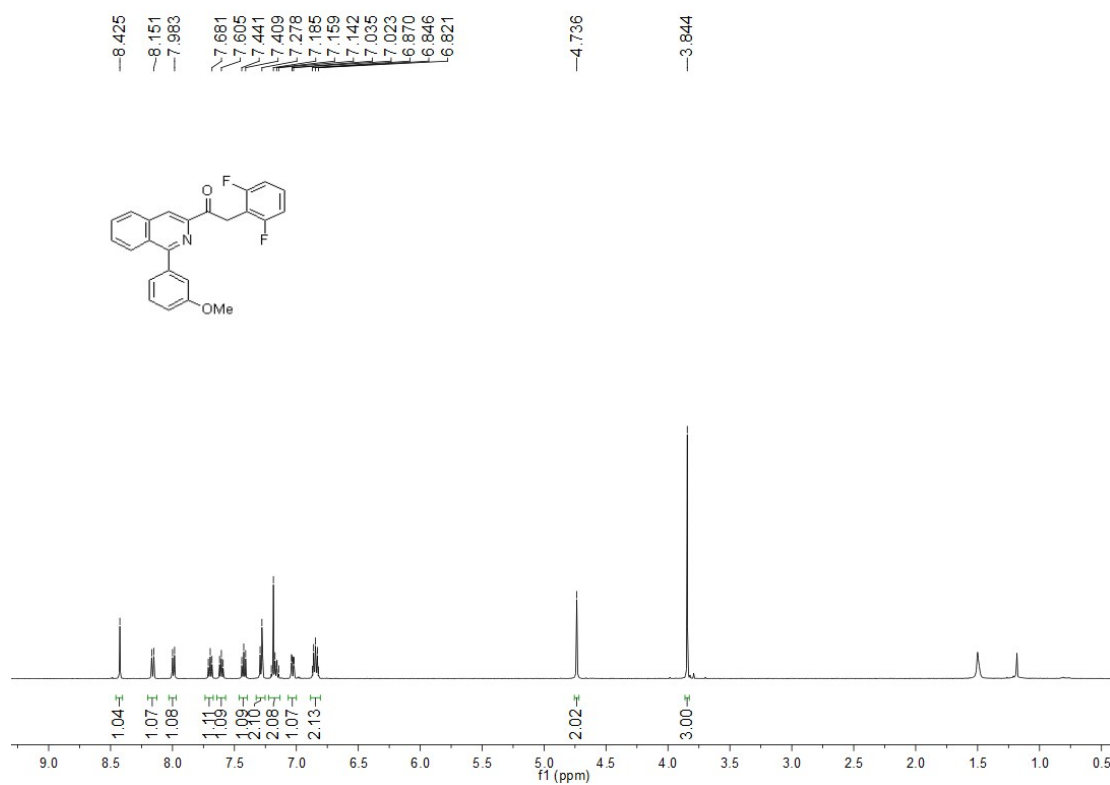
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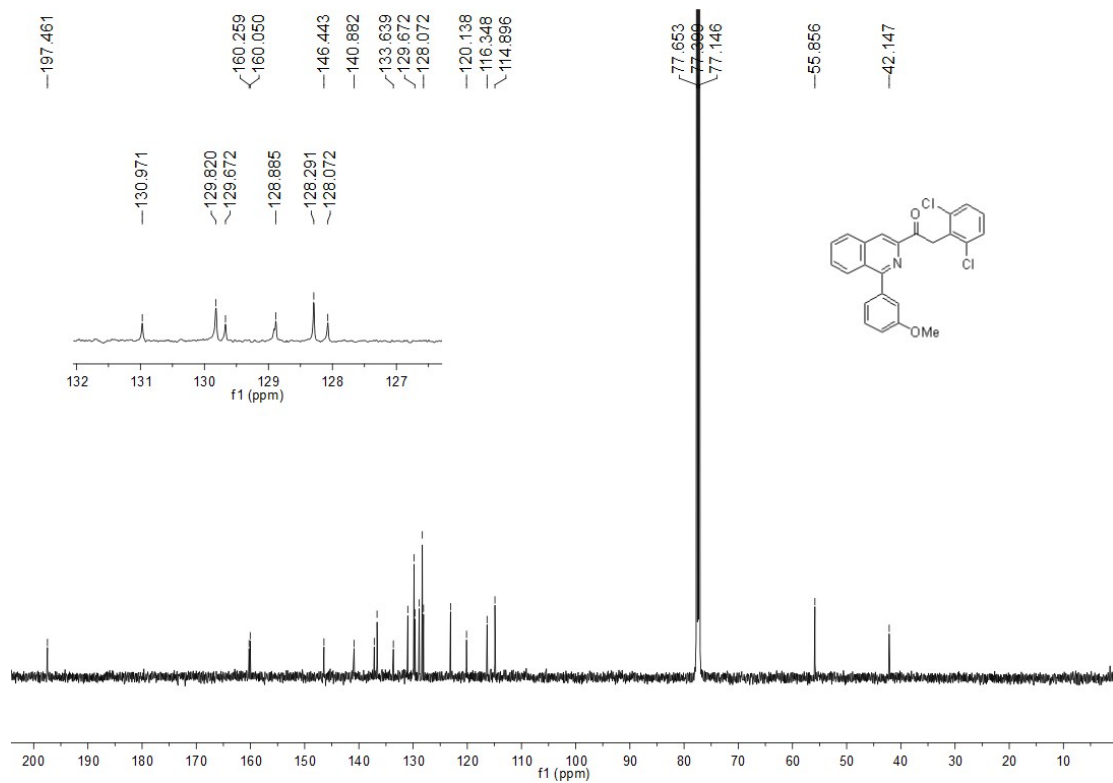
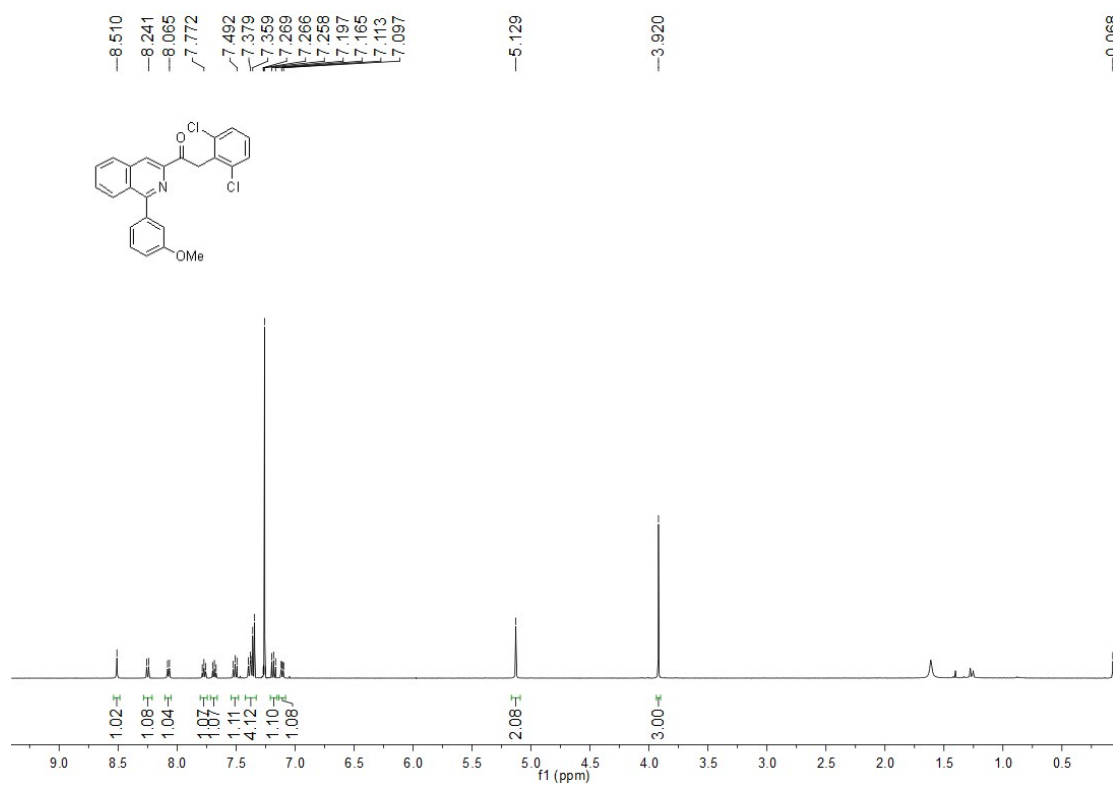
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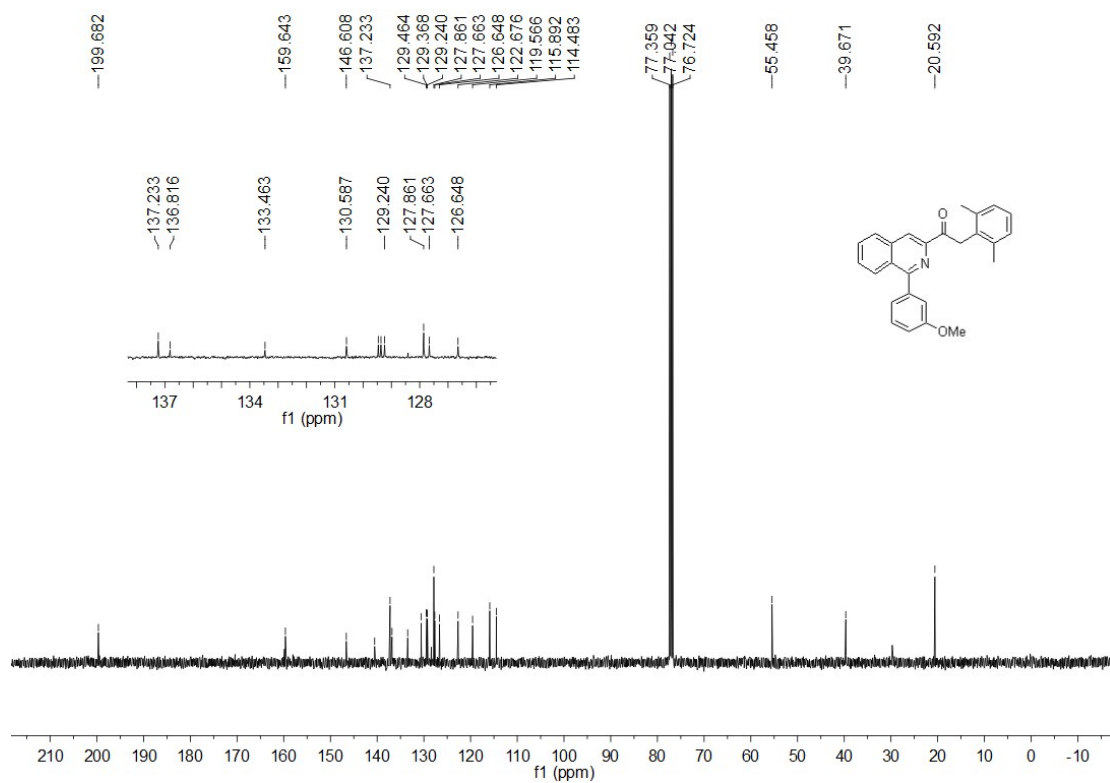
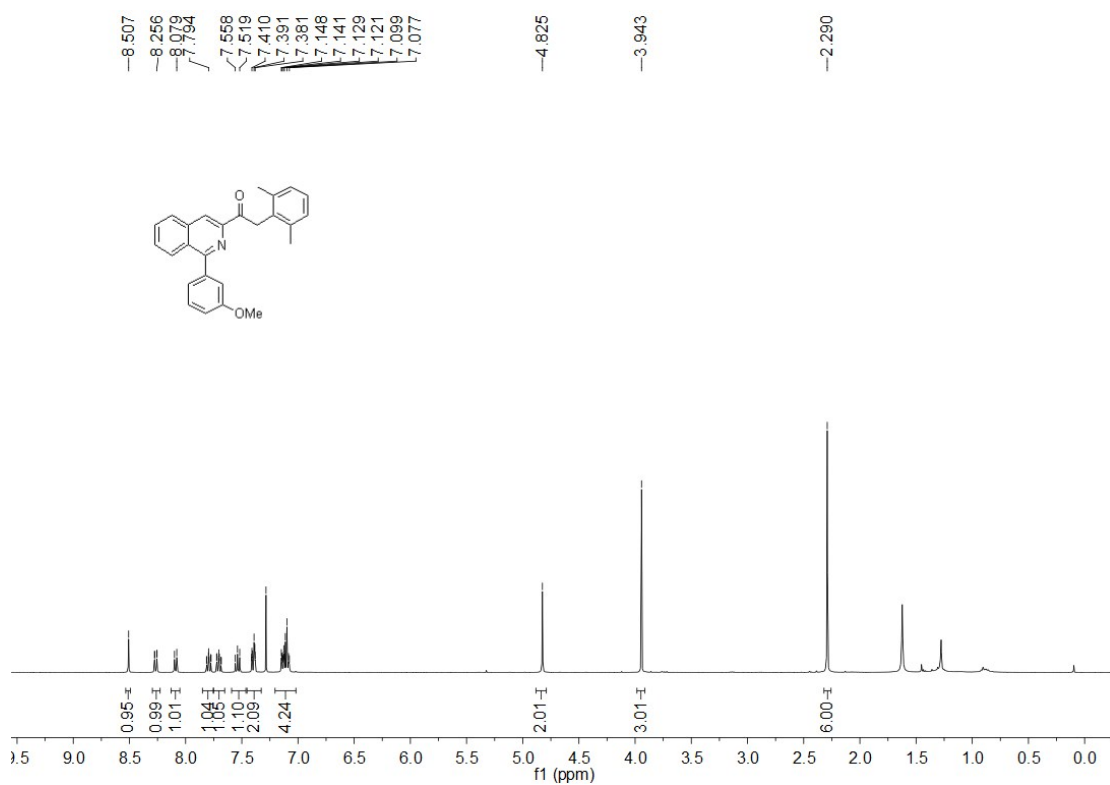
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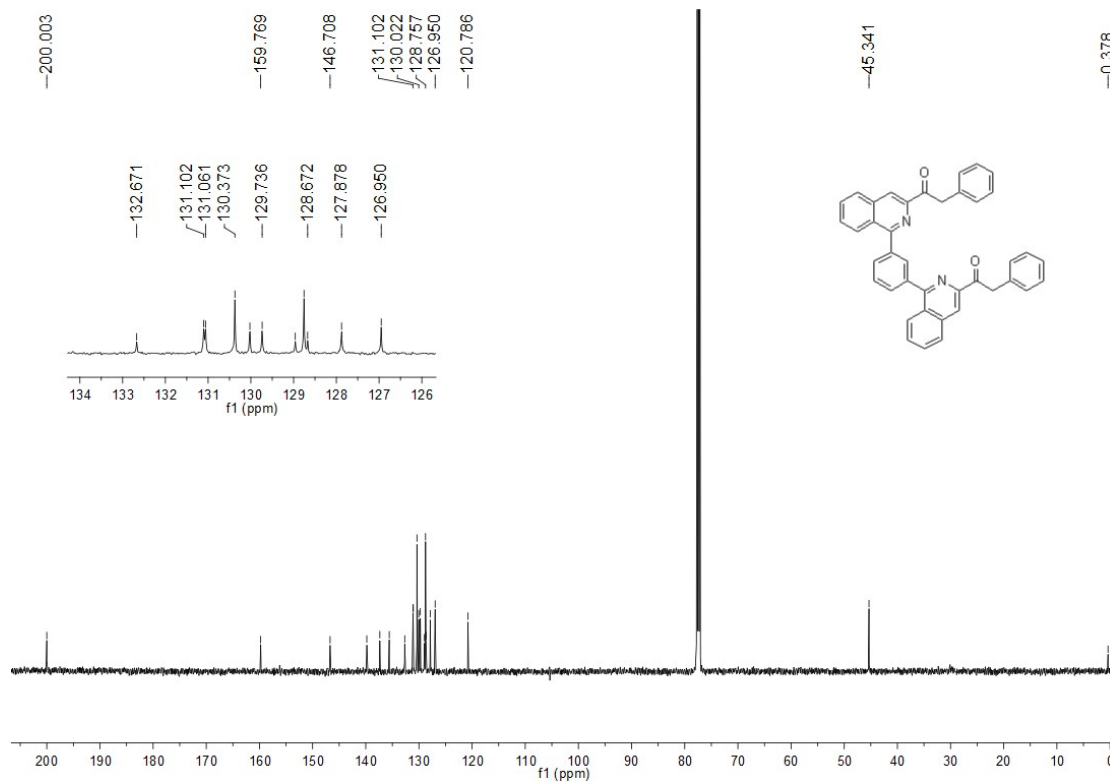
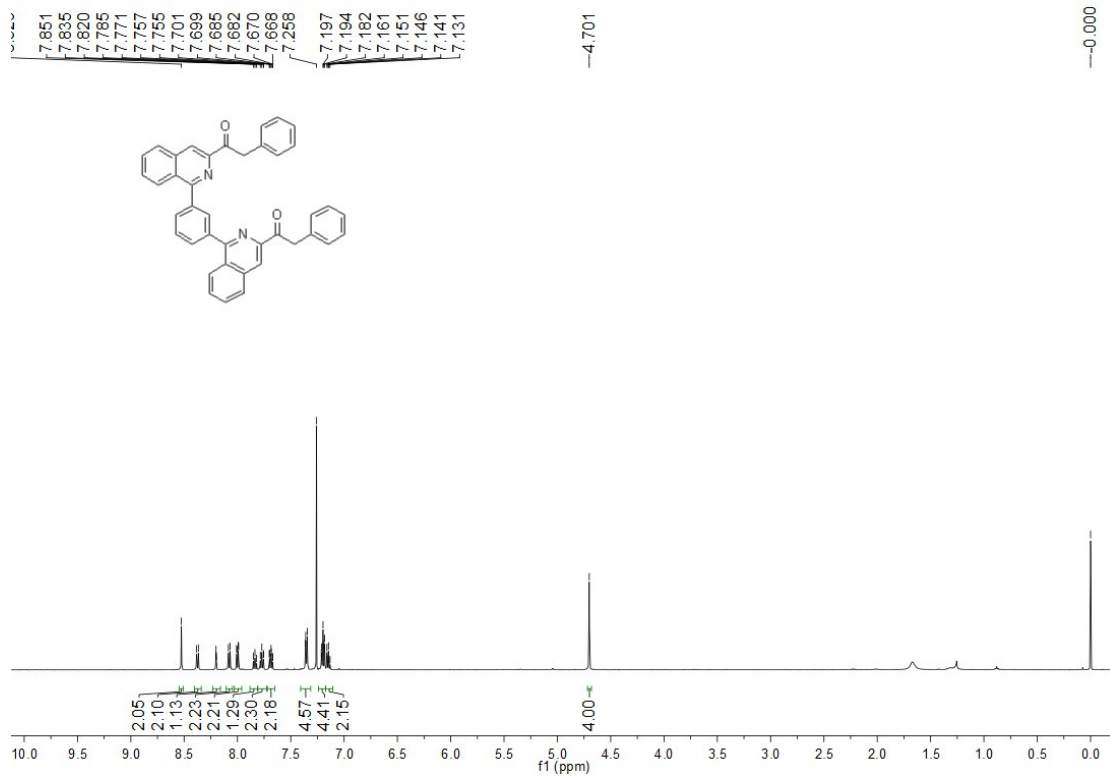
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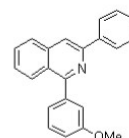
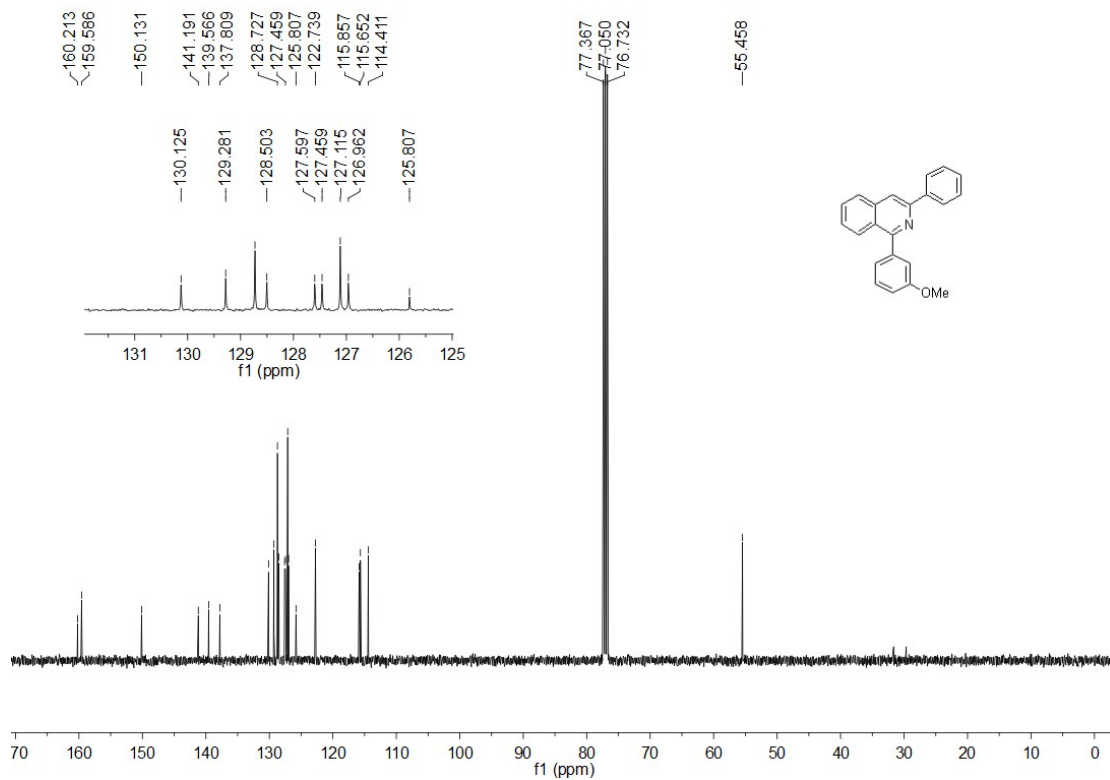
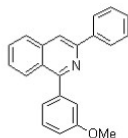
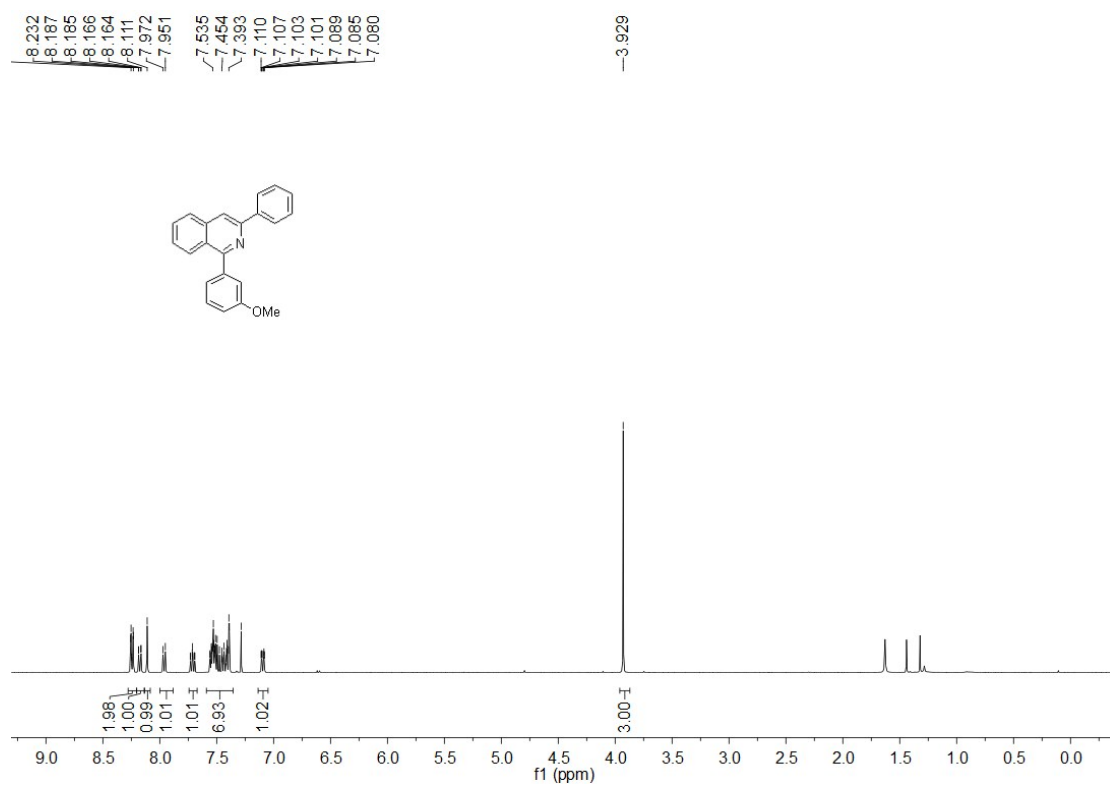
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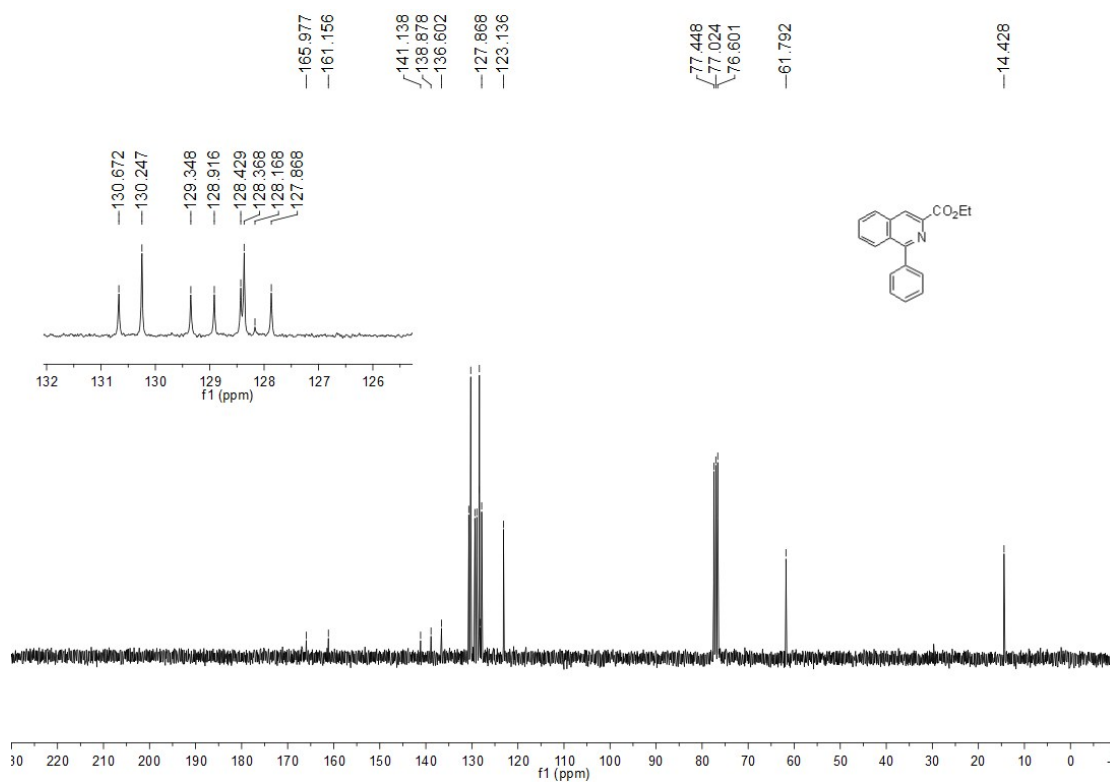
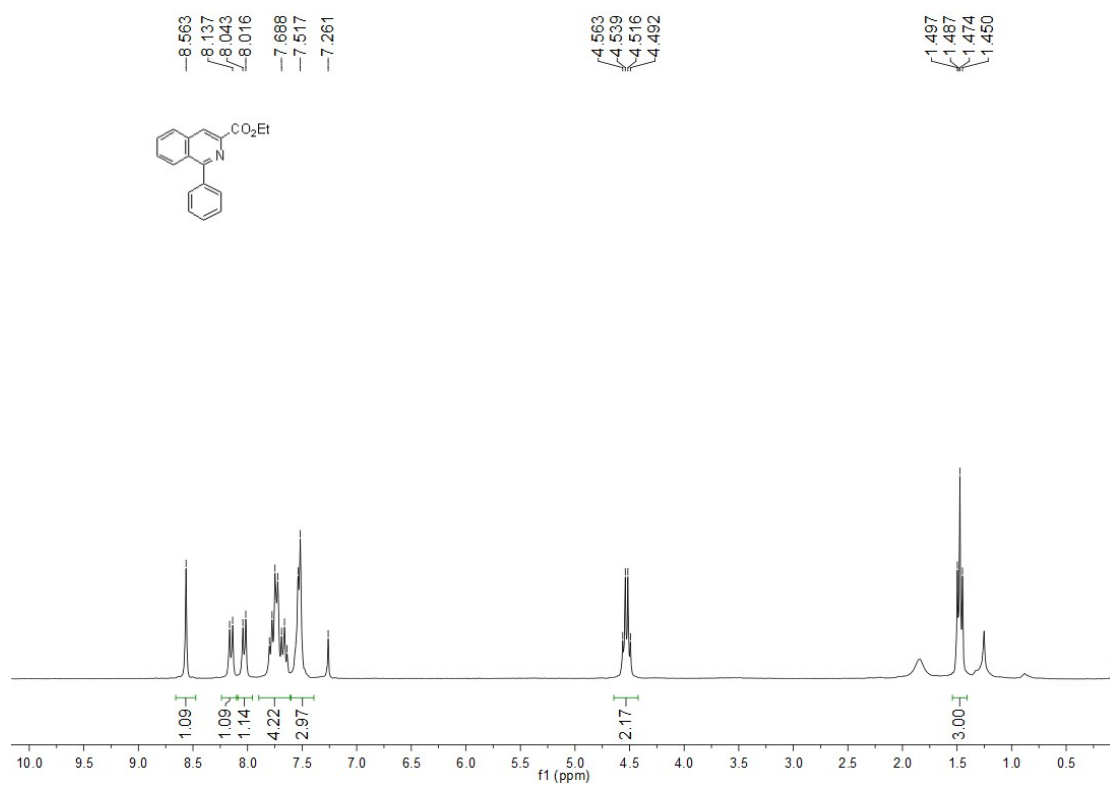
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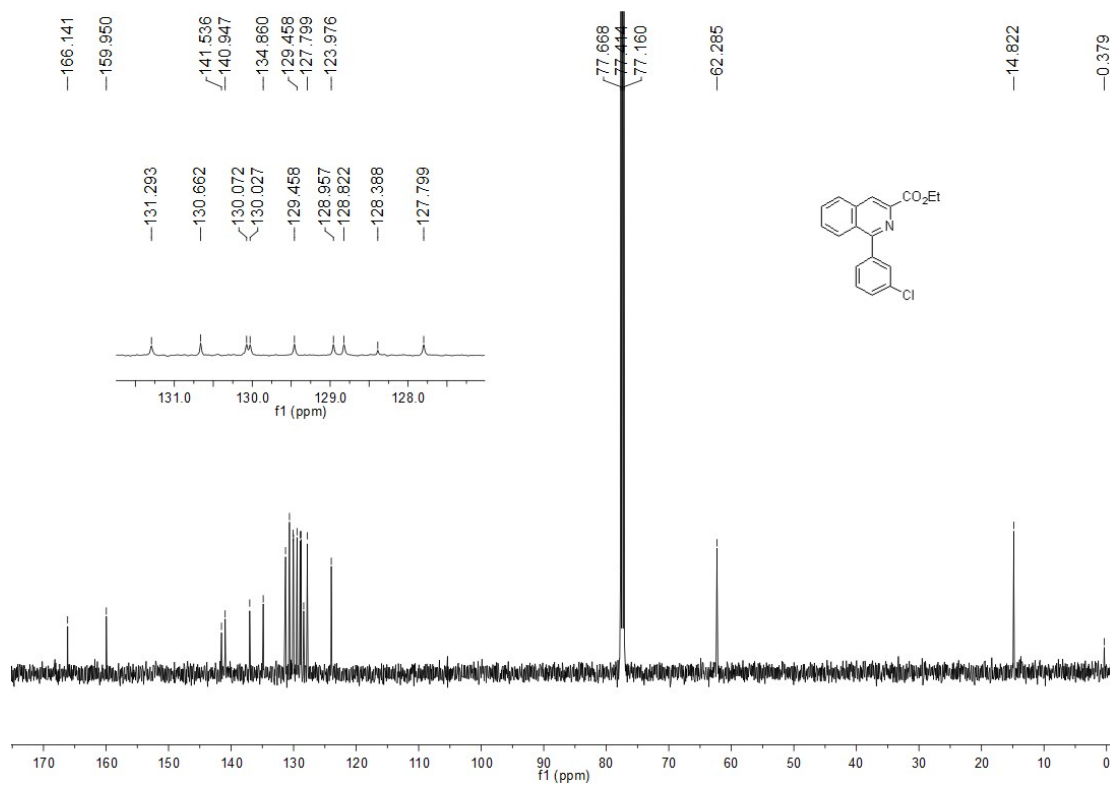
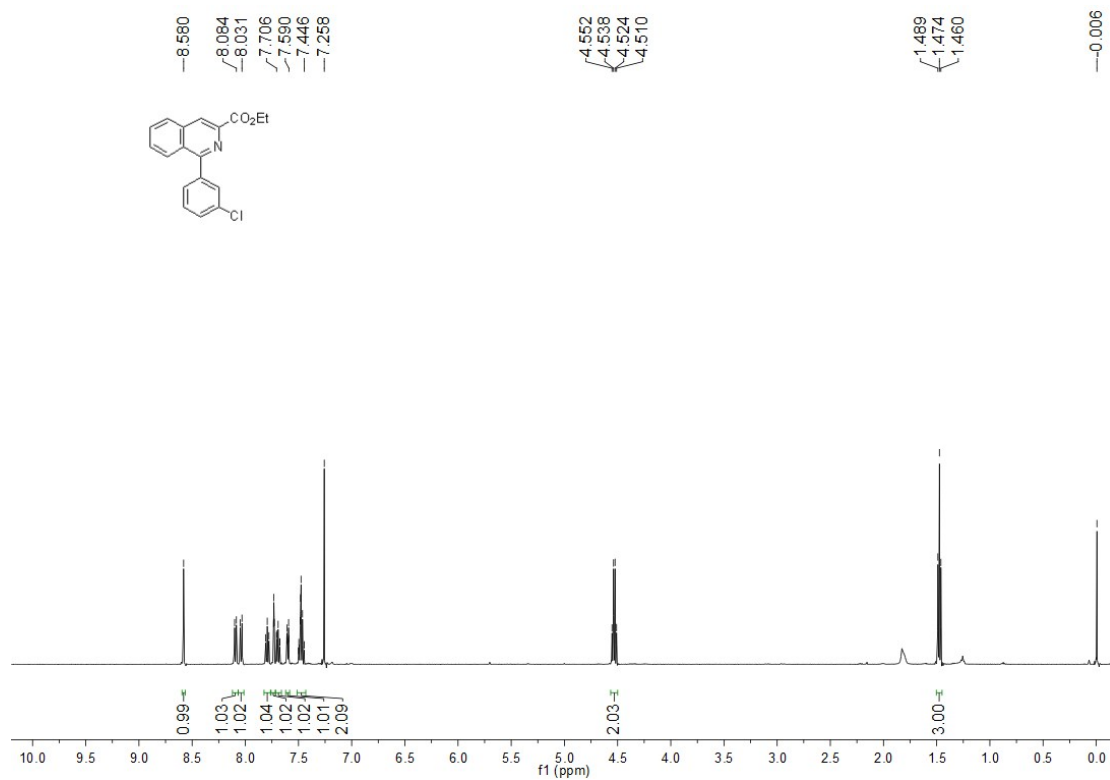
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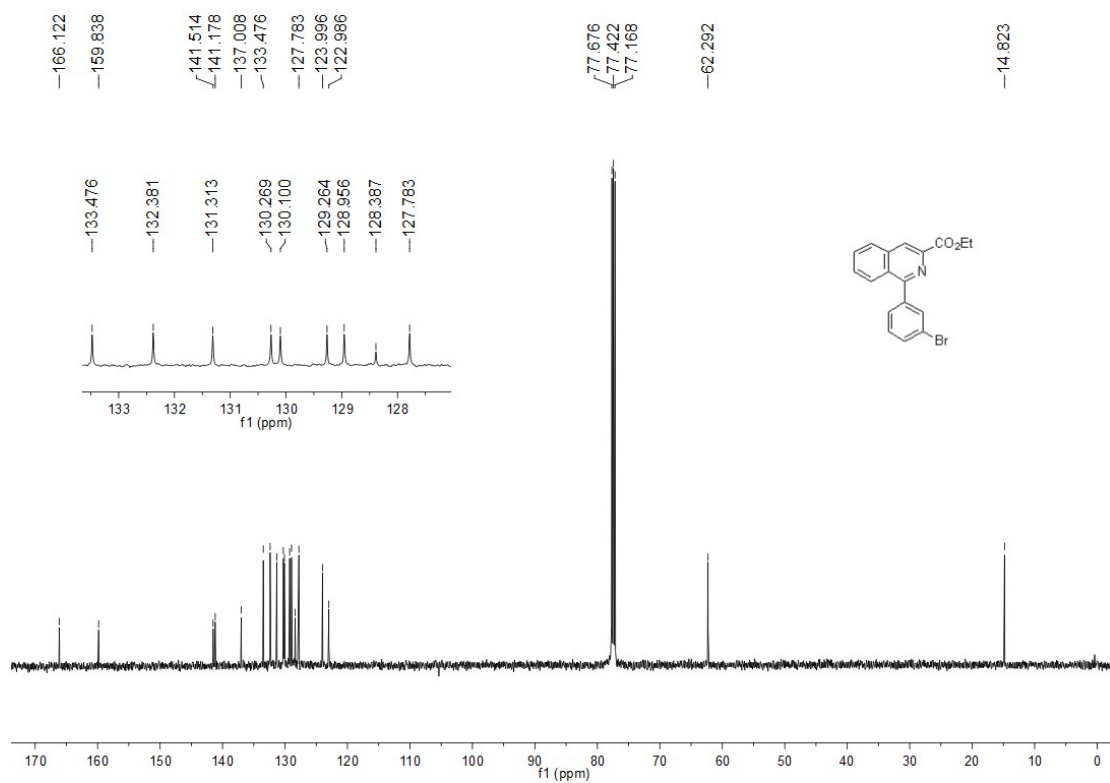
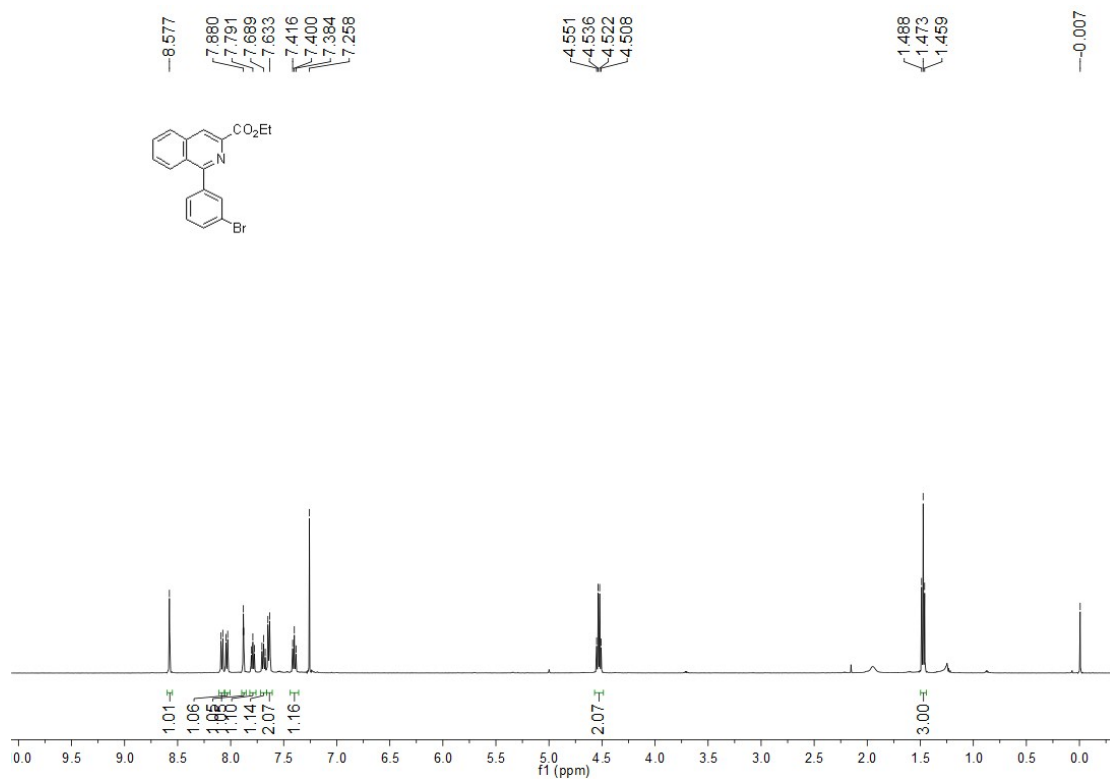
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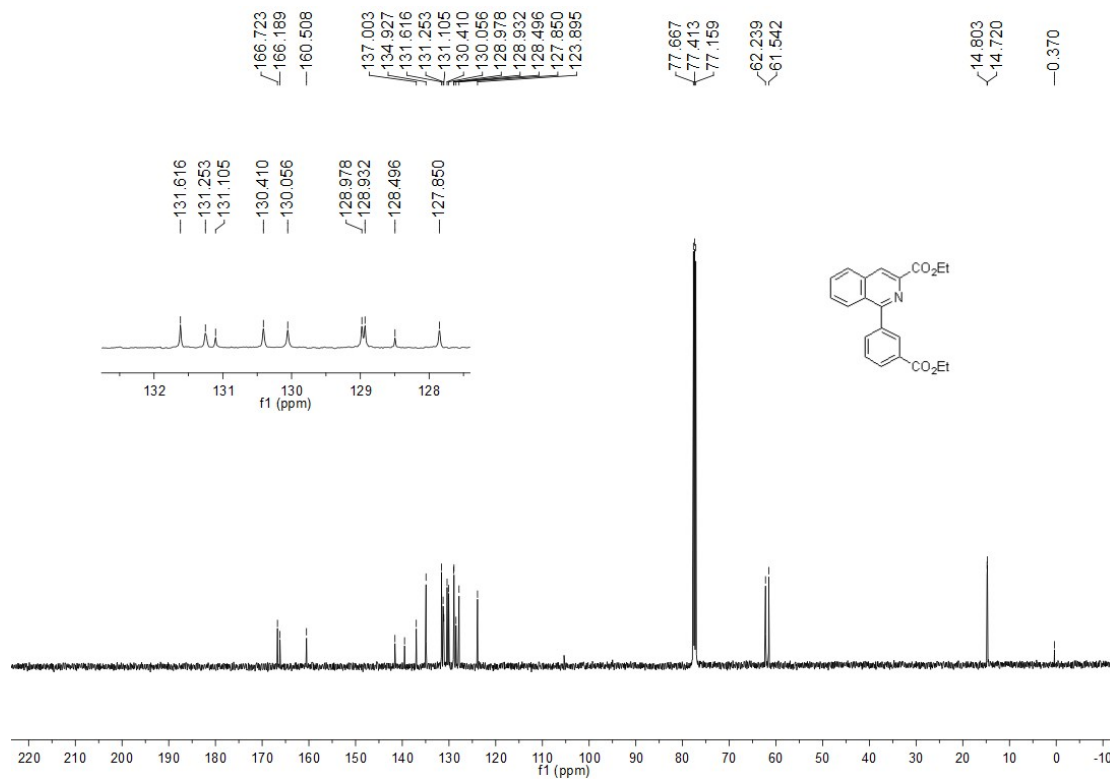
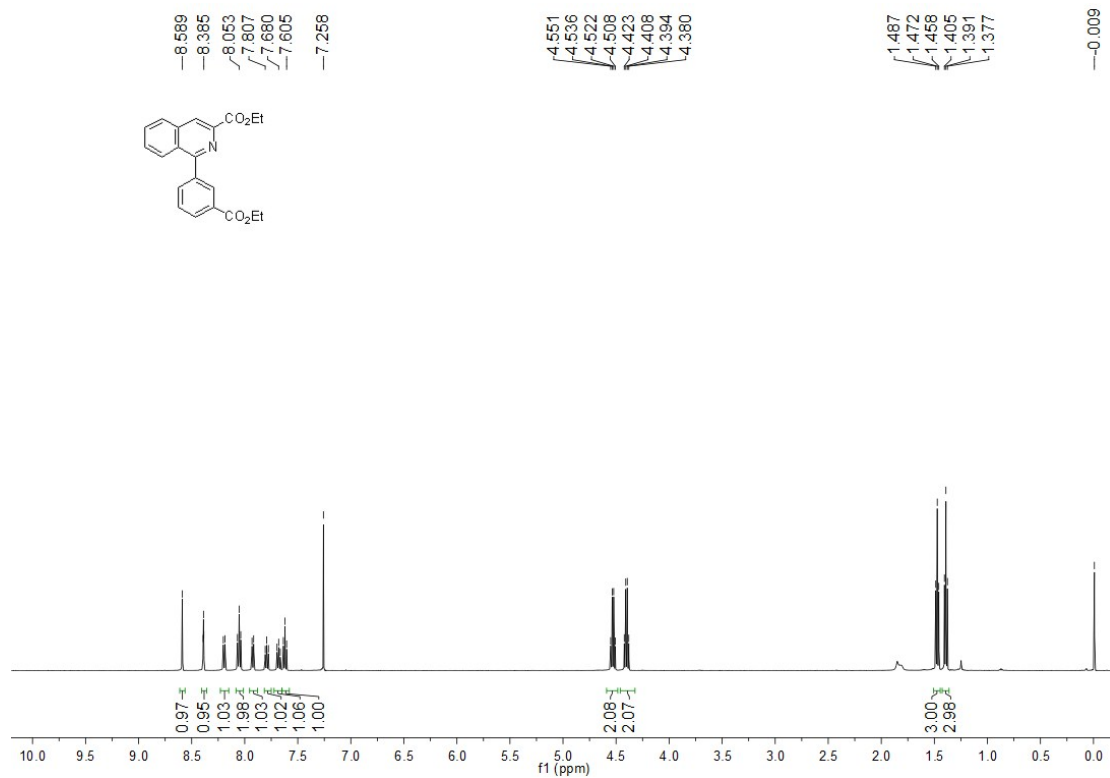
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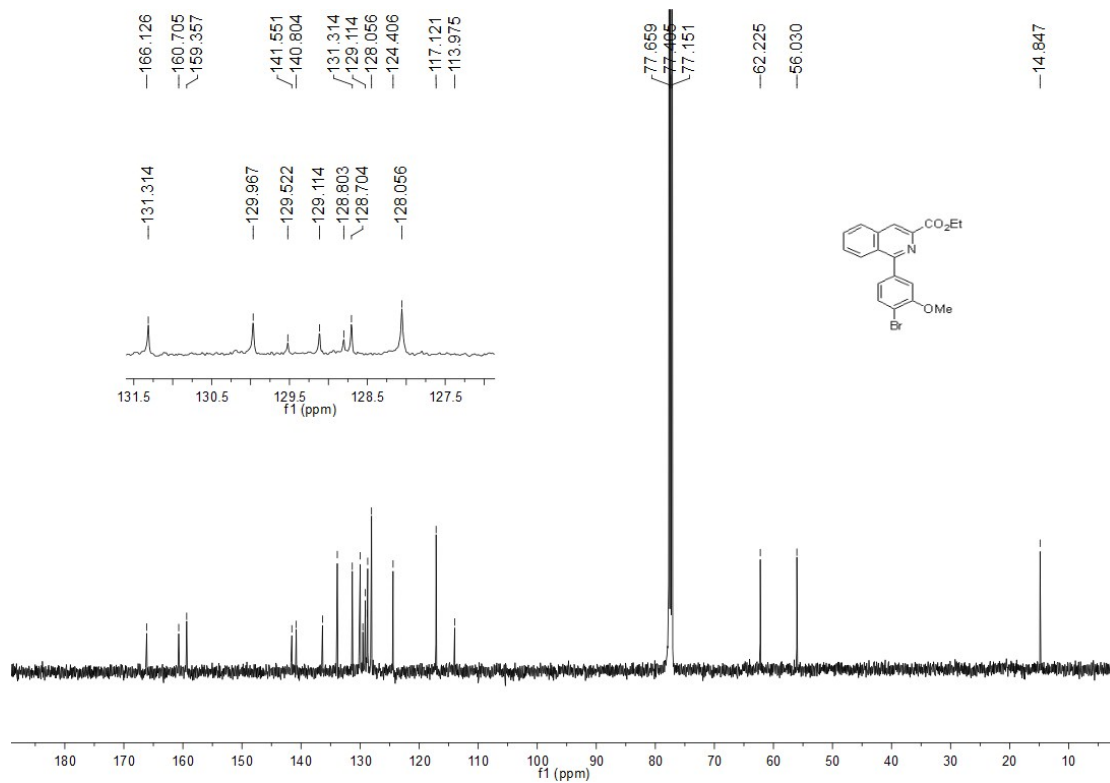
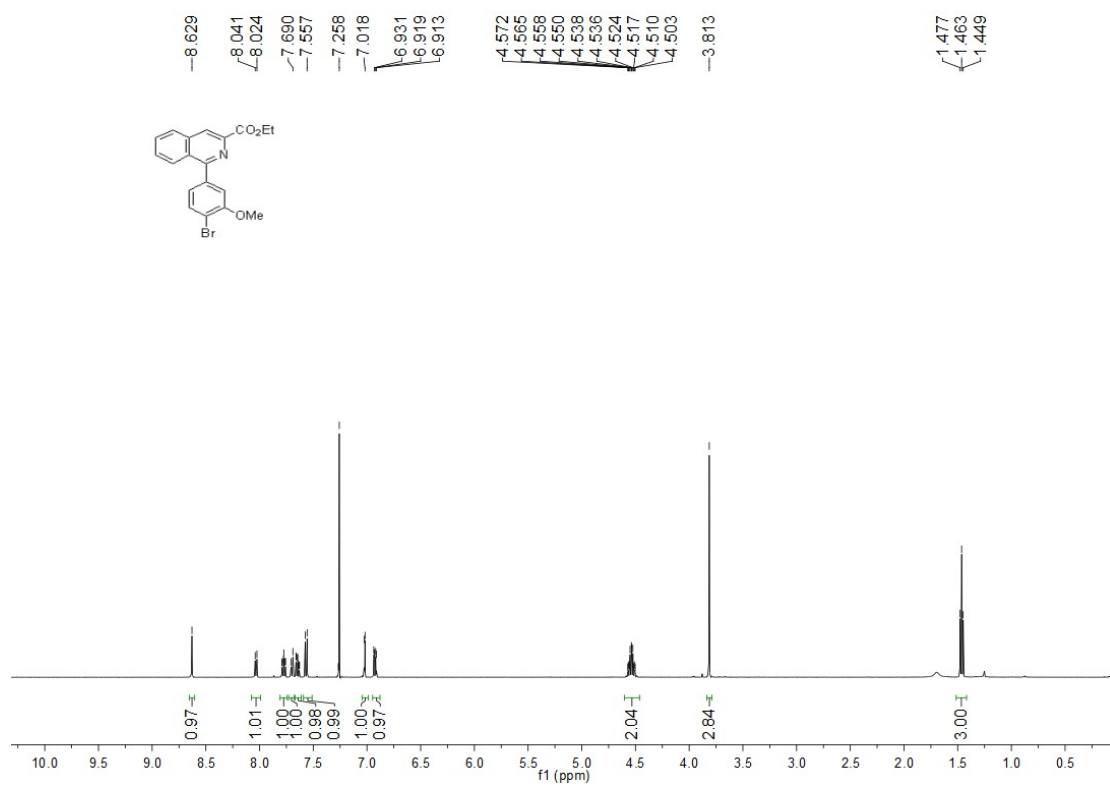
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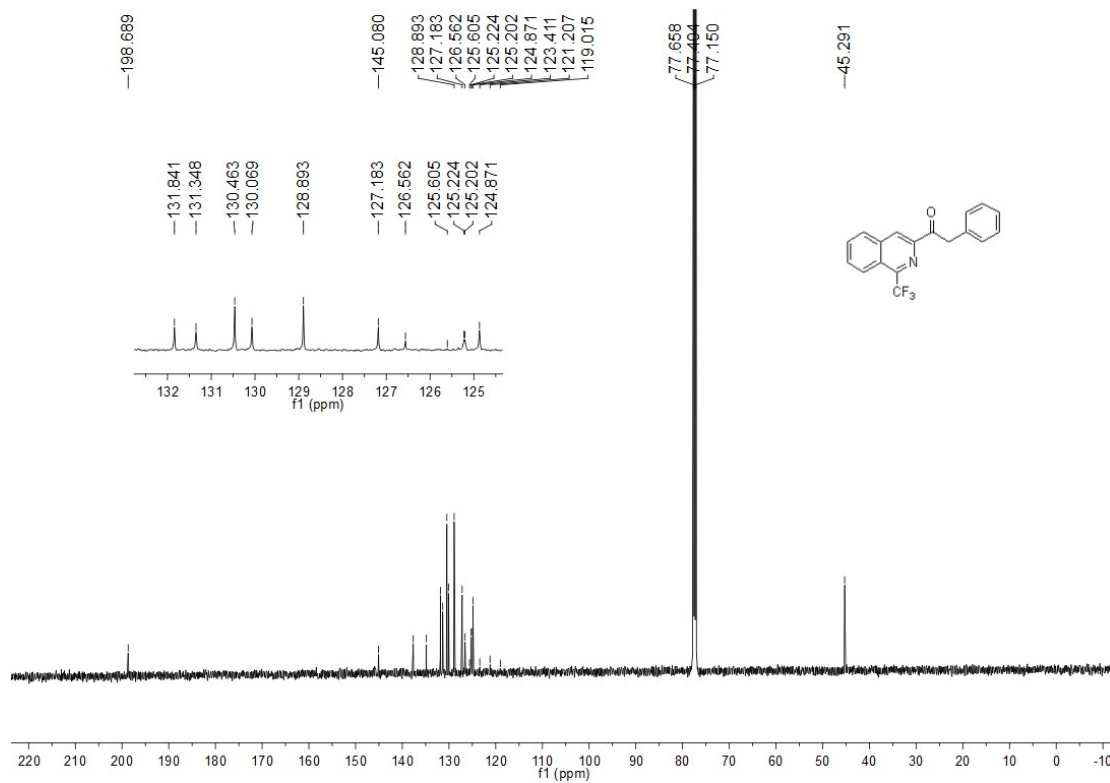
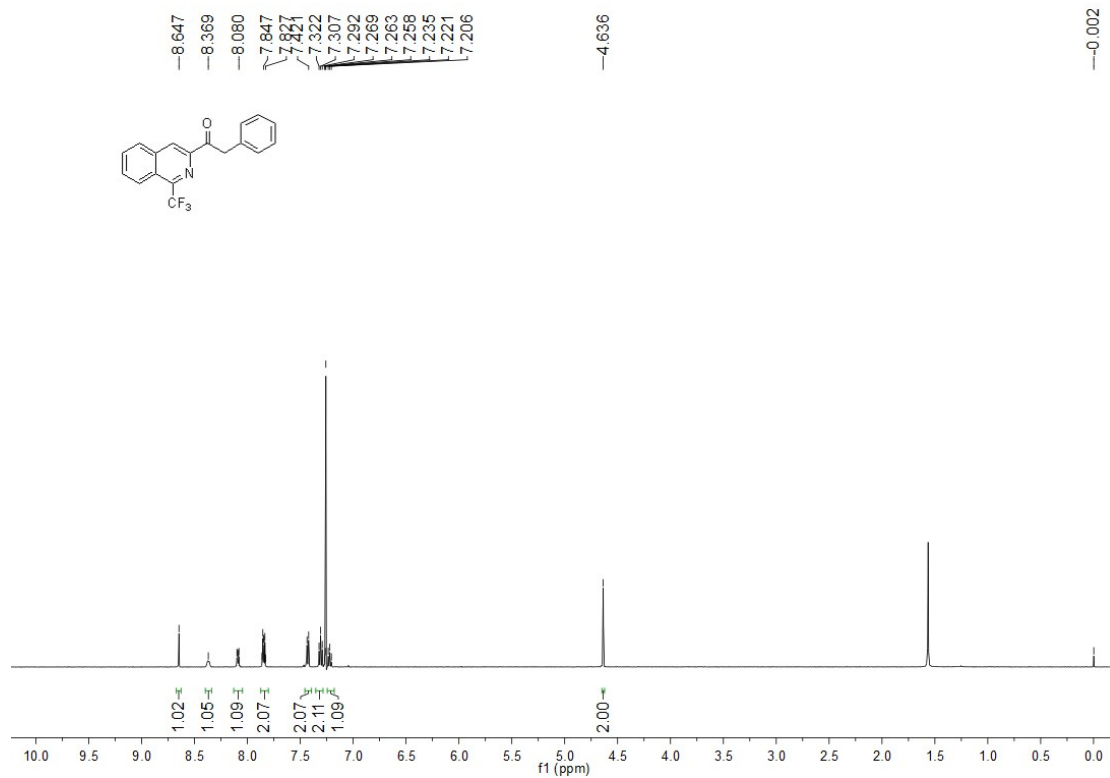
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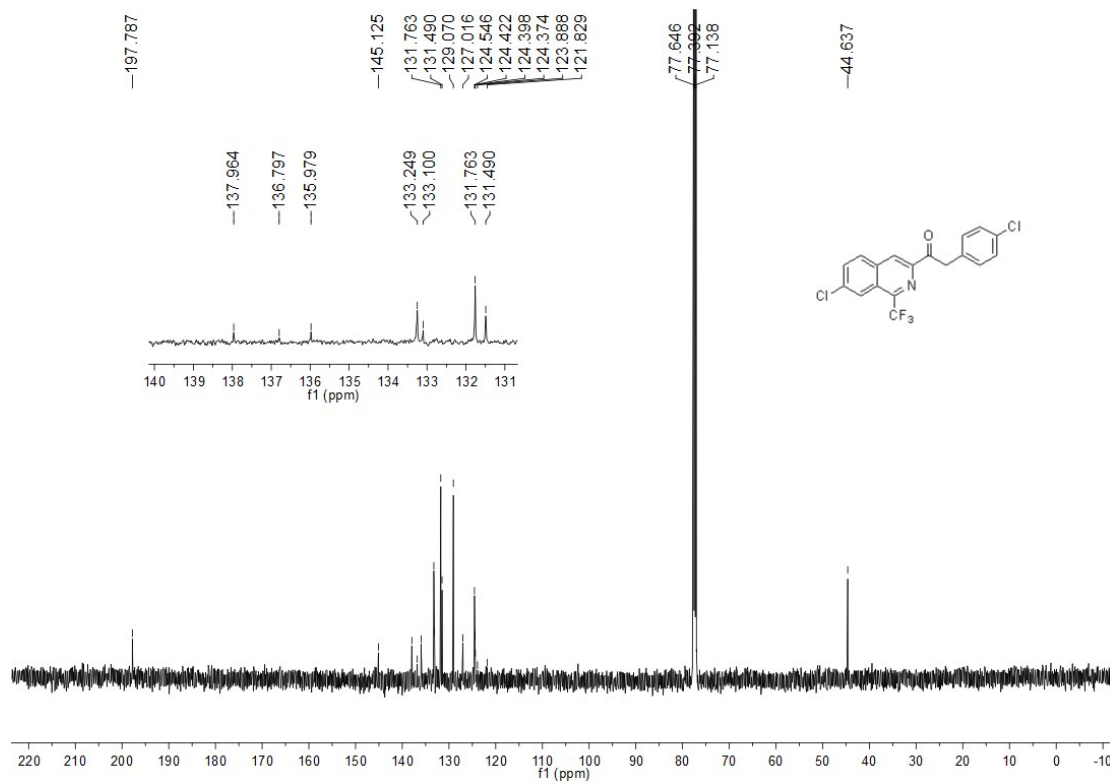
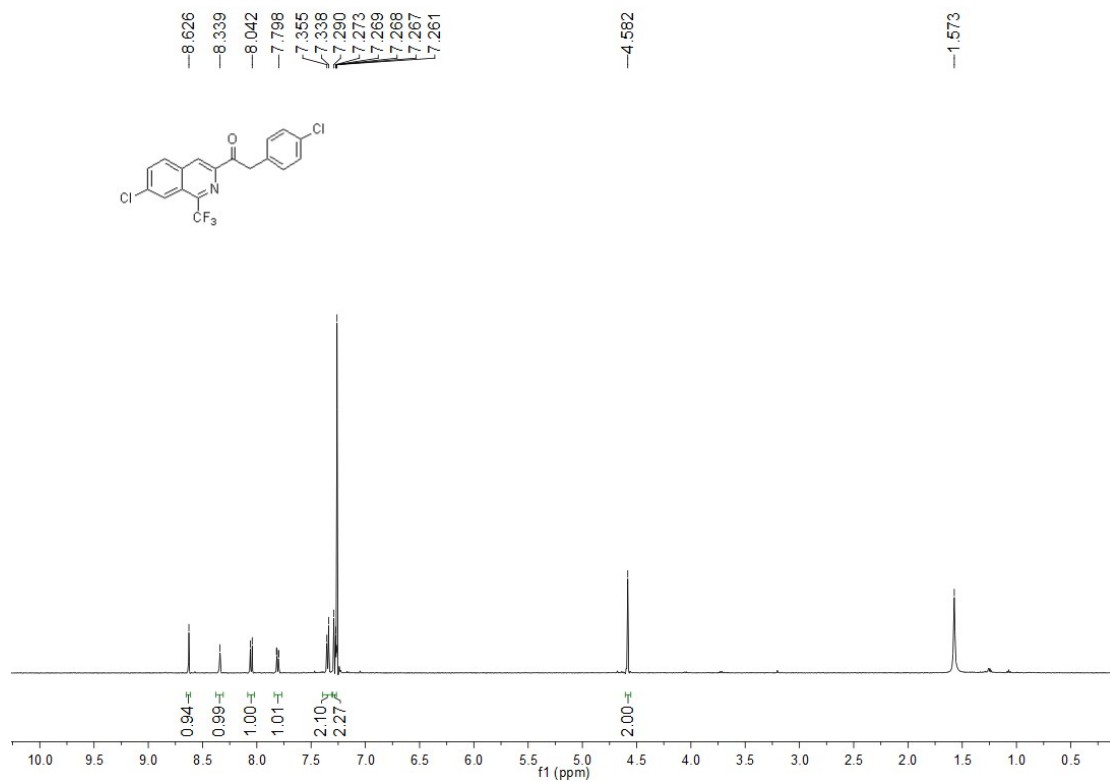
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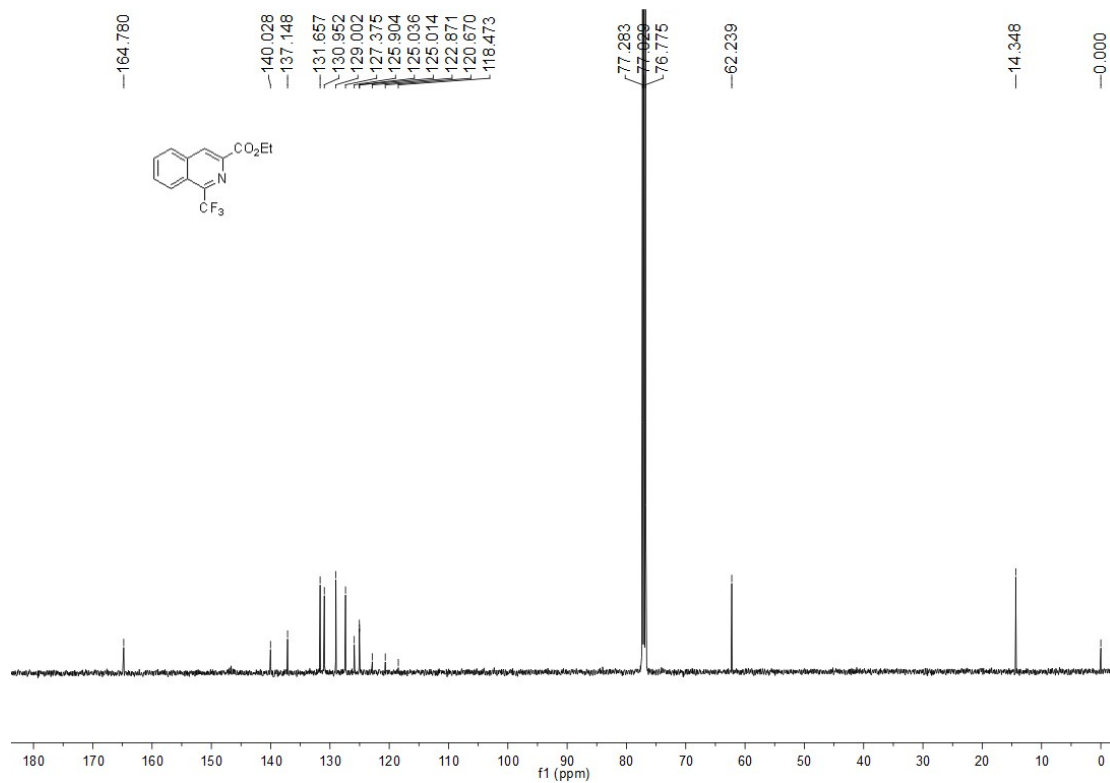
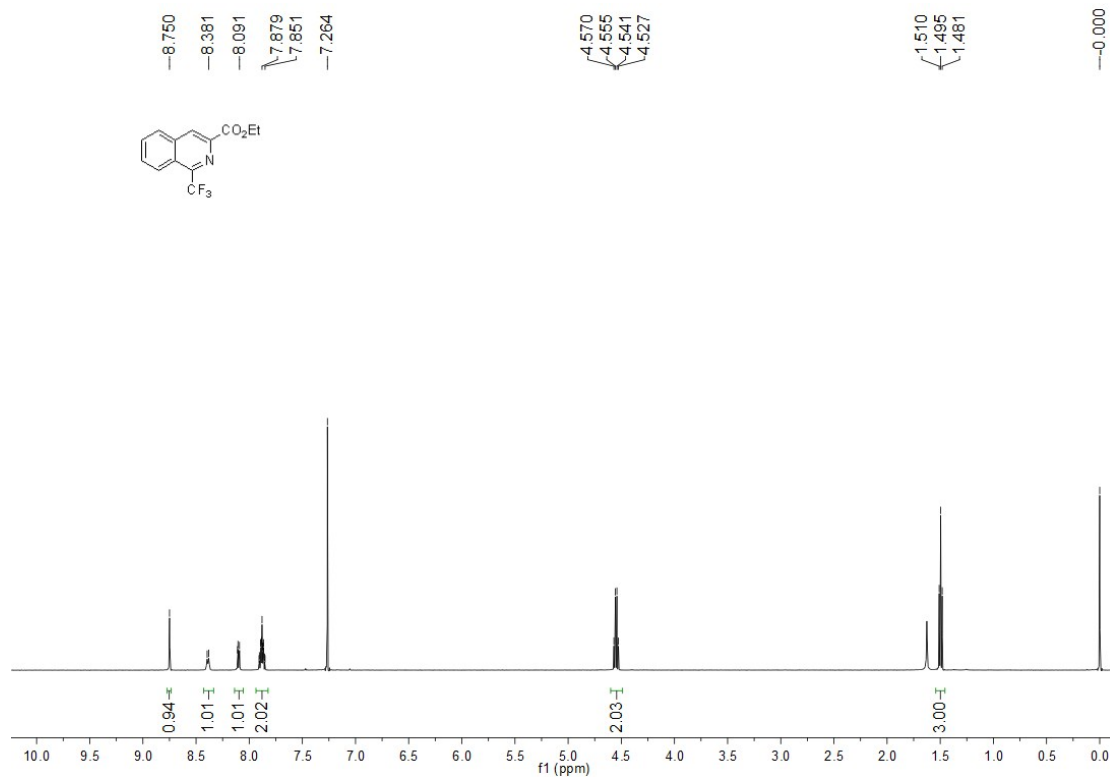
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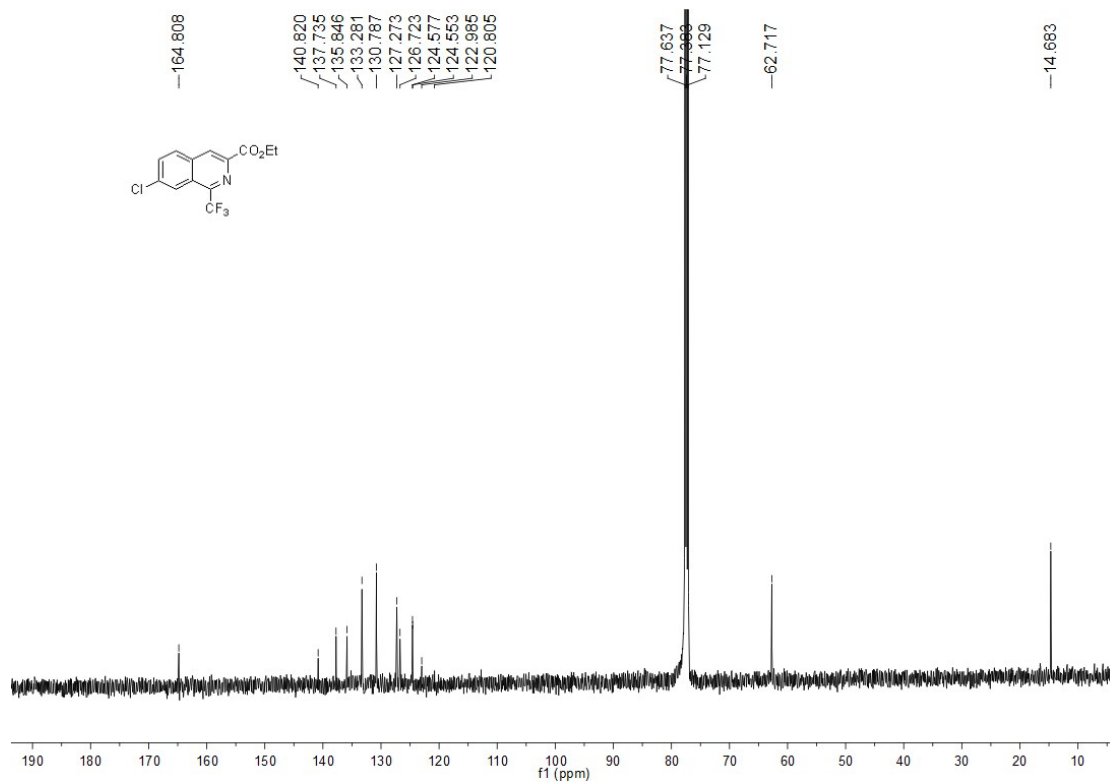
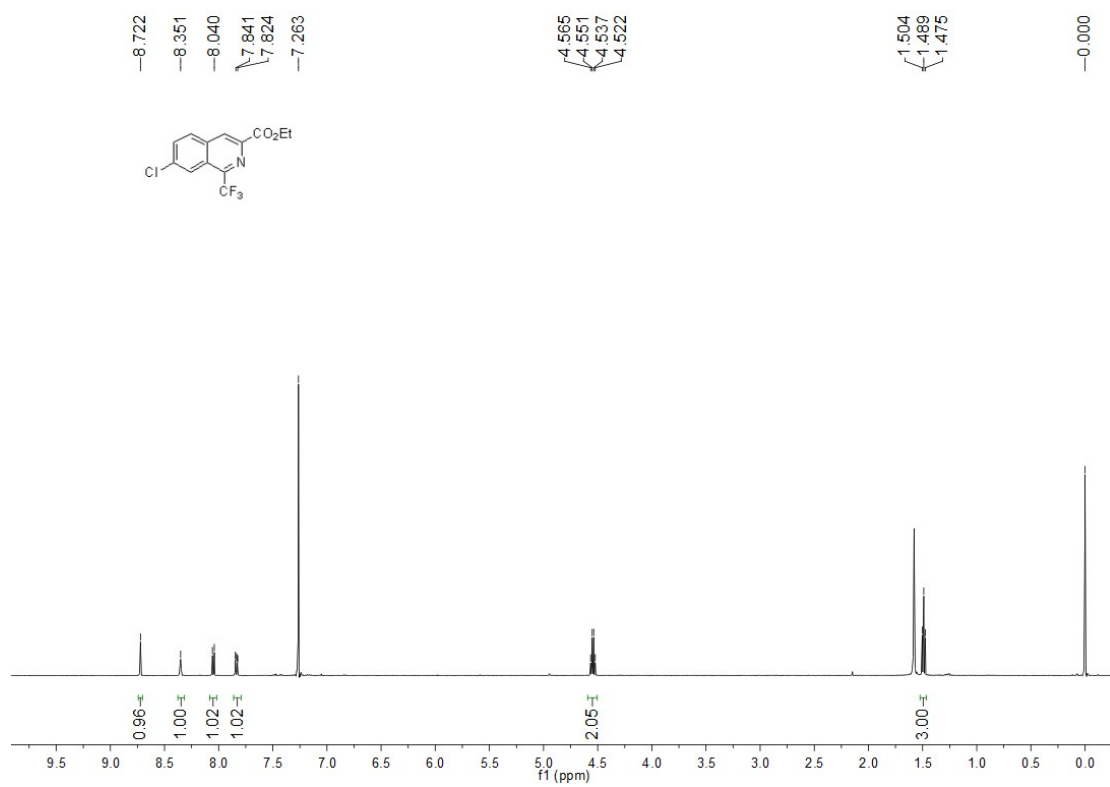
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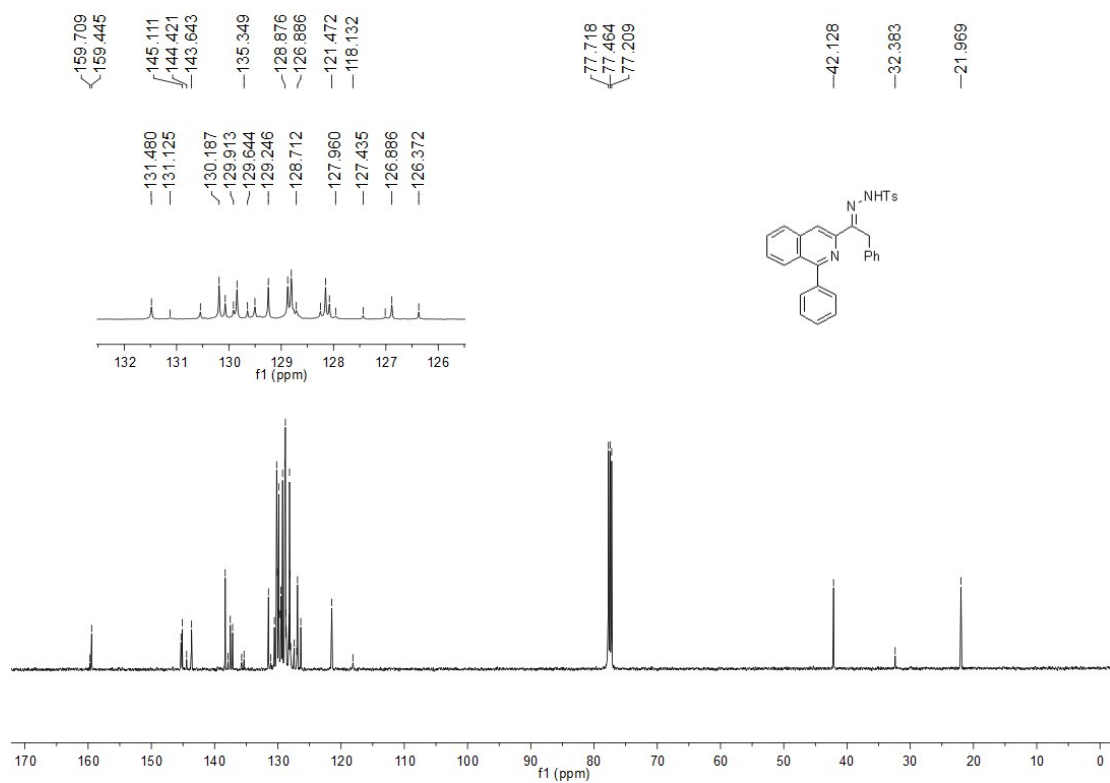
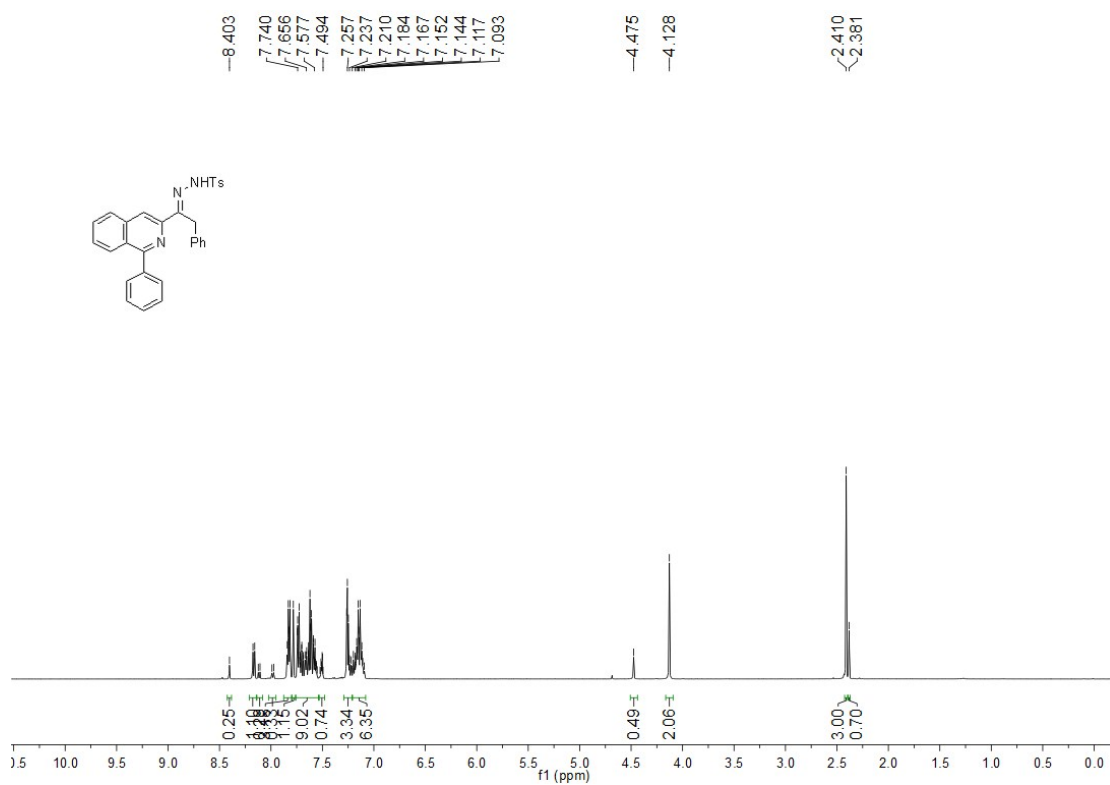
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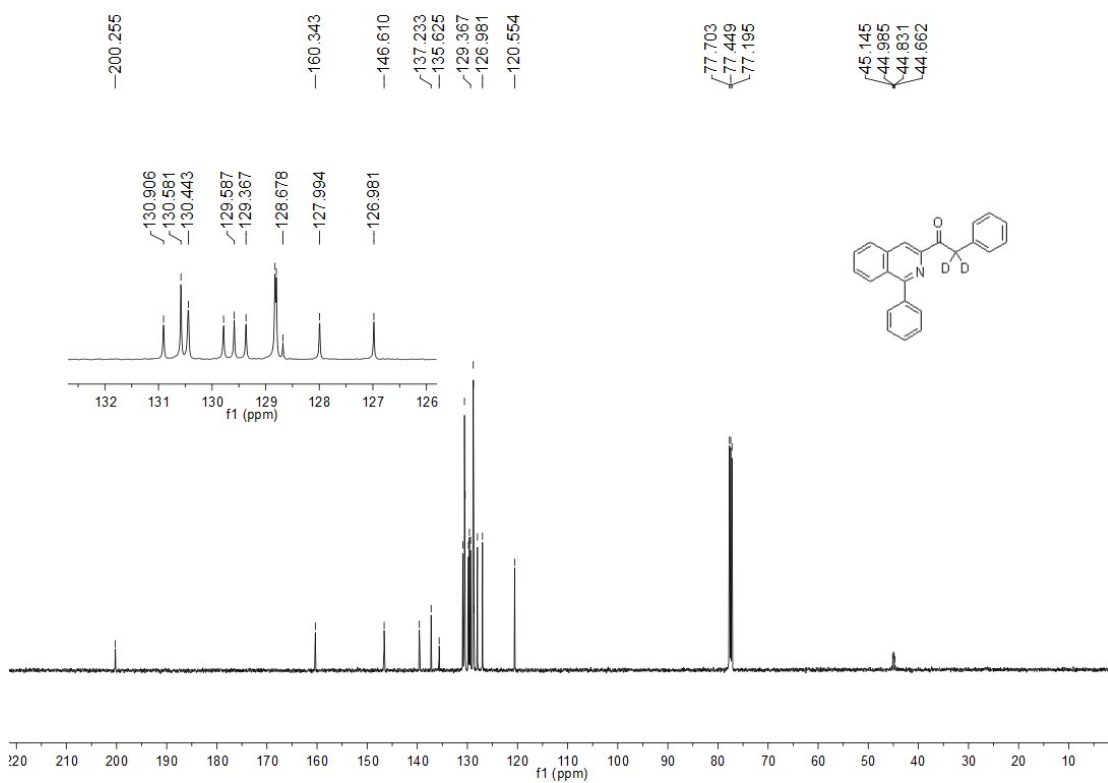
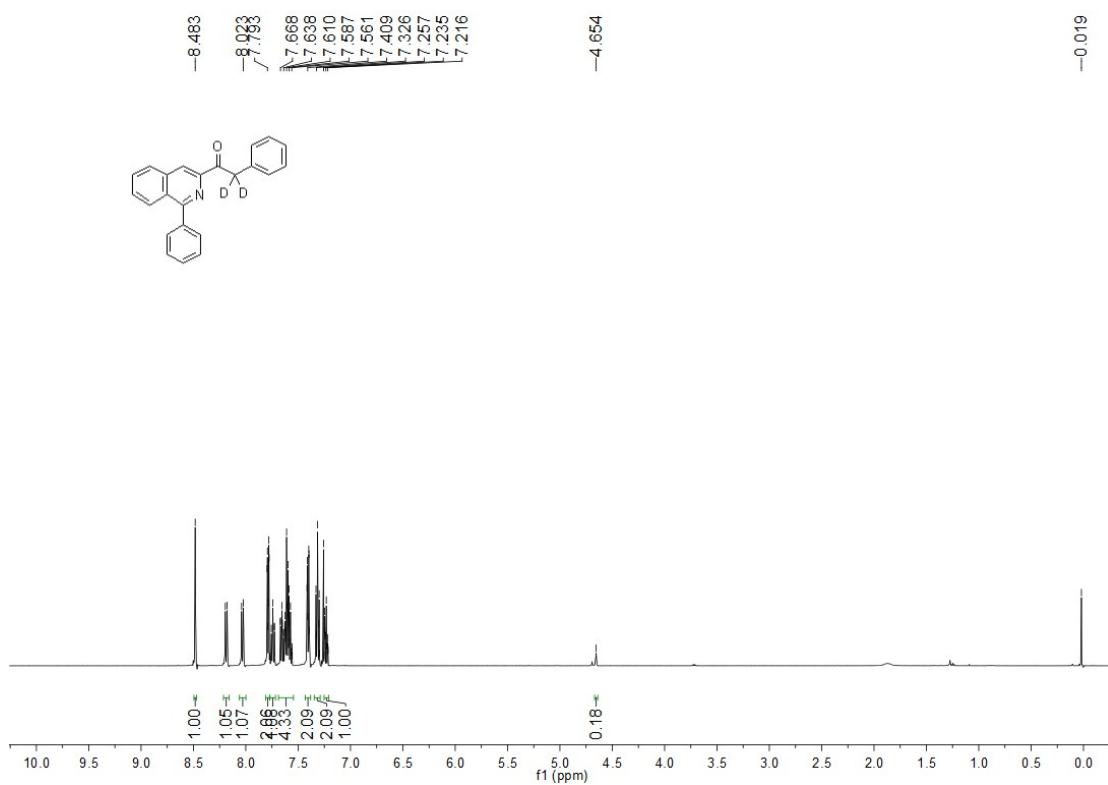
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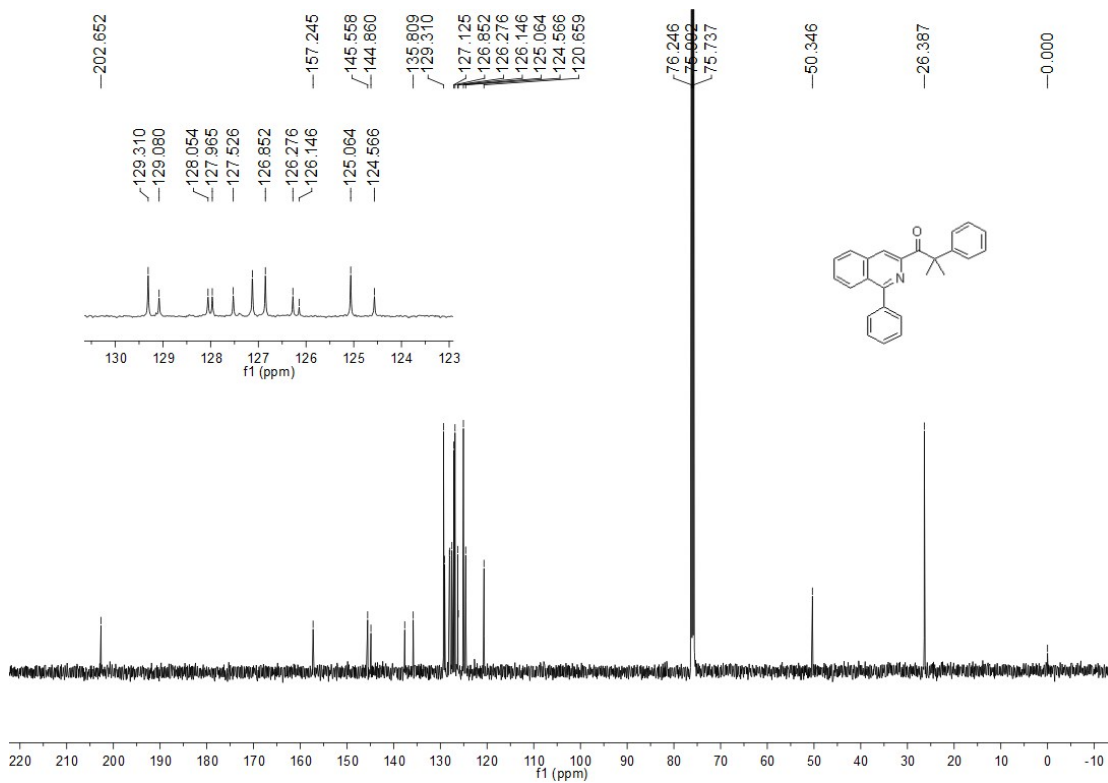
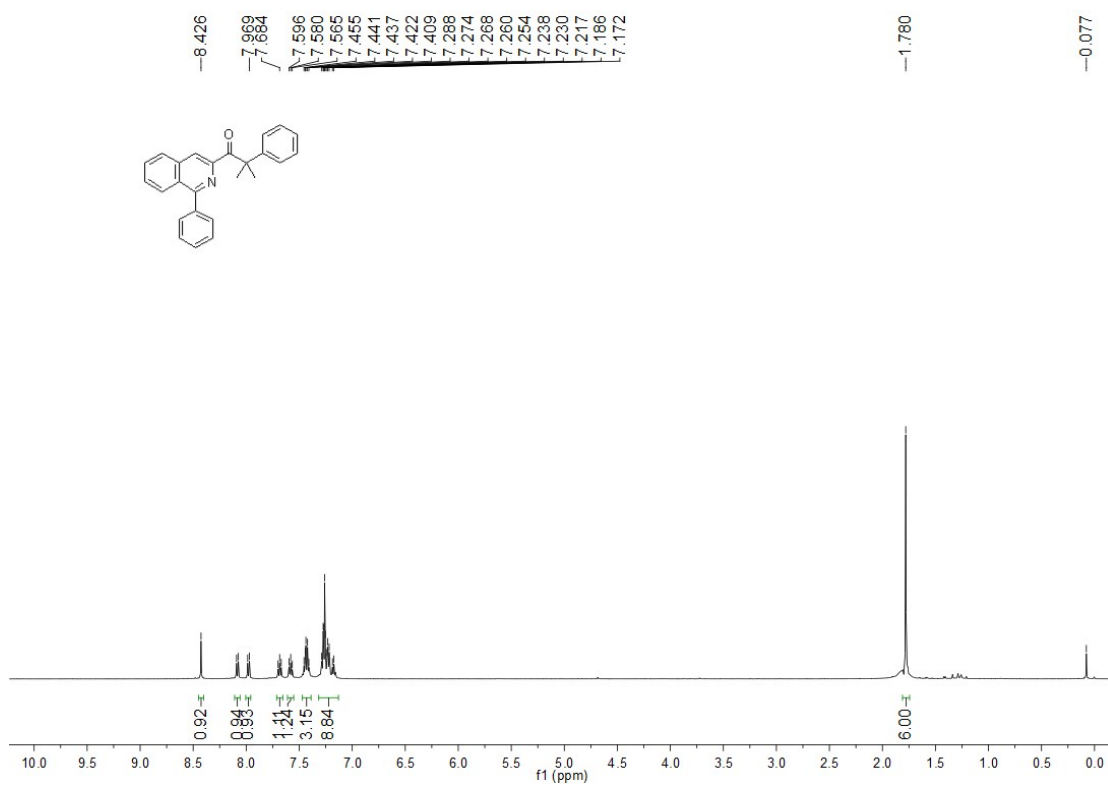
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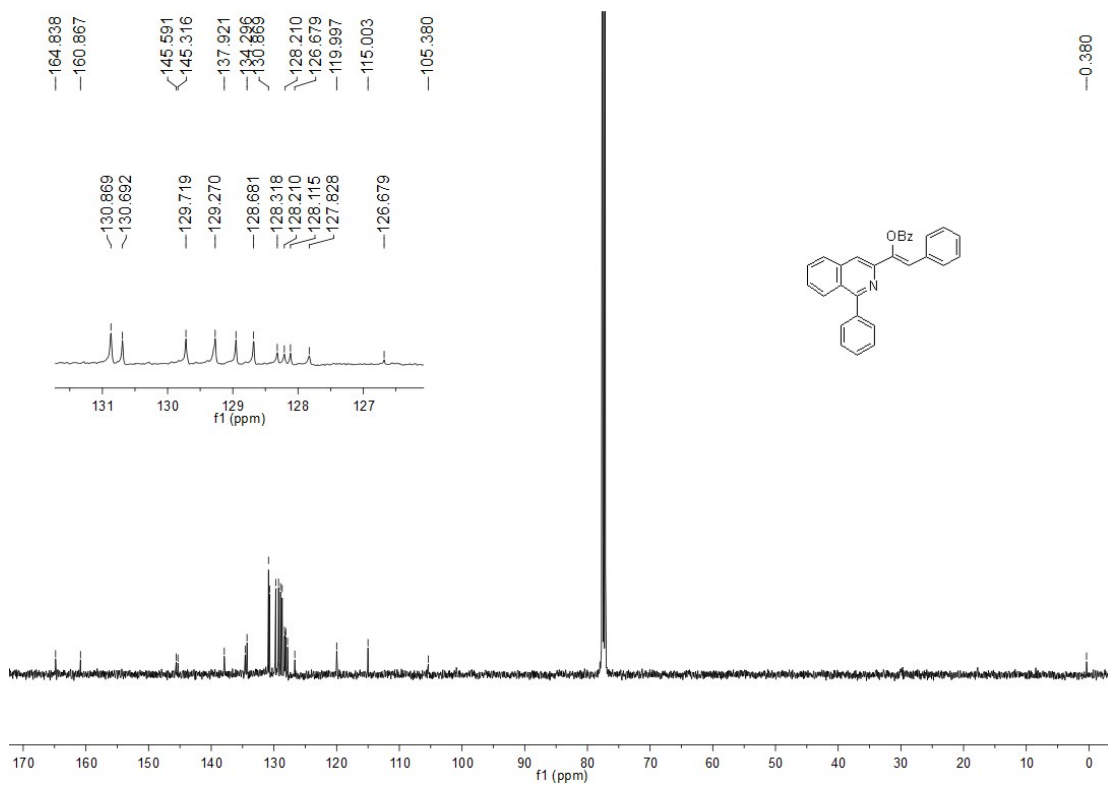
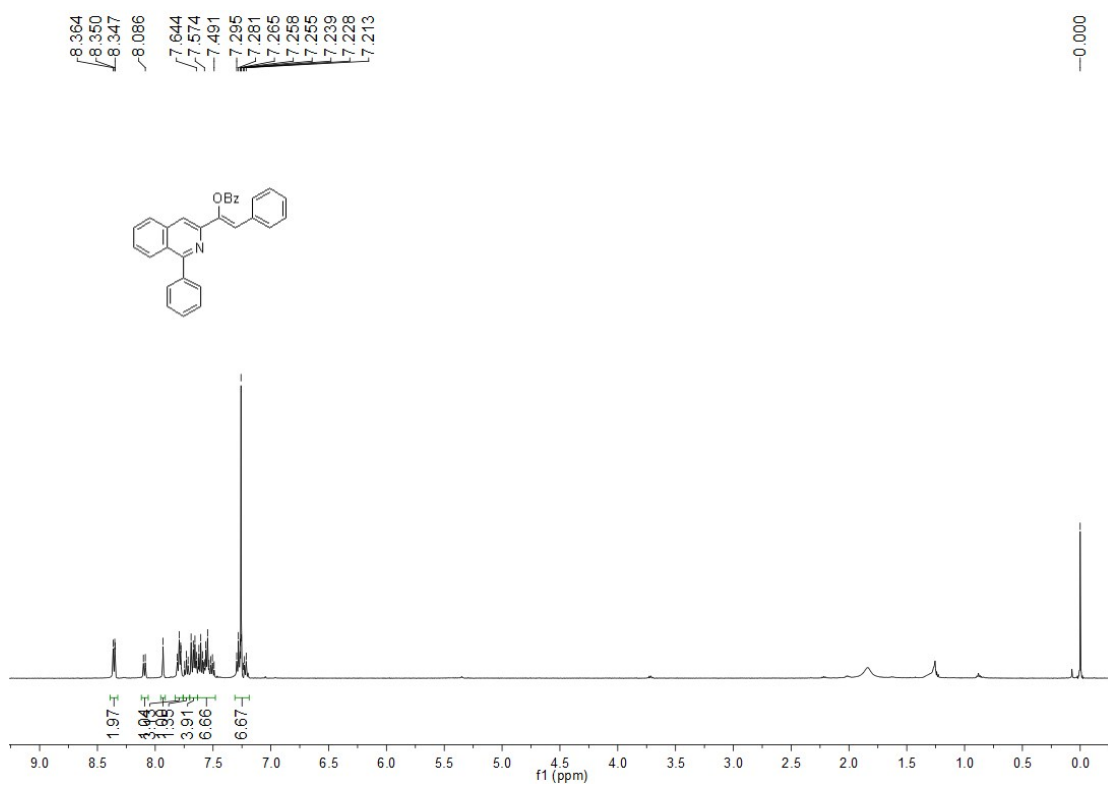
7



8



9



IX. X-Ray Crystal of Compound 9

CCDC number: CCDC 1902347

