

# One-pot synthesis of 4-substituted isoquinolinium zwitterionic salts by Metal-free C-H bond activation

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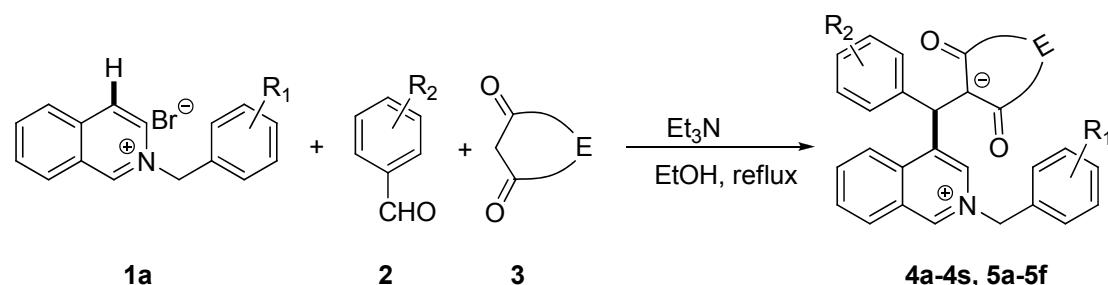
## Experiment Procedure

Reagents and solvents were commercial available with analytical grade. Melting points were determined on a hot-plate microscope apparatus and were uncorrected. Analytical thin-layer chromatography (TLC) was performed on Merck silica gel aluminium plates with GF-254 indicator, visualized by irradiation with UV light. IR spectra were obtained on a Bruker Tensor27 spectrometer (KBr disc).  $^1\text{H}$  NMR and  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR spectra were measured with a Bruker AV-600 spectrometer in  $\text{DMSO}-d_6$  with chemical shift ( $\delta$ ) given in ppm relative to TMS as interstandard [(s = singlet, d = doublet, t = triplet, m = multiplet), coupling constant (Hz)]. High-resolution mass (ESI) were obtained with a Bruker MicroTOF spectrometer. X-ray data were collected on a Bruker Smart APEX-2 CCD diffractometer.

## General procedure

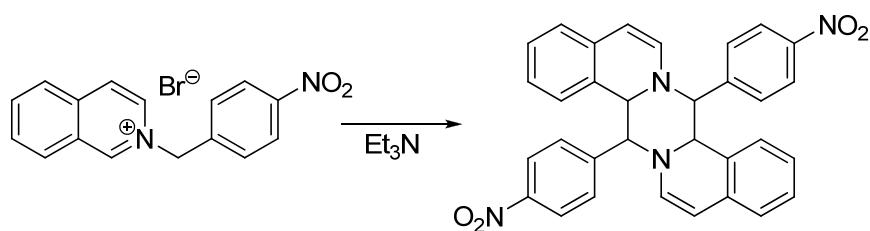
### One-pot reaction for the synthesis of 4a-4s, 5a-5f.

Isoquinoline (3.0 mmol, 0.388 g) and benzyl bromide (2.2 mmol) were stirred in ethanol (10 mL) at 50 °C for about three hours. Aromatic aldehyde **3** (2.0 mmol) and 1,3-dicarbonyl compound **4** (2.0 mmol) and triethylamine (3.0 mmol, 0.303 g) were then added to the solution, and the mixture was stirred at reflux for overnight (TLC monitoring). The resulting precipitates were collected by filtration, washed with alcohol and chloroform and dried to give the corresponding product **4a-4s, 5a-5f**.



### Reaction of isoquinoline and *p*-nitrobenzyl bromide yields the dimer of the isoquinoline ylide (F).

Isoquinoline (3.0 mmol, 0.388 g) and *p*-nitrobenzyl bromide (2.2 mmol) were stirred in ethanol (10 mL) at 50 °C for about three hours. Triethylamine (3.0 mmol, 0.303 g) were then added to the solution, and the mixture was stirred at reflux for one hour (TLC monitoring). The resulting precipitates were collected by filtration, washed with alcohol and dried to give the corresponding product **F**.



### Crystal Data:

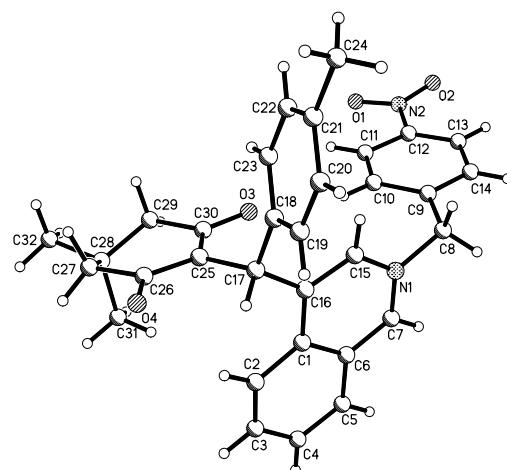


Fig. 1 X-ray structure of **4a**

Crystal data for **4a**:  $\text{C}_{32}\text{H}_{30}\text{N}_2\text{O}_4$ ,  $Mr = 506.58$ , monoclinic,  $\alpha = 9.822(3)$  Å,  $b = 12.203(4)$  Å,  $c = 12.763(4)$  Å,  $U = 1476.6(8)$  Å $^3$ ,  $T = 296(2)$  K, space group P -1,  $Z = 2$ , 12504 reflections measured, 6409 unique ( $R_{\text{int}} = 0.0671$ ) which were used in all calculations. The final  $wR$  ( $F^2$ ) was 0.2677 (all data). CCDC 856821.

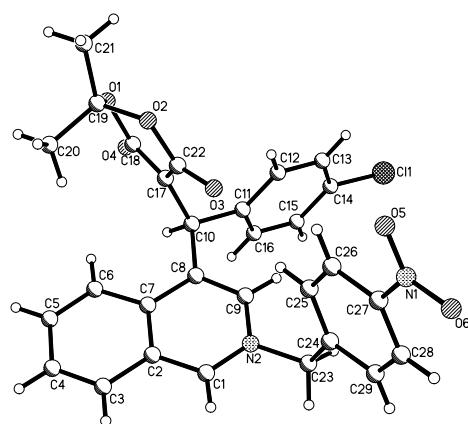


Fig. 2 X-ray structure of **4j**

Crystal data for **4j**:  $C_{29}H_{23}ClN_2O_6$ ,  $Mr = 530.94$ , monoclinic,  $\alpha = 14.6580(19)$  Å,  $b = 10.0334(13)$  Å,  $c = 22.667(3)$  Å,  $U = 3323.5(7)$  Å<sup>3</sup>,  $T = 296(2)$  K, space group  $P\bar{1}/c$ ,  $Z = 4$ , 28869 reflections measured, 7785 unique ( $R_{\text{int}} = 0.0468$ ) which were used in all calculations. The final  $wR(F^2)$  was 0.1016 (all data). CCDC 856822.

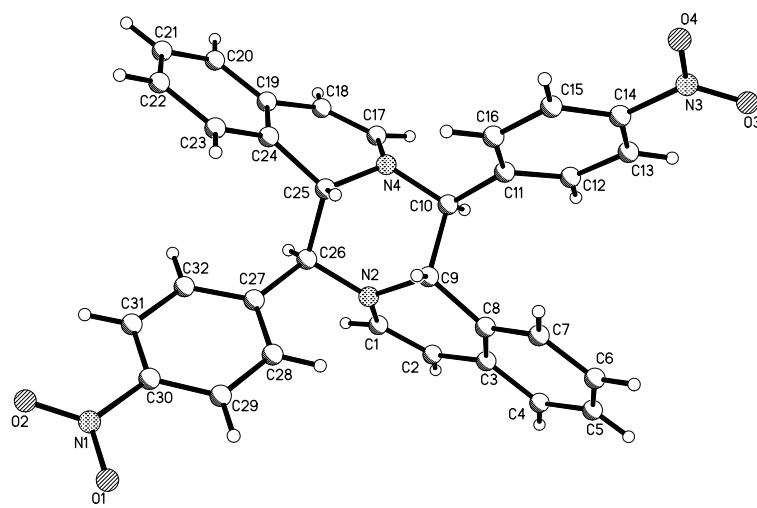


Fig 3 X-ray structure of **F**

Crystal data for **F**:  $C_{32}H_{26}N_4O_4$ ,  $Mr = 530.57$ , orthorhombic,  $\alpha = 24.754(4)$  Å,  $b = 7.9738(13)$  Å,  $c = 13.336(2)$  Å,  $U = 2632.4(7)$  Å<sup>3</sup>,  $T = 296(2)$  K, space group  $P\bar{n}\bar{a}\bar{2}1$ ,  $Z = 4$ , 22296 reflections measured, 3162 unique ( $R_{\text{int}} = 0.1396$ ) which were used in all calculations. The final  $wR(F^2)$  was 0.1396 (all data) CCDC 856823.

**Characterization data of the 4a-4s:**

**4,4-dimethyl-1-((2-(4-nitrobenzyl)isoquinolinium-4-yl)(p-tolyl)methyl)-2,6-dioxocyclohexan-1-ide (4a):** Yellow solid, yield: 70%, m.p. 208-210 °C, IR (KBr)  $\nu$  = 3047, 2959, 2867, 1638, 1606, 1522, 1479, 1431, 1401, 1346, 1051, 995, 795 cm<sup>-1</sup>; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (600 MHz, DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>)  $\delta$  (ppm): 9.91 (s, 1H, ArH), 8.41 (d, *J* = 8.5 Hz, 2H, ArH), 8.20 (d, *J* = 8.5 Hz, 2H, ArH), 8.14 (t, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 1H, ArH), 7.99-7.96 (m, 2H, ArH), 7.62 (d, *J* = 8.5 Hz, 2H, ArH), 7.08 (d, *J* = 7.8 Hz, 2H, ArH), 6.98 (d, *J* = 7.8 Hz, 2H, ArH), 6.29 (s, 1H, CH), 6.09 (d, *J* = 13.0 Hz, 1H, CH), 6.05 (d, *J* = 13.0 Hz, 1H, CH), 2.23 (s, 3H, CH<sub>3</sub>), 1.99 (d, *J* = 15.9 Hz, 2H, CH<sub>2</sub>), 1.92 (d, *J* = 15.9 Hz, 2H, CH<sub>2</sub>), 0.81 (s, 6H, CH<sub>3</sub>); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (150 MHz, DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>)  $\delta$ (ppm): 147.5, 146.3, 144.9, 141.6, 138.9, 136.6, 136.0, 135.5, 134.6, 130.6, 130.4, 129.6, 129.1, 128.4, 126.9, 124.5, 123.9, 110.6, 62.0, 49.4, 44.6, 31.2, 28.5, 20.6; MS (*m/z*): 505.47 ([M-H]<sup>-</sup>, 100%); HRMS (ESI) Calcd. for C<sub>32</sub>H<sub>29</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O<sub>4</sub>([M-H]<sup>-</sup>): 505.2127. Found: 505.2129.

**1-((4-methoxyphenyl)(2-(4-nitrobenzyl)isoquinolinium-4-yl)methyl)-4,4-dimethyl-2,6-dioxocyclohexan-1-ide (4b):** Yellow solid, yield: 76%, m.p. 196-198 °C, IR (KBr)  $\nu$  = 3418, 2951, 1639, 1607, 1479, 1401, 1347, 1245, 1178, 1145, 1029, 839, 796, 759 cm<sup>-1</sup>; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (600 MHz, DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>)  $\delta$  (ppm): 9.79 (s, 1H, ArH), 8.52 (d, *J* = 8.7 Hz, 1H, ArH), 8.35 (d, *J* = 8.3 Hz, 1H, ArH), 8.21 (d, *J* = 8.5Hz, 2H, ArH), 8.11 (t, *J* = 7.7Hz, 1H, ArH), 8.00 (s, 1H, ArH), 7.94 (t, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 1H, ArH), 7.65 (d, *J* = 8.5 Hz, 2H, ArH), 7.15 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 2H, ArH), 6.74 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 2H, ArH), 6.30 (s, 1H, CH), 6.07 (d, *J* = 15.0 Hz, 1H, CH), 6.01 (d, *J* = 15.0 Hz, 1H, CH), 3.70 (s, 3H, OCH<sub>3</sub>), 1.93 (d, *J* = 15.7 Hz, 2H, CH<sub>2</sub>), 1.84 (d, *J* = 15.7 Hz, 2H, CH<sub>2</sub>), 0.81 (s, 6H, CH<sub>3</sub>); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (150 MHz, DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>)  $\delta$ (ppm): 157.3, 147.5, 145.5, 141.7, 136.7, 135.8, 135.7, 134.4, 130.4, 130.3, 130.2, 129.6, 126.9, 124.8, 123.9, 123.0, 65.0, 55.9, 54.8, 50.4, 31.1, 28.7, 18.5; MS (*m/z*): 521.33 ([M-H]<sup>-</sup>, 100%); HRMS (ESI) Calcd. for C<sub>32</sub>H<sub>29</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O<sub>5</sub>([M-H]<sup>-</sup>): 521.2076. Found: 521.2080.

**1-((4-isopropylphenyl)(2-(4-nitrobenzyl)isoquinolinium-4-yl)methyl)-4,4-dimethyl-2,6-dioxocyclohexan-1-ide (4c):** Yellow solid, yield: 71%, m.p. 220-222 °C, IR (KBr)  $\nu$  = 3413, 2956, 1638, 1605, 1480, 1399, 1347, 1264, 1144, 1053, 841, 793, 736 cm<sup>-1</sup>; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (600 MHz, DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>)  $\delta$  (ppm): 9.81 (s, 1H, ArH), 8.54 (d, *J* = 8.7 Hz, 1H, ArH), 8.38 (d, *J* = 8.3 Hz, 1H, ArH), 8.20 (d, *J* = 8.7 Hz, 2H, ArH), 8.13 (t, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 1H, ArH), 8.00 (s, 1H, ArH), 7.95 (t, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 1H, ArH), 7.63 (d, *J* = 8.6 Hz, 2H, ArH), 7.09 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2H, ArH), 7.00 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2H, ArH), 6.32 (s, 1H, CH), 6.06 (d, *J* = 15.1 Hz, 1H, CH), 6.02 (d, *J* = 15.1 Hz, 1H, CH), 2.82-2.76 (m, 1H, CH), 1.93 (d, *J* = 15.7 Hz, 2H, CH<sub>2</sub>), 1.85 (d, *J* = 15.7 Hz, 2H, CH<sub>2</sub>), 1.85-1.14 (m, 6H, CH<sub>3</sub>), 0.82 (s, 6H, CH<sub>3</sub>); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (150 MHz, DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>)  $\delta$ (ppm): 147.5, 145.7, 145.4, 141.6, 139.8, 136.8, 135.9, 135.7, 130.4, 130.3, 129.7, 129.1, 126.9, 125.4, 124.8, 123.9, 62.1, 50.3, 32.9, 31.1, 28.7, 23.9, 23.8; MS (*m/z*): 533.40 ([M-H]<sup>-</sup>, 100%); HRMS (ESI) Calcd. for C<sub>34</sub>H<sub>33</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O<sub>4</sub>([M-H]<sup>-</sup>): 533.2440. Found: 533.2446.

**1-((4-tert-butylphenyl)(2-(4-nitrobenzyl)isoquinolinium-4-yl)methyl)-4,4-dimethyl-2,6-dioxocyclohexan-1-ide (4d):** Yellow solid, yield: 55%, m.p. 220 °C, IR (KBr)  $\nu$  = 3442, 2959, 1638, 1606, 1521, 1476, 1431, 1402, 1345, 1266, 1172, 1145, 854, 794,

760, 735  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ;  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (600 MHz, DMSO- $d_6$ )  $\delta$  (ppm): 9.82 (s, 1H, ArH), 8.57 (d,  $J$  = 8.7 Hz, 1H, ArH), 8.38 (d,  $J$  = 8.3 Hz, 1H, ArH), 8.21 (d,  $J$  = 8.3 Hz, 2H, ArH), 8.12 (t,  $J$  = 7.5 Hz, 1H, ArH), 8.00 (s, 1H, ArH), 7.96 (t,  $J$  = 7.6 Hz, 1H, ArH), 7.63 (d,  $J$  = 8.4 Hz, 2H, ArH), 7.13 (d,  $J$  = 8.1 Hz, 2H, ArH), 7.08 (d,  $J$  = 8.1 Hz, 2H, ArH), 6.32 (s, 1H, CH), 6.05 (d,  $J$  = 15.0 Hz, 1H, CH), 6.01 (d,  $J$  = 15.0 Hz, 1H, CH), 1.94 (d,  $J$  = 15.7 Hz, 2H,  $\text{CH}_2$ ), 1.85 (d,  $J$  = 15.7 Hz, 2H,  $\text{CH}_2$ ), 1.23 (s, 9H,  $\text{CH}_3$ ), 0.82 (s, 6H,  $\text{CH}_3$ );  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (150 MHz, DMSO- $d_6$ )  $\delta$  (ppm): 188.0, 147.6, 147.5, 145.7, 145.5, 141.4, 139.3, 136.7, 135.9, 135.6, 130.5, 130.3, 129.8, 128.8, 126.9, 124.7, 124.3, 123.9, 109.6, 62.1, 56.0, 50.2, 38.8, 33.8, 31.1, 31.0, 28.7, 18.4; MS ( $m/z$ ): 547.47 ([M-H]<sup>-</sup>, 100%); HRMS (ESI) Calcd. for  $\text{C}_{35}\text{H}_{35}\text{N}_2\text{O}_4$  ([M-H]<sup>-</sup>): 547.2597. Found: 547.2601.

**1-((3-chlorophenyl)(2-(4-nitrobenzyl)isoquinolinium-4-yl)methyl)-4,4-dimethyl-2,6-dioxocyclohexan-1-ide (4e):** Yellow solid, yield: 60%, m.p. 218 °C, IR (KBr)  $\nu$  = 3443, 3004, 2945, 1637, 1603, 1567, 1522, 1398, 1345, 1288, 1194, 1145, 1045, 998, 792  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ;  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (600 MHz, DMSO- $d_6$ )  $\delta$  (ppm): 9.84 (s, 1H, ArH), 8.53 (d,  $J$  = 8.7 Hz, 1H, ArH), 8.38 (d,  $J$  = 8.3 Hz, 1H, ArH), 8.22 (d,  $J$  = 8.7 Hz, 2H, ArH), 8.13 (t,  $J$  = 7.7 Hz, 1H, ArH), 8.09 (s, 1H, ArH), 7.96 (t,  $J$  = 7.6 Hz, 1H, ArH), 7.67 (d,  $J$  = 8.6 Hz, 2H, ArH), 7.23-7.14 (m, 4H, ArH), 6.37 (s, 1H, CH), 6.09 (d,  $J$  = 14.9 Hz, 1H, CH), 6.04 (d,  $J$  = 14.9 Hz, 1H, CH), 1.94 (d,  $J$  = 15.7 Hz, 2H,  $\text{CH}_2$ ), 1.87 (d,  $J$  = 15.7 Hz, 2H,  $\text{CH}_2$ ), 0.81 (s, 6H,  $\text{CH}_3$ );  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (150 MHz, DMSO- $d_6$ )  $\delta$  (ppm): 147.6, 145.9, 145.6, 144.7, 141.7, 136.7, 135.9, 135.6, 132.4, 130.5, 130.4, 129.7, 129.4, 129.1, 127.9, 126.9, 125.5, 124.8, 123.9, 108.7, 62.0, 50.4, 31.2, 28.7; MS ( $m/z$ ): 525.40 ([M-H]<sup>-</sup>, 100%); HRMS (ESI) Calcd. for  $\text{C}_{31}\text{H}_{26}\text{ClN}_2\text{O}_4$  ([M-H]<sup>-</sup>): 525.1581. Found: 525.1577.

**1-((4-fluorophenyl)(2-(4-nitrobenzyl)isoquinolinium-4-yl)methyl)-4,4-dimethyl-2,6-dioxocyclohexan-1-ide (4f):** Yellow solid, yield: 59%, m.p. 242-244 °C, IR (KBr)  $\nu$  = 3428, 2946, 1637, 1603, 1476, 1397, 1344, 1265, 855, 798, 764  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ;  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (600 MHz, DMSO- $d_6$ )  $\delta$  (ppm): 9.80 (s, 1H, ArH), 8.52 (d,  $J$  = 8.7 Hz, 1H, ArH), 8.37 (d,  $J$  = 8.3 Hz, 1H, ArH), 8.22 (d,  $J$  = 8.3 Hz, 2H, ArH), 8.13 (t,  $J$  = 7.8 Hz, 1H, ArH), 8.03 (s, 1H, ArH), 7.95 (t,  $J$  = 7.6 Hz, 1H, ArH), 7.66 (d,  $J$  = 8.3 Hz, 2H, ArH), 7.26 (t,  $J$  = 6.6 Hz, 2H, ArH), 7.00 (t,  $J$  = 8.5 Hz, 2H, ArH), 6.35 (s, 1H, CH), 6.12 (d,  $J$  = 15.0 Hz, 1H, CH), 6.04 (d,  $J$  = 15.0 Hz, 1H, CH), 1.94 (d,  $J$  = 15.7 Hz, 2H,  $\text{CH}_2$ ), 1.85 (d,  $J$  = 15.7 Hz, 2H,  $\text{CH}_2$ ), 0.81 (s, 6H,  $\text{CH}_3$ );  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (150 MHz, DMSO- $d_6$ )  $\delta$  (ppm): 187.2, 160.6 (d,  $J$  = 241.3 Hz), 147.6, 145.6, 141.8, 138.9, 136.7, 135.7 (d,  $J$  = 3.4 Hz), 131.2 (d,  $J$  = 7.6 Hz), 130.3 (d,  $J$  = 7.6 Hz), 129.6, 127.0, 124.9, 123.9, 114.2 (d,  $J$  = 20.7 Hz), 109.4, 62.0, 50.6, 31.1, 28.8; MS ( $m/z$ ): 509.40 ([M-H]<sup>-</sup>, 100%); HRMS (ESI) Calcd. for  $\text{C}_{31}\text{H}_{26}\text{FN}_2\text{O}_4$  ([M-H]<sup>-</sup>): 509.1877. Found: 509.1874.

**4,4-dimethyl-1-((2-(4-nitrobenzyl)isoquinolinium-4-yl)(phenyl)methyl)-2,6-dioxocyclohexan-1-ide (4g):** Yellow solid, yield: 81%, m.p. 219-221 °C, IR (KBr)  $\nu$  = 3441, 2992, 1638, 1577, 1521, 1435, 1392, 1344, 1258, 1107, 796  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ;  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (600 MHz, DMSO- $d_6$ )  $\delta$  (ppm): 9.91 (s, 1H, ArH), 8.59 (d,  $J$  = 8.7 Hz, 1H, ArH), 8.44 (d,  $J$  = 8.3 Hz, 1H, ArH), 8.24 (t,  $J$  = 7.8 Hz, 1H, ArH), 8.20 (d,  $J$  = 8.5 Hz, 2H, ArH), 8.02 (t,  $J$  = 7.7 Hz, 1H, ArH), 7.95 (s, 1H, ArH), 7.62 (d,  $J$  = 8.4 Hz, 2H, ArH), 7.29 (d,  $J$  = 7.6

Hz, 2H, ArH), 7.25 (t,  $J$  = 7.4 Hz, 2H, ArH), 7.18 (t,  $J$  = 7.1 Hz, 1H, ArH), 6.14-6.03 (m, 3H, CH, CH<sub>2</sub>), 1.36 (s, 6H, CH<sub>3</sub>); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (150 MHz, DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>) δ(ppm): 164.7, 147.6, 146.8, 144.3, 142.2, 141.5, 136.7, 136.5, 135.4, 130.9, 130.5, 129.5, 129.0, 127.9, 127.2, 125.9, 124.5, 123.9, 99.4, 75.5, 62.2, 41.3, 25.9; MS (*m/z*): 495.27 ([M-H]<sup>-</sup>, 100%); HRMS (ESI) Calcd. for C<sub>29</sub>H<sub>23</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O<sub>6</sub> ([M-H]<sup>-</sup>): 495.1556. Found: 495.1561.

**4,4-dimethyl-1-((2-(4-nitrobenzyl)isoquinolinium-4-yl)(p-tolyl)methyl)-2,6-dioxocyclohexan-1-ide (4h):** Yellow solid, yield: 73%, m.p. 222-224 °C, IR (KBr) ν = 3442, 2990, 1639, 1580, 1525, 1437, 1388, 1343, 1256, 1212, 857, 797 cm<sup>-1</sup>; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (600 MHz, DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>) δ (ppm): 9.89 (s, 1H, ArH), 8.58 (d,  $J$  = 8.7 Hz, 1H, ArH), 8.43 (d,  $J$  = 8.3 Hz, 1H, ArH), 8.24-8.19 (m, 3H, ArH), 8.00 (t,  $J$  = 7.7 Hz, 1H, ArH), 7.92 (s, 1H, ArH), 7.62 (d,  $J$  = 8.7 Hz, 2H, ArH), 7.16 (d,  $J$  = 8.0 Hz, 2H, ArH), 7.04 (d,  $J$  = 8.0 Hz, 2H, ArH), 6.10-6.01 (m, 3H, CH, CH<sub>2</sub>), 2.26 (s, 3H, CH<sub>3</sub>), 1.36 (s, 6H, CH<sub>3</sub>); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (150 MHz, DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>) δ(ppm): 164.7, 147.6, 146.7, 144.5, 141.6, 139.2, 136.7, 136.4, 135.4, 134.8, 130.8, 130.5, 129.6, 128.9, 128.5, 127.1, 124.5, 123.8, 99.4, 75.6, 62.1, 40.9, 25.9, 20.6; MS (*m/z*): 509.33 ([M-H]<sup>-</sup>, 100%); HRMS (ESI) Calcd. for C<sub>30</sub>H<sub>25</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O<sub>6</sub> ([M-H]<sup>-</sup>): 509.1713. Found: 509.1730.

**1-((4-methoxyphenyl)(2-(4-nitrobenzyl)isoquinolinium-4-yl)methyl)-4,4-dimethyl-2,6-dioxocyclohexan-1-ide (4i):** Yellow solid, yield: 85%, m.p. 197-199 °C, IR (KBr) ν = 3425, 2994, 1581, 1514, 1391, 1347, 1253, 1204, 927, 794, 750 cm<sup>-1</sup>; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (600 MHz, DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>) δ (ppm): 9.80 (s, 1H, ArH), 8.50 (d,  $J$  = 8.7 Hz, 1H, ArH), 8.34 (d,  $J$  = 8.3 Hz, 1H, ArH), 8.15-8.10 (m, 3H, ArH), 7.92 (t,  $J$  = 7.6 Hz, 1H, ArH), 7.82 (s, 1H, ArH), 7.53 (d,  $J$  = 8.6 Hz, 2H, ArH), 7.12 (d,  $J$  = 8.5 Hz, 2H, ArH), 6.73 (d,  $J$  = 8.6 Hz, 2H, ArH), 6.00 (d,  $J$  = 16.0 Hz, 1H, CH), 5.94 (d,  $J$  = 16.0 Hz, 1H, CH), 5.90 (s, 1H, CH), 3.63 (s, 3H, OCH<sub>3</sub>), 1.27 (s, 6H, CH<sub>3</sub>); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (150 MHz, DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>) δ(ppm): 164.8, 157.6, 147.6, 146.7, 144.8, 141.6, 136.7, 136.4, 135.4, 133.9, 130.8, 130.5, 130.0, 129.6, 127.2, 124.5, 123.8, 113.3, 99.4, 75.9, 62.1, 54.9, 40.6, 25.9; MS (*m/z*): 525.33 ([M-H]<sup>-</sup>, 100%); HRMS (ESI) Calcd. for C<sub>30</sub>H<sub>25</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O<sub>7</sub> ([M-H]<sup>-</sup>): 525.1662. Found: 525.1662.

**1-((4-chlorophenyl)(2-(4-nitrobenzyl)isoquinolinium-4-yl)methyl)-4,4-dimethyl-2,6-dioxocyclohexan-1-ide (4j):** Yellow solid, yield: 77%, m.p. 196-198 °C, IR (KBr) ν = 3440, 2991, 1577, 1391, 1346, 1257, 1206, 1095, 1016, 919, 794, 751 cm<sup>-1</sup>; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (600 MHz, DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>) δ (ppm): 9.92 (s, 1H, ArH), 8.55 (d,  $J$  = 8.7 Hz, 1H, ArH), 8.44 (d,  $J$  = 8.3 Hz, 1H, ArH), 8.24-8.20 (m, 3H, ArH), 8.01 (t,  $J$  = 7.7 Hz, 1H, ArH), 7.99 (s, 1H, ArH), 7.64 (d,  $J$  = 8.7 Hz, 2H, ArH), 7.32 (s, 4H, ArH), 6.12 (d,  $J$  = 15.0 Hz, 1H, CH), 6.07-6.04 (m, 2H, CH), 1.35 (s, 6H, CH<sub>3</sub>); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (150 MHz, DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>) δ(ppm): 164.7, 147.6, 147.1, 143.7, 141.6, 141.3, 136.6, 136.5, 135.4, 130.9, 130.6, 130.5, 129.6, 127.8, 127.2, 124.4, 123.9, 99.4, 75.3, 62.1, 40.8, 25.9; MS (*m/z*): 529.33 ([M-H]<sup>-</sup>, 100%); HRMS (ESI) Calcd. for C<sub>29</sub>H<sub>22</sub>ClN<sub>2</sub>O<sub>6</sub> ([M-H]<sup>-</sup>): 529.1166. Found: 529.1167.

**1-((3-chlorophenyl)(2-(4-nitrobenzyl)isoquinolinium-4-yl)methyl)-4,4-dimethyl-2,6-dioxocyclohexan-1-ide (4k):** Yellow solid, yield: 71%, m.p. 204-206 °C, IR (KBr)

$\nu$  = 3447, 2990, 1639, 1578, 1521, 1390, 1347, 1258, 1201, 1112, 999, 791  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ;  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (600 MHz, DMSO- $d_6$ )  $\delta$  (ppm): 9.94 (s, 1H, ArH), 8.55 (d,  $J$  = 8.7 Hz, 1H, ArH), 8.45 (d,  $J$  = 8.3 Hz, 1H, ArH), 8.23 (t,  $J$  = 8.2 Hz, 1H, ArH), 8.22 (d,  $J$  = 8.8 Hz, 2H, ArH), 8.02 (t,  $J$  = 7.7 Hz, 1H, ArH), 7.98 (s, 1H, ArH), 7.64 (d,  $J$  = 8.7 Hz, 2H, ArH), 7.30-7.22 (m, 4H, ArH), 6.13-6.03 (m, 3H, CH,  $\text{CH}_2$ ), 1.35 (s, 6H,  $\text{CH}_3$ );  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (150 MHz, DMSO- $d_6$ )  $\delta$ (ppm): 164.7, 152.2, 147.2, 142.8, 136.5, 135.2, 132.7, 131.1, 130.5, 129.7, 129.6, 128.8, 127.7, 127.5, 127.4, 127.2, 126.0, 124.4, 123.9, 122.9, 99.5, 75.0, 62.1, 41.1, 25.9; MS ( $m/z$ ): 529.33 ([M-H] $^-$ , 100%); HRMS (ESI) Calcd. for  $\text{C}_{29}\text{H}_{22}\text{ClN}_2\text{O}_6$  ([M-H] $^-$ ): 529.1166. Found: 529.1167.

**5-((2-(4-nitrobenzyl)isoquinolinium-4-yl)(phenyl)methyl)-2,4,6-trioxohexahdropyrimidin-5-ide (4l):** Yellow solid, yield: 88%, m.p. 297-299 °C, IR (KBr)  $\nu$  = 3429, 1686, 1569, 1523, 1448, 1378, 1347, 1201, 1172, 776  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ;  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (600 MHz, DMSO- $d_6$ )  $\delta$  (ppm): 9.96 (s, 1H, ArH), 9.24 (s, 2H, NH), 8.68 (d,  $J$  = 8.7 Hz, 1H, ArH), 8.41 (d,  $J$  = 8.3 Hz, 1H, ArH), 8.21-8.17 (m, 4H, ArH), 7.99-7.95 (m, 1H, ArH), 7.68 (d,  $J$  = 8.6 Hz, 2H, ArH), 7.29 (d,  $J$  = 7.6 Hz, 2H, ArH), 7.22 (t,  $J$  = 7.4 Hz, 2H, ArH), 7.16 (t,  $J$  = 7.2 Hz, 1H, ArH), 6.25 (s, 1H, CH), 6.09 (d,  $J$  = 15.0 Hz, 1H, CH), 6.04 (d,  $J$  = 15.0 Hz, 1H, CH);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (150 MHz, DMSO- $d_6$ )  $\delta$ (ppm): 163.9, 152.1, 147.6, 146.3, 143.8, 141.9, 141.7, 135.9, 136.4, 135.9, 130.7, 130.4, 129.6, 129.0, 127.8, 127.2, 125.8, 124.5, 123.9, 85.4, 62.2, 40.2, 35.7, 30.7; MS ( $m/z$ ): 479.33 ([M-H] $^-$ , 100%); HRMS (ESI) Calcd. for  $\text{C}_{27}\text{H}_{19}\text{N}_4\text{O}_5$  ([M-H] $^-$ ): 479.1355. Found: 479.1368.

**5-((2-(4-nitrobenzyl)isoquinolinium-4-yl)(p-tolyl)methyl)-2,4,6-trioxohexahdropyrimidin-5-ide (4m):** Yellow solid, yield: 96%, m.p. 298-300 °C, IR (KBr)  $\nu$  = 3424, 1684, 1572, 1521, 1449, 1378, 1348, 1220, 1174, 791  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ;  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (600 MHz, DMSO- $d_6$ )  $\delta$  (ppm): 9.84 (s, 1H, ArH), 9.22 (s, 1H, NH), 9.20 (s, 1H, NH), 8.67 (d,  $J$  = 8.7 Hz, 1H, ArH), 8.40 (d,  $J$  = 8.3 Hz, 1H, ArH), 8.20-8.15 (m, 4H, ArH), 7.97 (t,  $J$  = 7.6 Hz, 1H, ArH), 7.68 (d,  $J$  = 8.7 Hz, 2H, ArH), 7.16 (d,  $J$  = 7.9 Hz, 2H, ArH), 7.01 (d,  $J$  = 7.9 Hz, 2H, ArH), 6.19 (s, 1H, CH), 6.10 (d,  $J$  = 15.0 Hz, 1H, CH), 6.03 (d,  $J$  = 15.0 Hz, 1H, CH), 2.24 (s, 3H,  $\text{CH}_3$ );  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (150 MHz, DMSO- $d_6$ )  $\delta$ (ppm): 164.4, 152.6, 148.1, 146.7, 144.4, 142.2, 139.4, 137.5, 136.9, 136.4, 135.2, 131.2, 130.9, 130.2, 129.4, 128.9, 127.7, 124.9, 124.4, 86.0, 62.7, 40.6, 21.0; MS ( $m/z$ ): 493.27 ([M-H] $^-$ , 100%); HRMS (ESI) Calcd. for  $\text{C}_{28}\text{H}_{21}\text{N}_4\text{O}_5$  ([M-H] $^-$ ): 493.1512. Found: 493.1514.

**5-((4-chlorophenyl)(2-(4-nitrobenzyl)isoquinolinium-4-yl)methyl)-2,4,6-trioxohexahdropyrimidin-5-ide (4n):** Yellow solid, yield: 96%, m.p. 289-291 °C, IR (KBr)  $\nu$  = 3426, 1686, 1572, 1523, 1488, 1449, 1380, 1349, 1221, 852  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ;  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (600 MHz, DMSO- $d_6$ )  $\delta$  (ppm): 9.87 (s, 1H, ArH), 9.24 (s, 2H, NH), 8.67 (d,  $J$  = 8.7 Hz, 1H, ArH), 8.41 (d,  $J$  = 8.3 Hz, 1H, ArH), 8.22-8.17 (m, 4H, ArH), 7.98 (t,  $J$  = 7.6 Hz, 1H, ArH), 7.70 (d,  $J$  = 8.7 Hz, 2H, ArH), 7.32 (d,  $J$  = 8.5 Hz, 2H, ArH), 7.28 (d,  $J$  = 8.5 Hz, 2H, ArH), 6.23 (s, 1H, CH), 6.13 (d,  $J$  = 14.9 Hz, 1H, CH), 6.03 (d,  $J$  = 14.9 Hz, 1H, CH);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (150 MHz, DMSO- $d_6$ )  $\delta$ (ppm): 164.1, 162.3, 152.1, 147.6, 146.5, 143.1, 141.7, 141.0, 136.9, 136.5, 135.9, 130.9, 130.8, 130.5, 130.4, 129.7, 127.7, 127.2, 124.4, 123.9, 85.2, 62.1, 35.7, 30.7; MS ( $m/z$ ): 513.27 ([M-H] $^-$ , 100%);

HRMS (ESI) Calcd. for C<sub>27</sub>H<sub>18</sub>ClN<sub>4</sub>O<sub>5</sub> ([M-H]<sup>-</sup>): 513.0966. Found: 513.0967.

**5-((4-fluorophenyl)(2-(4-nitrobenzyl)isoquinolinium-4-yl)methyl)-2,4,6-trioxohexahydropyrimidin-5-ide (**4o**)**: Yellow solid, yield: 90%, m.p. 263-265 °C, IR (KBr)  $\nu$  = 3422, 1686, 1572, 1521, 1447, 1377, 1220, 1159, 1047, 797 cm<sup>-1</sup>; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (600 MHz, DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>)  $\delta$  (ppm): 9.87 (s, 1H, ArH), 9.24 (s, 2H, NH), 8.66 (d, *J* = 8.7 Hz, 1H, ArH), 8.41 (d, *J* = 8.3 Hz, 1H, ArH), 8.22-8.16 (m, 4H, ArH), 7.98 (t, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 1H, ArH), 7.69 (d, *J* = 8.6 Hz, 2H, ArH), 7.33 (q, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2H, ArH), 7.04 (t, *J* = 8.8 Hz, 2H, ArH), 6.23 (s, 1H, CH), 6.12 (d, *J* = 14.9 Hz, 1H, CH), 6.03 (d, *J* = 14.9 Hz, 1H, CH); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (150 MHz, DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>)  $\delta$ (ppm): 164.0, 160.6 (d, *J* = 239.8 Hz), 152.1, 147.6, 146.4, 143.6, 141.7, 138.0 (d, *J* = 2.6 Hz), 136.9, 136.4, 135.8, 130.9 (d, *J* = 7.9 Hz), 130.7, 130.4, 129.6, 127.2, 124.4, 123.9, 114.4 (d, *J* = 21.0 Hz), 104.3, 85.6, 62.1; MS (*m/z*): 497.33 ([M-H]<sup>-</sup>, 100%); HRMS (ESI) Calcd. for C<sub>27</sub>H<sub>18</sub>FN<sub>4</sub>O<sub>5</sub> ([M-H]<sup>-</sup>): 497.1261. Found: 497.1259.

**5-((2-(4-nitrobenzyl)isoquinolinium-4-yl)(3-nitrophenyl)methyl)-2,4,6-trioxohexahydropyrimidin-5-ide (**4p**)**: Yellow solid, yield: 92%, m.p. 270-272 °C, IR (KBr)  $\nu$  = 3419, 1681, 1573, 1525, 1449, 1379, 1349, 1251, 1171, 780 cm<sup>-1</sup>; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (600 MHz, DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>)  $\delta$  (ppm): 9.91 (s, 1H, ArH), 9.31 (s, 2H, NH), 8.70 (d, *J* = 8.7 Hz, 1H, ArH), 8.43 (d, *J* = 8.3 Hz, 1H, ArH), 8.24-8.18 (m, 4H, ArH), 8.08 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H, ArH), 8.00 (t, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 1H, ArH), 7.95 (s, 1H, ArH), 7.73 (d, *J* = 7.7 Hz, 1H, ArH), 7.70 (d, *J* = 8.7 Hz, 2H, ArH), 7.55 (t, *J* = 7.9 Hz, 1H, ArH), 6.37 (s, 1H, CH), 6.11 (d, *J* = 14.8 Hz, 1H, CH), 6.03 (d, *J* = 14.9 Hz, 1H, CH); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (150 MHz, DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>)  $\delta$ (ppm): 164.0, 162.3, 152.1, 147.7, 147.6, 146.9, 144.5, 142.6, 141.7, 136.5, 136.0, 135.7, 130.8, 130.5, 129.6, 129.2, 127.3, 124.5, 123.8, 121.1, 84.6, 62.1, 35.7, 30.7; MS (*m/z*): 524.33 ([M-H]<sup>-</sup>, 100%); HRMS (ESI) Calcd. for C<sub>27</sub>H<sub>18</sub>N<sub>5</sub>O<sub>7</sub> ([M-H]<sup>-</sup>): 524.1206. Found: 524.1205.

**1,3-dimethyl-5-((2-(4-nitrobenzyl)isoquinolinium-4-yl)(phenyl)methyl)-2,4,6-triohexahydropyrimidin-5-ide (**4q**)**: Yellow solid, yield: 89%, m.p. 267-269 °C, IR (KBr)  $\nu$  = 3056, 2997, 1674, 1638, 1600, 1567, 1519, 1428, 1325, 1263, 1110, 997, 798 cm<sup>-1</sup>; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (600 MHz, DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>)  $\delta$  (ppm): 9.89 (s, 1H, ArH), 8.63 (d, *J* = 8.6 Hz, 1H, ArH), 8.43 (d, *J* = 8.3 Hz, 1H, ArH), 8.22-8.20 (m, 4H, ArH), 7.98 (t, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 1H, ArH), 7.67 (d, *J* = 8.2 Hz, 2H, ArH), 7.24-7.09 (m, 4H, ArH), 7.15 (t, *J* = 6.7 Hz, 1H, ArH), 6.36 (s, 1H, CH), 6.09 (q, *J* = 14.9 Hz, 2H, CH), 3.02 (s, 6H, CH<sub>3</sub>); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (150 MHz, DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>)  $\delta$ (ppm): 161.8, 152.8, 147.6, 146.5, 143.4, 141.9, 141.6, 136.9, 136.6, 136.0, 130.8, 130.4, 129.7, 128.9, 127.8, 127.2, 125.8, 124.3, 123.8, 85.6, 62.2, 40.9, 26.9; MS (*m/z*): 507.39 ([M-H]<sup>-</sup>, 100%); HRMS (ESI) Calcd. for C<sub>29</sub>H<sub>23</sub>N<sub>4</sub>O<sub>5</sub> ([M-H]<sup>-</sup>): 507.1668. Found: 507.1675.

**1,3-dimethyl-5-((2-(4-nitrobenzyl)isoquinolinium-4-yl)(p-tolyl)methyl)-2,4,6-trioxohexahydropyrimidin-5-ide (**4r**)**: Yellow solid, yield: 92%, m.p. 284 °C, IR (KBr)  $\nu$  = 3007, 1670, 1638, 1575, 1518, 1429, 1305, 1265, 1111, 787 cm<sup>-1</sup>; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (600 MHz, DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>)  $\delta$  (ppm): 9.88 (s, 1H, ArH), 8.61 (d, *J* = 8.7 Hz, 1H, ArH), 8.42 (d, *J* = 8.3 Hz, 1H, ArH), 8.22-8.17 (m, 4H, ArH), 7.98 (t, *J* = 7.8 Hz, 1H, ArH), 7.67 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 2H, ArH), 7.10 (d, *J* = 7.7 Hz, 2H, ArH), 7.00 (d, *J* = 7.7 Hz, 2H, ArH), 6.31

(s, 1H, CH), 6.12 (d,  $J = 15.0$  Hz, 1H, CH), 6.05 (d,  $J = 14.9$  Hz, 1H, CH), 3.01 (s, 6H, CH<sub>3</sub>), 2.24 (s, 3H, CH<sub>3</sub>); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (150 MHz, DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>) δ(ppm): 161.8, 152.8, 147.6, 146.4, 143.6, 141.6, 138.8, 136.9, 136.5, 136.0, 134.6, 130.8, 130.4, 129.8, 128.8, 128.4, 127.1, 124.2, 123.8, 85.8, 62.1, 55.9, 40.6, 26.9, 20.5, 18.5; MS (*m/z*): 521.39 ([M-H]<sup>-</sup>, 100%); HRMS (ESI) Calcd. for C<sub>30</sub>H<sub>25</sub>N<sub>4</sub>O<sub>5</sub> ([M-H]<sup>-</sup>): 521.1825. Found: 521.1833.

**5-((4-chlorophenyl)(2-(4-nitrobenzyl)isoquinolinium-4-yl)methyl)-1,3-dimethyl-2,4,6-trioxohexahdropyrimidin-5-ide (4s):** Yellow solid, yield: 83%, m.p. 272-274 °C, IR (KBr) ν = 2984, 1672, 1638, 1574, 152, 1430, 1346, 1304, 1181, 1090, 855, 779 cm<sup>-1</sup>; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (600 MHz, DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>) δ (ppm): 9.90 (s, 1H, ArH), 8.60 (d,  $J = 8.6$  Hz, 1H, ArH), 8.43 (d,  $J = 8.3$  Hz, 1H, ArH), 8.23-8.19 (m, 4H, ArH), 7.99 (t,  $J = 7.6$  Hz, 1H, ArH), 7.68 (d,  $J = 8.3$  Hz, 2H, ArH), 7.26 (t,  $J = 9.7$  Hz, 4H, ArH), 6.34 (s, 1H, CH), 6.14 (d,  $J = 14.8$  Hz, 1H, CH), 6.07 (d,  $J = 14.8$  Hz, 1H, CH), 3.02 (s, 6H, CH<sub>3</sub>); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (150 MHz, DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>) δ(ppm): 161.8, 152.8, 147.6, 146.7, 142.9, 141.7, 141.0, 136.9, 136.6, 136.0, 130.8, 130.5, 130.4, 129.7, 127.7, 127.2, 124.3, 123.8, 85.4, 62.1, 40.5, 26.9; MS (*m/z*): 541.34 ([M-H]<sup>-</sup>, 100%); HRMS (ESI) Calcd. for C<sub>29</sub>H<sub>22</sub>ClN<sub>4</sub>O<sub>5</sub> ([M-H]<sup>-</sup>): 541.1279. Found: 541.1283.

### Characterization data of the 5a-5f:

**5-((2-benzylisoquinolinium-4-yl)(p-tolyl)methyl)-2,2-dimethyl-4,6-dioxo-1,3-dioxan-5-ide (5a):** yellow solid, yield: 78%, m.p. 294 °C, IR (KBr)  $\nu$  = 3448, 2991, 1639, 1588, 1509, 1446, 1389, 1257, 1201, 1101, 792, 749 cm<sup>-1</sup>; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (600 MHz, DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>)  $\delta$  (ppm): 9.88 (s, 1H, ArH), 8.55 (d, *J* = 8.7 Hz, 1H, ArH), 8.43 (d, *J* = 8.3 Hz, 1H, ArH), 8.19 (t, *J* = 7.8 Hz, 1H, ArH), 8.00-7.97 (m, 2H, ArH), 7.38-7.35 (m, 5H, ArH), 7.16 (d, *J* = 7.9 Hz, 2H, ArH), 7.05 (d, *J* = 7.9 Hz, 2H, ArH), 6.00 (s, 1H, CH), 5.88 (d, *J* = 14.4 Hz, 1H, CH), 5.84 (d, *J* = 14.4 Hz, 1H, CH), 2.29 (s, 3H, CH<sub>3</sub>), 1.36 (s, 6H, CH<sub>3</sub>); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (150 MHz, DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>)  $\delta$ (ppm): 164.7, 146.2, 144.3, 139.3, 136.6, 136.2, 135.4, 134.8, 134.4, 130.7, 130.4, 128.9, 128.8, 128.5, 128.3, 127.1, 99.3, 79.1, 75.7, 63.3, 40.9, 25.9, 20.6; MS (*m/z*): 464.40 ([M-H]<sup>-</sup>, 100%); HRMS (ESI) Calcd. for C<sub>30</sub>H<sub>26</sub>NO<sub>4</sub> ([M-H]<sup>-</sup>): 464.1862. Found: 464.1872.

**5-((2-benzylisoquinolinium-4-yl)(p-tolyl)methyl)-2,4,6-trioxohexahydropyrimidin-5-ide (5b):** Yellow solid, yield: 89%, m.p. 296-298 °C, IR (KBr)  $\nu$  = 3451, 2821, 1567, 1460, 1382, 1298, 1123, 881, 831, 792 cm<sup>-1</sup>; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (600 MHz, DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>)  $\delta$  (ppm): 9.84 (s, 1H, ArH), 9.01 (s, 2H, NH), 8.62 (d, *J* = 8.7 Hz, 1H, ArH), 8.41 (d, *J* = 8.3 Hz, 1H, ArH), 8.19 (s, 1H, ArH), 8.16 (t, *J* = 7.7 Hz, 1H, ArH), 7.97 (t, *J* = 7.7 Hz, 1H, ArH), 7.39-7.37 (m, 5H, ArH), 7.16 (d, *J* = 7.9 Hz, 2H, ArH), 7.03 (d, *J* = 7.9 Hz, 2H, ArH), 6.16 (s, 1H, CH), 5.89 (d, *J* = 14.4 Hz, 1H, CH), 5.83 (d, *J* = 14.3 Hz, 1H, CH), 2.28 (s, 3H, CH<sub>3</sub>); The <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectroscopy of product can't be obtained due to it's bad solubility. MS (*m/z*): 448.17 ([M-H]<sup>-</sup>, 100%); HRMS (ESI) Calcd. for C<sub>28</sub>H<sub>22</sub>N<sub>3</sub>O<sub>3</sub> ([M-H]<sup>-</sup>): 448.1661. Found: 448.1671.

**5-((2-benzylisoquinolinium-4-yl)(p-tolyl)methyl)-1,3-dimethyl-2,4,6-trioxohexahydropyrimidin-5-ide (5c):** Yellow solid, yield: 70%, m.p. 306-308 °C, IR (KBr)  $\nu$  = 3425, 3237, 1670, 1578, 1508, 1426, 1264, 1171, 1040, 797, 783, 760 cm<sup>-1</sup>; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (600MHz, DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>)  $\delta$  (ppm): 9.87 (s, 1H, ArH), 8.58 (d, *J* = 8.7 Hz, 1H, ArH), 8.41 (d, *J* = 8.3Hz, 1H, ArH), 8.27 (s, 1H, ArH), 8.17 (t, *J* = 7.7 Hz, 1H, ArH), 7.96 (t, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 1H, ArH), 7.42-7.40 (m, 2H, ArH), 7.37-7.36 (m, 3H, ArH), 7.10 (d, *J* = 7.9 Hz, 2H, ArH), 7.02 (d, *J* = 7.9 Hz, 2H, ArH), 6.29 (s, 1H, CH), 5.91 (d, *J* = 14.3 Hz, 1H, CH), 5.85 (d, *J* = 14.3 Hz, 1H, CH), 3.02 (s, 6H, CH<sub>3</sub>), 2.27 (s, 3H, CH<sub>3</sub>); The <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectroscopy of product can't be obtained due to it's bad solubility; MS (*m/z*): 476.13 ([M-H]<sup>-</sup>, 100%); HRMS (ESI) Calcd. for C<sub>30</sub>H<sub>26</sub>N<sub>3</sub>O<sub>3</sub> ([M-H]<sup>-</sup>): 476.1974. Found: 476.1985.

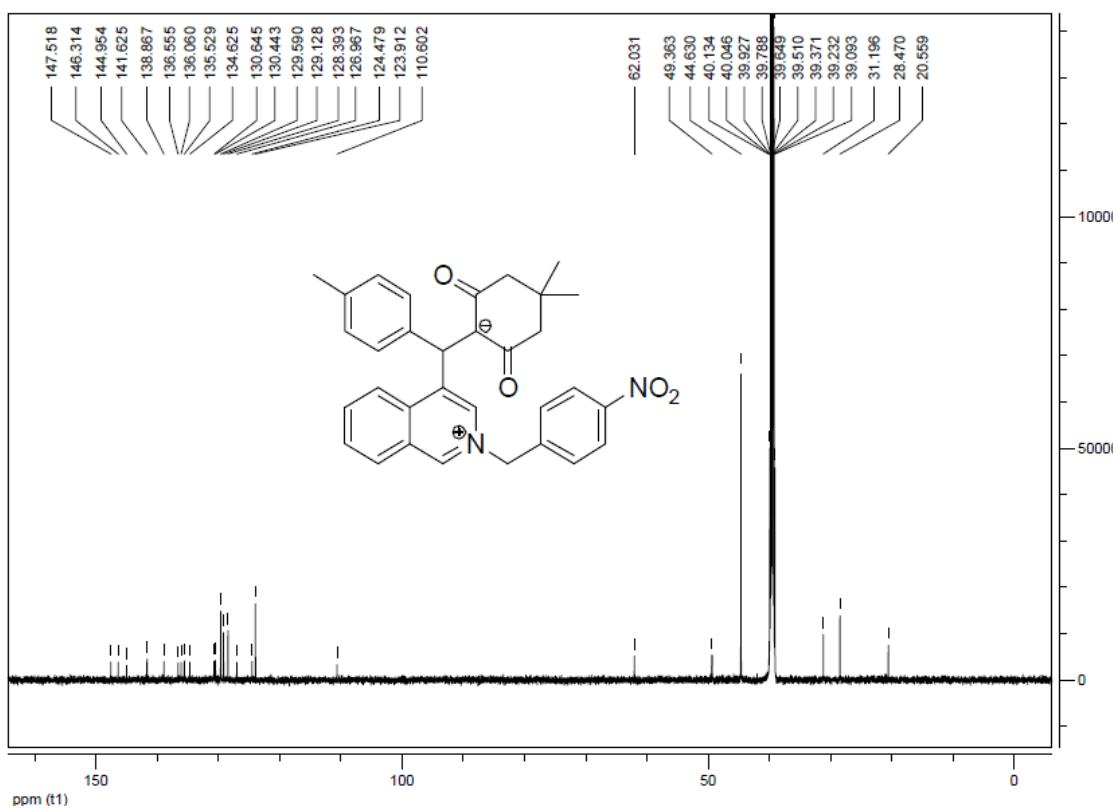
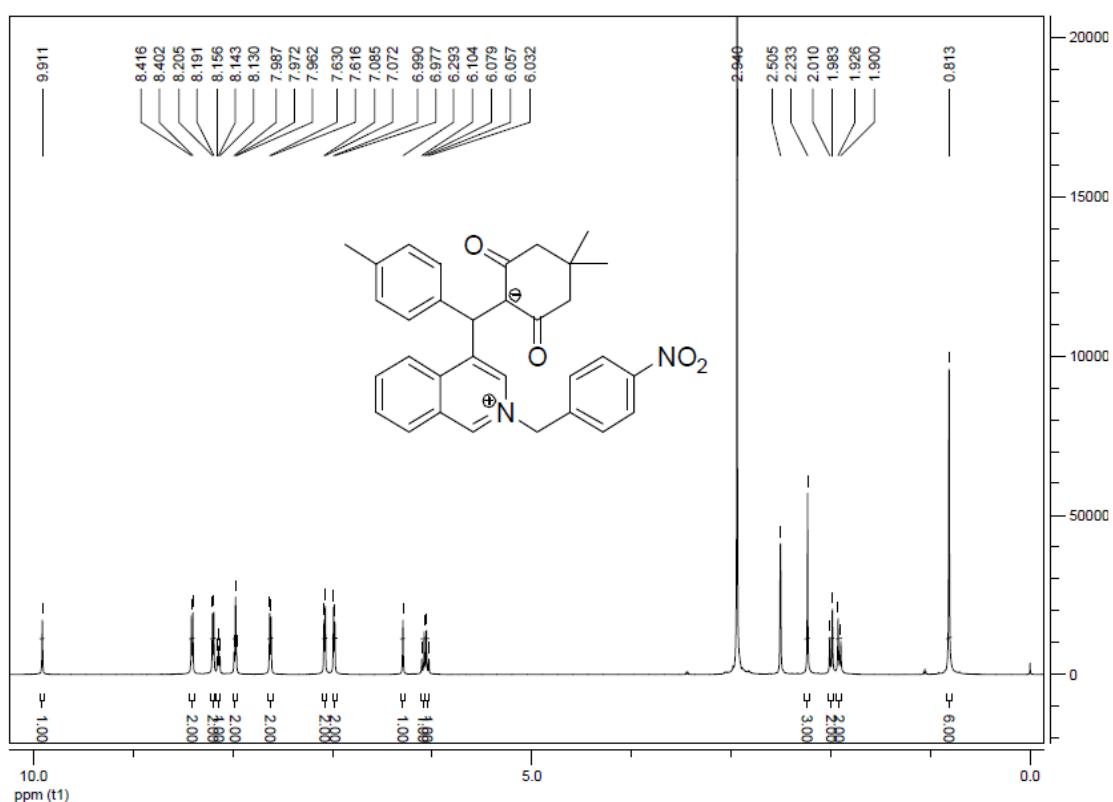
**4,4-dimethyl-1-((2-(4-methylbenzyl)isoquinolinium-4-yl)(p-tolyl)methyl)-2,6-dioxocyclohexan-1-ide (5d):** Yellow solid, yield: 64%, m.p. 246-248°C, IR (KBr)  $\nu$  = 3461, 2951, 1638, 1608, 1567, 1477, 1398, 1268, 1172, 1147, 816, 790 cm<sup>-1</sup>; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  (ppm): 9.29 (s, 1H, ArH), 8.63 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H, ArH), 8.07 (d, *J* = 7.7 Hz, 1H, ArH), 8.00 (s, 1H, ArH), 7.95 (d, *J* = 7.7 Hz 1H, ArH), 7.70 (t, *J* = 7.6 Hz 1H, ArH), 7.13-7.08 (m, 6H, ArH), 6.98 (d, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 2H, ArH), 6.44 (s, 1H, CH), 5.56 (d, *J* = 14.0 Hz, 1H, CH), 5.37 (d, *J* = 14.0 Hz, 1H, CH), 2.31 (s, 3H, CH<sub>3</sub>), 2.30 (s, 3H, CH<sub>3</sub>), 2.21 (d, *J* = 16.2Hz, 2H, CH<sub>2</sub>), 2.13 (d, *J* = 16.1Hz, 2H, CH<sub>2</sub>), 0.94 (s, 6H, CH<sub>3</sub>); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (150 MHz, DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>)  $\delta$ (ppm): 140.1, 137.6,

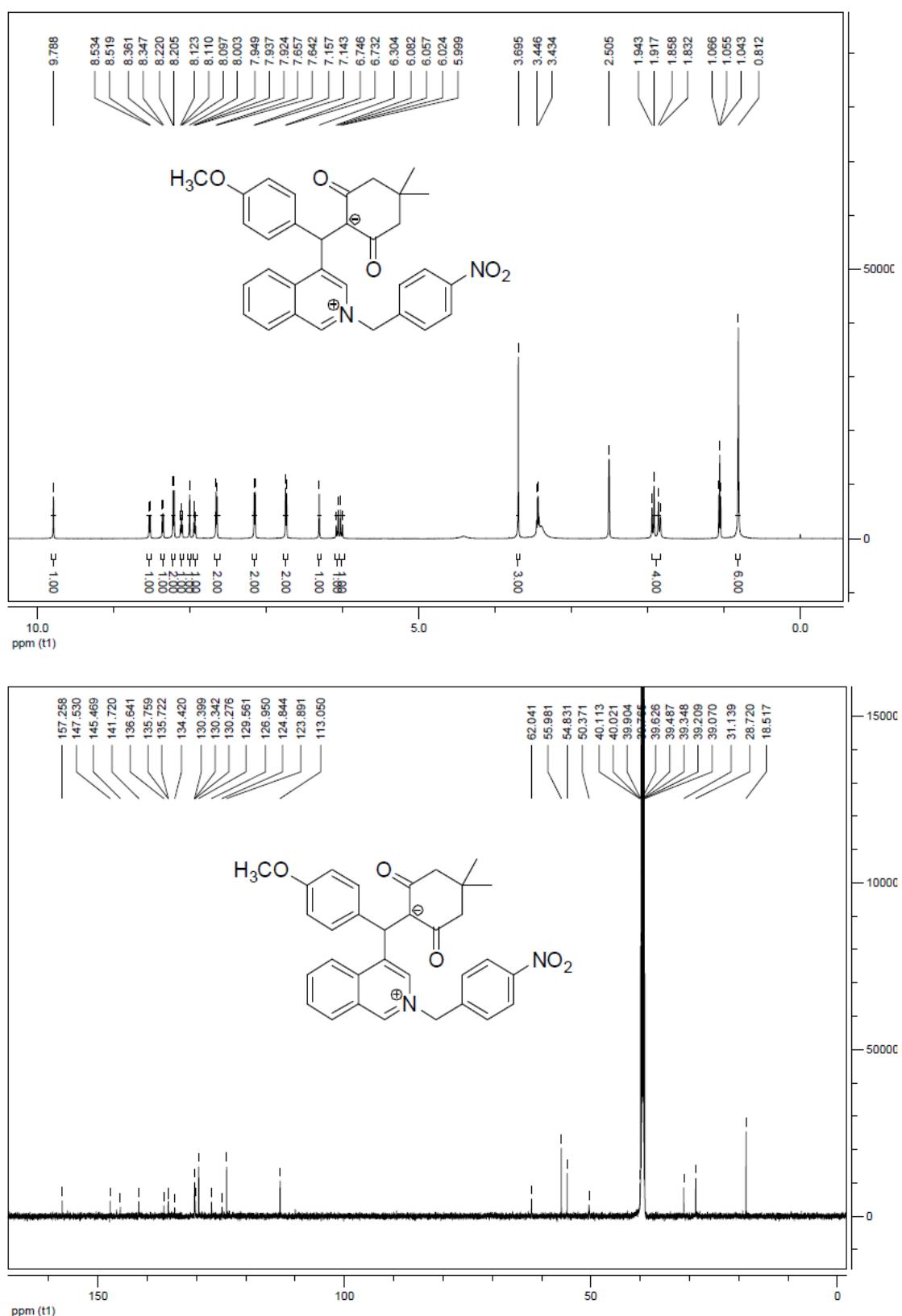
136.2, 135.9, 135.6, 130.4, 130.2, 129.4, 129.1, 129.0, 128.9, 127.4, 125.9, 111.7, 64.1, 58.3, 40.7, 31.6, 28.8, 21.2, 21.0, 18.4; MS (*m/z*): 474.44 ([M-H]<sup>-</sup>, 100%); HRMS (ESI) Calcd. for C<sub>33</sub>H<sub>32</sub>NO<sub>2</sub> ([M-H]<sup>-</sup>): 474.2433. Found: 474.2434.

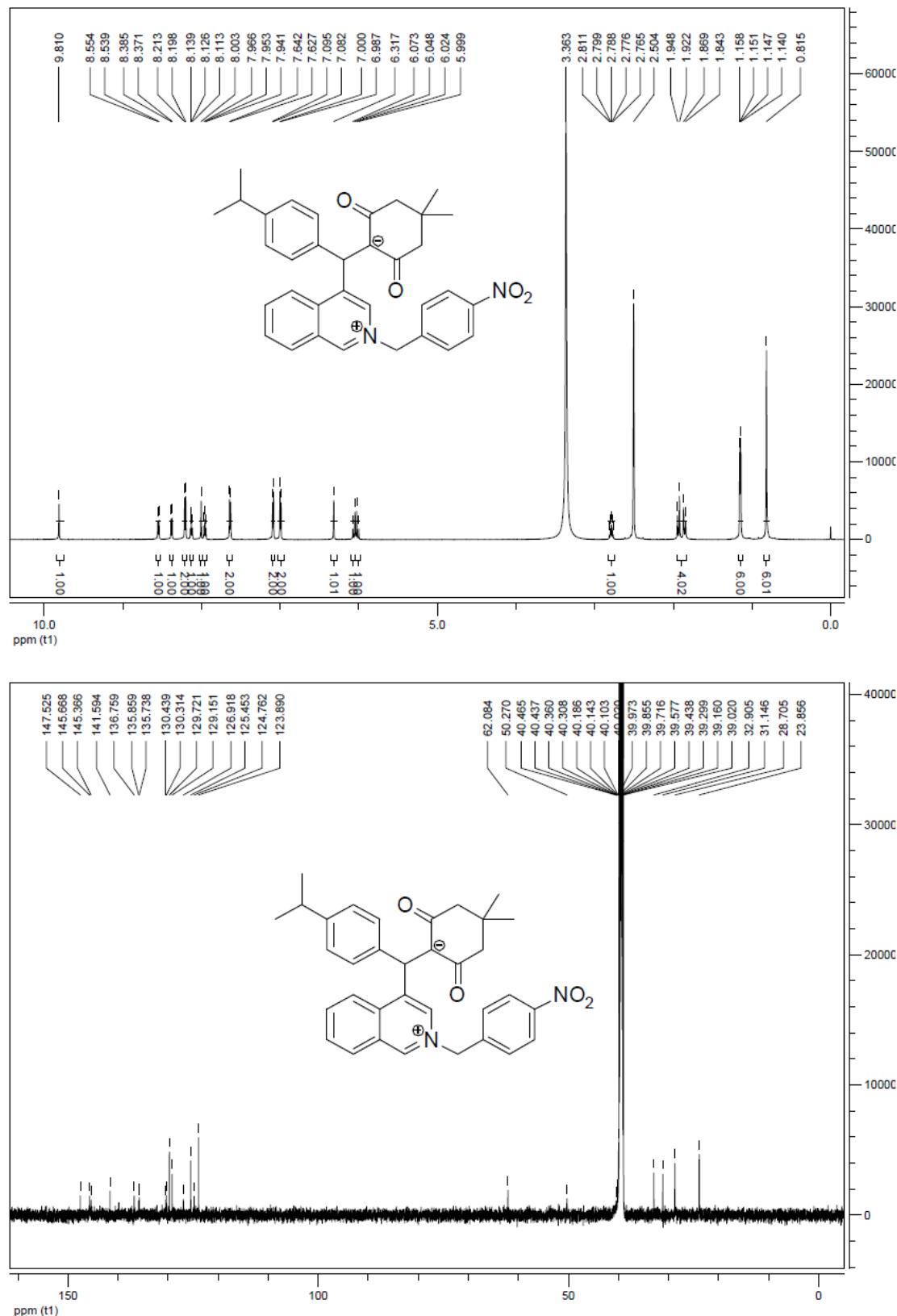
**4,4-dimethyl-1-((2-(4-methylbenzyl)isoquinolinium-4-yl)(p-tolyl)methyl)-2,6-dioxocyclohexan-1-ide (5e):** Yellow solid, yield: 88%, m.p. 220-222 °C, IR (KBr)  $\nu$  = 3451, 2987, 1584, 1511, 1440, 1386, 1257, 1206, 1168, 1097, 817, 790 cm<sup>-1</sup>; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (600 MHz, DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>)  $\delta$  (ppm): 9.88 (s, 1H, ArH), 8.50 (d, *J* = 8.6 Hz, 1H, ArH), 8.44 (d, *J* = 8.3 Hz, 1H, ArH), 8.19 (t, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 1H, ArH), 7.99-7.97 (m, 2H, ArH), 7.31-7.26 (m, 6H, ArH), 7.17 (d, *J* = 7.8 Hz, 2H, ArH), 6.02 (s, 1H, CH), 5.85 (d, *J* = 14.2 Hz, 1H, CH), 5.80 (d, *J* = 14.1 Hz, 1H, CH), 2.29 (s, 3H, CH<sub>3</sub>), 1.35 (s, 6H, CH<sub>3</sub>); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (150 MHz, DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>)  $\delta$ (ppm): 164.7, 146.0, 144.2, 139.3, 138.4, 136.5, 136.1, 135.3, 134.7, 131.4, 130.7, 130.5, 129.4, 128.9, 128.5, 127.1, 124.4, 99.3, 75.6, 63.2, 41.0, 25.9, 20.7, 20.6; MS (*m/z*): 478.39 ([M-H]<sup>-</sup>, 100%); HRMS (ESI) Calcd. for C<sub>31</sub>H<sub>28</sub>NO<sub>4</sub> ([M-H]<sup>-</sup>): 478.2018. Found: 478.2021.

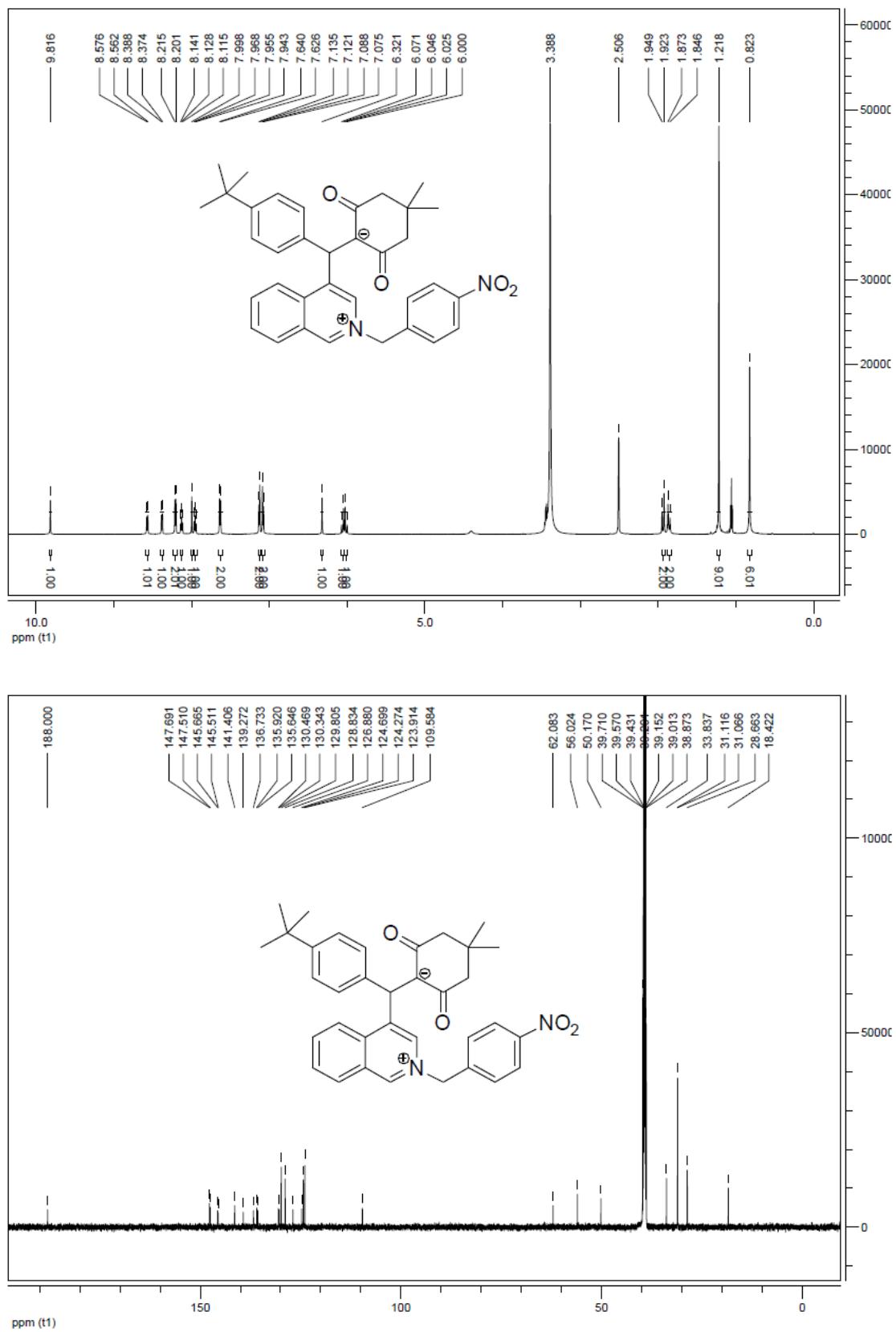
**1-((4-chlorophenyl)(2-(4-methylbenzyl)isoquinolinium-4-yl)methyl)-4,4-dimethyl-2,6-dioxocyclohexan-1-ide (5f):** Yellow solid, yield: 81%, m.p. 226-228 °C, IR (KBr)  $\nu$  = 3450, 2987, 1639, 1582, 1492, 1287, 1257, 1203, 1170, 1093, 917, 793 cm<sup>-1</sup>; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (600 MHz, DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>)  $\delta$  (ppm): 9.88 (s, 1H, ArH), 8.50 (d, *J* = 8.6 Hz, 1H, ArH), 8.44 (d, *J* = 8.3 Hz, 1H, ArH), 8.19 (t, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 1H, ArH), 7.99-7.97 (m, 2H, ArH), 7.31-7.26 (m, 6H, ArH), 7.17 (d, *J* = 7.8 Hz, 2H, ArH), 6.02 (s, 1H, CH), 5.85 (d, *J* = 14.2 Hz, 1H, CH), 5.80 (d, *J* = 14.1 Hz, 1H, CH), 2.29 (s, 3H, CH<sub>3</sub>), 1.35 (s, 6H, CH<sub>3</sub>); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (150 MHz, DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>)  $\delta$ (ppm): 164.6, 146.3, 143.4, 141.5, 138.5, 136.4, 136.2, 135.1, 131.4, 130.8, 130.7, 130.5, 129.5, 128.5, 127.8, 127.1, 124.4, 90.4, 75.3, 63.1, 40.8, 25.9, 20.7; MS (*m/z*): 498.28 ([M-H]<sup>-</sup>, 100%); HRMS (ESI) Calcd. for C<sub>30</sub>H<sub>25</sub>ClNO<sub>4</sub> ([M-H]<sup>-</sup>): 498.1472. Found: 498.1456.

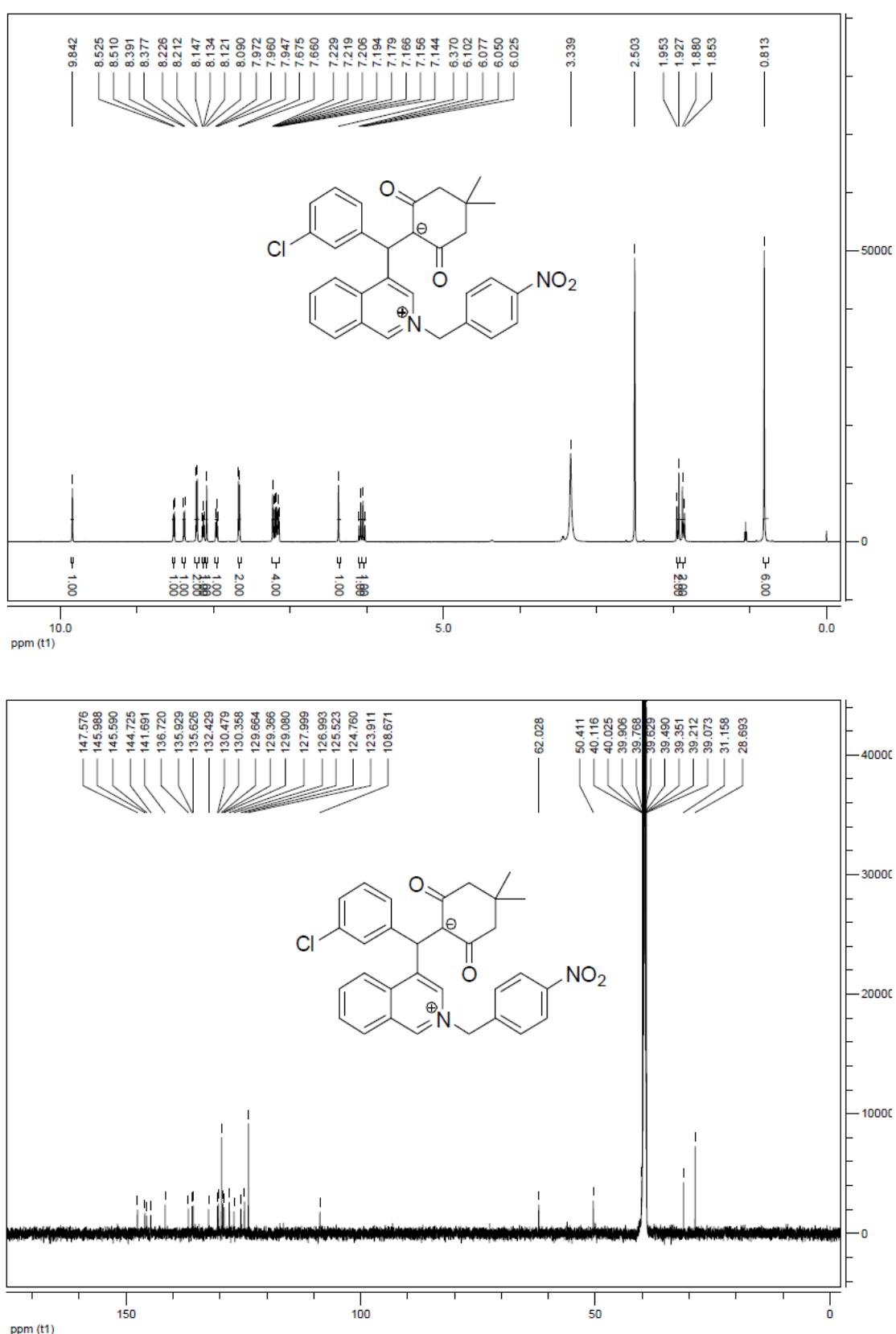
Copies of NMR spectra of products

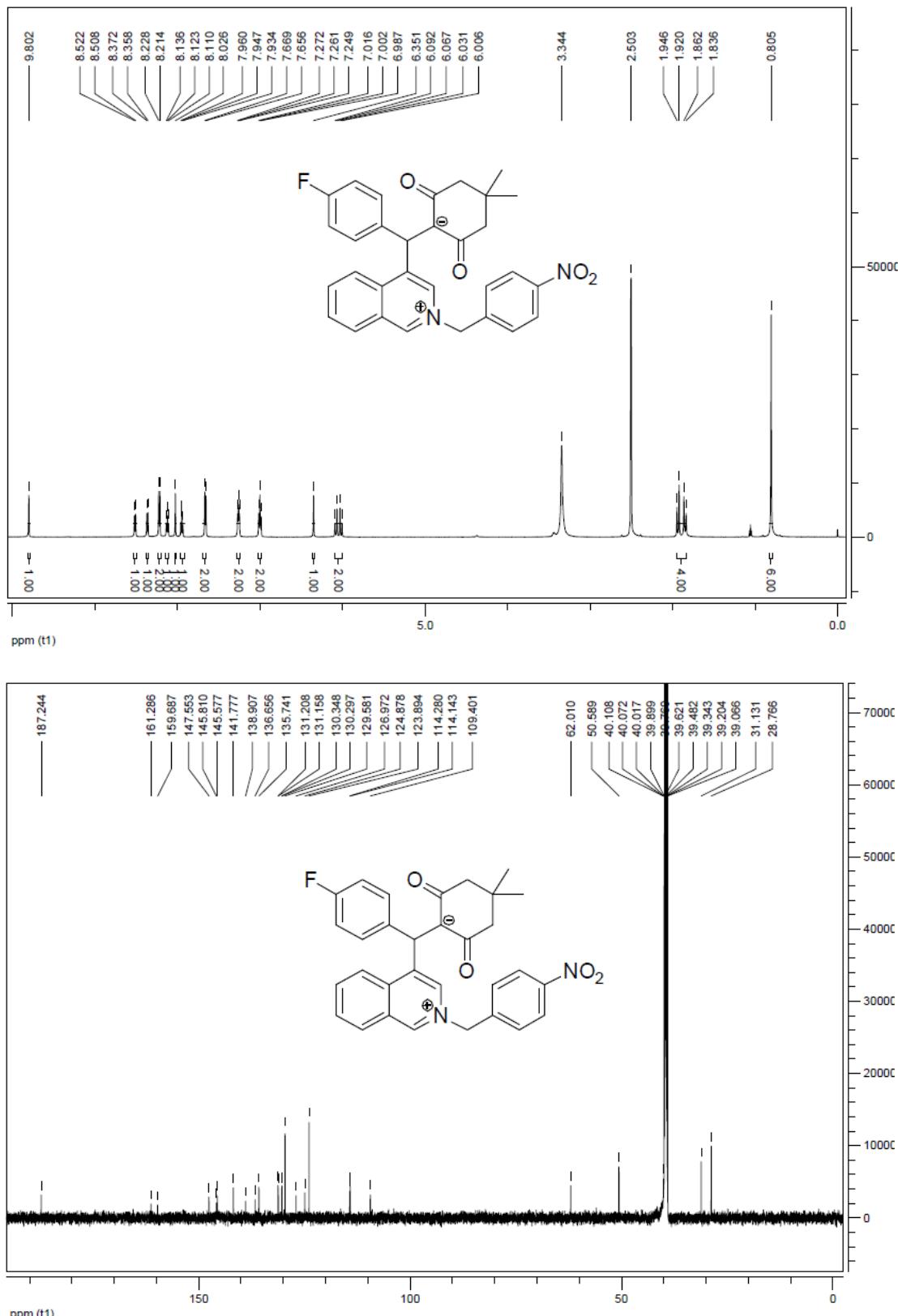


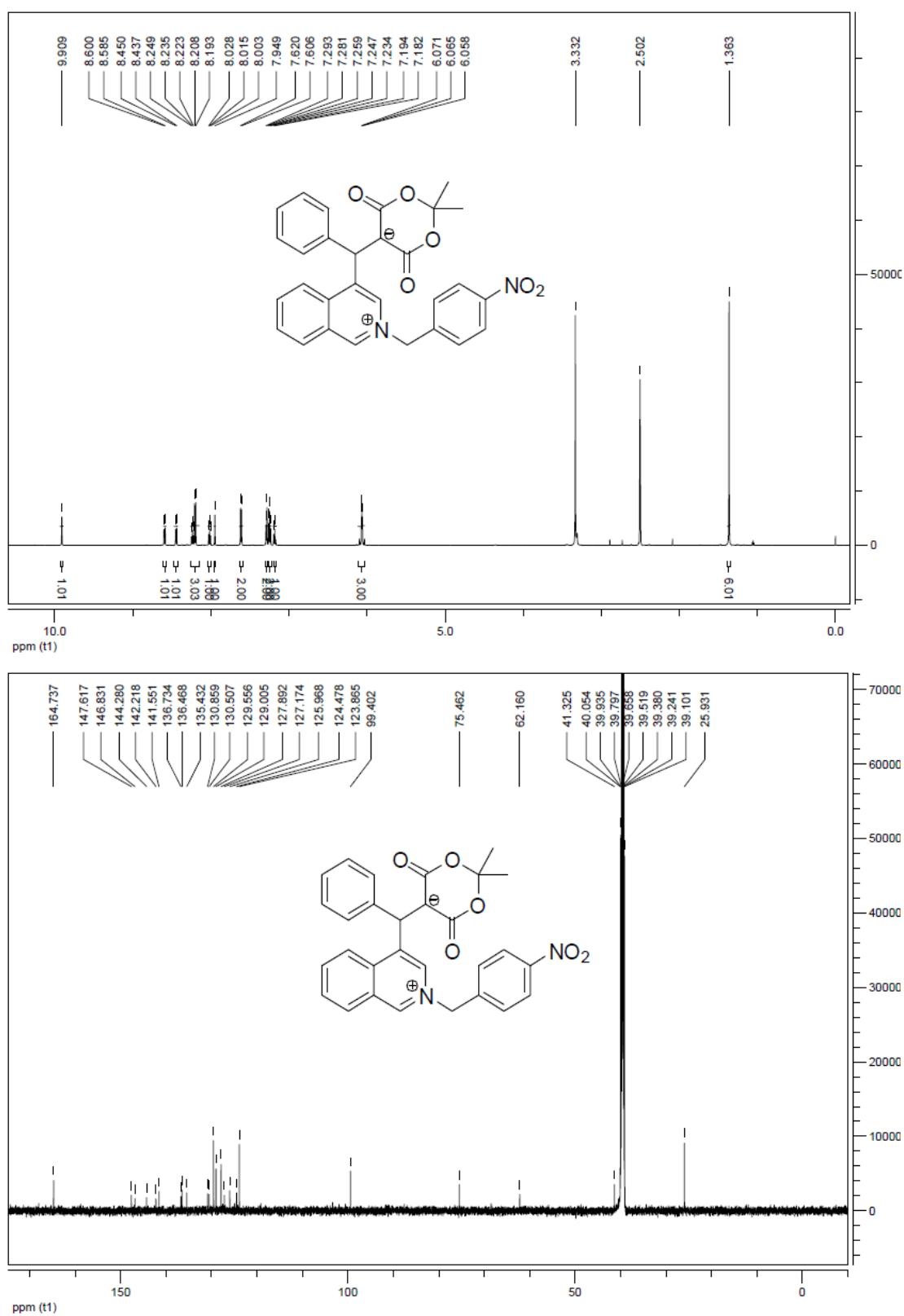


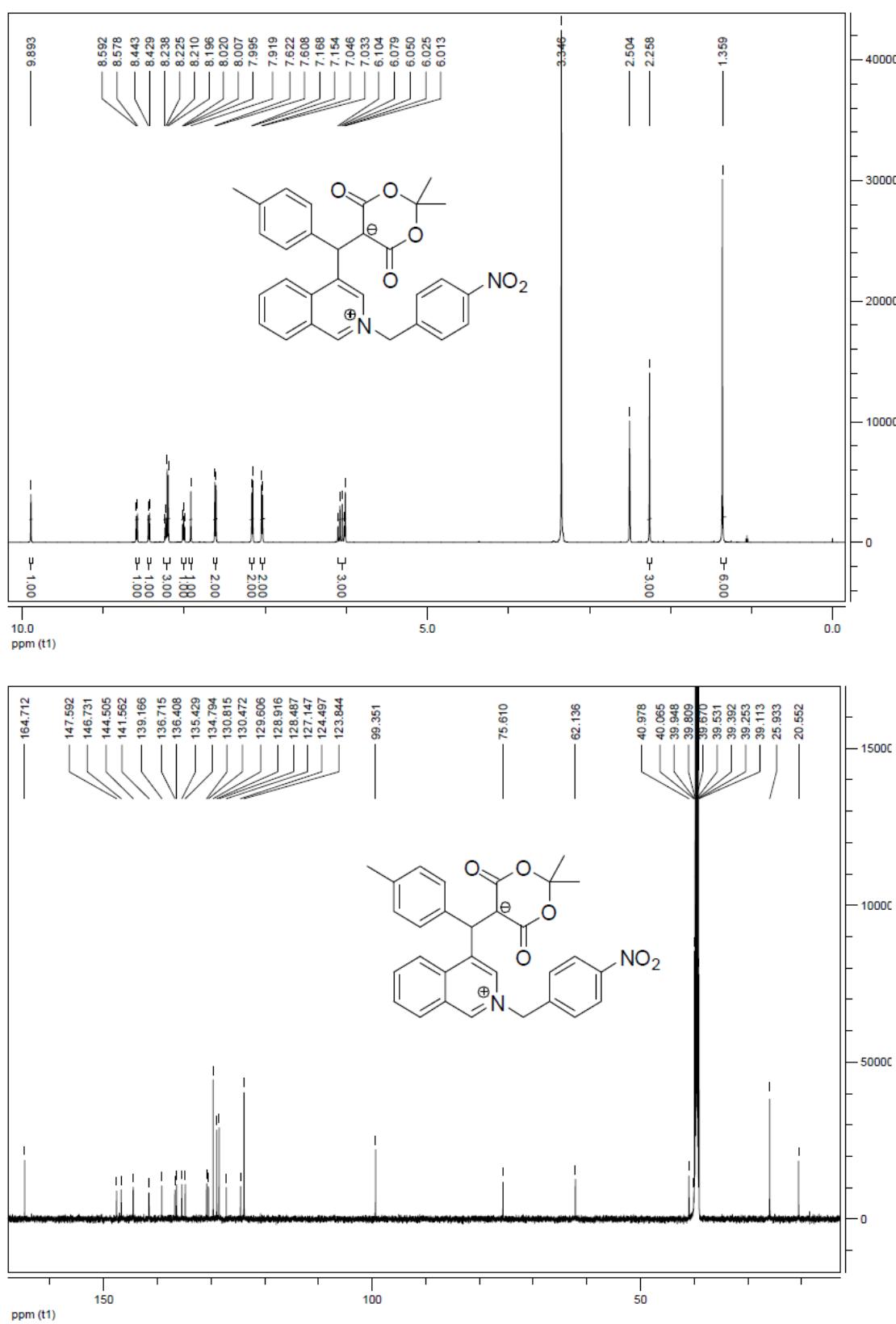


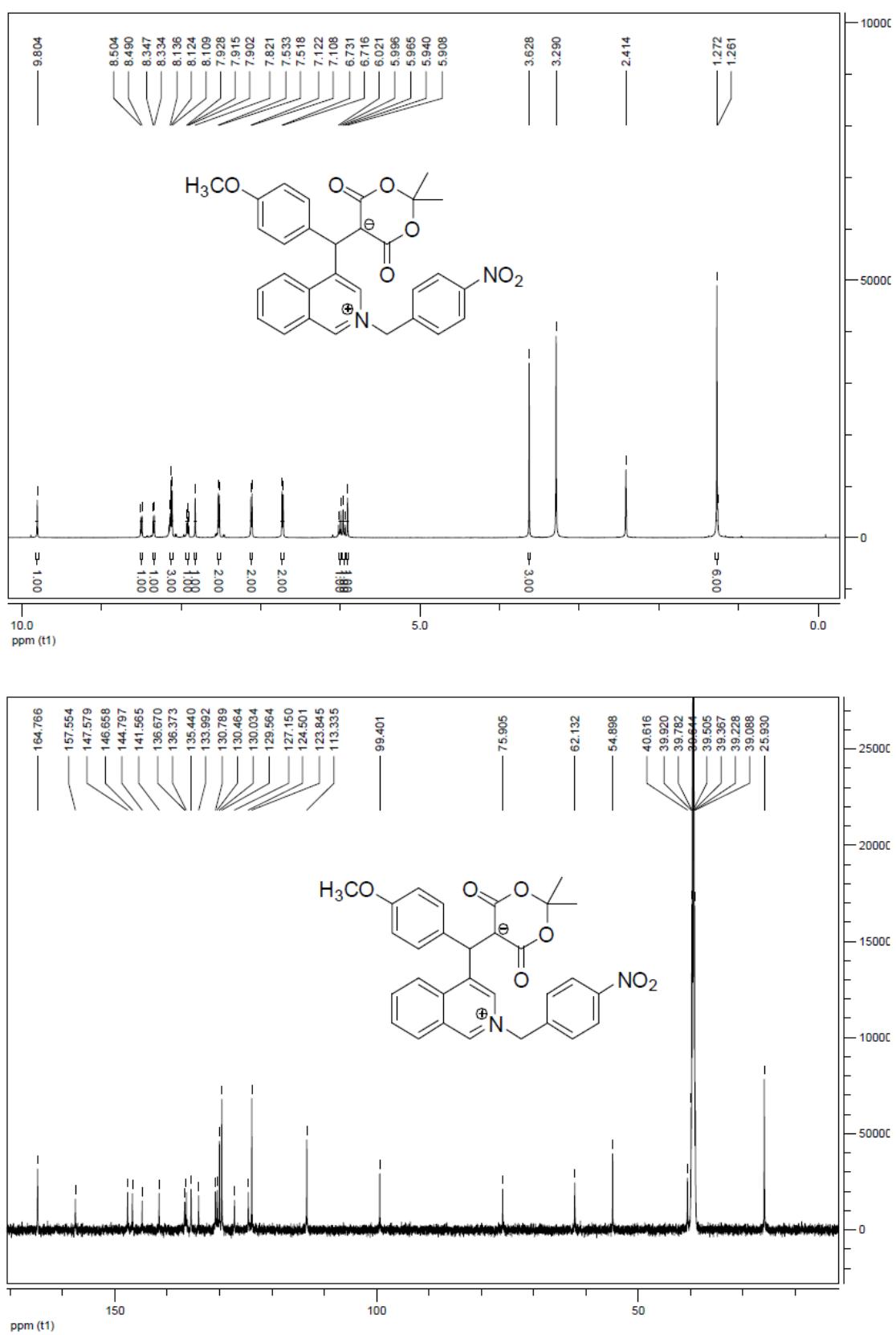


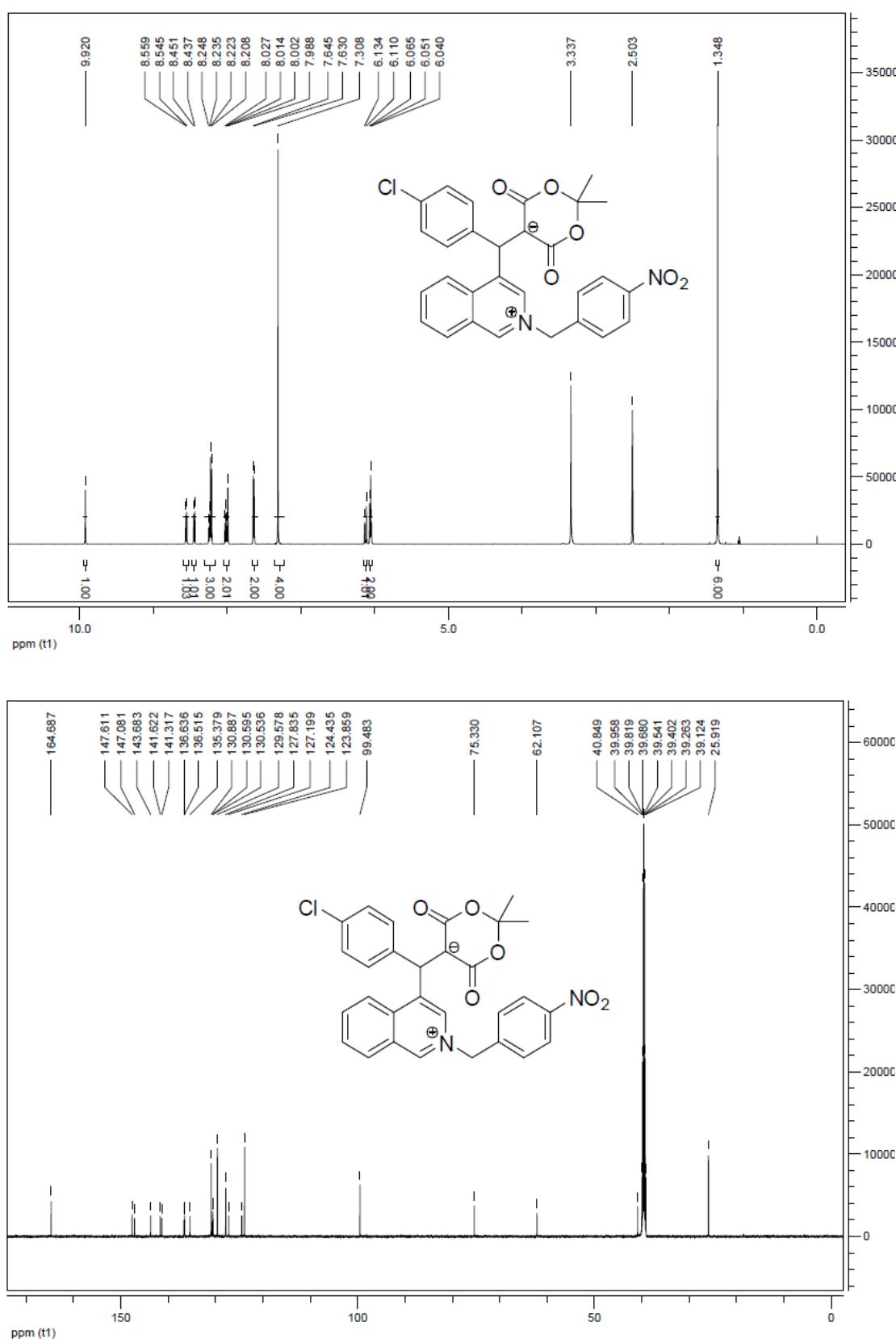


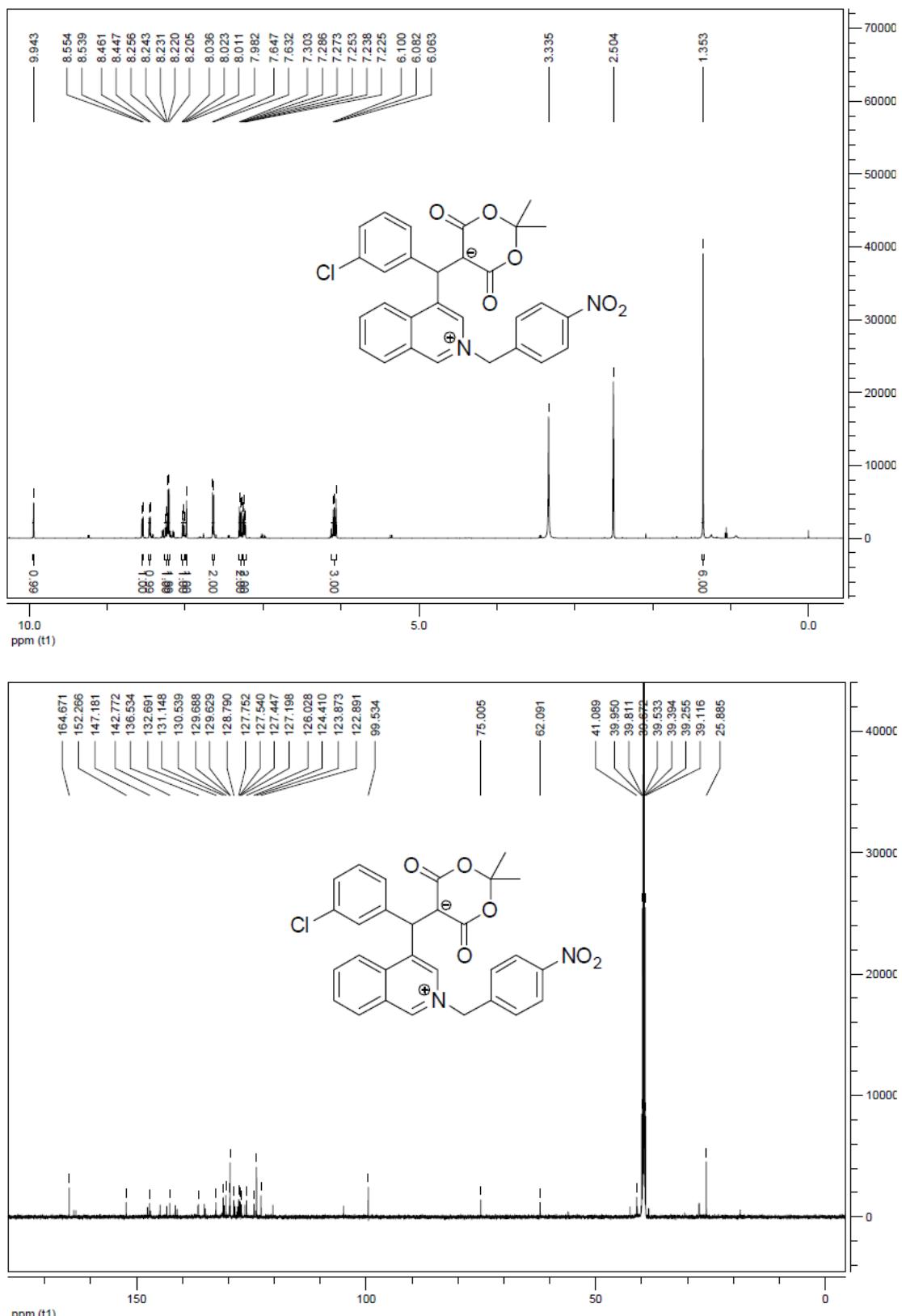


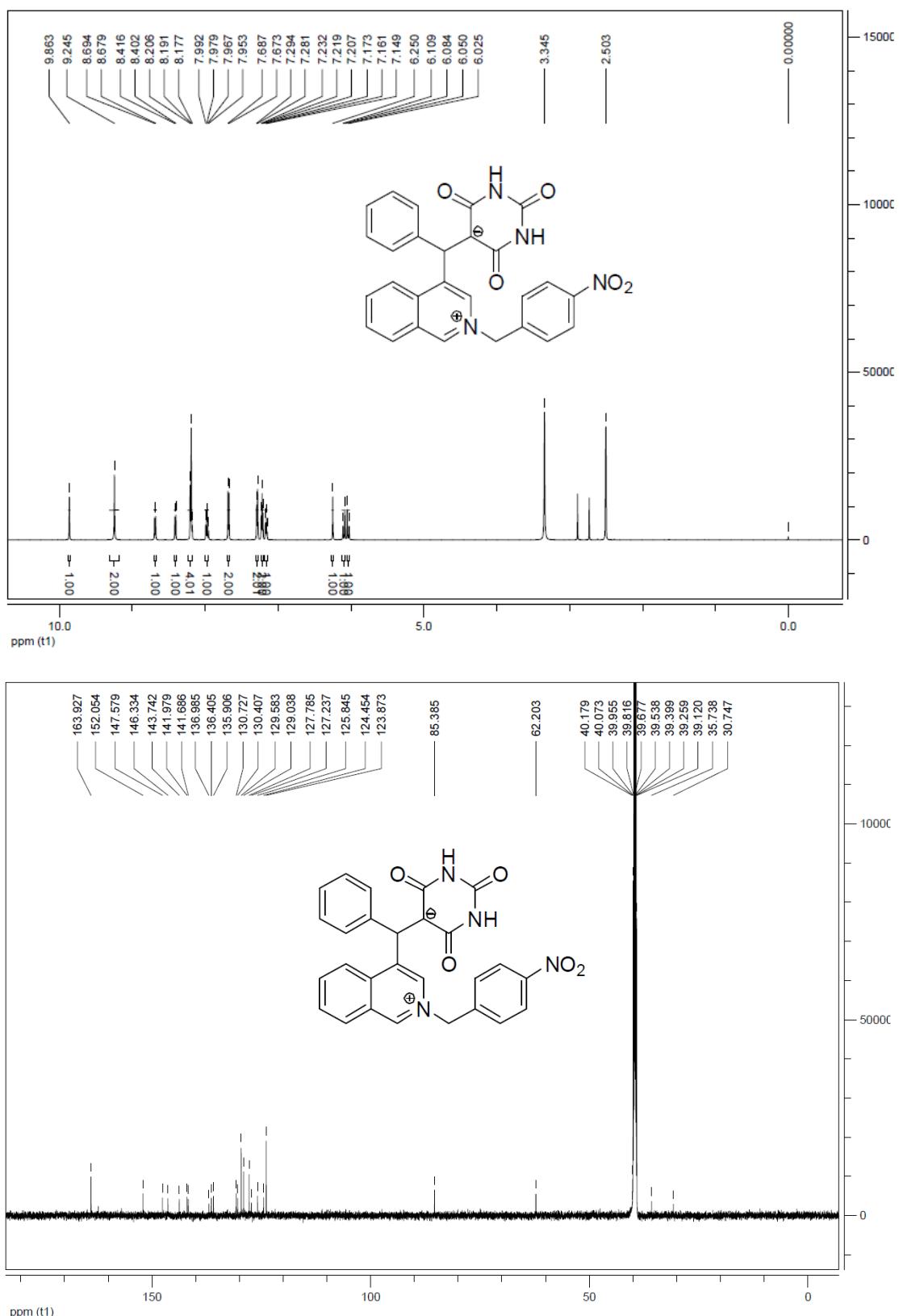


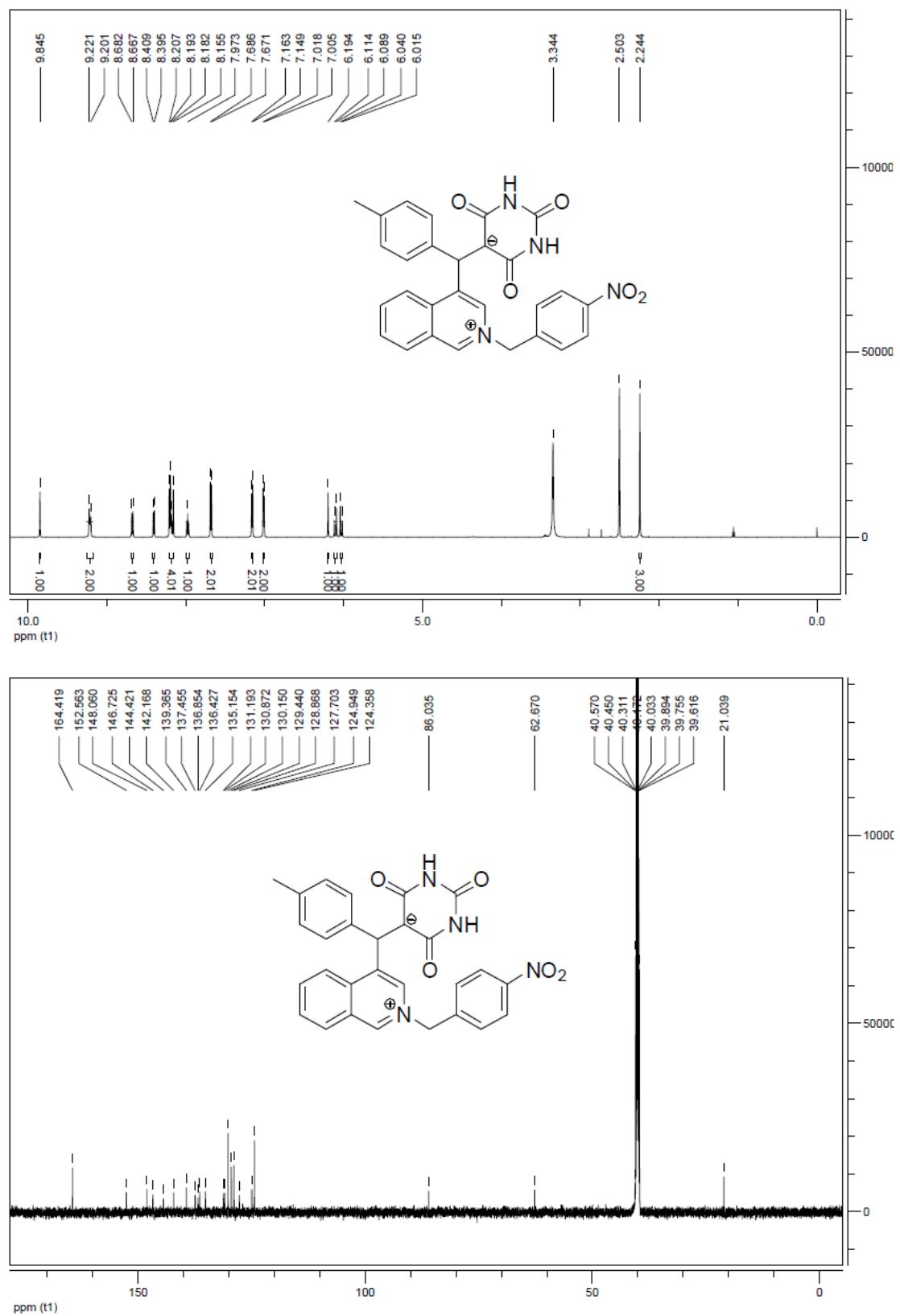


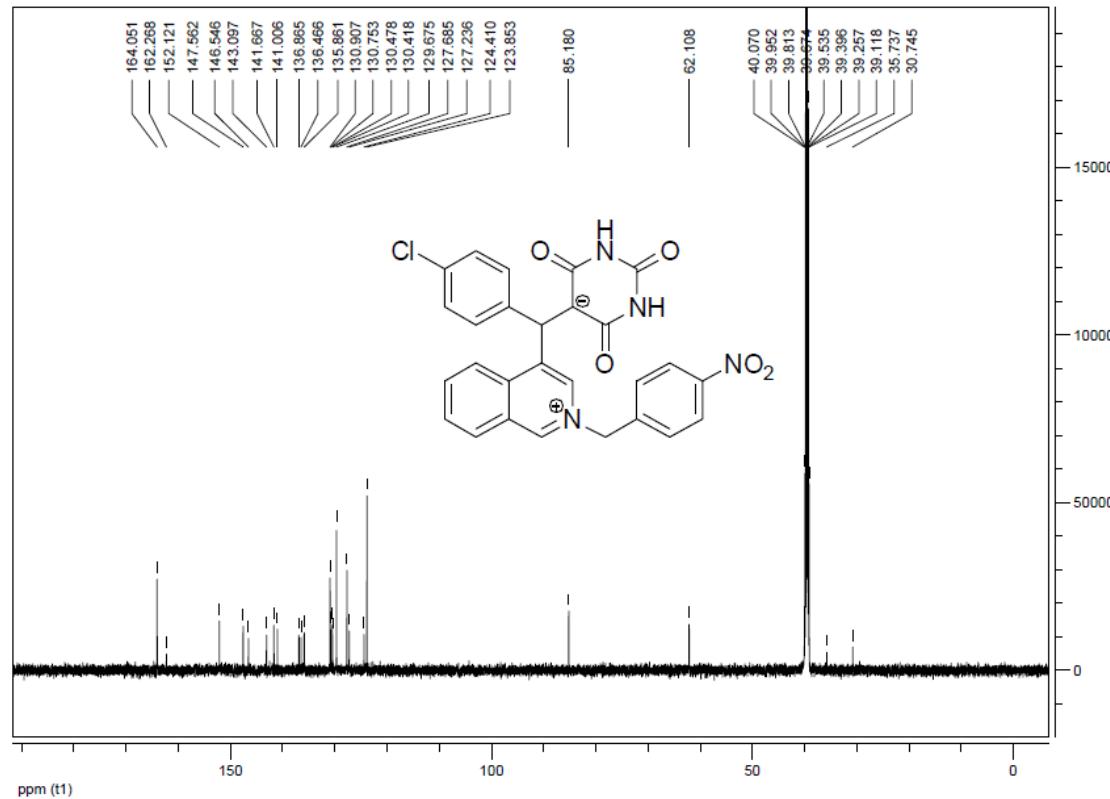
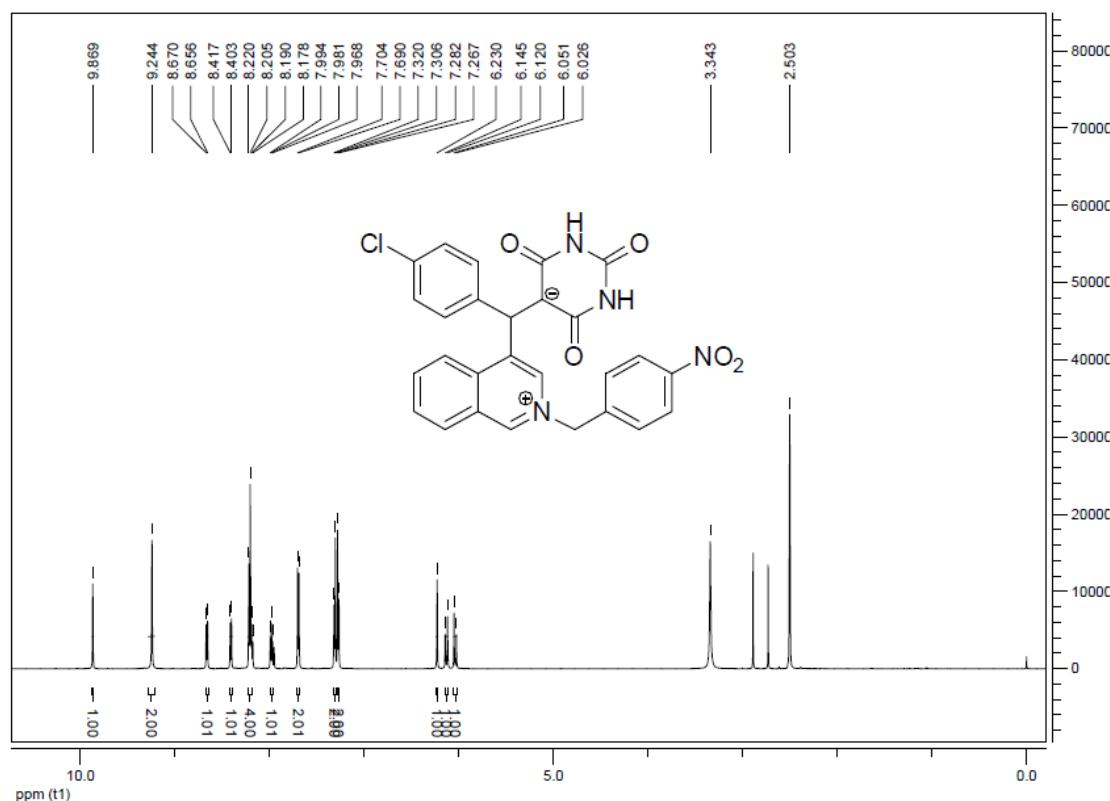


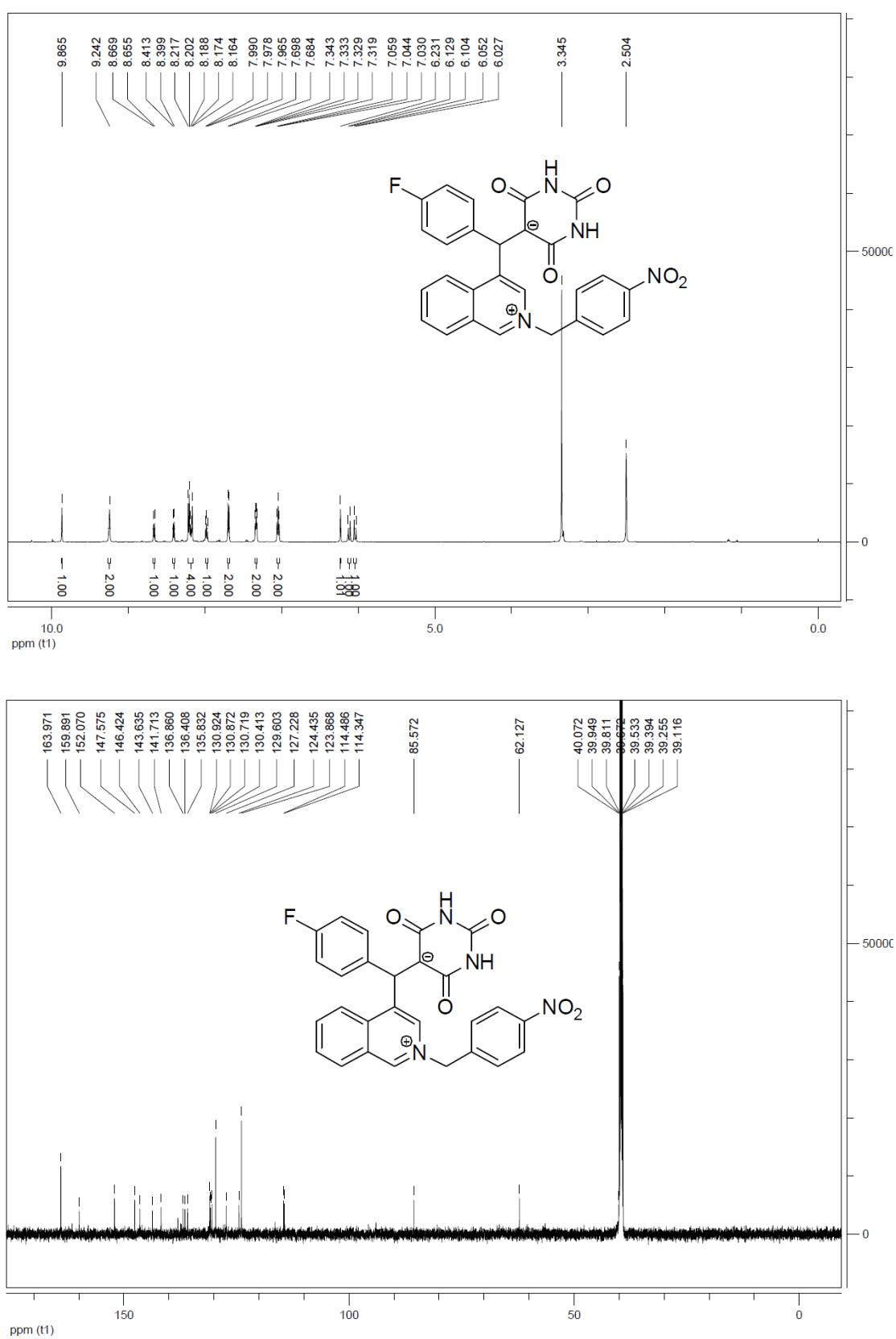


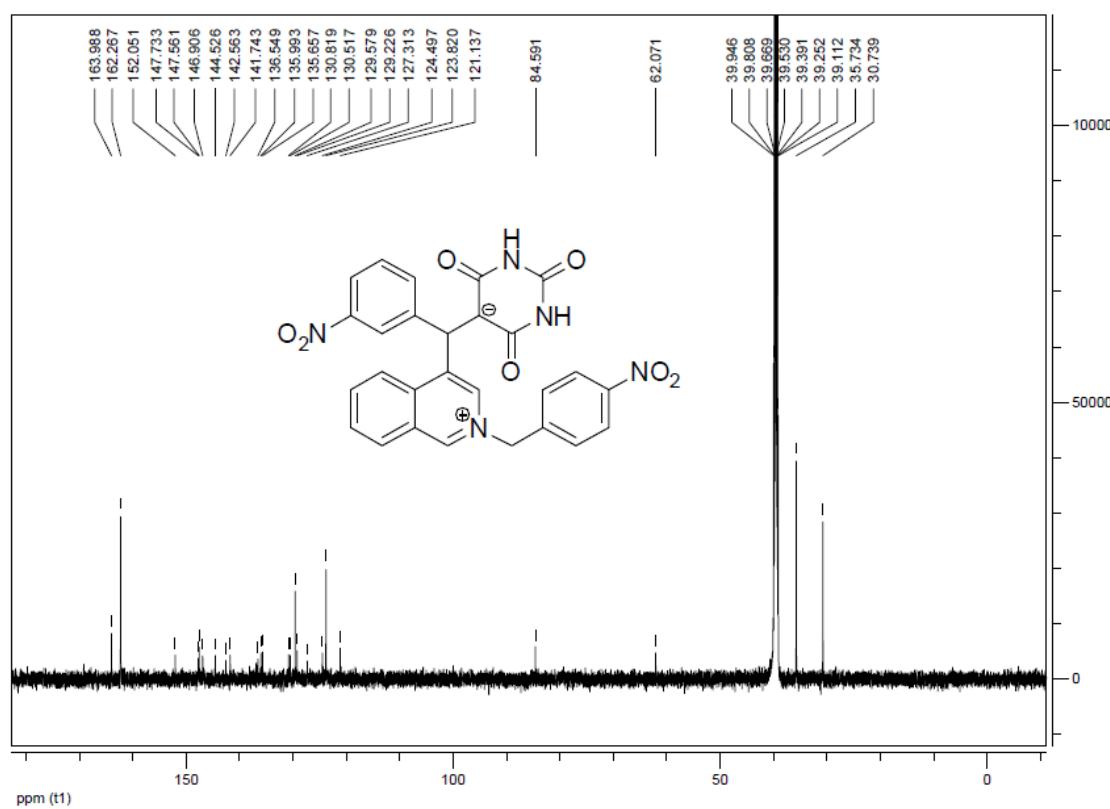
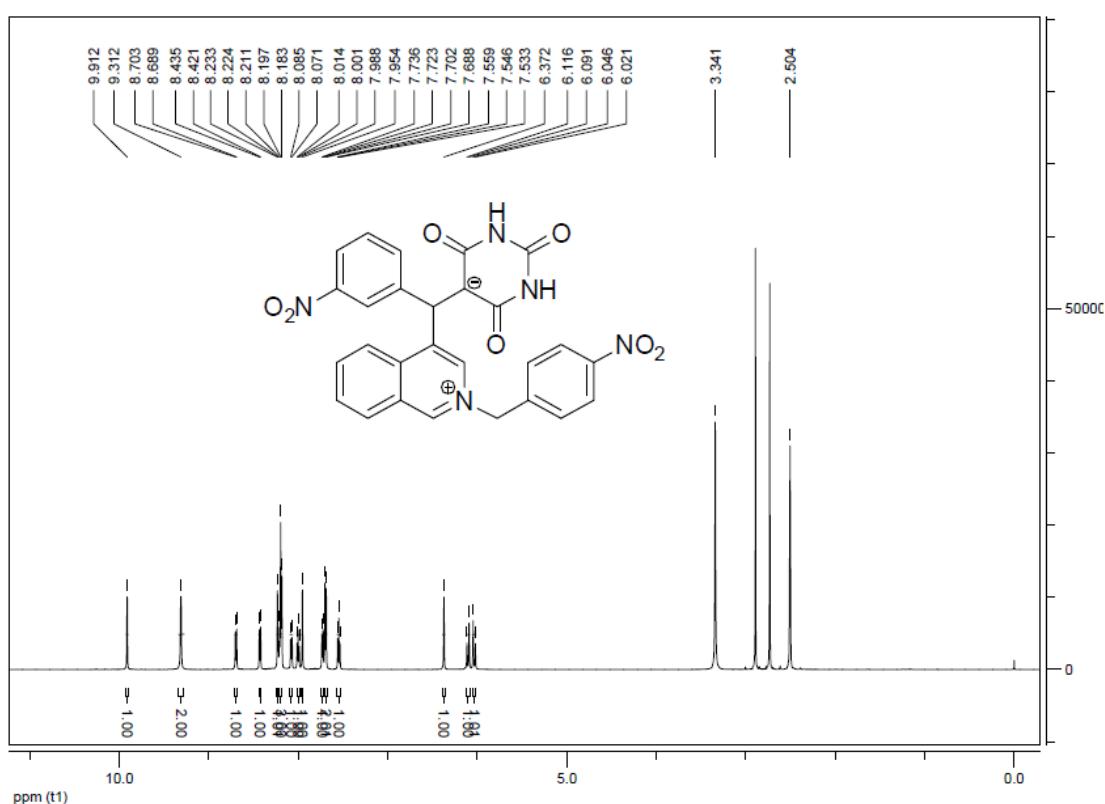


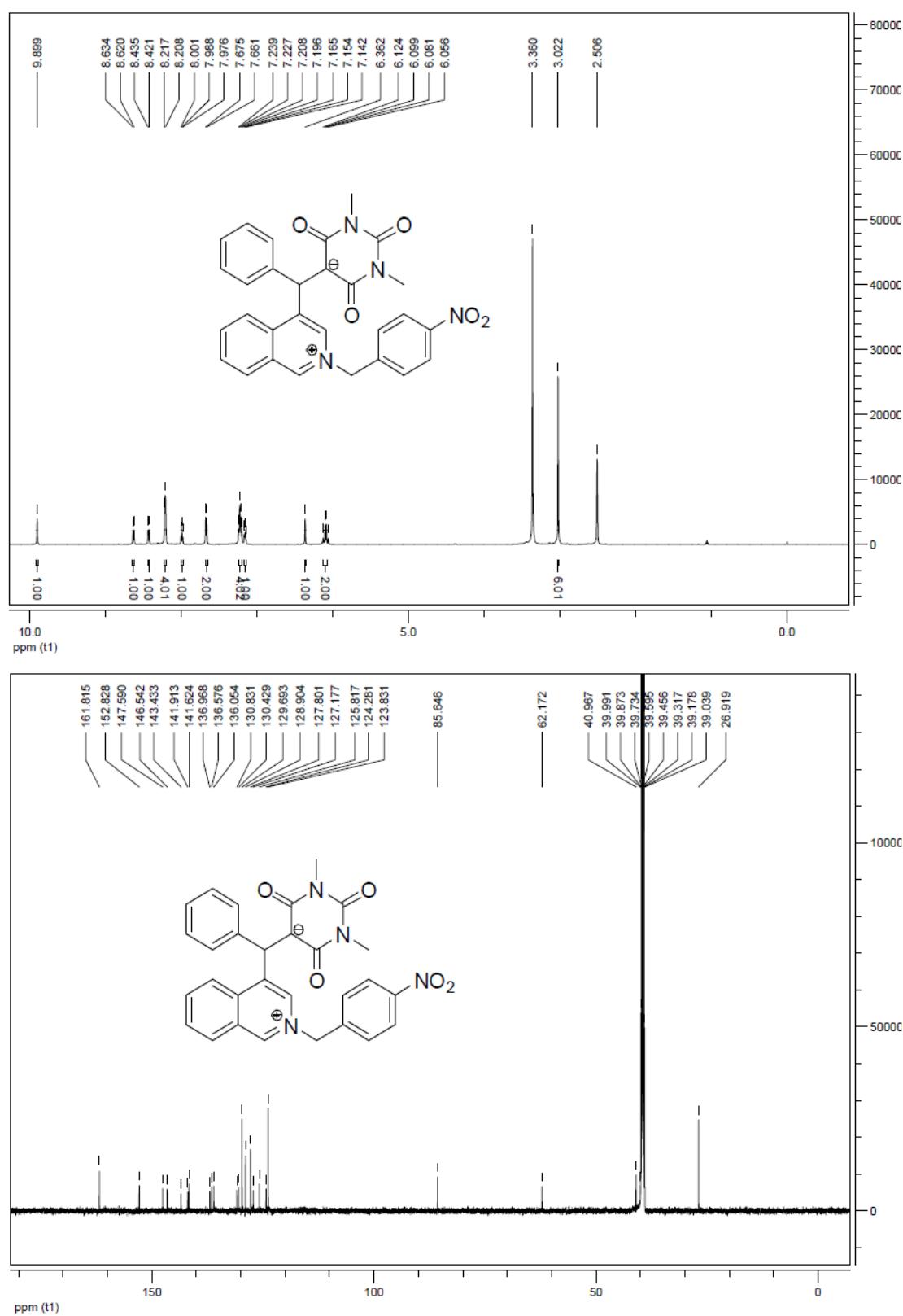


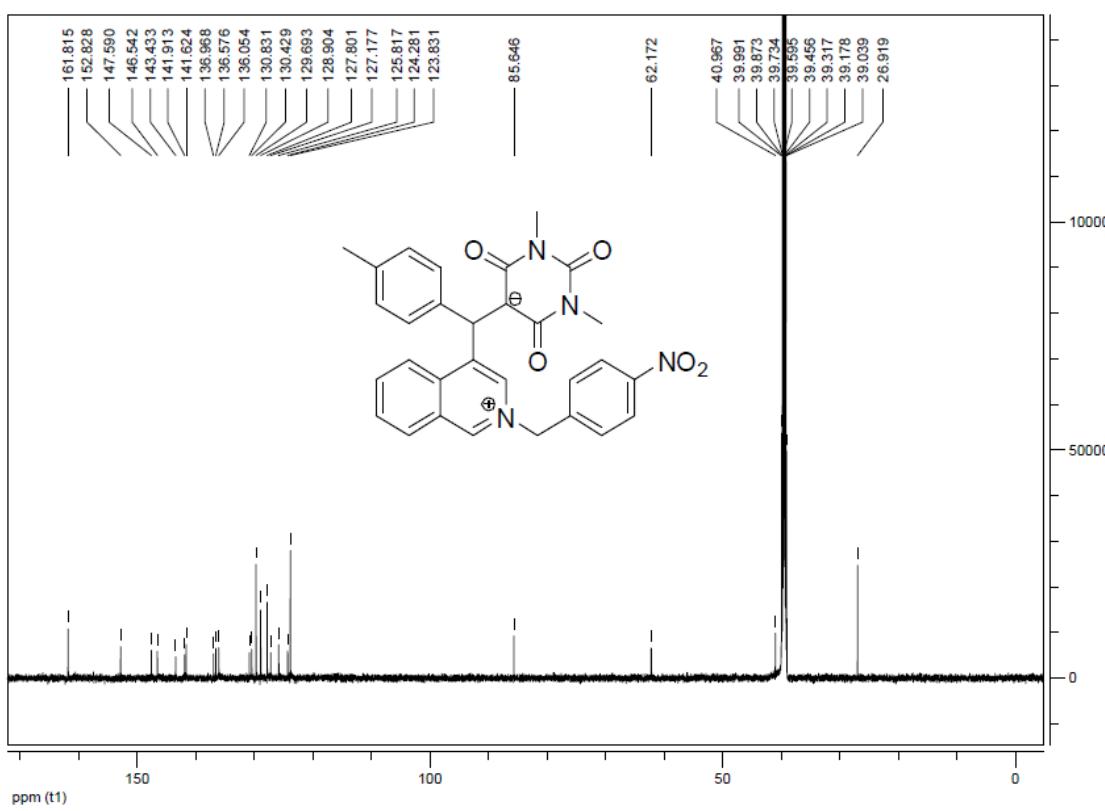
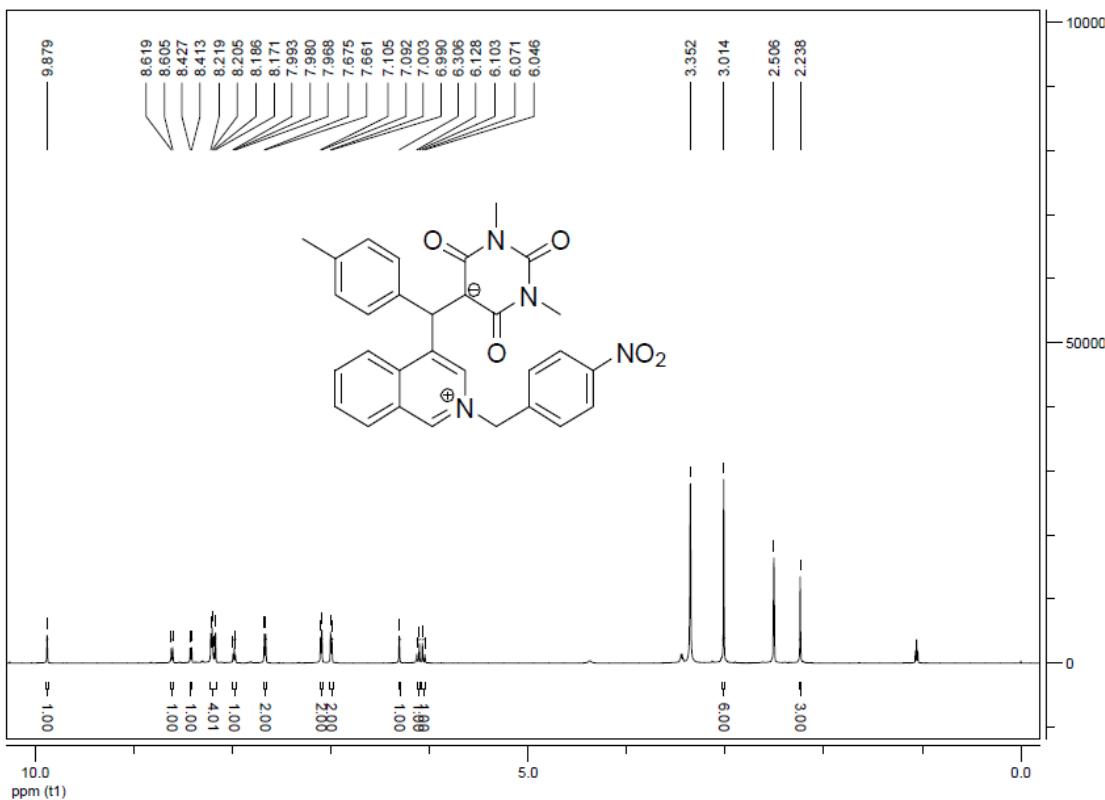


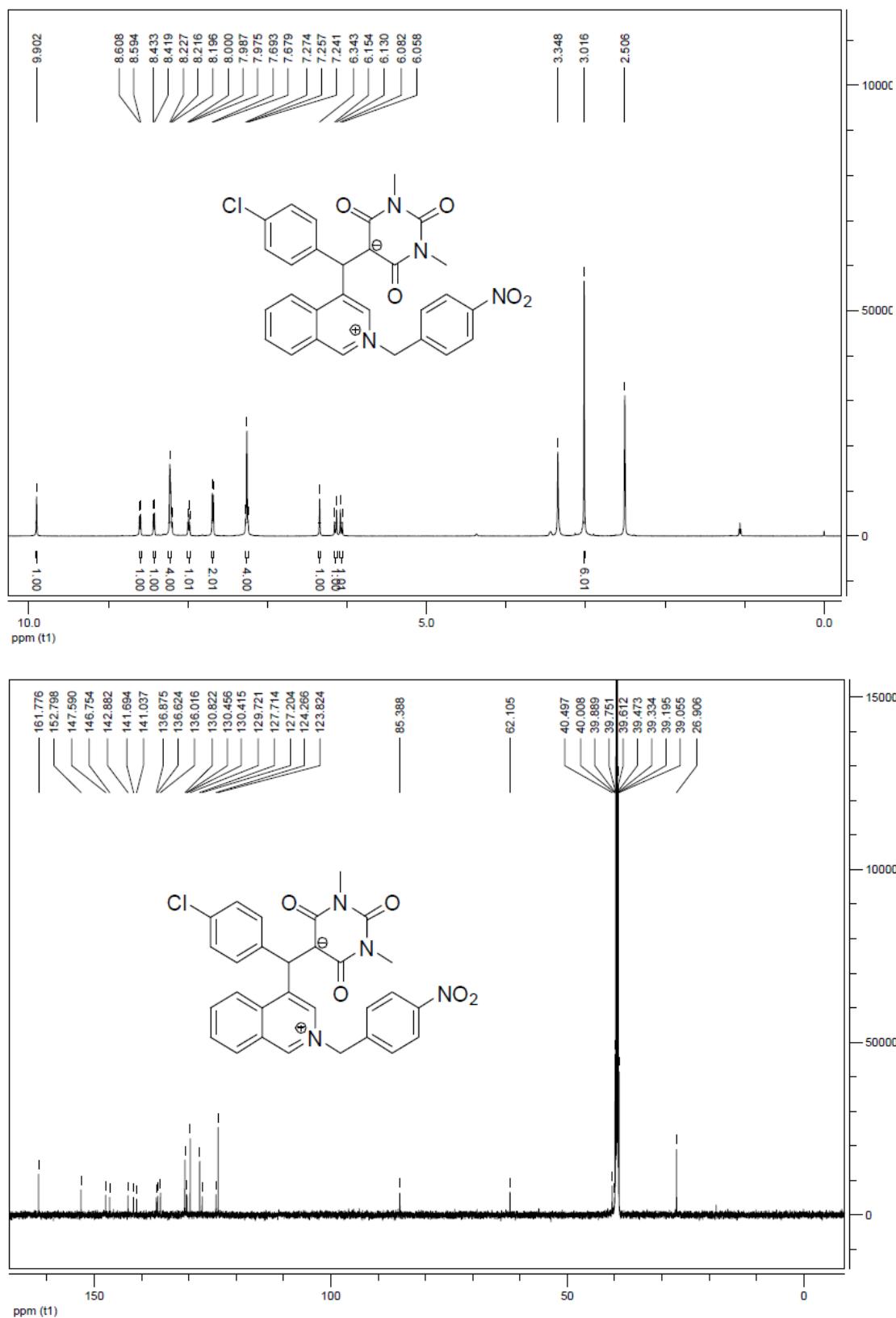


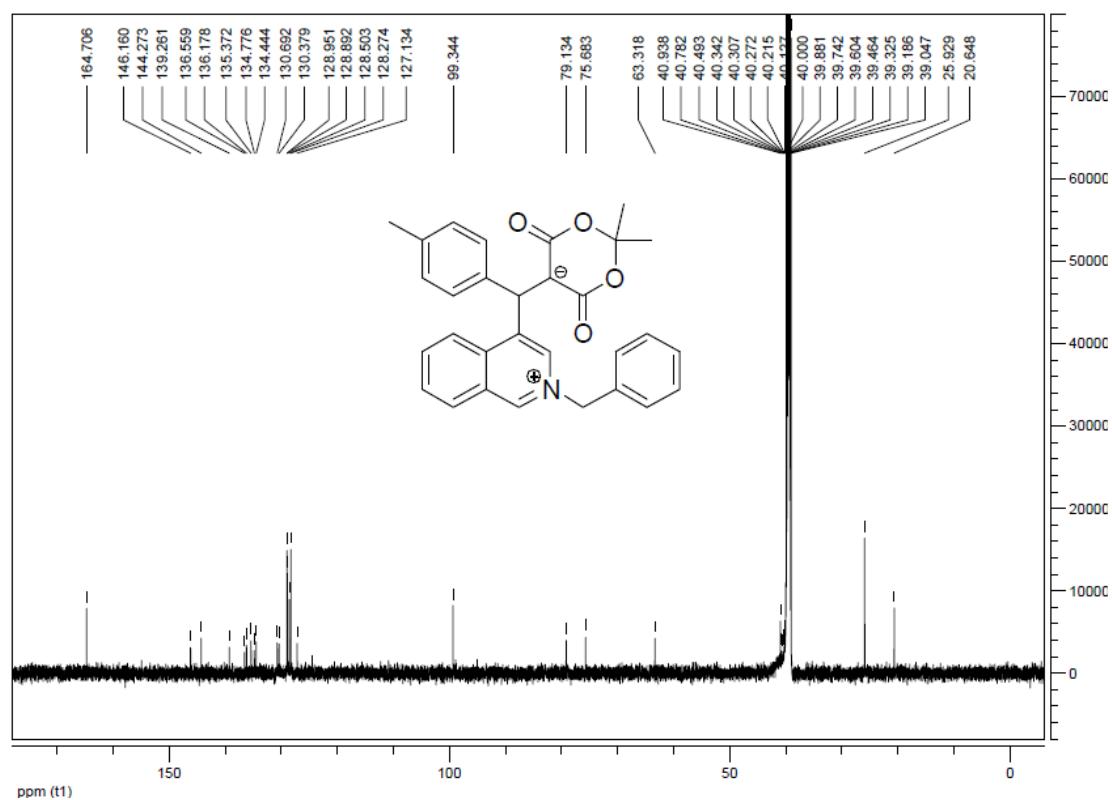
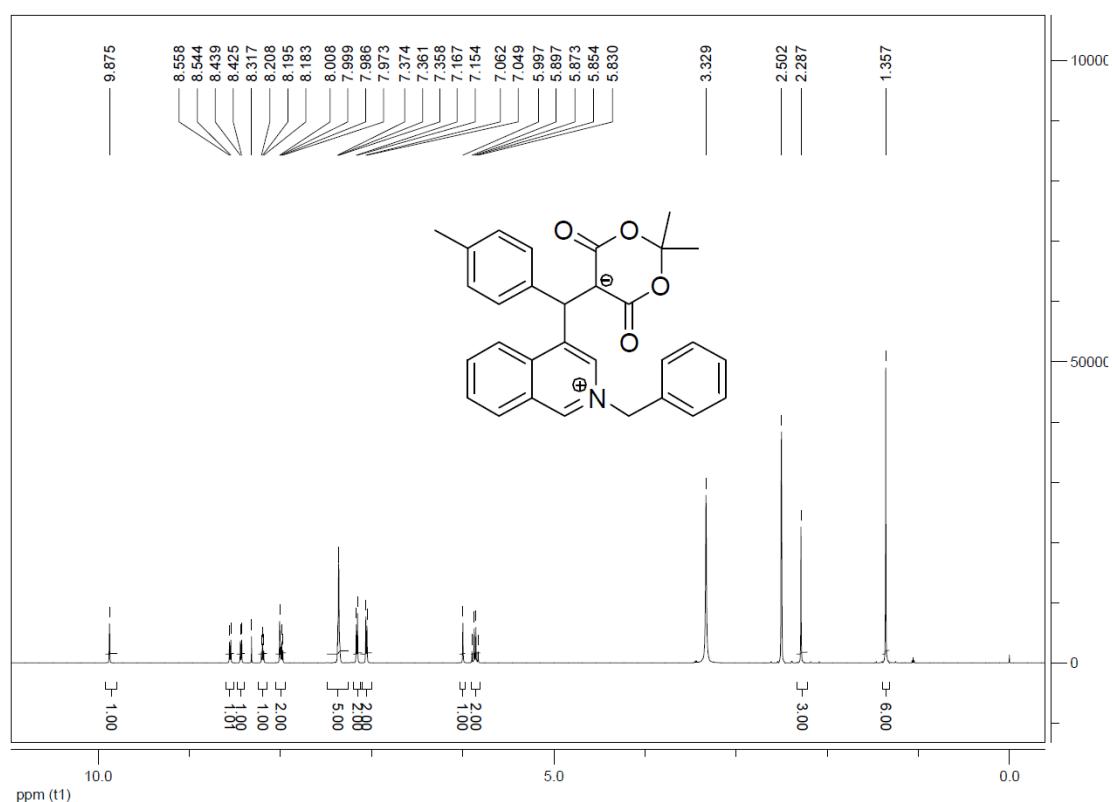


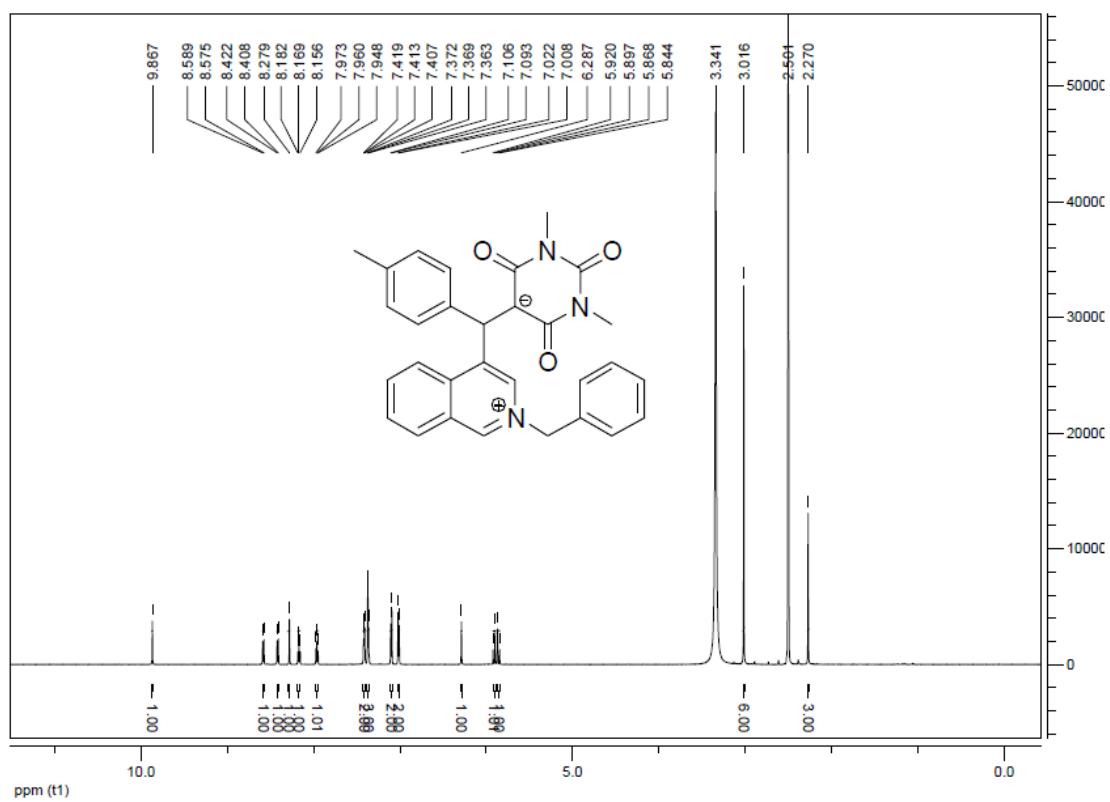
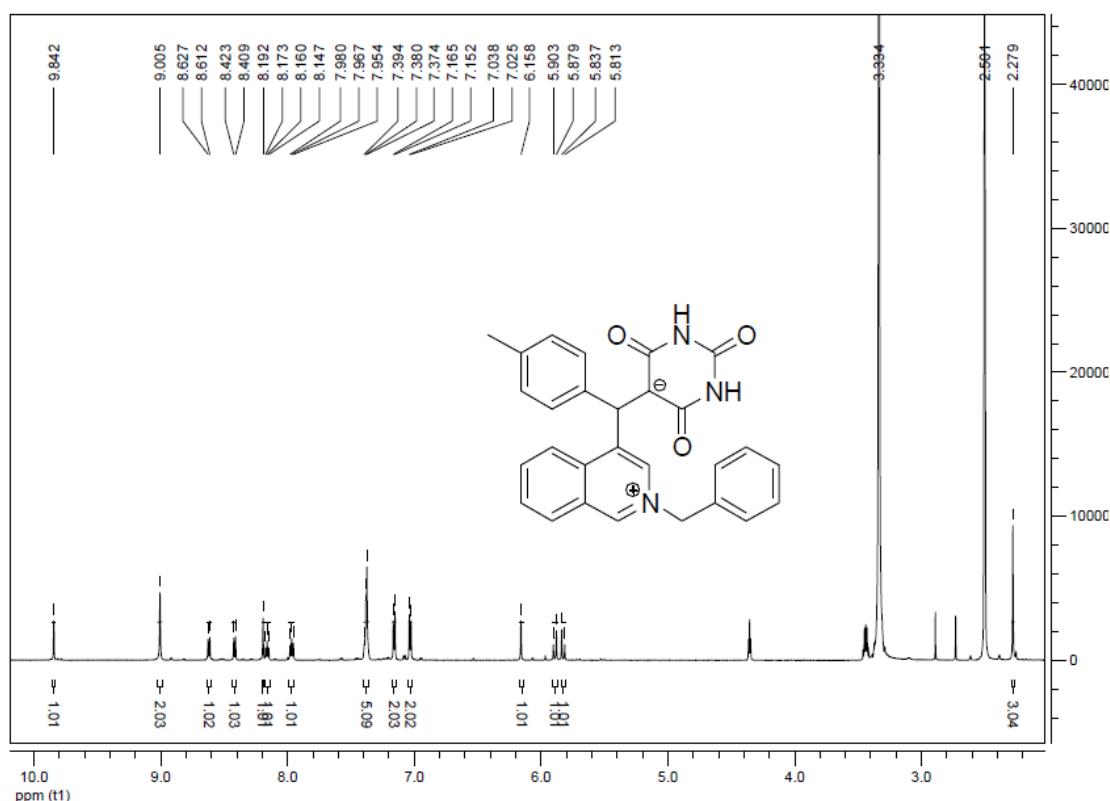


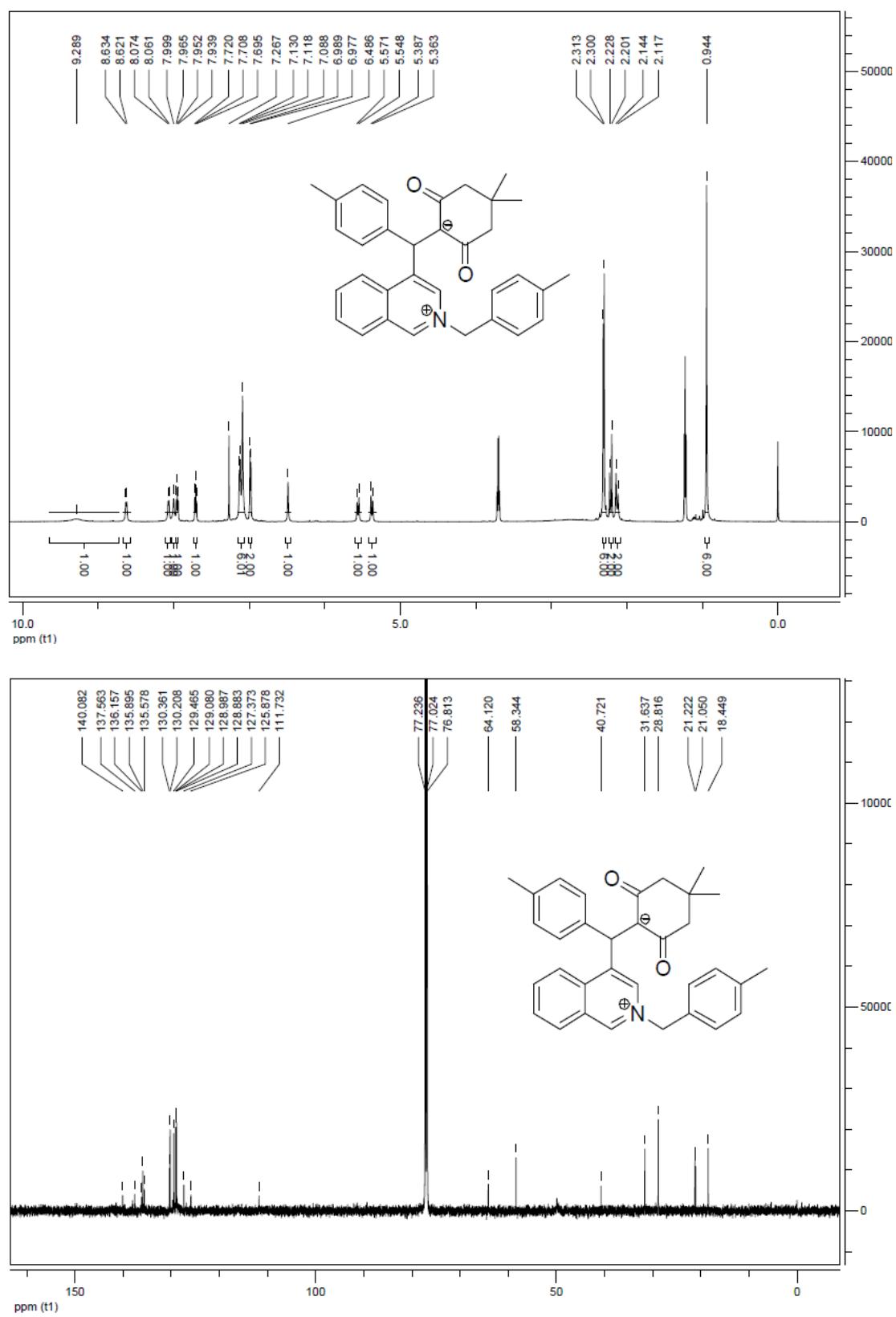


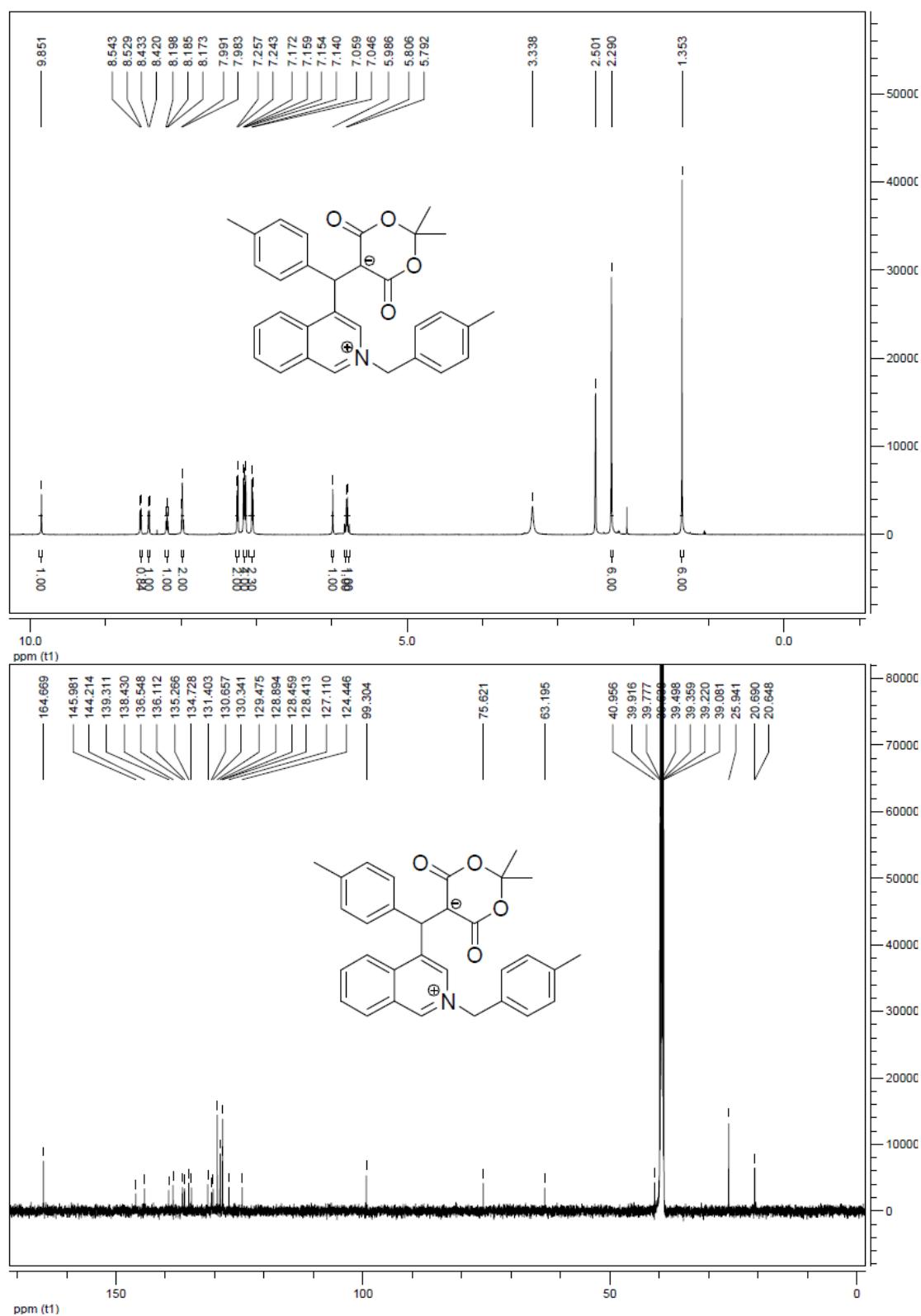


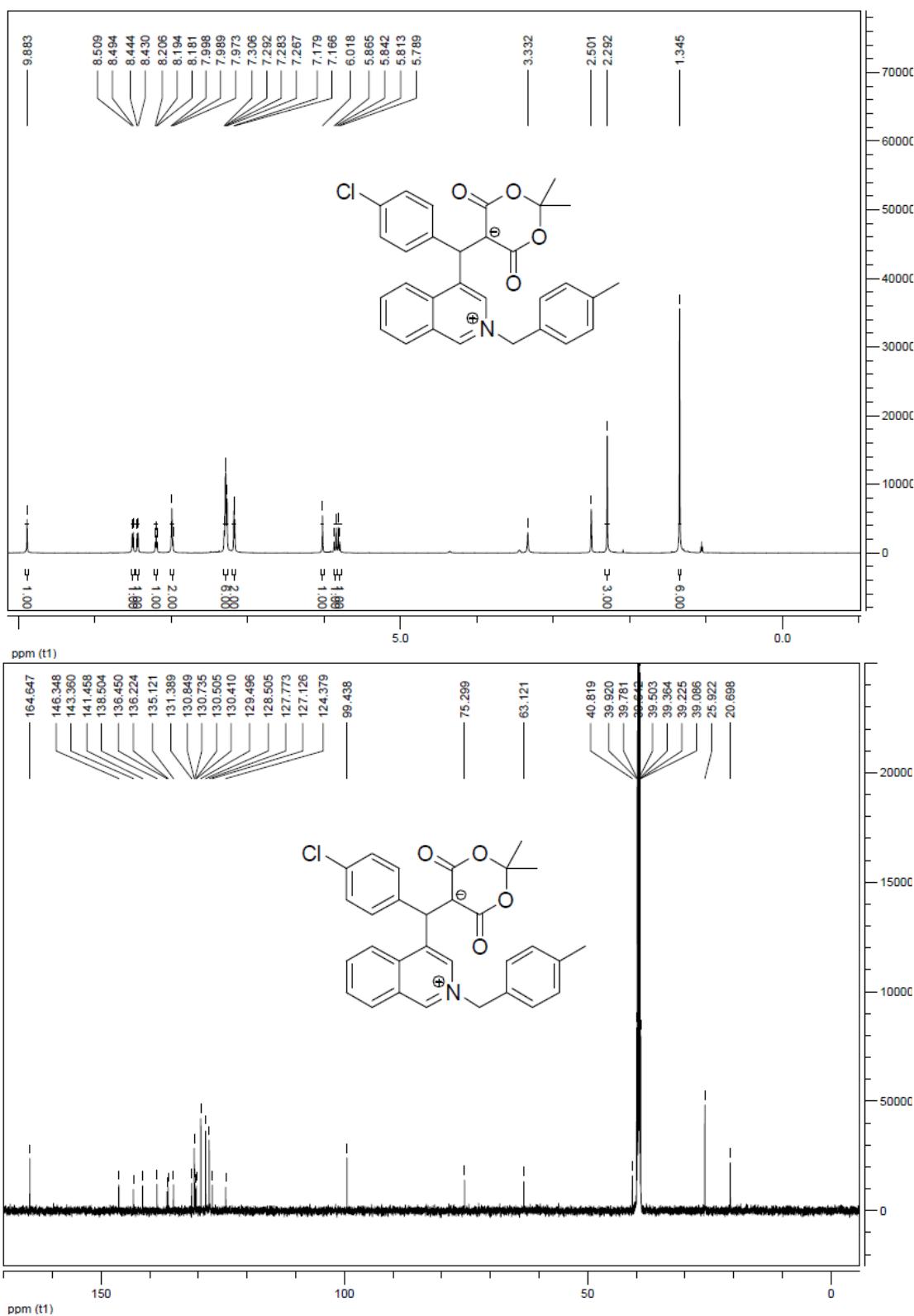






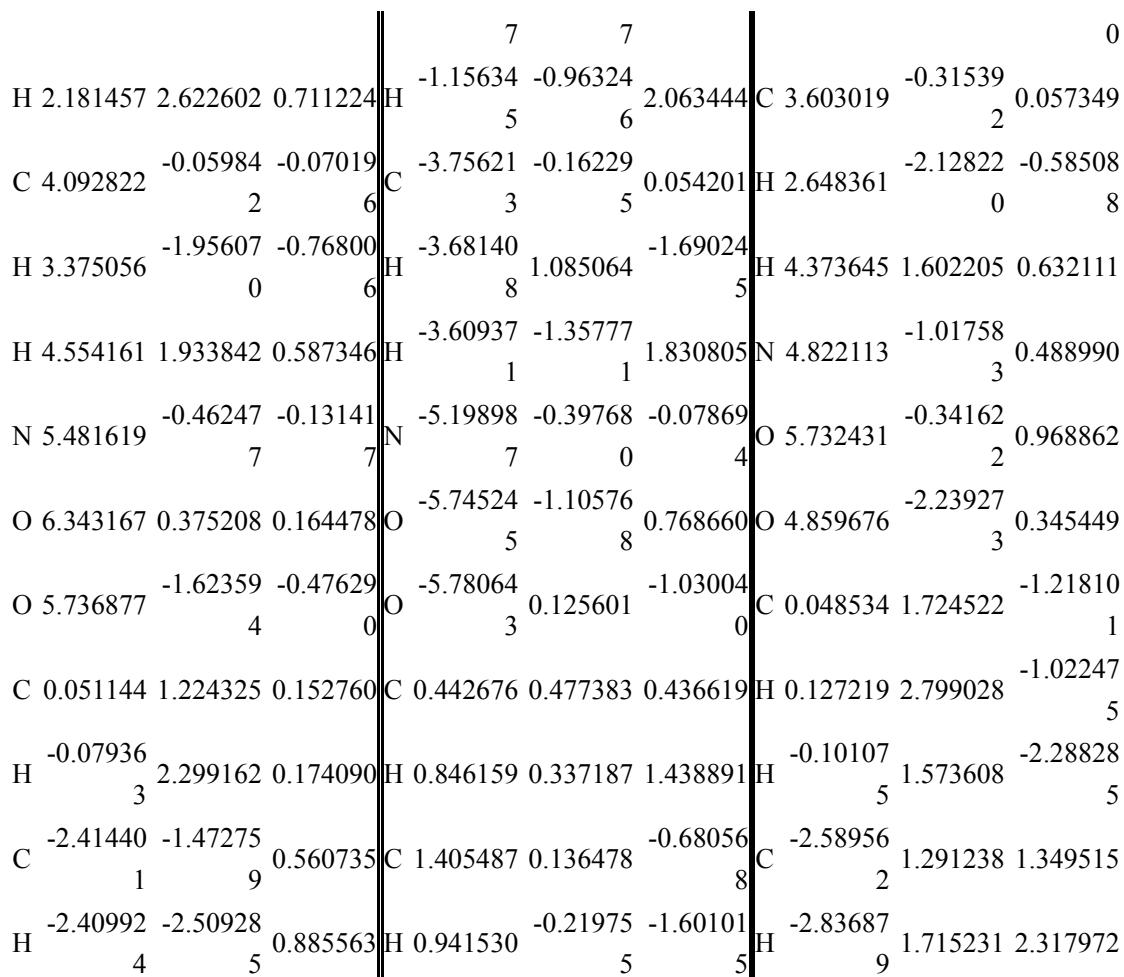






The optimized structure of intermediates at B3LYP/6-31G(d) level

Intermediate A			Intermediate B			Intermediate G		
C -5.97055 0	0.575734	-0.43979	C 4.431838 8	-2.14956 3	-0.52544 7	C -4.91156 3	-1.76287 7	-0.45341 4
C -4.76277 2	1.237110	-0.46152	C 3.144315 6	-1.67459 2	-0.78809 7	C -3.78831 3	-1.26914 2	-1.08875 1
C -3.56128 0	0.546452	-0.13118	C 2.775229 1	-0.38359 0	-0.411100 C	-3.00539 2	-0.24614 9	-0.49907 8
C -3.64316 3	-0.83949 8	0.221428	C 3.717944 C	0.464835 3.717944	0.210605 C	-3.40272 1	0.266815 C	0.773662 C
C -4.89591 4	-1.48719 9	0.237270	C 5.006749 C	-0.02217 1	0.466250 C	-4.55585 6	-0.24645 2	1.409541 C
C -6.04599 0	-0.79394 2	-0.08830	C 5.361209 2	-1.32259 9	0.107827 C	-5.29490 9	-1.24491 2	0.802597 C
H -2.20792 5	2.211507	-0.47253	H 4.706281 3	-3.15951 5	-0.81661 4	H -5.50421 5	-2.54796 6	-0.91475 3
H -6.88062 9	1.111704	-0.69484	H 2.419514 9	-2.31547 2	-1.28519 1	H -3.46980 4	-1.64550 6	-2.05638 7
H -4.71283 1	2.288349	-0.73267	C 3.326028 7	1.837020 C	0.529748 C	-1.84905 7	0.223109 C	-1.23044 1
C -2.31151 2	1.176301	-0.17217	H 5.734477 4	0.629028 H	0.944767 H	-4.85403 2	0.149396 C	2.377883 C
H -4.94225 4	-2.53845 3	0.510788	H 6.363716 H	-1.68682 8	0.314634 H	-6.18043 4	-1.63625 2	1.296965 C
H -7.00905 3	-1.29500 7	-0.07490	C 2.097017 5	2.304471 C	0.254801 C	-1.49981 0	1.732574 C	0.672590 C
C -1.23002 6	-0.80755 1	0.532730	H 4.067302 H	2.499182 H	0.968771 H	-0.83875 5	2.500911 C	1.059188 C
H -0.30544 3	-1.25014 2	0.866877	H 1.805998 H	3.329577 H	0.466247 N	-1.17920 6	1.203876 C	-0.57356 3
N -1.13974 2	0.537854	0.142259	N 1.080601 N	1.538204 C	-0.37313 2	C 1.303115 C	1.009407 C	-0.75315 7
C 1.375121 C	0.711209	0.074305	C -1.02322 5	0.282301 C	0.304404 C	1.402607 C	-0.38392 8	-0.89108 3
C 1.760950 9	-0.59240 9	-0.35859	C -1.74287 9	0.861005 4	-0.75317 C	2.375000 C	1.722692 C	-0.20412 4
C 2.434790 C	1.614462	0.393921	C -1.70383 1	-0.51640 2	1.237582 C	2.551211 C	-1.05409 3	-0.48621 2
C 3.091049 9	-0.96814 8	-0.42574	C -3.10957 3	0.642413 C	-0.88388 9	H 0.562856 H	-0.92819 7	-1.31479 6
H 1.014719 4	-1.29979 1	-0.70195	H -1.21814 H	1.501200 1	-1.45488 8	C 3.534977 C	1.066991 C	0.204397 C
C 3.761153 C	1.242597	0.328979	C -3.07008 C	-0.74485 C	1.119273 H	H 2.308221 H	2.802454 H	-0.09656 C



The total energy (E), zero point energy (ZPE) , sum of electronic and zero-point energy( $E_0$ ) and relative energy ( $\Delta E$ ) of intermediate at B3LYP/6-31G(d) level

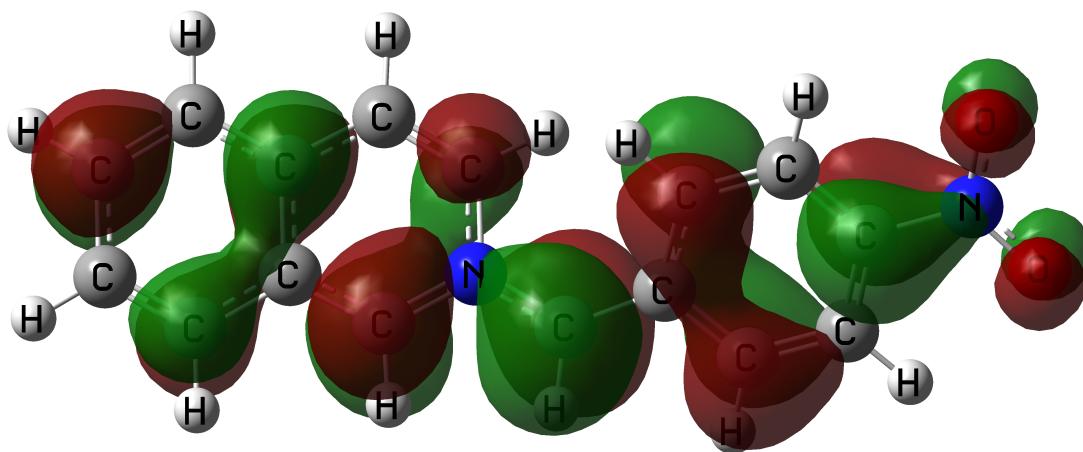
species	E/Hartree	ZPE/Hartree	E <sub>0</sub> /Hartree	$\Delta E/kJ \cdot mol^{-1}$
A	-876.747888	0.247716	-876.500172	0.00
B	-876.741810	0.247753	-876.494057	16.06
G	-876.725534	0.247854	-876.477680	59.05

$$E_0 = E + ZPE$$

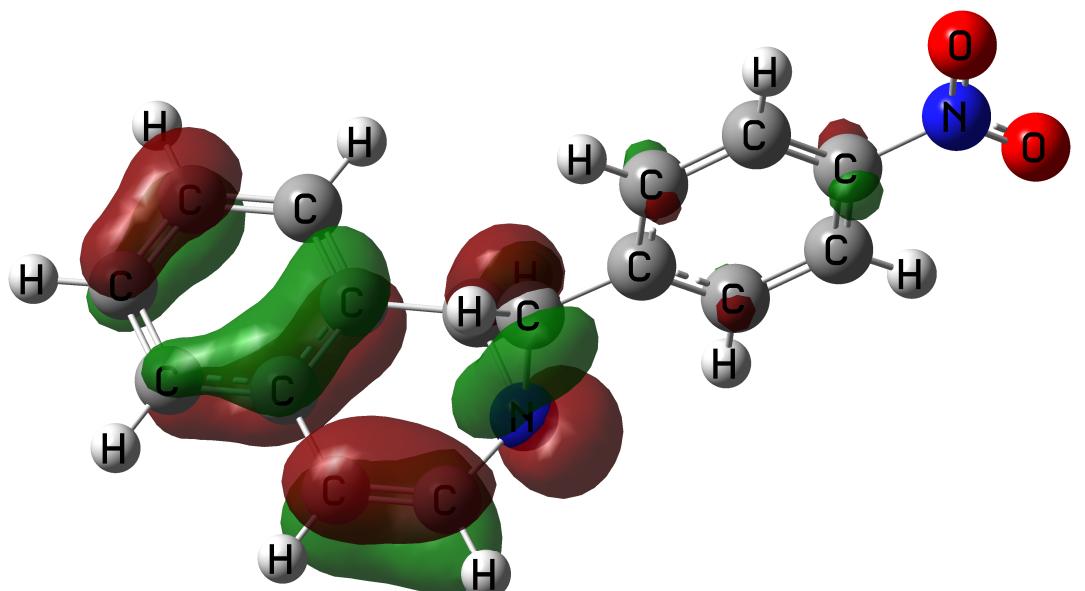
Mulliken atomic charges: Atomic charges with hydrogens summed into heavy atoms

A	B	G	A	B	G
C -0.129953	C -0.132766	C -0.133335	C 0.012326	C 0.003523	C 0.002636
C -0.191413	C -0.198090	C -0.145909	C -0.052492	C -0.063226	C -0.002711
C 0.091624	C 0.160147	C -0.039376	C 0.091624	C 0.160147	C -0.039376
C 0.160490	C 0.106195	C 0.159479	C 0.160490	C 0.106195	C 0.159479
C -0.182349	C -0.199608	C -0.184965	C -0.041780	C -0.065700	C -0.053200
C -0.139532	C -0.127063	C -0.128103	C 0.001336	C 0.008688	C 0.009752
H 0.168341	H 0.136289	H 0.135971	H 0.000000	H 0.000000	H 0.000000
H 0.142279	H 0.134864	H 0.143198	H 0.000000	H 0.000000	H 0.000000
H 0.138921	C -0.154441	C -0.003959	H 0.000000	C -0.017709	C -0.003959
			C 0.157950	H 0.000000	H 0.000000
			H 0.000000	H 0.000000	H 0.000000
			H 0.000000	C 0.144639	C 0.221319
			C 0.249485	H 0.000000	H 0.000000
			H 0.000000	H 0.000000	N -0.388674

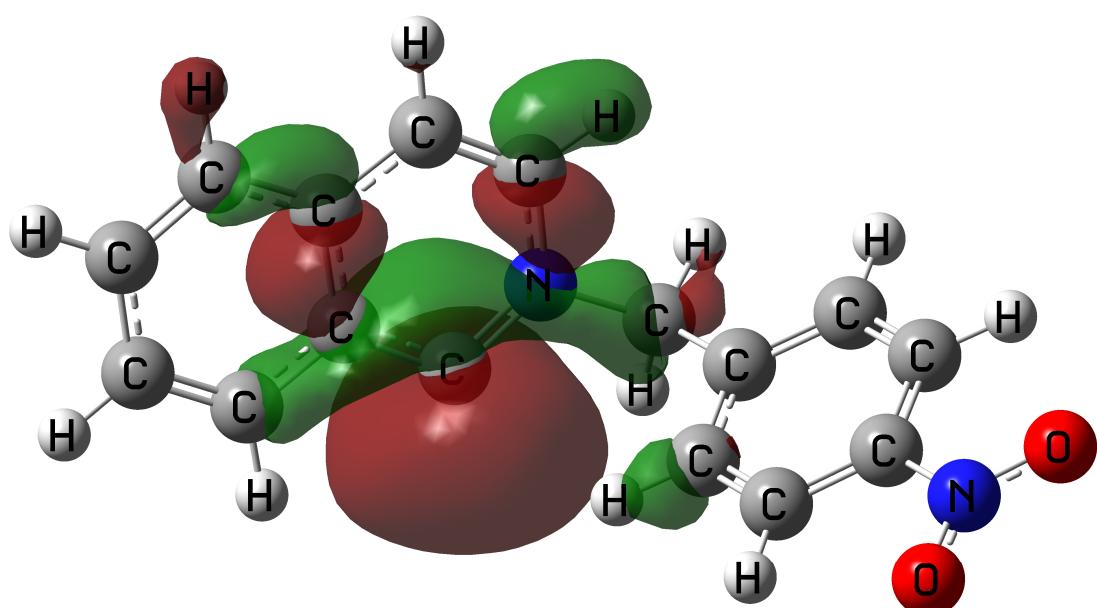
C	-0.010391	H	0.133908	H	0.131766
H	0.140569	H	0.135751	H	0.137855
H	0.140868	C	-0.007423	C	0.065591
C	0.053724	H	0.136732	H	0.155729
H	0.195761	H	0.152062	N	-0.388674
N	-0.390048	N	-0.412821	C	0.173013
C	0.204354	C	0.215358	C	-0.182020
C	-0.227518	C	-0.205573	C	-0.200223
C	-0.208623	C	-0.199321	C	-0.148746
C	-0.151527	C	-0.149076	H	0.175393
H	0.135838	H	0.169333	C	-0.147759
C	-0.150418	C	-0.155754	H	0.140633
H	0.130746	H	0.142910	C	0.275485
C	0.267592	C	0.275838	H	0.185696
H	0.173813	H	0.182405	H	0.183337
H	0.174255	H	0.182110	N	0.379840
N	0.359367	N	0.376839	O	-0.396315
O	-0.420046	O	-0.399531	O	-0.393214
O	-0.422613	O	-0.398377	C	-0.227685
C	-0.129651	C	-0.113093	H	0.155018
H	0.144865	H	0.158794	H	0.197673
C	-0.229706	C	-0.108436	C	-0.220506
H	0.160380	H	0.161837	H	0.145113



HOMO of intermediate A

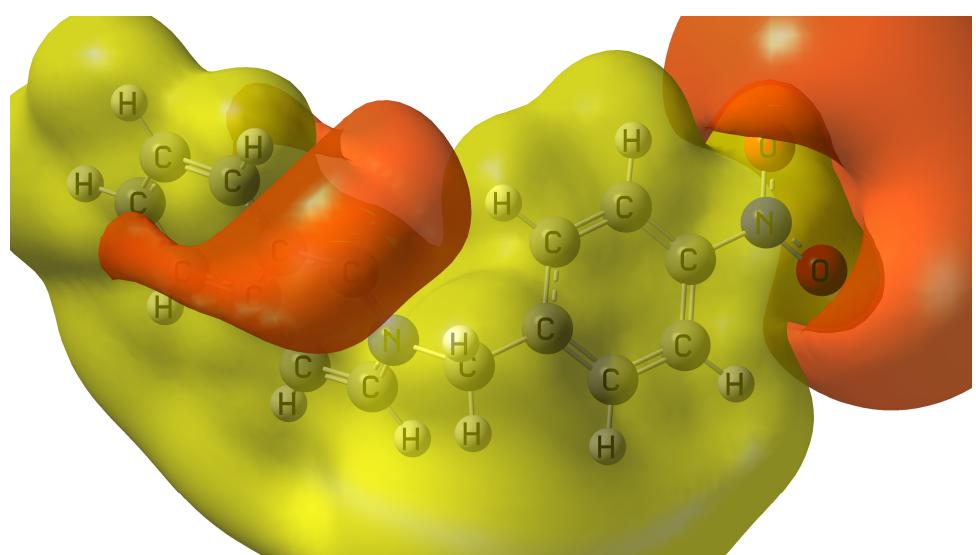


HOMO of intermediate B



HOMO of intermediate G

The highest occupied molecular orbital (HOMO) of intermediates



The ESP of intermediate G