

## Supporting Information

WATER ASSISTED AND CHOLINE CHLORIDE-DIMETHYLUREA DEEP  
EUTECTIC SALTS AS CATALYST TOWARDS THE ATTRACTIVE REACTION  
OF INDOLE, BENZALDEHYDE, AND MALONONITRILE

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### **General information**

Commercial solvents and reagents were used as received, except for benzaldehyde, which was used as a fresh distilled sample. Melting points were measured on Beijing Tech X-5 melting point detector and were uncorrected. FT-IR spectras were determined on Bruker Shimadzu IR-460 spectrometer. <sup>1</sup>H and <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectras were recorded on Bruker Avance 500 MHz or Bruker Avance III 400 MHz. X-ray crystal spectra was obtained on Bruker Smart APEX II. High resolution mass spectra (HRMS) were obtained on an Agilent 6540 UHD Q-TOF mass spectrometer.

### **Deep eutectic solvent preparation**

The catalyst was prepared in accordance with the literature 1. Choline chloride (4 mmol) and 1,3-dimethylurea (8 mmol) were added to a 50 mL round-bottom flask, then this mixture was stirred at 80 °C for 30 min. After slowly cooled to room temperature, the solid was dried at 50 °C for 6 h to afford the DES.

### **General procedure for the synthesis of 4a-4r**

0.50 mmol Aldehyde, 0.50 mmol malononitrile, and 0.10 mmol catalyst were taken in 1 mL solvent (EtOH:H<sub>2</sub>O 4:1, v/v). This solution was stirred in a 10 mL pressure tube at the stipulated temperature mentioned in Table 2 for 10 min, then 0.55 mmol indole was added and continuously reacted. After completion, 0.6 mL water and 0.4 mL ethanol was added and vigorously stirred for 10 min to remove the impurity and catalyst. This mixture was filtered and the precipitate was washed with 50% cold aqueous ethanol. Most of the desired products could be collected without further purification. When necessary, product was separated by silica gel column chromatography with petroleum ether/ethyl acetate as eluent.

### **General procedure for the synthesis of 5a-5i**

0.50 mmol Aldehyde, 0.55 mmol Meldrum's acid, and 0.10 mmol catalyst were taken in 2 mL solvent (EtOH:H<sub>2</sub>O 4:1, v/v). This solution was stirred in a 10 mL

pressure tube at 40 °C for 10 min, then 0.50 mmol indole was added and continuously reacted. After completion of the reaction, 1.0 mL 40% ethanol was added and vigorously stirred for 10 min to remove the impurity and catalyst. The mixture was filtered on Büchner funnel after cooling in ice bath. The precipitate was washed with 70% cold aqueous ethanol without further purification to afford the desired products.

1. (a) J.M. Pérez, and D.J. Ramón, *ACS Sustainable Chem. Eng.* 2015, **3**, 2343;  
(b) M.A. Bakht, M.J. Ansari, Y. Riadi, et al., *J. Mol. Liq.*, 2016, **224**, 1249;  
(c) N. Azizi, and M. Edrisi, *Res. Chem. Intermed.*, 2017, **43**, 379.

### <sup>1</sup>H NMR and <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectra data of 4a-4f

2-((1*H*-indol-3-yl)(phenyl)methyl)malononitrile, **4a** IR (KBr)  $\nu$ : 3348, 3039, 2885, 2260 cm<sup>-1</sup>; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$ : 8.27 (s, 1H), 7.31-7.48 (m, 9H), 7.10 (t,  $J = 7.5$  Hz, 1H), 4.96 (d,  $J = 6.2$  Hz, 1H), 4.47 (d,  $J = 6.2$  Hz, 1H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$ : 131.9, 131.0, 123.9, 123.5, 122.9, 120.6, 117.9, 116.9, 115.1, 113.4, 107.3, 107.0, 106.9, 106.3, 38.9, 24.3.

2-((1*H*-indol-3-yl)(*o*-tolyl)methyl)malononitrile, **4b** IR (KBr)  $\nu$ : 3408, 3058, 2902, 2256 cm<sup>-1</sup>; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>)  $\delta$ : 11.18 (s, 1H), 7.50-7.37 (m, 4H), 7.25-7.17 (m, 3H), 7.09 (t,  $J = 7.6$  Hz, 1H), 6.97 (t,  $J = 7.5$  Hz, 1H), 5.80 (d,  $J = 9.4$  Hz, 1H), 5.37 (d,  $J = 9.5$  Hz, 1H), 2.45 (s, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>)  $\delta$ : 137.3, 136.1, 136.0, 130.7, 127.4, 126.5, 126.2, 125.8, 123.8, 121.5, 118.9, 118.4, 114.0, 113.9, 112.0, 111.7, 38.4, 28.2, 19.3.

2-((1*H*-indol-3-yl)(*m*-tolyl)methyl)malononitrile, **4c** IR (KBr)  $\nu$ : 3350, 3057, 2883, 2221 cm<sup>-1</sup>; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>)  $\delta$ : 11.18 (s, 1H), 7.54 (s, 1H), 7.49 (d,  $J = 8.0$  Hz, 1H), 7.39-7.24 (m, 4H), 7.09 (t,  $J = 7.8$  Hz, 2H), 6.96 (t,  $J = 7.5$  Hz, 1H), 5.81 (d,  $J = 9.3$  Hz, 1H), 5.15 (d,  $J = 9.4$  Hz, 1H), 2.28 (s, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>)  $\delta$ : 139.2, 137.7, 136.1, 128.5, 128.4, 125.9, 125.0, 122.7, 121.6, 118.9, 118.5, 114.1, 113.8, 112.4, 111.6, 42.5, 28.7, 21.0.

2-((1*H*-indol-3-yl)(*p*-tolyl)methyl)malononitrile, **4d** IR (KBr)  $\nu$ : 3350, 3035, 2883, 2223 cm<sup>-1</sup>; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>)  $\delta$ : 11.17 (s, 1H), 7.52 (s, 1H), 7.44 (d,  $J = 8.0$  Hz, 1H), 7.38 (d,  $J = 7.4$  Hz, 3H), 7.17 (d,  $J = 7.7$  Hz, 2H), 7.09 (t,  $J = 7.5$  Hz, 1H), 6.95 (t,  $J = 7.4$  Hz, 1H), 5.78 (d,  $J = 9.1$  Hz, 1H), 5.14 (d,  $J = 9.1$  Hz, 1H), 2.27 (s, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>)  $\delta$ : 136.9, 136.2, 136.1, 129.1, 127.9, 125.9, 122.6, 121.6, 118.8, 118.6, 114.0, 113.8, 112.5, 111.6, 42.2, 28.7, 20.6.

2-((1*H*-indol-3-yl)(2-methoxyphenyl)methyl)malononitrile, **4e** IR (KBr)  $\nu$ : 3375, 3058, 2842, 2260 cm<sup>-1</sup>; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$ : 8.29 (s, 1H), 7.59 (d,  $J = 2.0$  Hz, 1H), 7.45-7.31 (m, 3H), 7.26-6.88 (m, 6H), 5.43 (d,  $J = 6.2$  Hz, 1H), 4.74 (d,  $J = 6.2$  Hz, 1H), 4.00 (s, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$ : 156.0, 135.6, 129.3, 129.2, 125.9, 124.7, 122.4, 121.9, 120.7, 119.6, 118.3, 112.2, 112.2, 111.1, 110.9, 110.2, 55.1, 37.1, 27.0.

2-((1*H*-indol-3-yl)(3-methoxyphenyl)methyl)malononitrile, **4f** IR (KBr)  $\nu$ : 3344, 3058, 2885, 2262 cm<sup>-1</sup>; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$ : 8.26 (s, 1H), 7.44-7.31

(m, 4H), 7.25-6.90 (m, 5H), 4.91 (d,  $J = 4.9$  Hz, 1H), 4.44 (d,  $J = 4.4$  Hz, 1H), 3.80 (s, 3H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (125 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$ : 159.6, 138.2, 136.2, 135.7, 129.7, 122.5, 121.7, 121.4, 119.9, 119.8, 119.4, 118.8, 118.2, 113.8, 113.3, 111.8, 111.1, 54.8, 43.6, 29.1.

2-((2-chlorophenyl)(1H-indol-3-yl)methyl)malononitrile, **4g** IR (KBr)  $\nu$ : 3346, 3064, 2891, 2262  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ;  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (500 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$ : 8.35 (s, 1H), 7.53 (d,  $J = 7.9$  Hz, 2H), 7.41-7.21 (m, 6H), 7.12 (t,  $J = 7.5$  Hz, 1H), 5.60 (d,  $J = 6.0$  Hz, 1H), 4.57 (d,  $J = 6.1$  Hz, 1H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (125 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$ : 135.7, 134.2, 133.1, 129.7, 129.6, 129.4, 127.2, 125.5, 122.7, 122.0, 119.9, 118.1, 111.7, 111.6, 111.2, 110.5, 39.6, 27.3.

2-((3-chlorophenyl)(1H-indol-3-yl)methyl)malononitrile, **4h** IR (KBr)  $\nu$ : 3356, 3060, 2879, 2262  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ;  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (500 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$ : 8.38 (s, 1H), 7.44-7.31 (m, 7H), 7.27-7.25 (m, 1H), 7.13-7.10 (m, 1H), 4.93 (d,  $J = 6.4$  Hz, 1H), 4.45 (d,  $J = 6.4$  Hz, 1H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (125 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$ : 138.6, 135.8, 134.6, 129.9, 128.6, 127.9, 125.9, 125.2, 122.8, 121.7, 120.0, 117.9, 111.4, 111.4, 111.3, 111.2, 43.2, 28.9.

2-((4-chlorophenyl)(1H-indol-3-yl)methyl)malononitrile, **4i** IR (KBr)  $\nu$ : 3329, 3035, 2915, 2223  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ;  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (500 MHz,  $\text{DMSO-}d_6$ )  $\delta$ : 11.25 (s, 1H), 7.59-7.58 (m, 2H), 7.50 (t,  $J = 6.4$  Hz, 2H), 7.43-7.36 (m, 3H), 7.11 (t,  $J = 6.4$  Hz, 1H), 6.98 (t,  $J = 7.5$  Hz, 1H), 5.89 (d,  $J = 9.5$  Hz, 1H), 5.30 (d,  $J = 9.5$  Hz, 1H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (125 MHz,  $\text{DMSO-}d_6$ )  $\delta$ : 141.7, 136.0, 133.2, 130.5, 127.9, 127.8, 126.8, 125.8, 122.8, 121.8, 119.0, 118.4, 113.8, 113.6, 111.7, 111.7, 43.9, 28.4.

2-((2-bromophenyl)(1H-indol-3-yl)methyl)malononitrile, **4j** IR (KBr)  $\nu$ : 3348, 3062, 2887, 2256  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ;  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (500 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$ : 8.36 (s, 1H), 7.71 (d,  $J = 7.7$  Hz, 1H), 7.56 (s, 1H), 7.42-7.28 (m, 4H), 7.25-7.21 (m, 2H), 7.12 (t,  $J = 7.5$  Hz, 1H), 5.58 (d,  $J = 5.8$  Hz, 1H), 4.57 (d,  $J = 5.9$  Hz, 1H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (125 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$ : 135.7, 133.0, 129.8, 129.6, 127.9, 125.6, 123.8, 122.7, 122.0, 119.9, 118.2, 111.6, 111.5, 111.1, 110.6, 42.3, 27.3.

2-((3-bromophenyl)(1H-indol-3-yl)methyl)malononitrile, **4k** IR (KBr)  $\nu$ : 3356, 3060, 2881, 2260  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ;  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (500 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$ : 8.35 (s, 1H), 7.57-7.28 (m, 8H), 7.13 (t,  $J = 6.7$  Hz, 1H), 4.89 (s, 1H), 4.40 (s, 1H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (125 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$ : 138.9, 135.8, 131.5, 130.7, 130.2, 126.3, 125.2, 122.8, 122.7, 121.7, 120.0, 118.0, 111.5, 111.2, 43.2, 28.9.

2-((1*H*-indol-3-yl)(3-nitrophenyl)methyl)malononitrile, **4l** IR (KBr)  $\nu$ : 3417, 3064, 2902, 2264  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ;  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (500 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$ : 8.43 (s, 1H), 8.33 (s, 1H), 8.25 (d,  $J = 8.5$  Hz, 1H), 7.85 (d,  $J = 7.7$  Hz, 1H), 7.61 (t,  $J = 8.0$  Hz, 1H), 7.45 (d,  $J = 10.1$  Hz, 2H), 7.29-7.26 (m, 2H), 7.11 (t,  $J = 7.5$  Hz, 1H), 5.07 (d,  $J = 6.4$  Hz, 1H), 4.53 (d,  $J = 6.4$  Hz, 1H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (125 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$ : 138.7, 135.8, 133.8, 129.8, 125.0, 123.4, 123.0, 122.8, 121.7, 120.2, 117.7, 111.3, 111.2, 111.1, 110.7, 43.2, 28.8.

2-((1*H*-indol-3-yl)(4-nitrophenyl)methyl)malononitrile, **4m** IR (KBr)  $\nu$ : 3424, 3051, 2891, 2227  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ;  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (500 MHz,  $\text{DMSO-}d_6$ )  $\delta$ : 11.30 (s, 1H), 8.26 (d,  $J = 8.5$  Hz, 2H), 7.80 (d,  $J = 8.5$  Hz, 2H), 7.60 (s, 1H), 7.48 (t,  $J = 8.0$  Hz, 1H), 7.40 (d,  $J = 8.2$  Hz, 1H), 7.11 (t,  $J = 7.5$  Hz, 1H), 6.97 (t,  $J = 7.5$  Hz, 1H), 5.97 (d,  $J = 9.4$  Hz, 1H), 5.50 (d,  $J = 9.4$  Hz, 1H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (125 MHz,  $\text{DMSO-}d_6$ )  $\delta$ : 147.0, 146.6, 136.1, 129.4, 125.7, 123.8, 123.1, 121.8, 119.1, 118.3, 113.6, 113.5, 111.8, 111.2, 41.8, 28.1.

2-((2-methyl-1*H*-indol-3-yl)(phenyl)methyl)malononitrile, **4n** IR (KBr)  $\nu$ : 3384, 3057, 2908, 2256  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ;  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (500 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$ : 8.07 (s, 1H), 7.47-7.30 (m, 8H), 7.18-7.15 (m, 1H), 7.08-7.05 (m, 1H), 4.98 (d,  $J = 9.4$  Hz, 1H), 4.70 (d,  $J = 9.4$  Hz, 1H), 2.46 (s, 3H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (125 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$ : 136.7, 134.9, 133.5, 128.5, 127.5, 126.9, 125.7, 121.3, 119.6, 117.8, 112.3, 112.0, 110.5, 107.4, 43.7, 27.3, 11.8.

2-((2-methyl-1*H*-indol-3-yl)(*m*-tolyl)methyl)malononitrile, **4o** IR (KBr)  $\nu$ : 3369, 3068, 2916, 2254  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ;  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (500 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$ : 8.03 (s, 1H), 7.40 (d,  $J = 8.0$  Hz, 1H), 7.32-7.24 (m, 4H), 7.19-7.14 (m, 2H), 7.09 (t,  $J = 7.5$  Hz, 1H), 4.94 (d,  $J = 9.5$  Hz, 1H), 4.69 (d,  $J = 9.5$  Hz, 1H), 2.44 (s, 3H), 2.36 (s, 3H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (125 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$ : 138.3, 136.6, 134.9, 133.4, 128.3, 128.3, 127.8, 125.7, 123.7, 121.3, 119.6, 117.8, 112.3, 112.1, 110.5, 107.5, 43.7, 27.2, 21.0, 11.9.

2-((3-chlorophenyl)(2-methyl-1*H*-indol-3-yl)methyl)malononitrile, **4p** IR (KBr)  $\nu$ : 3404, 3057, 2918, 2256  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ;  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (500 MHz,  $\text{DMSO-}d_6$ )  $\delta$ : 11.14 (s, 1H), 7.54 (d,  $J = 9.2$  Hz, 2H), 7.48 (d,  $J = 7.8$  Hz, 1H), 7.42 (t,  $J = 7.8$  Hz, 1H), 7.35 (d,  $J = 8.0$  Hz, 1H), 7.28 (d,  $J = 8.0$  Hz, 1H), 7.02 (t,  $J = 7.5$  Hz, 1H), 6.92 (t,  $J = 7.5$  Hz, 1H), 6.02 (d,  $J = 10.7$  Hz, 1H), 5.28 (d,  $J = 10.7$  Hz, 1H), 2.49 (s, 3H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (125 MHz,  $\text{DMSO-}d_6$ )  $\delta$ : 141.3, 135.4, 134.6, 133.2, 130.4, 127.5, 127.3, 126.2, 125.6, 120.5, 118.9, 118.2, 114.0, 113.7, 111.0, 106.8, 42.1, 27.0, 11.7.

2-((3-bromophenyl)(2-methyl-1H-indol-3-yl)methyl)malononitrile, **4q** IR (KBr)  $\nu$ : 3394, 3064, 2912, 2256  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ;  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (500 MHz, DMSO- $d_6$ )  $\delta$ : 11.14 (s, 1H), 7.69 (s, 1H), 7.54 (t,  $J = 7.1$  Hz, 2H), 7.48 (d,  $J = 8.0$  Hz, 1H), 7.35 (t,  $J = 7.9$  Hz, 1H), 7.28 (d,  $J = 8.0$  Hz, 1H), 7.02 (t,  $J = 7.5$  Hz, 1H), 6.92 (t,  $J = 7.5$  Hz, 1H), 6.02 (d,  $J = 10.8$  Hz, 1H), 5.27 (d,  $J = 10.7$  Hz, 1H), 2.49 (s, 3H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (125 MHz, DMSO- $d_6$ )  $\delta$ : 141.5, 135.4, 134.6, 130.6, 130.3, 130.2, 126.5, 125.6, 121.8, 120.5, 118.9, 118.2, 114.0, 113.7, 111.0, 106.8, 42.0, 27.0, 11.7; HRMS (ESI-MS) calcd. for  $\text{C}_{19}\text{H}_{14}\text{BrN}_3$   $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$ : 364.0444, found: 364.0444.

2-((2-methyl-1H-indol-3-yl)(4-nitrophenyl)methyl)malononitrile, **4r** IR (KBr)  $\nu$ : 3425, 3082, 2908, 2254  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ;  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (500 MHz, DMSO- $d_6$ )  $\delta$ : 11.19 (s, 1H), 8.25 (d,  $J = 8.4$  Hz, 2H), 7.77 (d,  $J = 8.4$  Hz, 2H), 7.51 (d,  $J = 8.0$  Hz, 1H), 7.28 (d,  $J = 8.1$  Hz, 1H), 7.02 (t,  $J = 7.5$  Hz, 1H), 6.91 (t,  $J = 7.5$  Hz, 1H), 6.10 (d,  $J = 10.6$  Hz, 1H), 5.48 (d,  $J = 10.6$  Hz, 1H), 2.51 (s, 3H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (125 MHz, DMSO- $d_6$ )  $\delta$ : 146.6, 146.3, 135.4, 134.9, 128.8, 125.6, 123.70, 120.6, 118.9, 118.1, 113.9, 113.6, 111.0, 106.3, 42.2, 26.8, 11.7.

#### $^1\text{H}$ NMR spectra data of 5a-5i

5-((1H-indol-3-yl)(phenyl)methyl)-2,2-dimethyl-1,3-dioxane-4,6-dione, **5a** m.p. 144-146  $^\circ\text{C}$ ; IR (KBr)  $\nu$ : 3409, 3052, 2946, 1789, 1744  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ;  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz, DMSO- $d_6$ )  $\delta$ : 11.02 (s, 1H), 7.36 (d,  $J = 8.1$  Hz, 1H), 7.30 (d,  $J = 7.4$  Hz, 2H), 7.15-7.25 (m, 5H), 7.03 (t,  $J = 7.5$  Hz, 1H), 6.87 (t,  $J = 7.4$  Hz, 1H), 5.41 (d,  $J = 2.0$  Hz, 1H), 5.24 (d,  $J = 2.8$  Hz, 1H), 1.82 (s, 3H), 1.54 (s, 3H).

5-((1H-indol-3-yl)(*m*-tolyl)methyl)-2,2-dimethyl-1,3-dioxane-4,6-dione, **5b** m.p. 120-122  $^\circ\text{C}$ ; IR (KBr)  $\nu$ : 3417, 3014, 2931, 1745, 1605  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ;  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz, DMSO- $d_6$ )  $\delta$ : 11.00 (s, 1H), 7.35 (d,  $J = 8.1$  Hz, 1H), 7.19 (d,  $J = 7.0$  Hz, 2H), 7.03-7.15 (m, 4H), 6.98 (d,  $J = 6.6$  Hz, 1H), 6.87 (t,  $J = 7.4$  Hz, 1H), 5.37 (d,  $J = 2.2$  Hz, 1H), 5.20 (d,  $J = 2.8$  Hz, 1H), 2.22 (s, 3H), 1.81 (s, 3H), 1.52 (s, 3H).

5-((1H-indol-3-yl)(*p*-tolyl)methyl)-2,2-dimethyl-1,3-dioxane-4,6-dione, **5c** m.p. 135-137  $^\circ\text{C}$ ; IR (KBr)  $\nu$ : 3417, 3068, 2911, 1769, 1738  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ;  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz, DMSO- $d_6$ )  $\delta$ : 11.00 (s, 1H), 7.35 (d,  $J = 8.1$  Hz, 1H), 7.15-7.21 (m, 4H), 7.02 (t,  $J = 8.2$  Hz, 3H), 6.86 (t,  $J = 7.4$  Hz, 1H), 5.37 (s, 1H), 5.20 (d,  $J = 2.8$  Hz, 1H), 2.23 (s, 3H), 1.81 (s, 3H), 1.53 (s, 3H).

5-((1*H*-indol-3-yl)(3-methoxyphenyl)methyl)-2,2-dimethyl-1,3-dioxane-4,6-dione, **5d** m.p. 129-131 °C; IR (KBr)  $\nu$ : 3427, 3065, 2938, 1790, 1746  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ;  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz, DMSO- $d_6$ )  $\delta$ : 11.02 (s, 1H), 7.37 (d,  $J = 8.0$  Hz, 1H), 7.22 (d,  $J = 8.1$  Hz, 2H), 7.13 (t,  $J = 7.8$  Hz, 1H), 7.04 (t,  $J = 7.4$  Hz, 1H), 6.87-6.92 (m, 3H), 6.74 (d,  $J = 7.3$  Hz, 1H), 5.40 (s, 1H), 5.24 (d,  $J = 2.3$  Hz, 1H), 3.66 (s, 3H), 1.82 (s, 3H), 1.54 (s, 3H).

5-((2-chlorophenyl)(1*H*-indol-3-yl)methyl)-2,2-dimethyl-1,3-dioxane-4,6-dione, **5e** m.p. 140-142 °C; IR (KBr)  $\nu$ : 3420, 3049, 2944, 1776, 1739  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ;  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz, DMSO- $d_6$ )  $\delta$ : 11.08 (s, 1H), 7.46 (d,  $J = 7.6$  Hz, 1H), 7.35-7.40 (m, 2H), 7.02-7.27 (m, 5H), 6.88 (t,  $J = 7.4$  Hz, 1H), 5.78 (t,  $J = 3.2$  Hz, 1H), 4.97 (t,  $J = 3.4$  Hz, 1H), 1.82 (s, 3H), 1.64 (s, 3H).

5-((3-chlorophenyl)(1*H*-indol-3-yl)methyl)-2,2-dimethyl-1,3-dioxane-4,6-dione, **5f** m.p. 140-142 °C; IR (KBr)  $\nu$ : 3445, 3078, 2925, 1784, 1745  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ;  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz, DMSO- $d_6$ )  $\delta$ : 11.08 (s, 1H), 7.36-7.39 (m, 2H), 7.18-7.29 (m, 5H), 7.07 (t,  $J = 7.5$  Hz, 1H), 6.91 (t,  $J = 7.4$  Hz, 1H), 5.41 (d,  $J = 2.8$  Hz, 1H), 5.34 (d,  $J = 3.2$  Hz, 1H), 1.85 (s, 3H), 1.60 (s, 3H).

5-((3-bromophenyl)(1*H*-indol-3-yl)methyl)-2,2-dimethyl-1,3-dioxane-4,6-dione, **5g** m.p. 141-143 °C; IR (KBr)  $\nu$ : 3444, 3075, 2992, 1759, 1640  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ;  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz, DMSO- $d_6$ )  $\delta$ : 11.06 (s, 1H), 7.50 (s, 1H), 7.32-7.39 (m, 3H), 7.18-7.23 (m, 3H), 7.05 (t,  $J = 7.3$  Hz, 1H), 6.89 (t,  $J = 7.3$  Hz, 1H), 5.40 (s, 1H), 5.33 (d,  $J = 2.4$  Hz, 1H), 1.85 (s, 3H), 1.60 (s, 3H).

5-((3-nitrophenyl)(1*H*-indol-3-yl)methyl)-2,2-dimethyl-1,3-dioxane-4,6-dione, **5h** m.p. 155-157 °C; IR (KBr)  $\nu$ : 3444, 3064, 2998, 1775, 1737  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ;  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz, DMSO- $d_6$ )  $\delta$ : 11.13 (s, 1H), 8.24 (s, 1H), 8.05 (d,  $J = 7.9$  Hz, 1H), 7.80 (d,  $J = 7.7$  Hz, 1H), 7.53 (t,  $J = 8.0$  Hz, 1H), 7.39 (d,  $J = 8.1$  Hz, 1H), 7.22-7.25 (m, 2H), 7.06 (t,  $J = 7.5$  Hz, 1H), 6.90 (t,  $J = 7.5$  Hz, 1H), 5.54 (d,  $J = 2.4$  Hz, 1H), 5.46 (d,  $J = 3.1$  Hz, 1H), 1.87 (s, 3H), 1.63 (s, 3H).

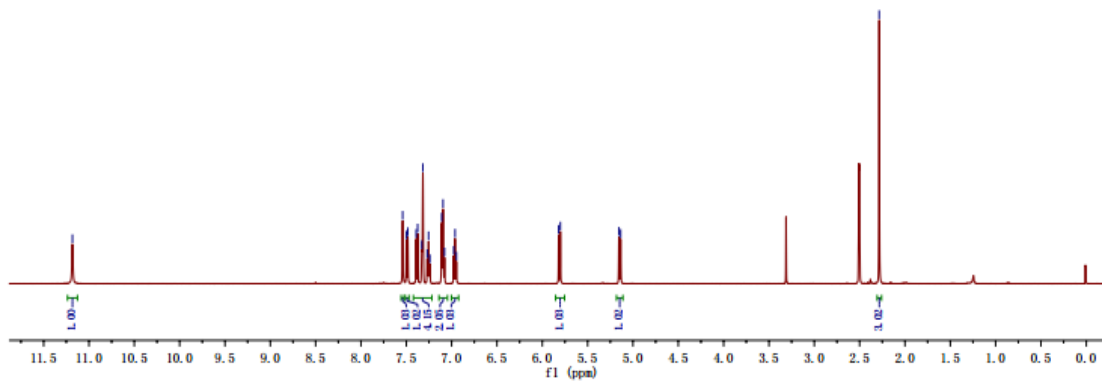
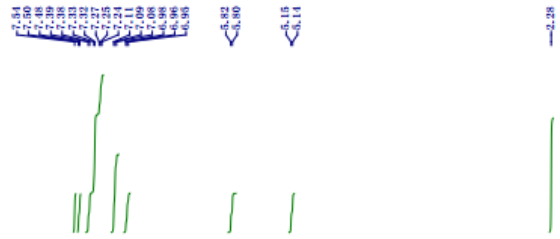
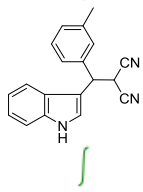
5-((4-nitrophenyl)(1*H*-indol-3-yl)methyl)-2,2-dimethyl-1,3-dioxane-4,6-dione, **5i** m.p. 145-147 °C; IR (KBr)  $\nu$ : 3442, 3066, 3005, 1781, 1737  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ;  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz, DMSO- $d_6$ )  $\delta$ : 11.13 (s, 1H), 8.12 (d,  $J = 8.5$  Hz, 2H), 7.58 (d,  $J = 8.4$  Hz, 2H), 7.38 (d,  $J = 8.0$  Hz, 1H), 7.19 (t,  $J = 8.0$  Hz, 2H), 7.06 (t,  $J = 7.4$  Hz, 1H), 6.90 (t,  $J = 7.3$  Hz, 1H), 5.52 (s, 1H), 5.45 (d,  $J = 2.8$  Hz, 1H), 1.87 (s, 3H), 1.63 (s, 3H).



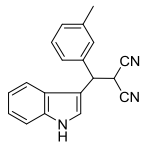




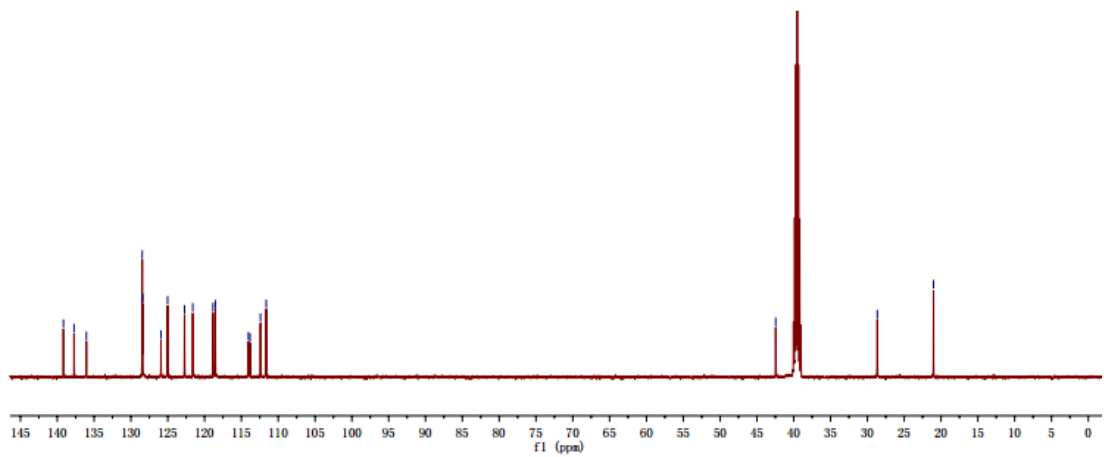
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1H sample: 17-422-3-CH3 in DMSO

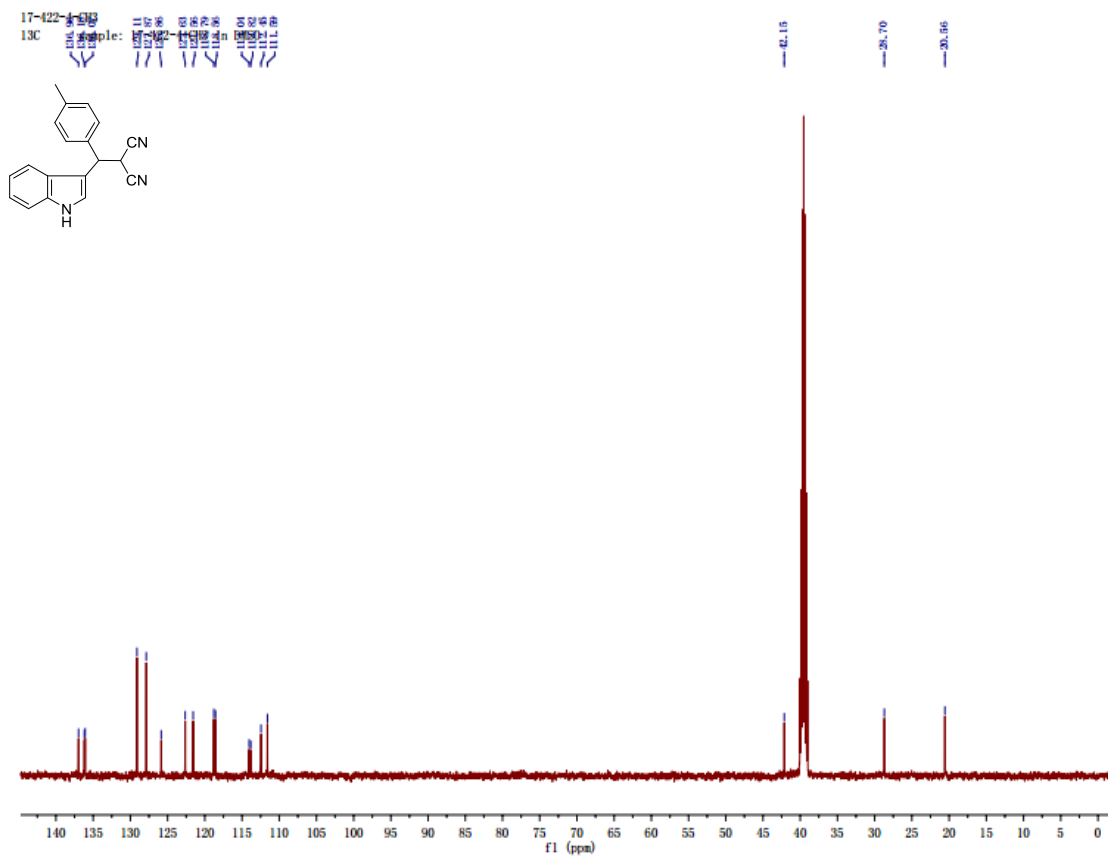
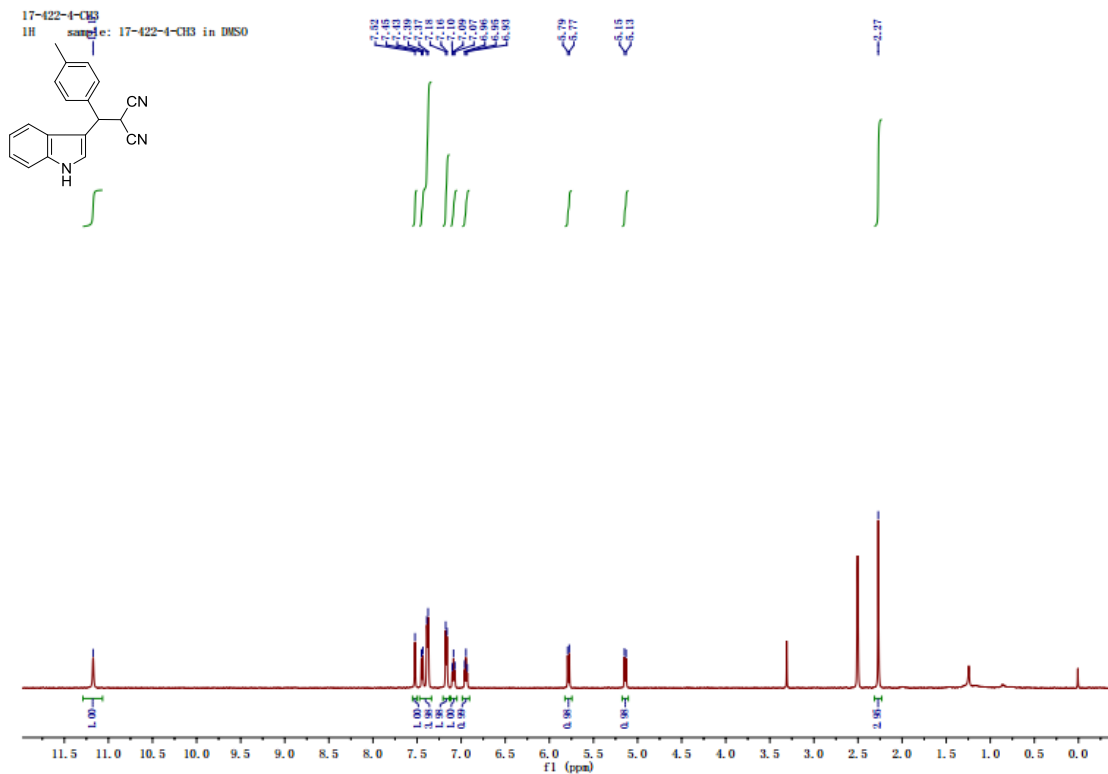


17-422-3-CH3  
13C sample: 17-422-3-CH3 in DMSO

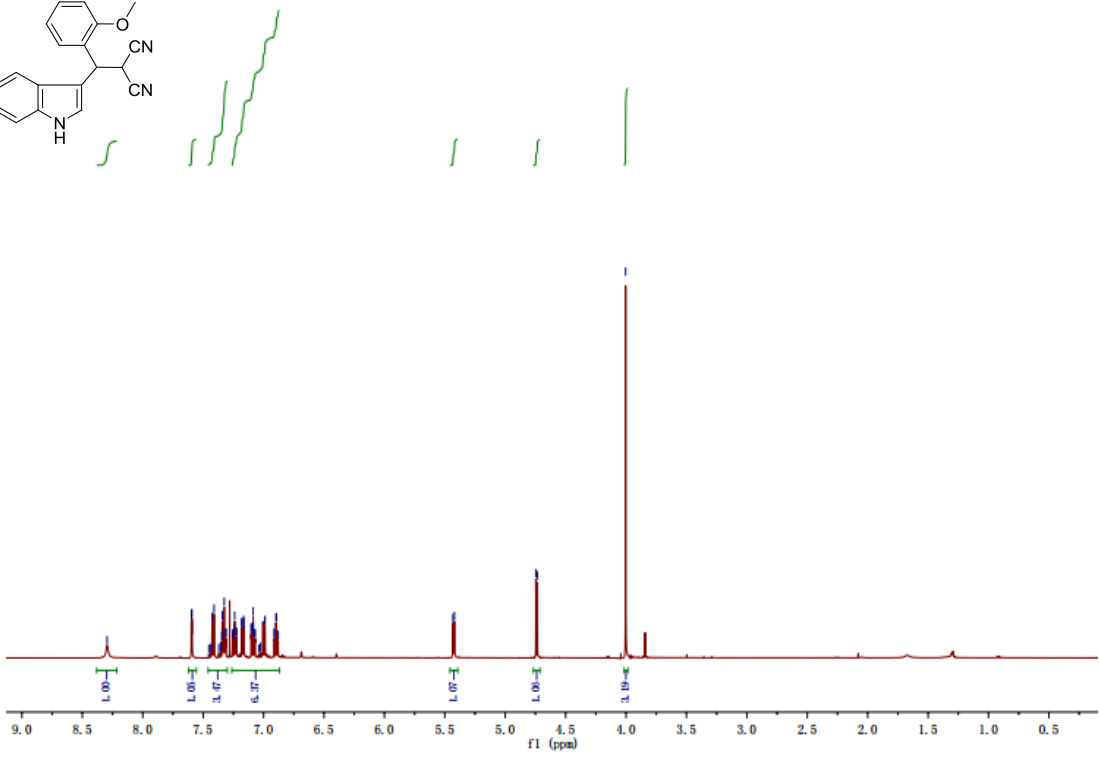
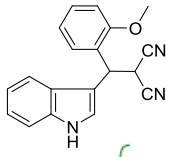


42.45  
28.65  
21.02

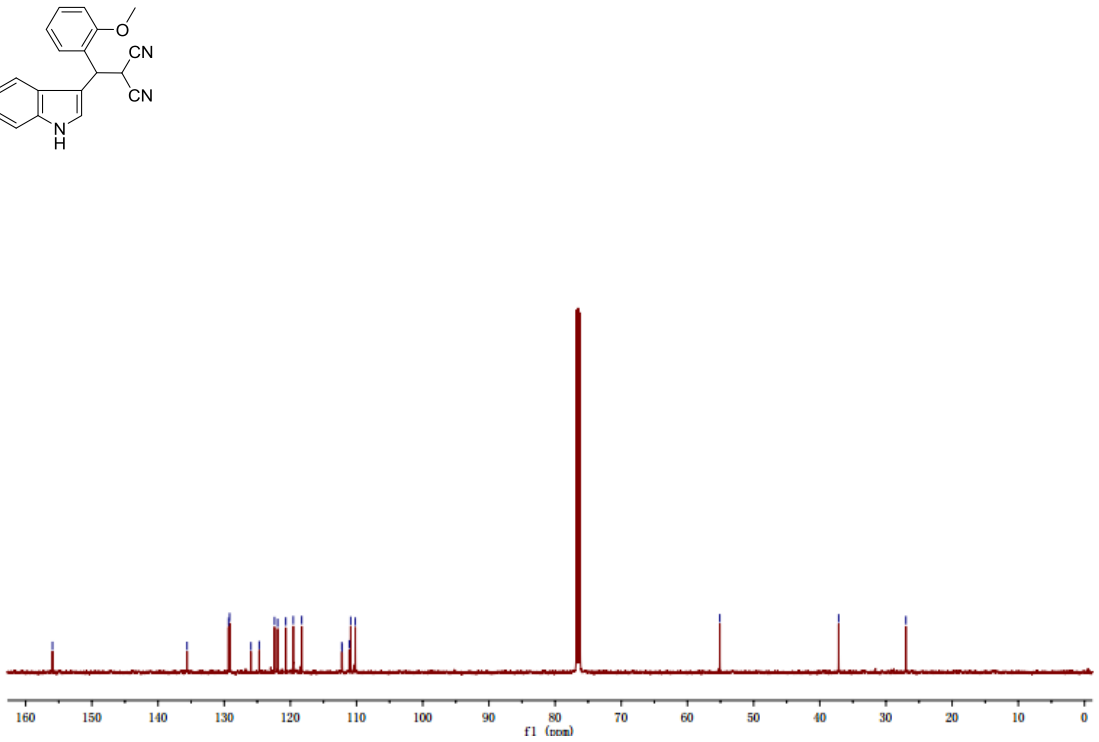
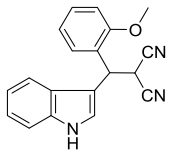




1-531-2-OCH3  
1H sample: 1-531-2-OCH3

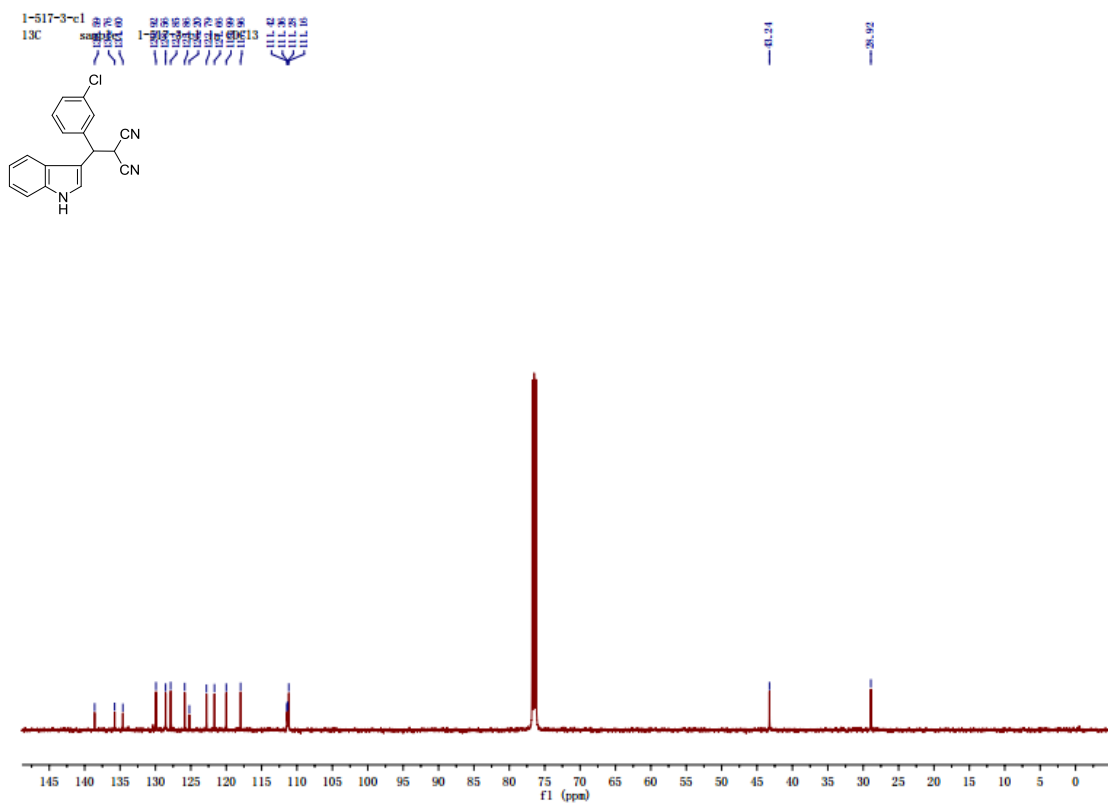
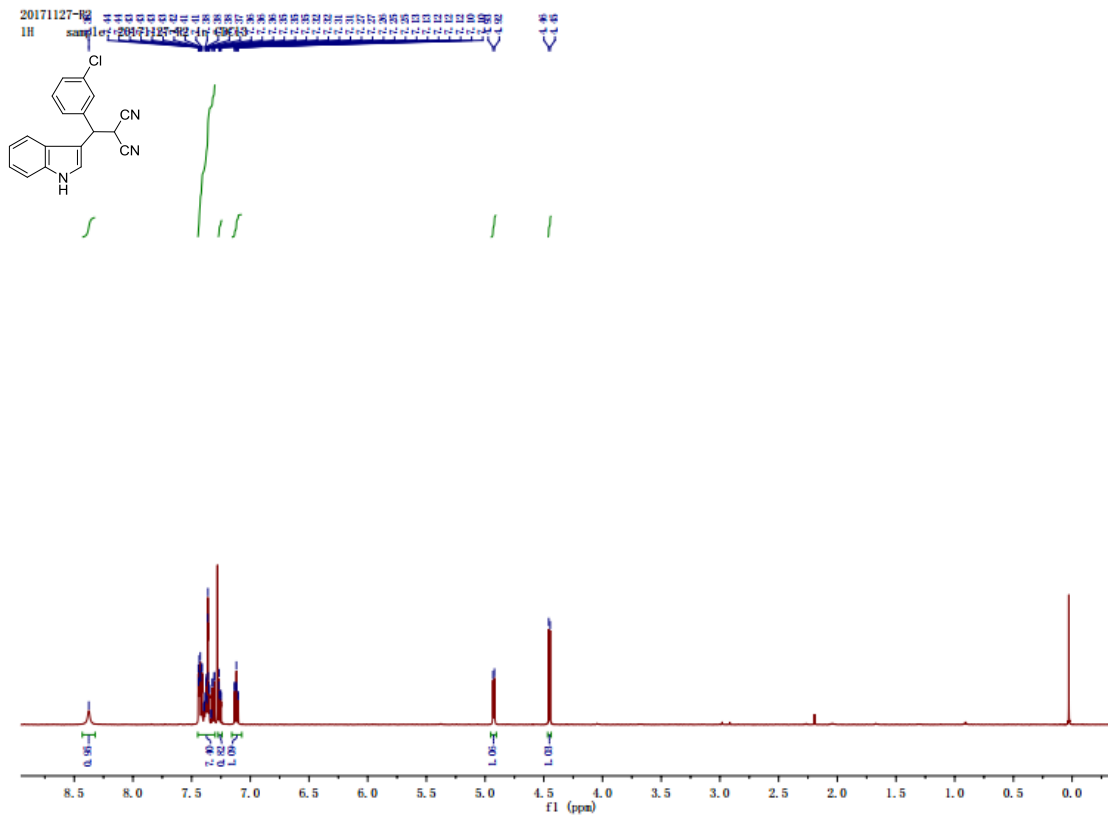


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13C sample: 1-531-2-OCH3



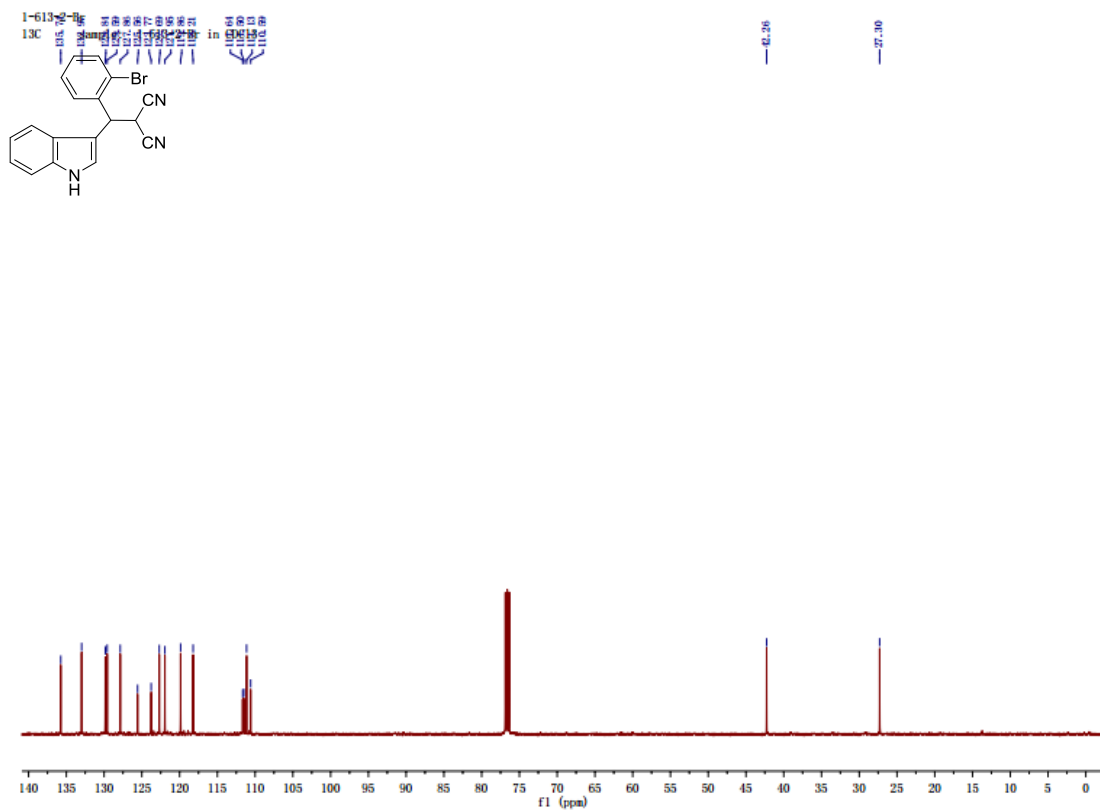
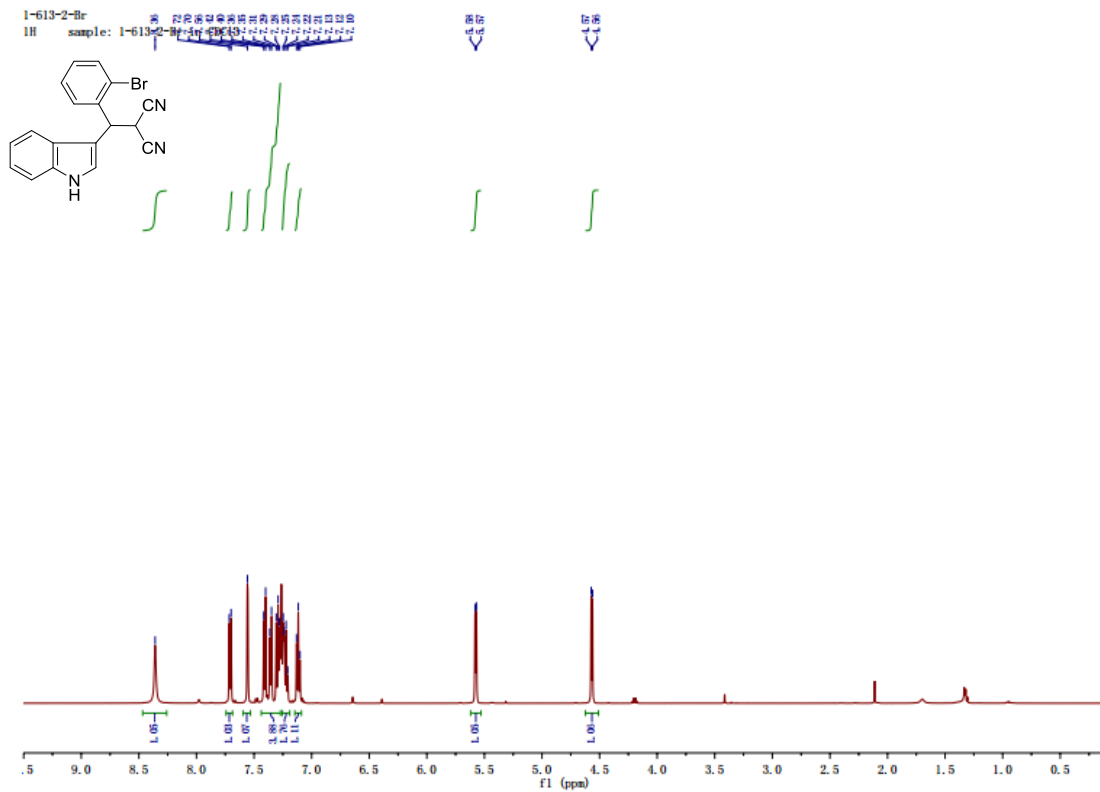




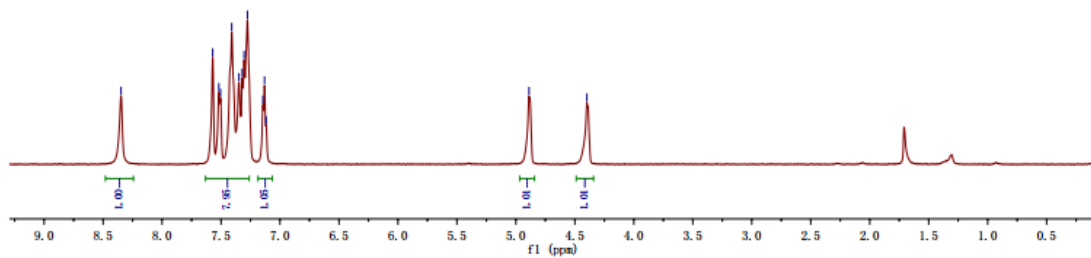
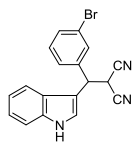




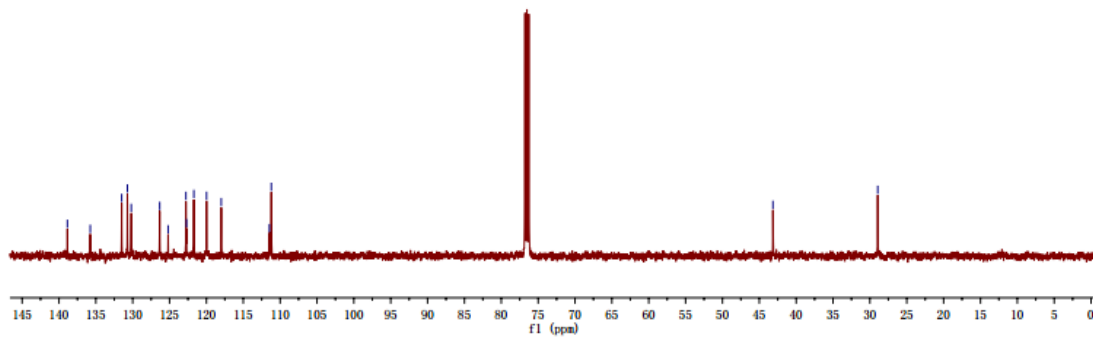
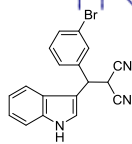


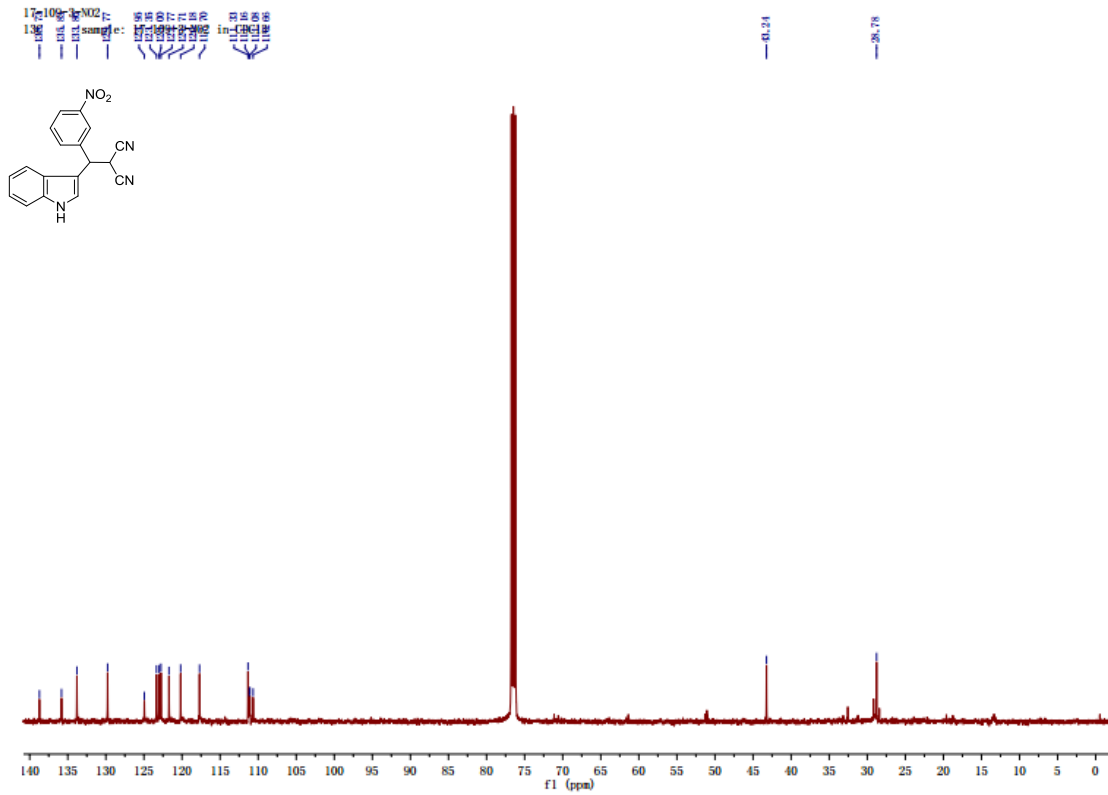
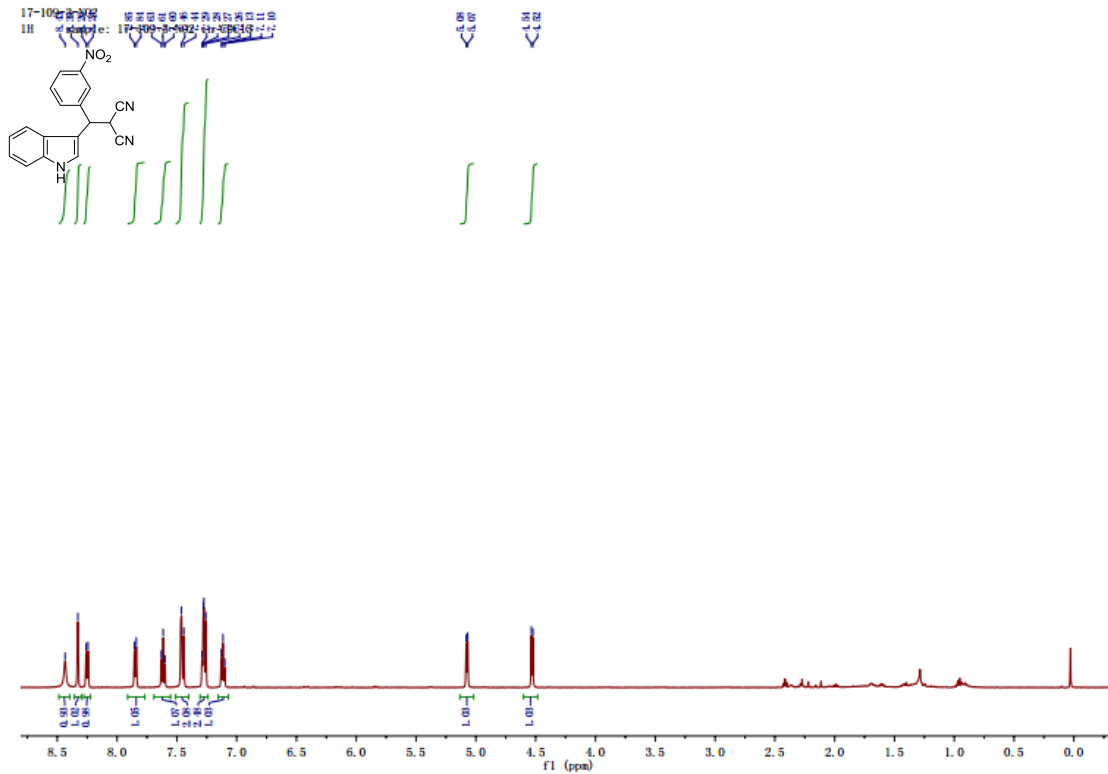


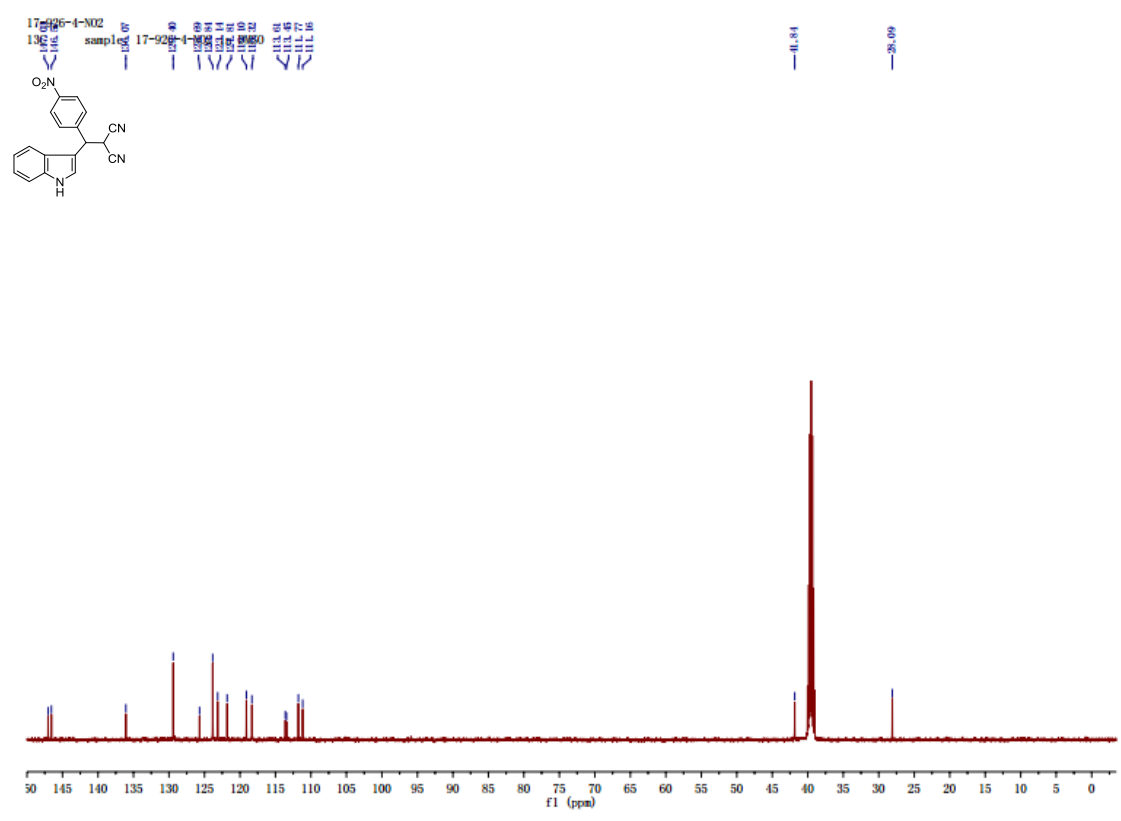
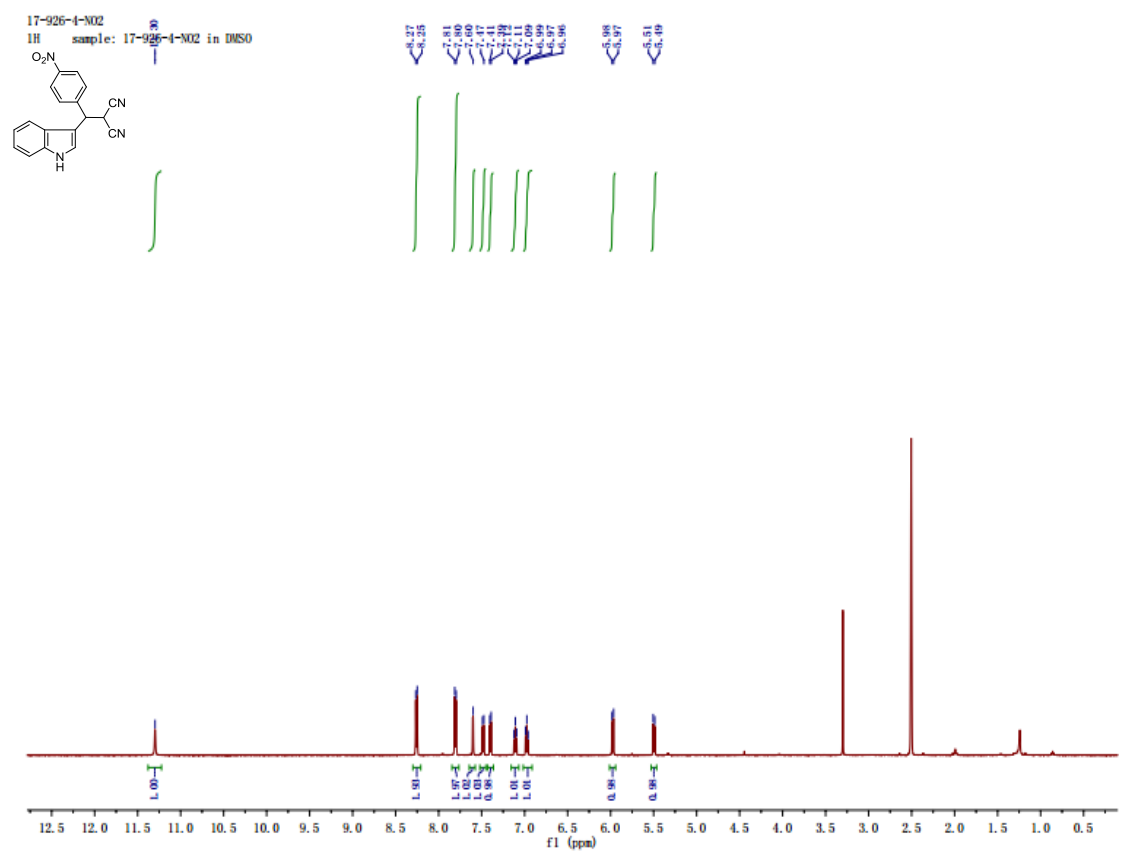
1-75-3-Br  
1H sample: 1-75-3-Br

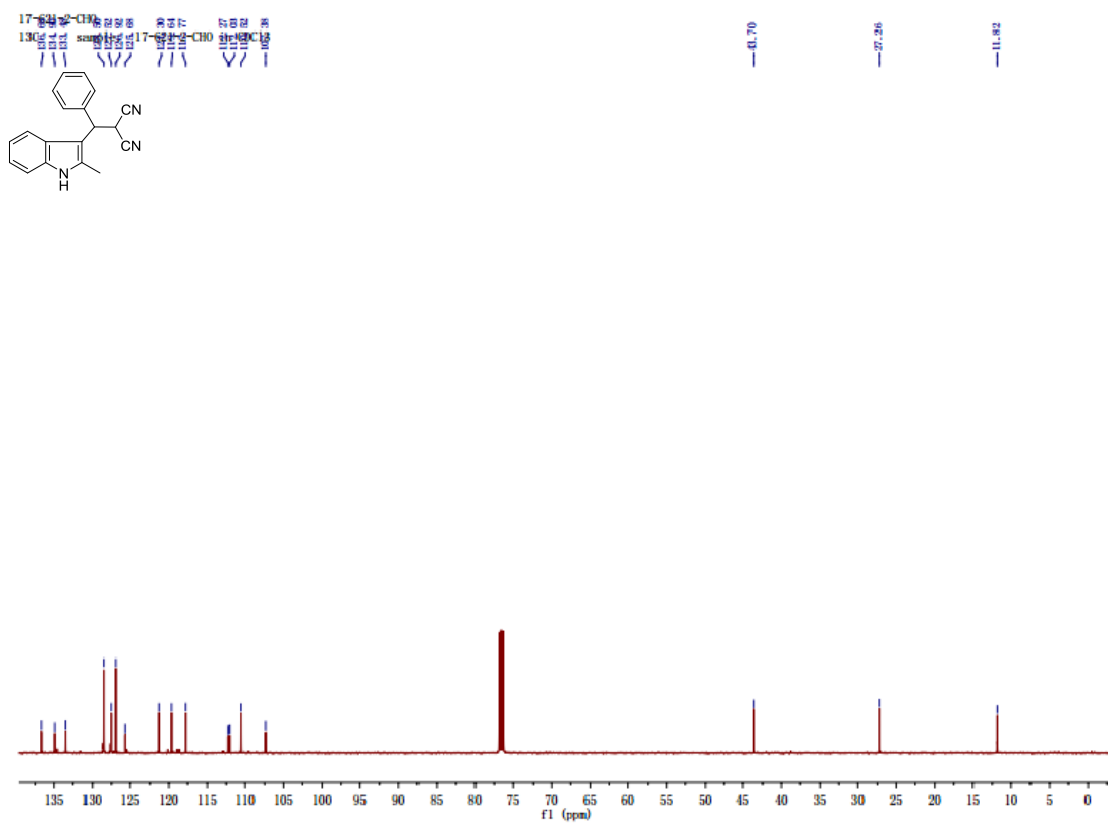
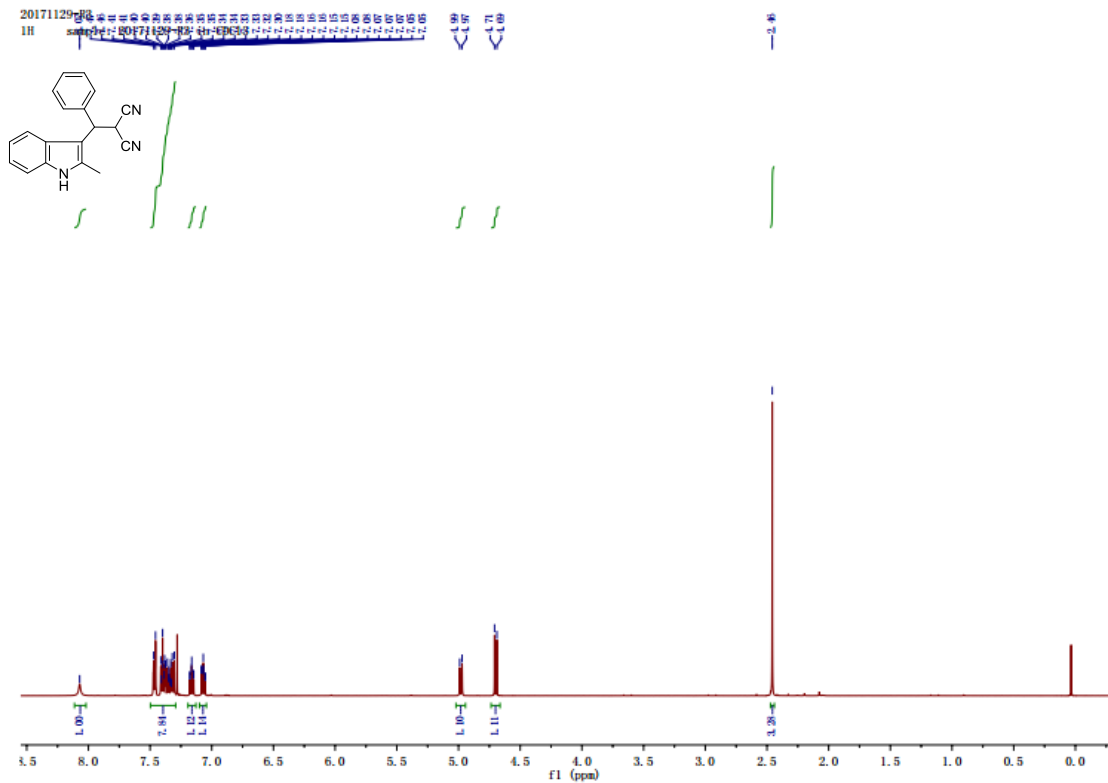


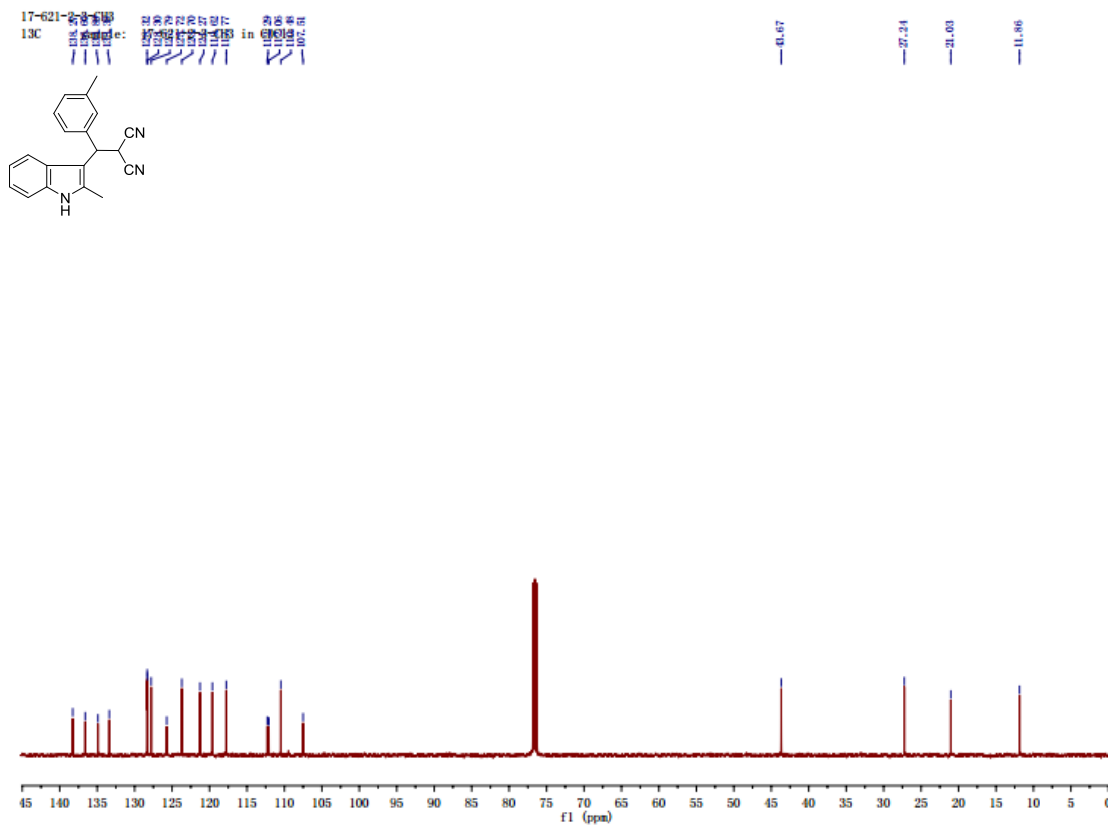
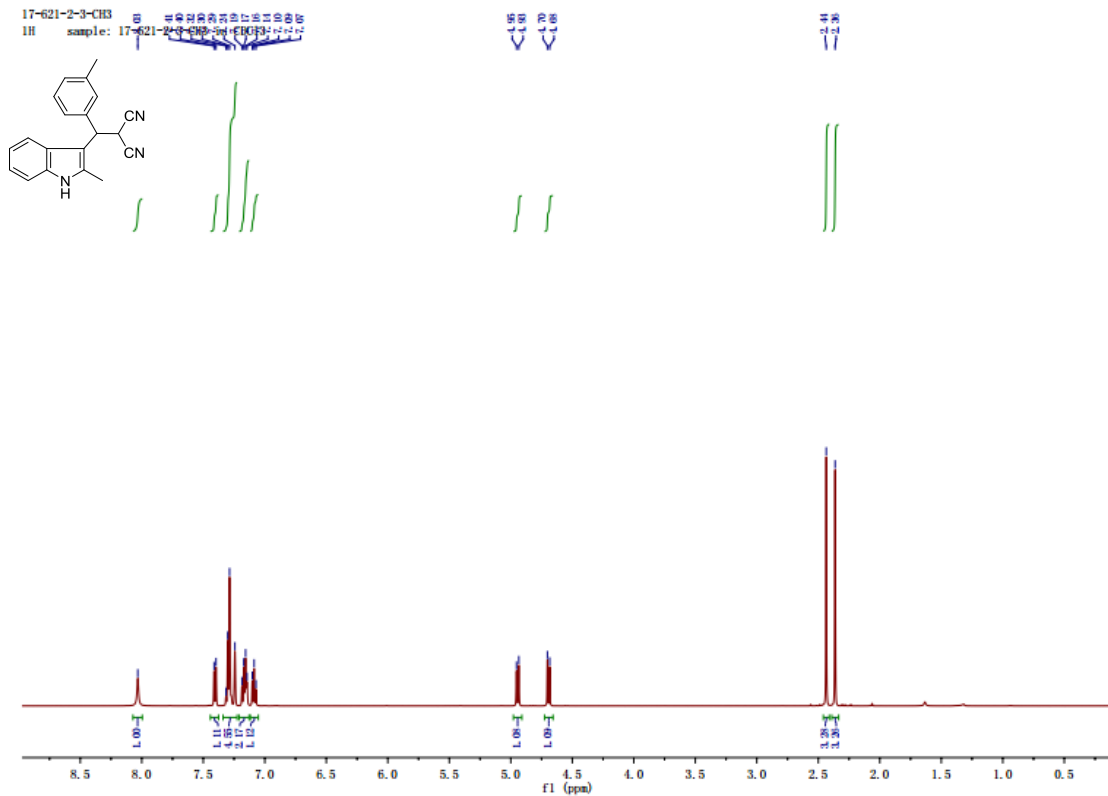
1-75-3-Br  
13C sample: 1-75-3-Br







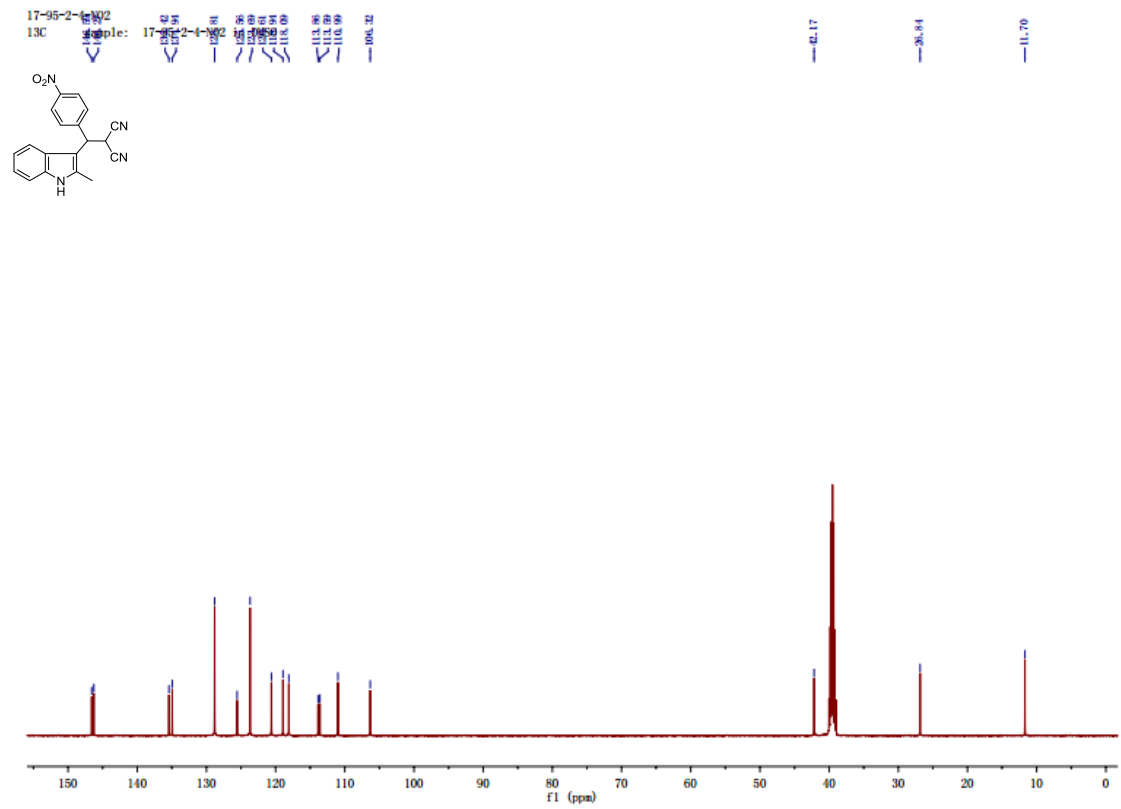
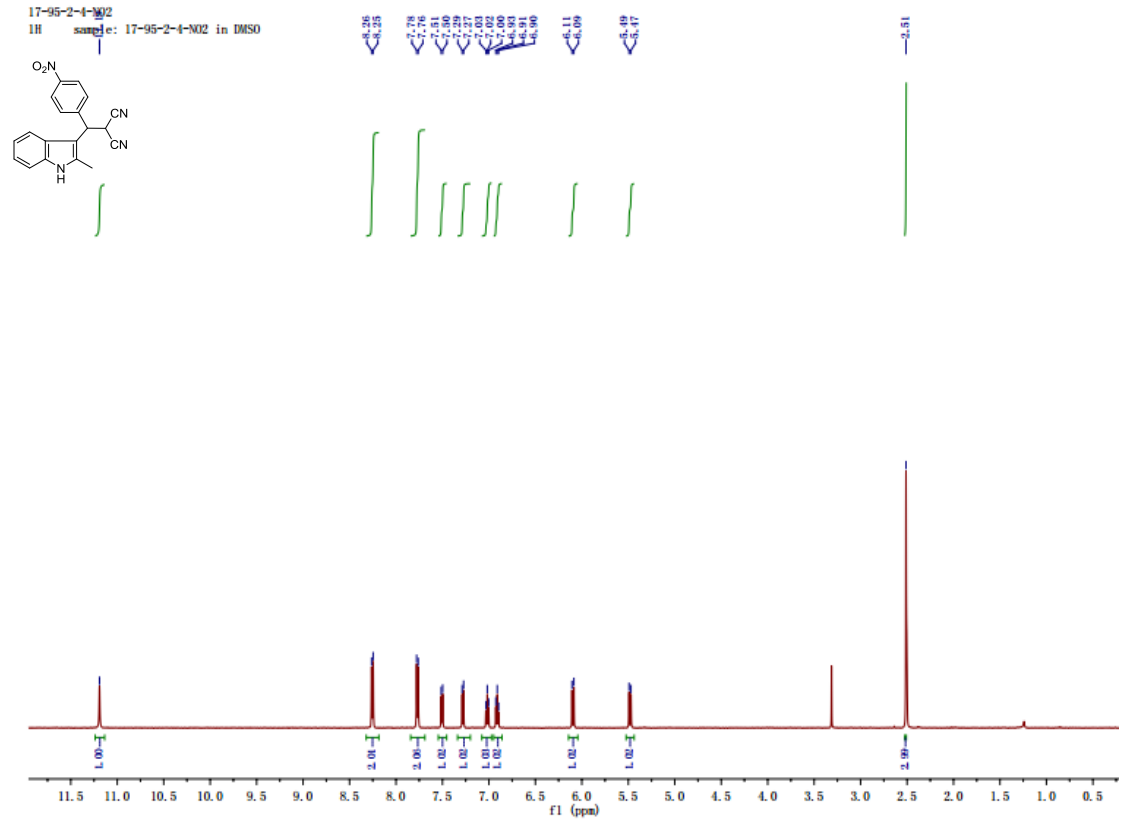


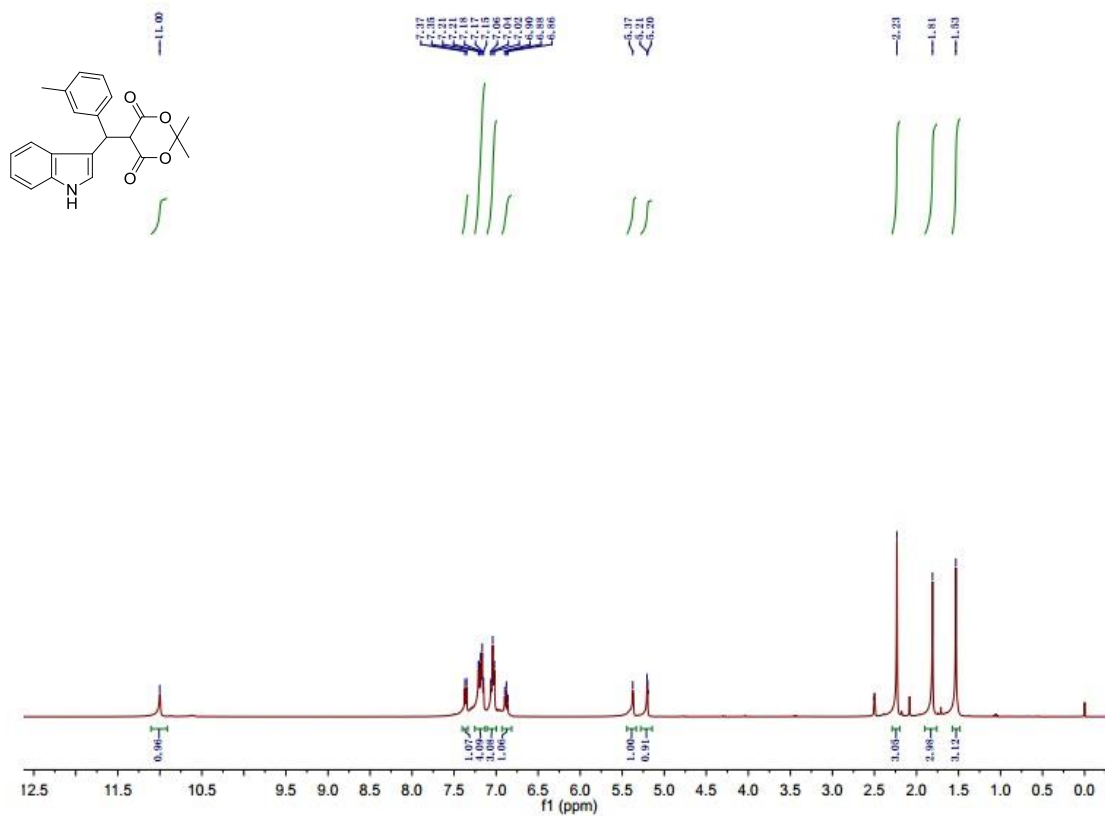
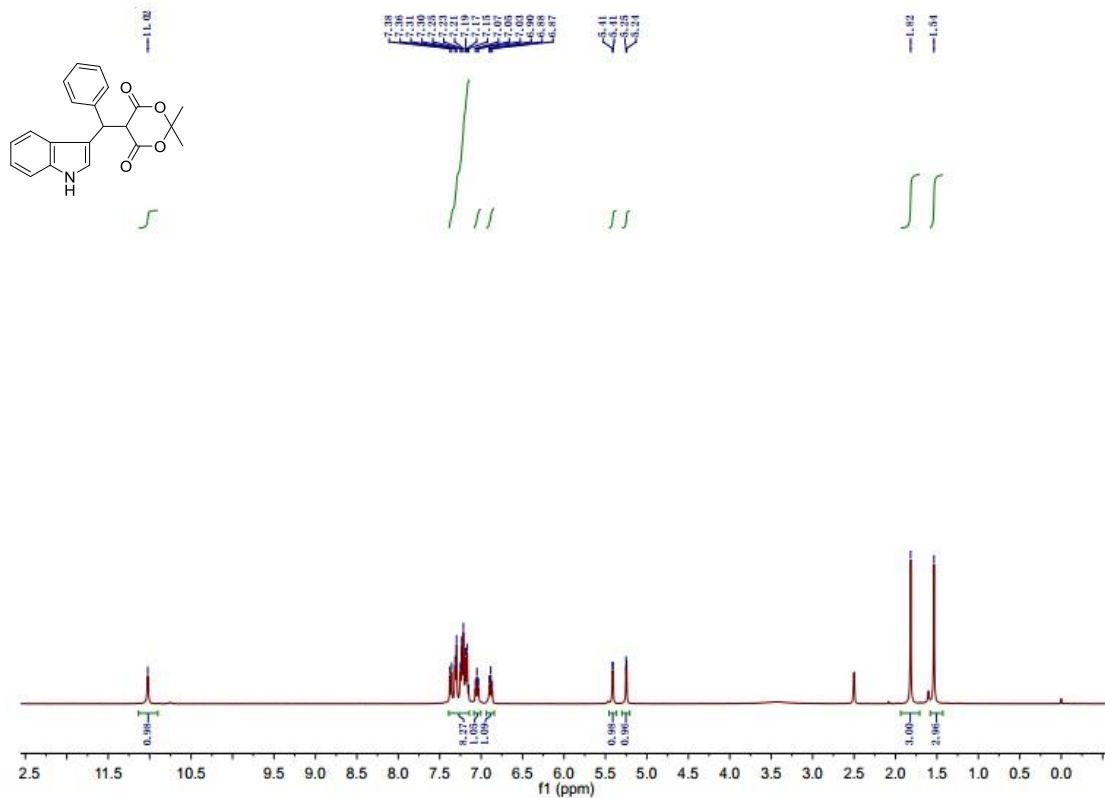


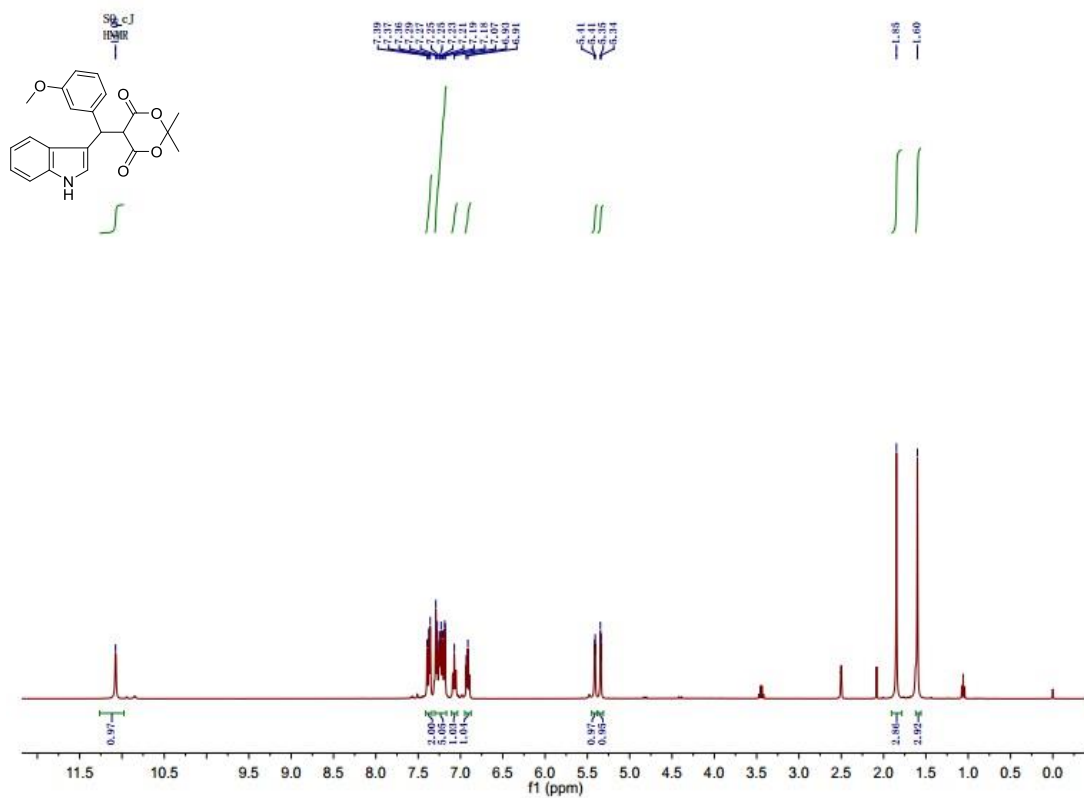
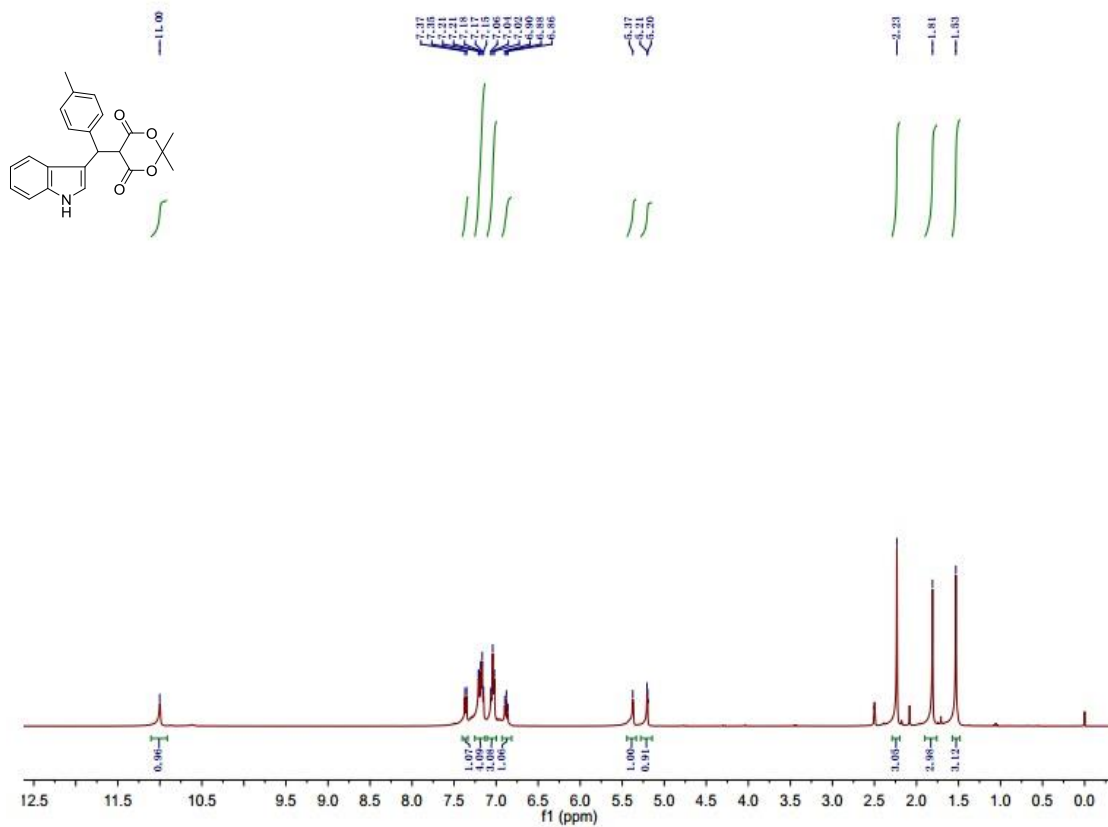


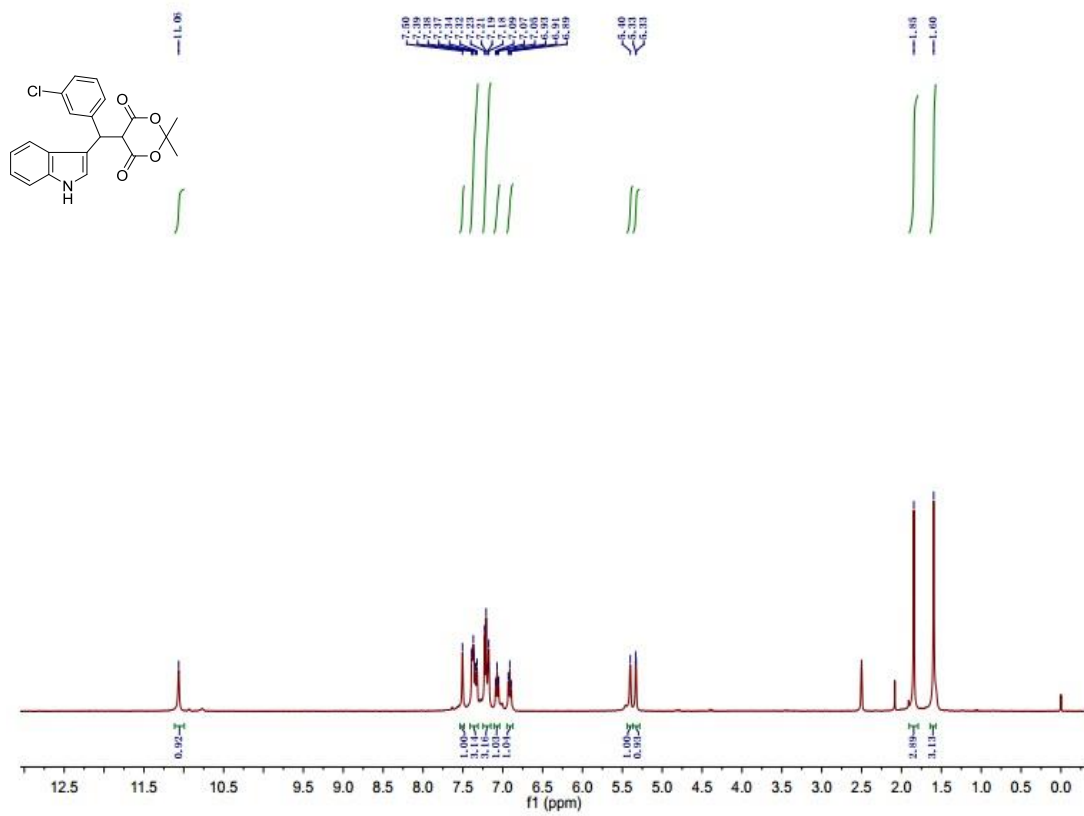
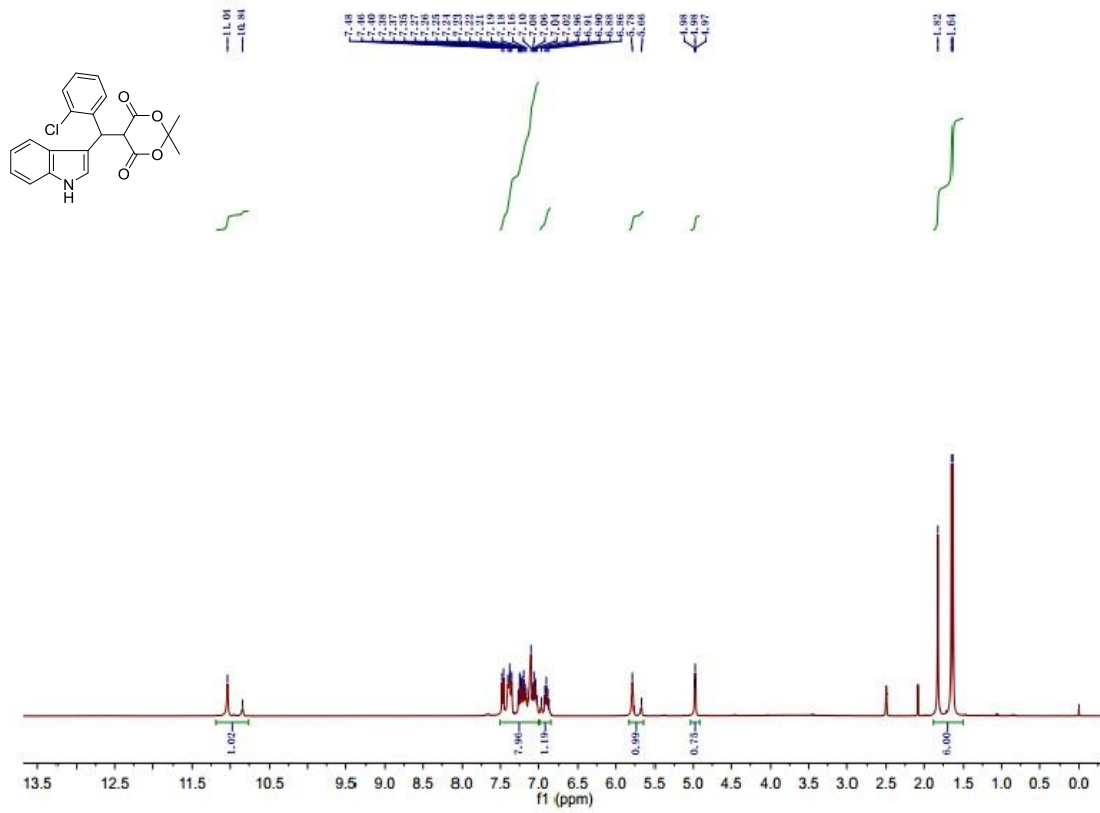


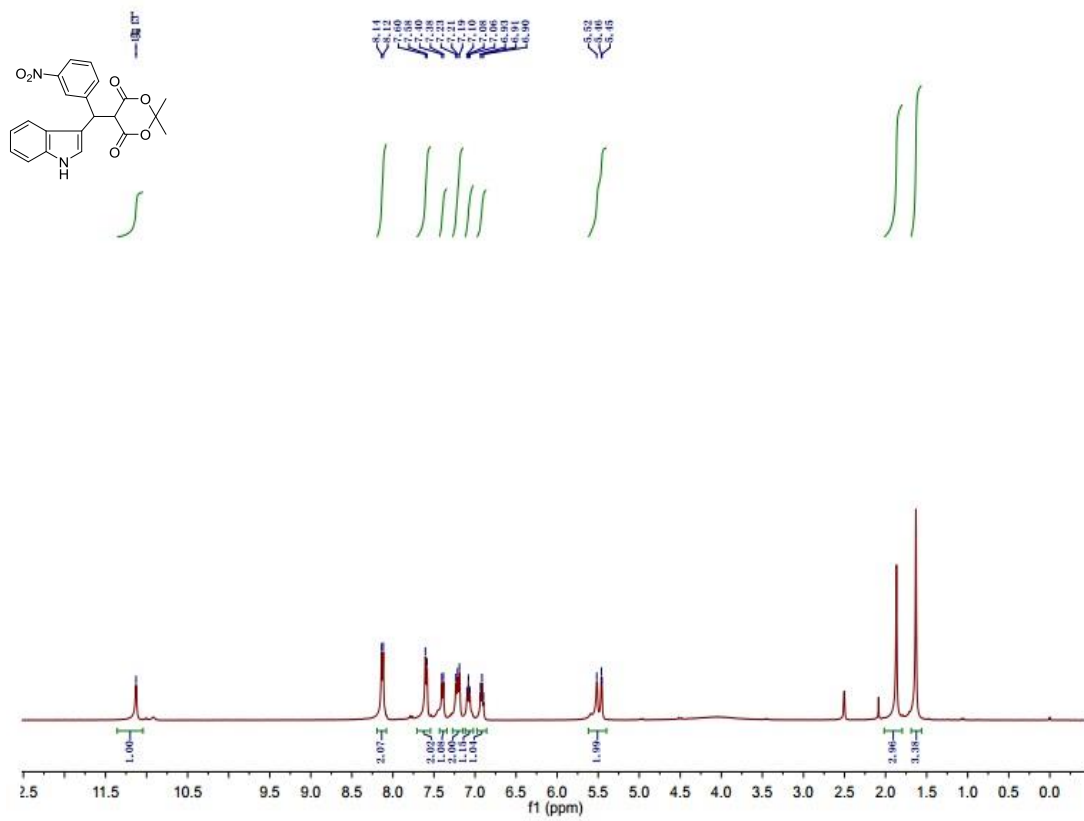
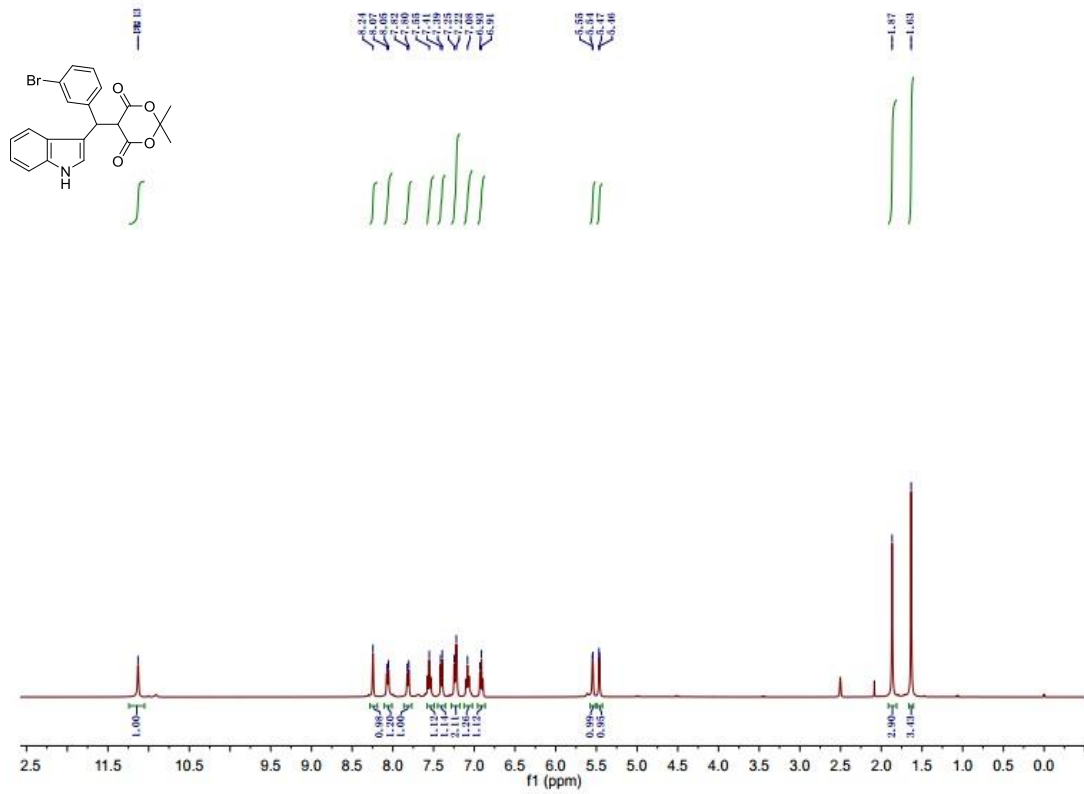


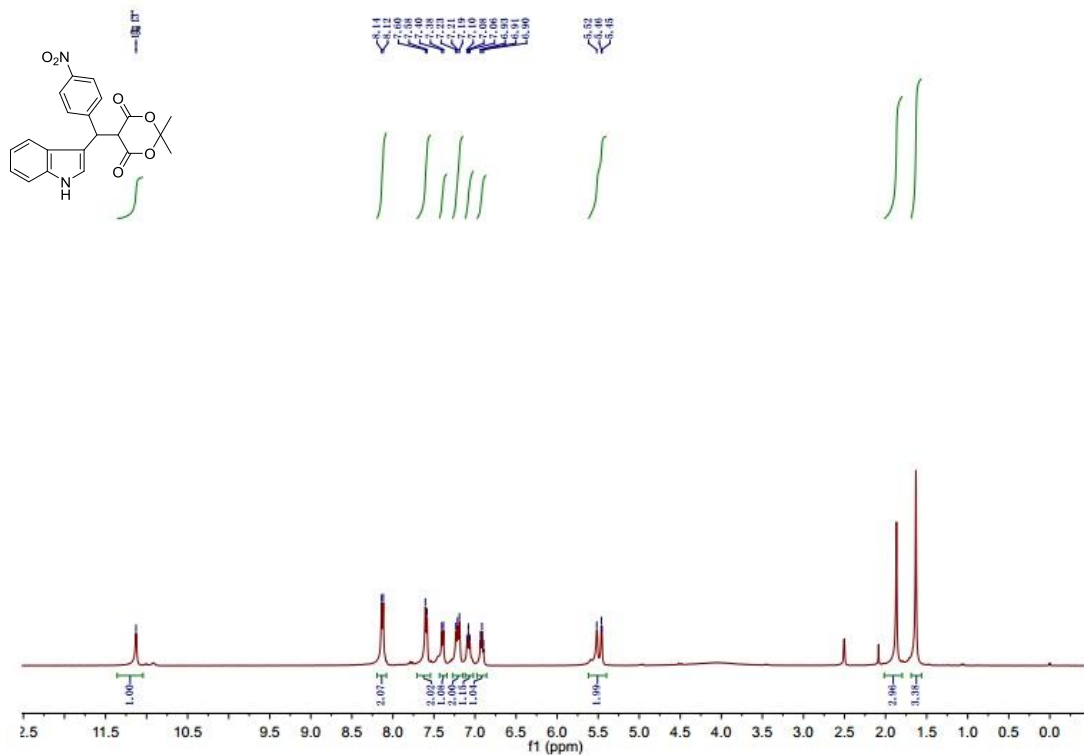












**Table 1** The crystal structure data of **4a**

Empirical formula	$\text{C}_{18}\text{H}_{13}\text{N}_3$	$\gamma(^{\circ})$	107.406(11)
Formula weight	271.31	Volume( $\text{\AA}^3$ )	736.4(9)
Temperature(K)	298.15	Z	2
Wavelength( $\text{\AA}$ )	0.71073	F(000)	284
Unit cell dimensions	a ( $\text{\AA}$ ) 6.727(5)	Completeness to $\theta = 25.00$	99.4 %
b ( $\text{\AA}$ )	9.634(6)	Goodness-of-fit on $F^2$	1.097
c ( $\text{\AA}$ )	12.094(8)	Final R indices [ $I > 2\sigma(I)$ ]	0.0504
$\alpha(^{\circ})$	92.822(11)	R indices (all data)	0.0613
$\beta(^{\circ})$	98.356(10)	Largest diff. peak and hole ( $\text{e. nm}^{-3}$ )	0.224 and -0.233

