

## Supplementary Information

# Chitin and Silk Fibroin Biopolymers Modified by Oxone: Efficient Heterogeneous Catalysts for Knoevenagel reaction

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## 2-benzylidene malononitrile (**2a**)

$C_{10}H_6N_2$ , 154.17 g.mol<sup>-1</sup>; (99 % yield); White crystal, m.p. = 82–84 °C; FTIR  $\nu_{max}(cm^{-1})$  (pure) = 3032, 2223, 1591, 1566, 1541, 1450, 1217, 956, 756, 678, 617; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ (ppm) = 7.90 (m, 2H), 7.76 (s, 1H), 7.64 (m, 1H), 7.54 (m, 2H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ (ppm) = 159.9, 134.6, 130.7, 129.6, 113.7, 112.5, 82.9; MS (70 eV) *m/z* = 154 (M<sup>+</sup>, 100%), 127 (88%), 103 (60%).

## 2-(4-methyl-benzylidene)malononitrile (**2b**)

$C_{11}H_8N_2$ , 168.20 g.mol<sup>-1</sup>; (98% yield); Brown crystal, m.p. = 134–136 °C; FTIR  $\nu_{max}(cm^{-1})$  (pure) = 3115, 3039, 2231, 1604, 1579, 1521, 1490, 1371, 1354, 1344, 1321, 1303, 1213, 935, 850, 833, 746, 682, 619.; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ (ppm) = 7.82–7.80 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 7.72 (s, 1H), 7.35–7.33 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 2.46 (s, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ (ppm) = 159.8, 146.4, 130.9, 130.9, 130.4, 128.5, 114.0, 112.8, 81.2, 22.0.; MS (70 eV), *m/z* = 168 (M<sup>+</sup>, 100%).

## 2-(4-(dimethylaminobenzylidene)malononitrile (**2c**)

$C_{11}H_5N_3$ , 197.24 g.mol<sup>-1</sup>; (91% yield); Orange crystal, m.p. = 176–179 °C; FTIR  $\nu_{max}(cm^{-1})$  (pure) = 3084, 3047, 2225, 1612, 1595, 1527, 1479, 1382, 1355, 1340, 1313, 1215, 1153, 1111, 1097, 952, 929, 827, 817, 738, 673, 619.; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ (ppm) = 7.80–7.77 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 7.43 (s, 1H), 6.68–6.66 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 3.12 (s, 6H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ (ppm) = 190.3, 158.0, 154.2, 133.7, 119.3, 115.9, 114.9, 111.6, 71.19, 40.0.; MS (70 eV), *m/z* = 197 (M<sup>+</sup>, absent), 188 (52%), 153 (100%).

## 2-(3,4,5-trimethoxybenzylidene)malononitrile (**2d**)

$C_{13}H_{12}N_2O_3$ , 244.25 g.mol<sup>-1</sup>; (92% yield); Yellow crystal; m.p. = 142–145 °C; FTIR  $\nu_{max}(cm^{-1})$  (pure) = 3091, 3021, 2225, 1577, 1552, 1489, 1408, 1288, 1213, 1072, 1006, 937, 823, 615, 518; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ (ppm) = 7.63 (s, 2H), 7.17 (s, 1H), 3.96 (s, 3H), 3.89 (s, 6H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ (ppm) = 159.32, 153.35, 144.03, 125.89, 113.94, 113.15, 108.31, 80.59, 61.21, 56.34, 29.66; MS (70 eV), *m/z* = 244 (M<sup>+</sup>, 100%).

## 2-(4-hydroxy-3-methoxybenzylidene)malononitrile (**2e**)

$C_{11}H_8N_2O_2$ , 200.20 g.mol<sup>-1</sup>; (94% yield); Yellow solid, m.p. = 134–135 °C; FTIR  $\nu_{max}(cm^{-1})$  (pure) = 3394, 2227, 1618, 1564, 1514, 1282, 1138; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, MeOD) δ (ppm) = 7.94 (s, 1H), 7.57–7.56 (d, *J* = 2.5 Hz, 1H), 7.44–7.42 (m, 1H), 7.08–7.06 (d, *J* = 8.5 Hz, 1H), 3.95 (s, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, MeOD) δ (ppm) = 159.83, 153.67, 146.02, 126.14, 124.72,

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115.25, 114.34, 111.14, 77.12, 55.22; MS (70 eV)  $m/z$  = 200 ( $M^+$ , absent), 170 (100%), 142 (47%), 119 (42%).

### *2-(4-fluorobenzylidene)malononitrile (2f)*

$C_{10}H_5N_2F$ , 172.16 g.mol<sup>-1</sup>; (98 % yield); White crystal, m.p. = 121–123 °C; FTIR  $\nu_{max}(cm^{-1})$  (pure) = 3078, 3035, 2939, 2229, 1597, 1575, 1506, 1415, 1379, 1305, 1244, 1163, 1107, 943, 839, 804, 617, 563, 530, 410;  $^1H$  NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  (ppm) = 7.98–7.96 (m, 2H), 7.75 (s, H), 7.27–7.23 (m, 2H);  $^{13}C$  NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  (ppm) = 166.11 (d,  $J_{C-F}$  = 207 Hz), 158.24, 133.44, 133.37, 127.36, 117.18, 113.53, 112.46, 82.49; MS (70 eV),  $m/z$  = 172 ( $M^+$ , 100%), 145 (89%), 121 (54%).

### *2-(4-chlorobenzylidene)malononitrile (2g)*

$C_{10}H_5N_2Cl$ , 188.61 g.mol<sup>-1</sup>; (98% yield); White crystal, m.p. = 161–163 °C; FTIR  $\nu_{max}(cm^{-1})$  (pure) = 3084, 3047, 2225, 1612, 1595, 1527, 1479, 1382, 1355, 1340, 1215, 1153, 1111, 1097, 952, 929, 827, 817, 738, 673, 619;  $^1H$  NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  (ppm) = 7.78–7.76 (d,  $J$  = 8.5 Hz, 2H), 7.72 (s, 1H), 7.70–7.69 (d,  $J$  = 8.5 Hz, 2H);  $^{13}C$  NMR (126 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  (ppm) = 158.5, 133.2, 131.9, 130.1, 129.8, 113.6, 112.5, 83.5; MS (70 eV)  $m/z$  = 188 ( $M^+$ , 57%), 161 (25%), 153 (100%).

### *2-(4-bromobenzylidene)malononitrile (2h)*

$C_{10}H_5N_2Br$ , 232.07 g.mol<sup>-1</sup>; (97% yield); White crystal, m.p. = 165–166 °C; FTIR  $\nu_{max}(cm^{-1})$  (pure) = 3091, 3032, 2225, 1577, 1552, 1489, 1408, 1288, 1213, 1072, 1006, 937, 823, 615, 516;  $^1H$  NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  (ppm) = 7.76–7.74 (d,  $J$  = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 7.69–7.65 (d,  $J$  = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 7.70 (s, 1H);  $^{13}C$  NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  (ppm) = 158.4, 133, 131.8, 129.9, 129.6, 83.5; MS (70 eV)  $m/z$  = 232 ( $M^+$ , 31%), 234 ( $M^{+2}$ , 30%), 153 (100%).

### *2-(4-hydroxybenzylidene)malononitrile (2i)*

$C_{10}H_6N_2O$ , 170.17 g.mol<sup>-1</sup>; (90 % yield); Yellow solid, m.p. = 187–190 °C; FTIR  $\nu_{max}(cm^{-1})$  (pure) = 3352, 2225, 1610, 1579, 1566, 1519, 1444, 1436, 1300, 1220, 1174, 939, 839, 636, 607, 524;  $^1H$  NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  (ppm) = 7.89–7.88 (d,  $J$  = 9.0 Hz, 2H), 7.87 (s, 1H), 6.92 (d,  $J$  = 9.0 Hz, 2H);  $^{13}C$  NMR (126 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  (ppm) = 164.0, 159.8, 133.7, 123.1, 116.3, 114.6, 113.6, 76.0; MS (70 eV)  $m/z$  = 170 ( $M^+$ , 100%), 142 (44%), 142 (21%), 119 (38%).

### *2-(4-nitrobenzylidene)malononitrile (2j)*

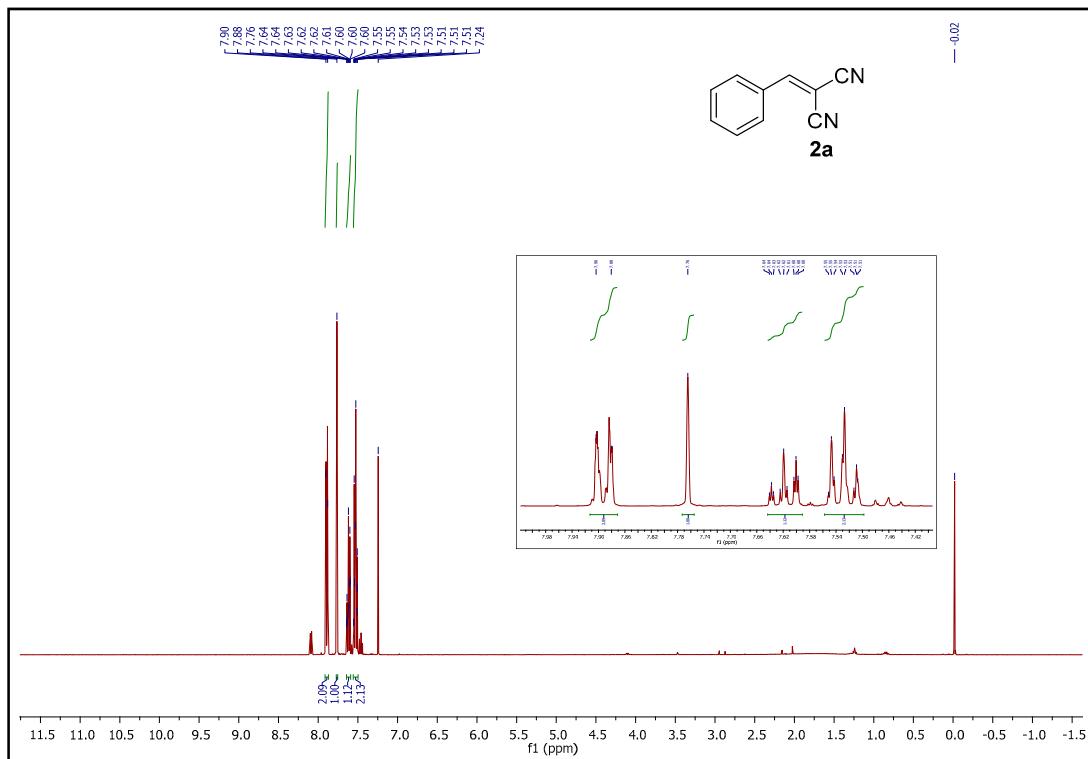
$C_{10}H_5N_3O_2$ , 199.17 g.mol<sup>-1</sup>; (99 % yield); Orange crystal, m.p. = 155–157 °C; FTIR  $\nu_{max}(cm^{-1})$  (pure) = 3021, 2227, 1597, 1589, 1579, 1411, 1263, 1234, 1024, 974, 802, 692, 619;  $^1H$  NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  (ppm) = 8.38–8.36 (d,  $J$  = 8.8 Hz, 2H), 8.07–8.04 (d,  $J$  = 8.8 Hz, 2H), 7.87 (s, 1H);  $^{13}C$  NMR (126 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  (ppm) = 156.82, 150.33, 135.76, 131.27, 124.60, 112.58, 111.55, 87.52; MS (70 eV)  $m/z$  = 199 ( $M^+$ , 84%), 169 (51%), 141 (68%), 126 (100%).

### *2-(4-cyanobenzylidene)malononitrile (2k)*

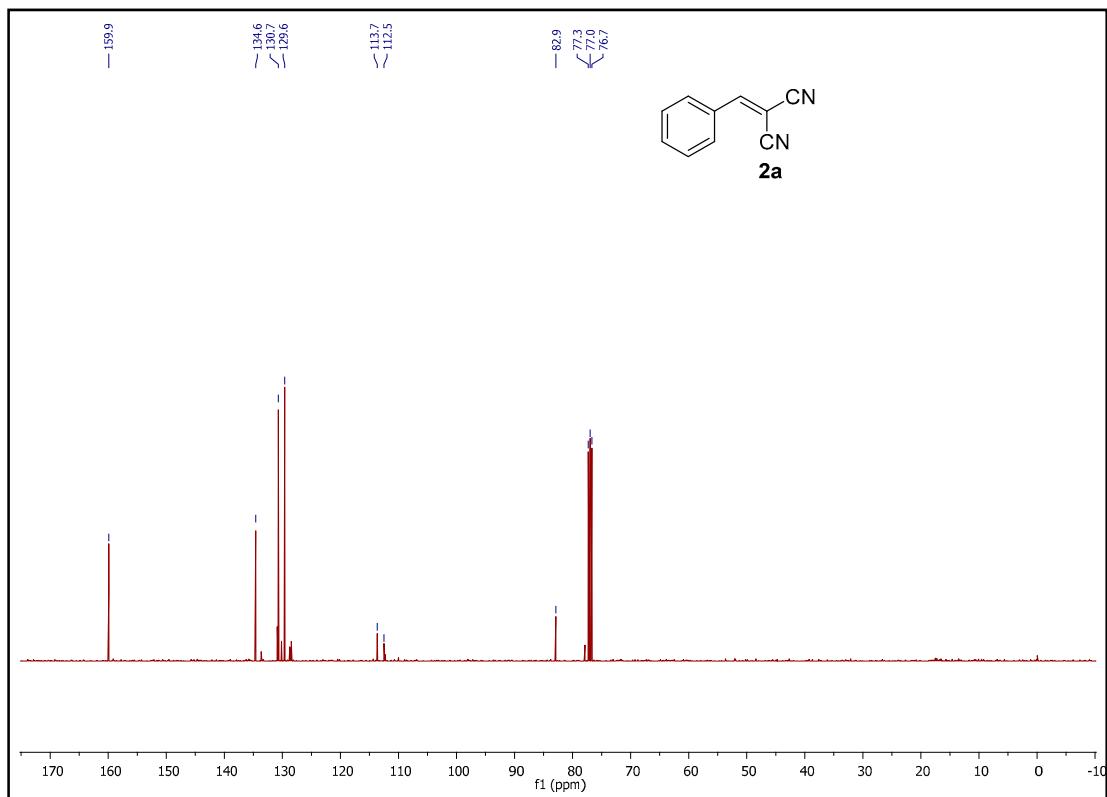
$C_{11}H_5N_3$ , 179.18 g.mol<sup>-1</sup>; (92% yield); White crystal; m.p. = 151–154 °C; FTIR (pure)  $\nu_{max}(cm^{-1})$  = 2920, 2850, 2222, 1604, 1571, 1512, 1369, 1319, 1278, 1236, 1184, 1153, 1022, 833, 609, 570, 528.;  $^1H$  NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  (ppm) = 7.81–7.79 (d,  $J$  = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 7.79 (s, 1H), 6.68–6.66 (d,  $J$  = 8.0, 2H).;  $^{13}C$  NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) 190.3, 158.1, 154.2, 133.7, 119.3, 115.9, 114.8, 111.6, 110.9, 77.3, 76.9, 76.6.; MS (70 eV),  $m/z$  = 179 ( $M^+$ , 100%).

### *2-(2-methyl-3-phenylallylidene)malononitrile (2l)*

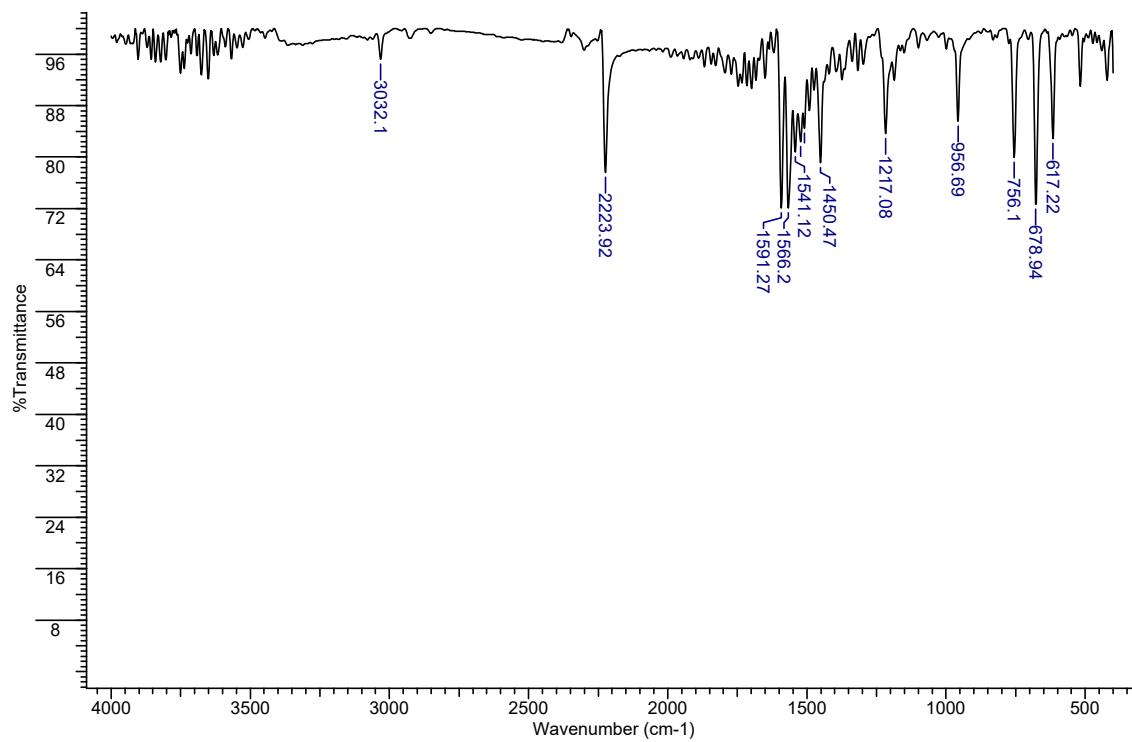
$C_{13}H_{10}N_2$ , 194.24 g.mol<sup>-1</sup>; (95 % yield); Orange crystal; m.p. = 128–130 °C; FTIR  $\nu_{max}(cm^{-1})$  (pure) = 3338, 3198, 2957, 2203, 1681, 1595, 1522, 1372.;  $^1H$  NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  (ppm) = 7.48–7.42 (m, 6H), 7.16–7.15 (m, 1H), 2.43 (d,  $J$  = 1.2 Hz, 3H).;  $^{13}C$  NMR (126 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  (ppm) = 164.4, 149.6, 134.5, 133.4, 130.3, 130.2, 128.8, 114.5, 112.8, 81.0, 14.9.; MS (70 eV),  $m/z$ : 194 ( $M^+$ , 75%), 193 (100%).



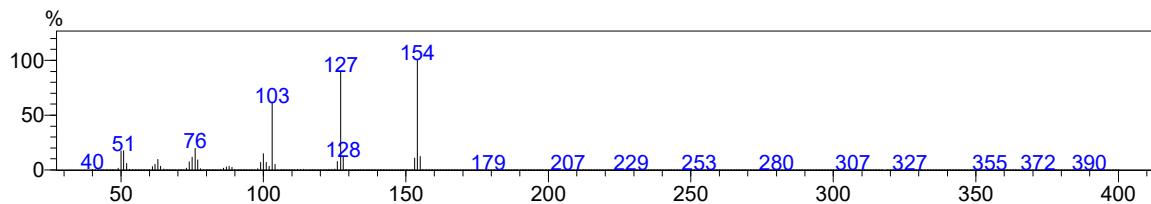
**Figure S1.**  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ) of 2-benzylidenemalononitrile **2a**.



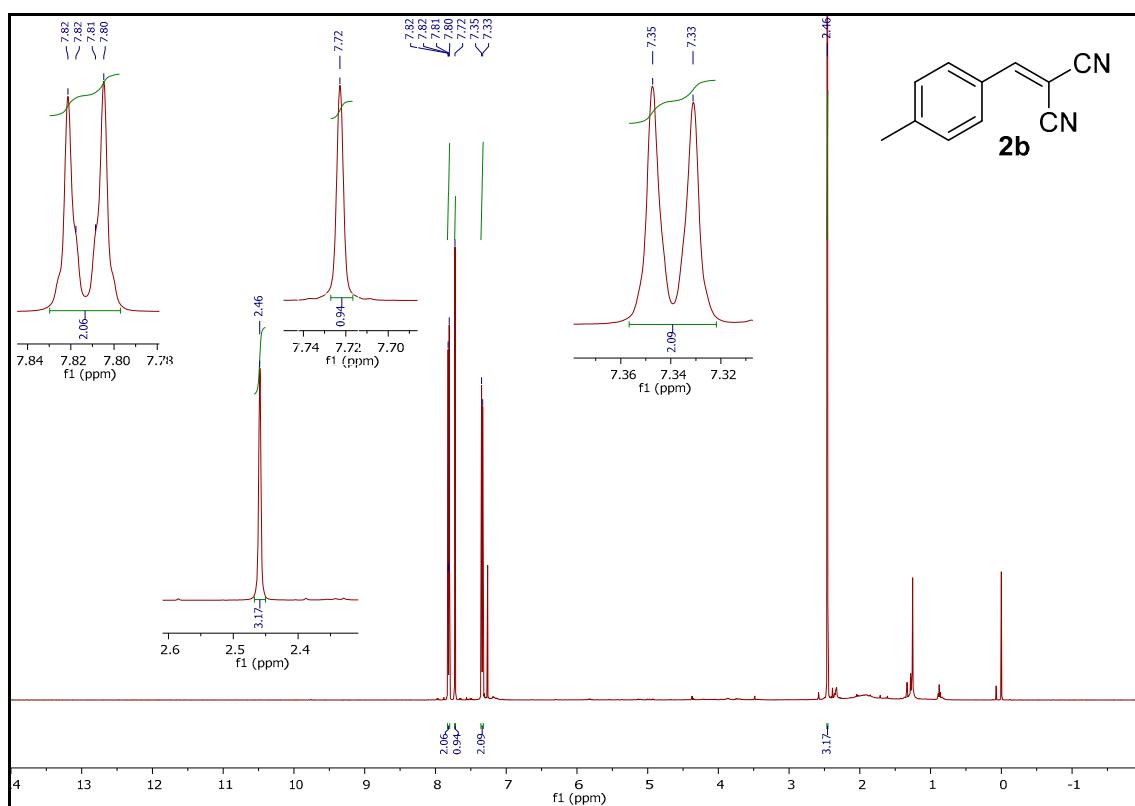
**Figure S2.**  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ) of 2-benzylidenemalononitrile **2a**.



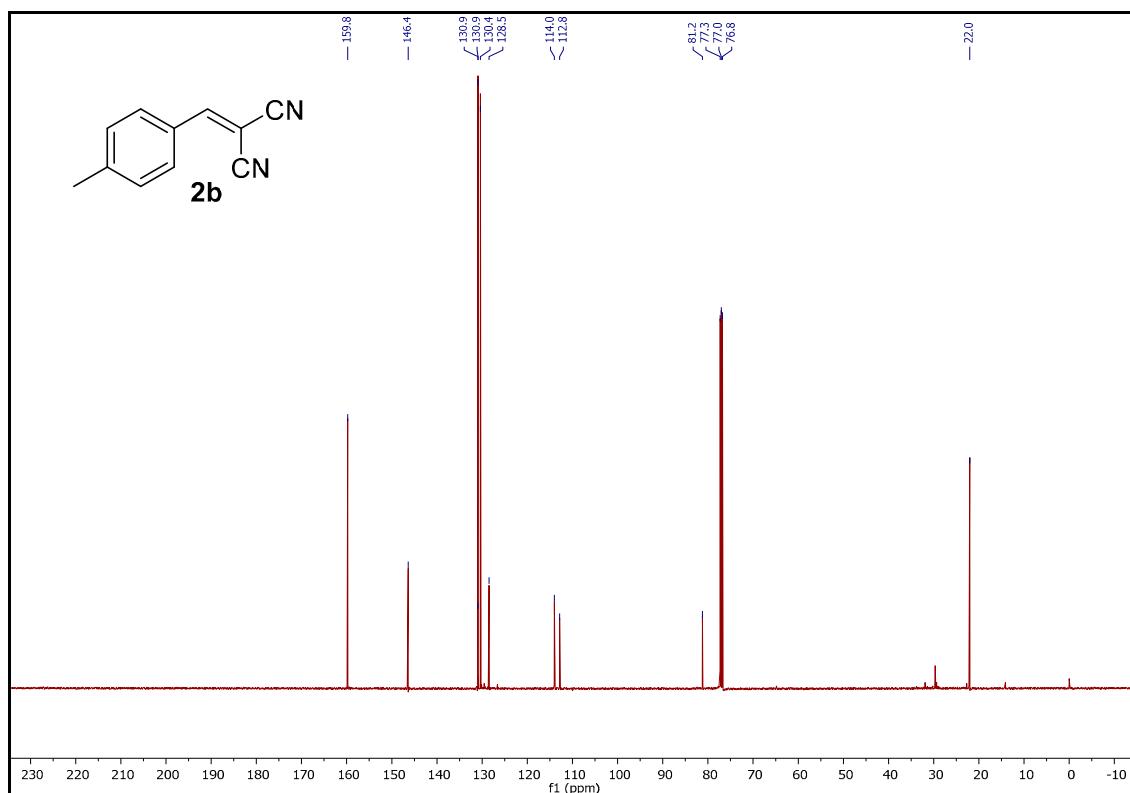
**Figure S3.** FT-IR of 2-benzylidene malononitrile **2a**.



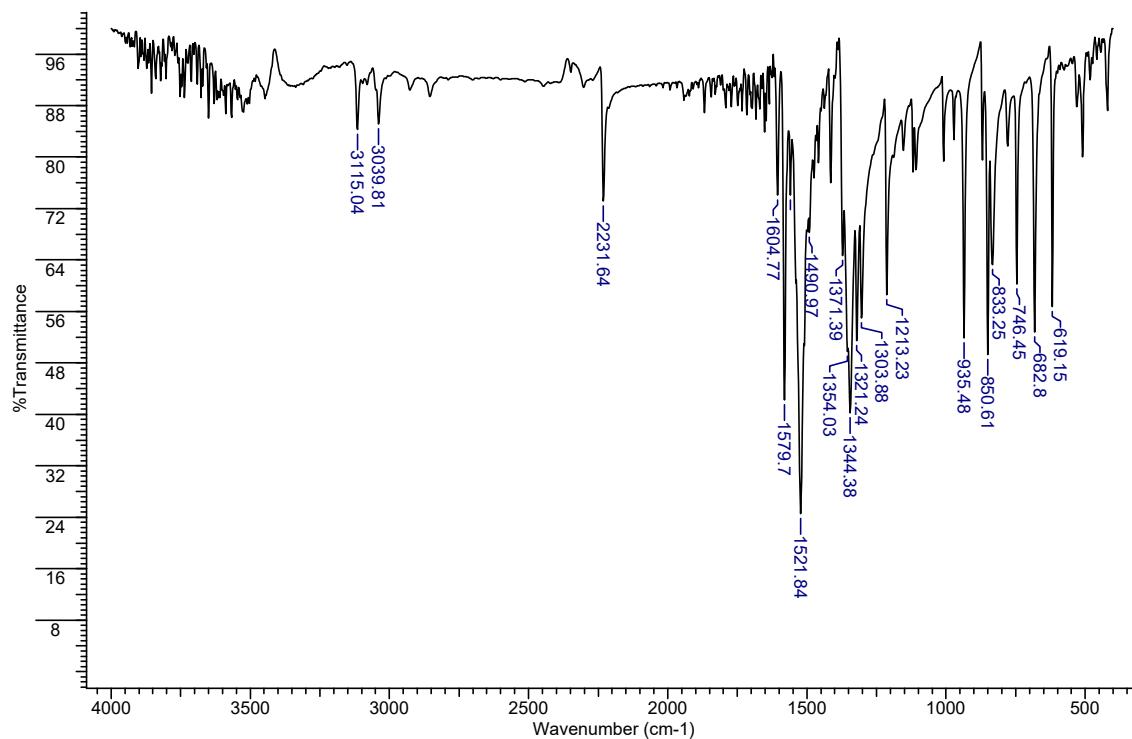
**Figure S4.** MS (70 eV) of 2-benzylidene malononitrile **2a**.



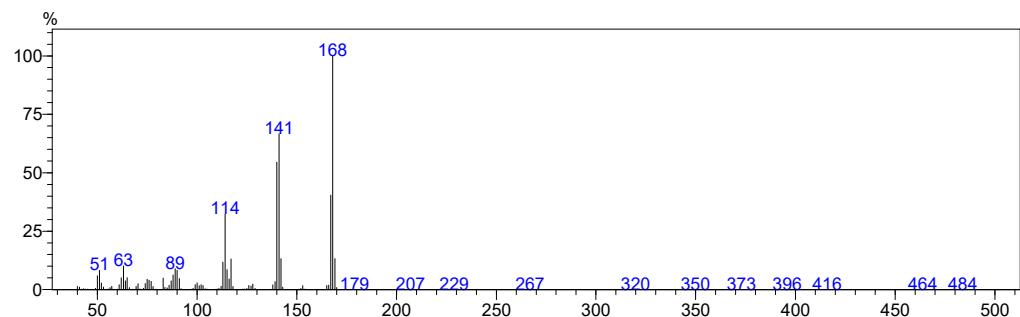
**Figure S5.** <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) of 2-(4-methylbenzylidene)malononitrile **2b**.



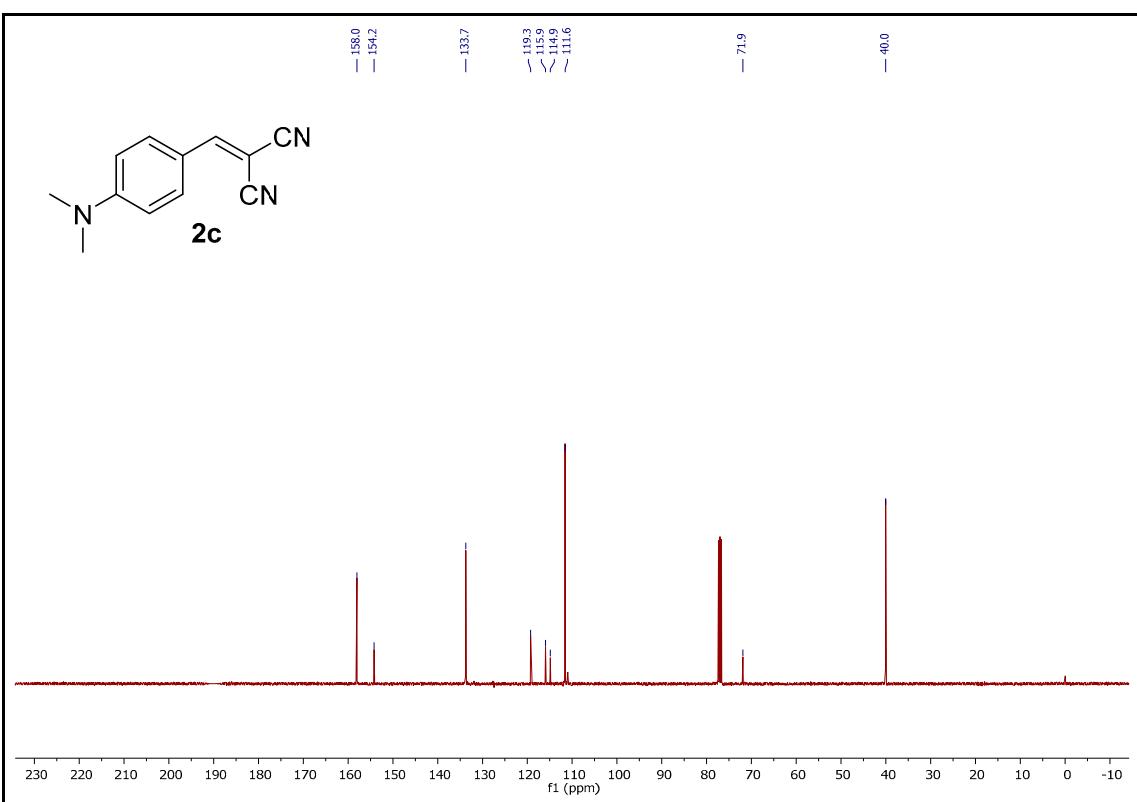
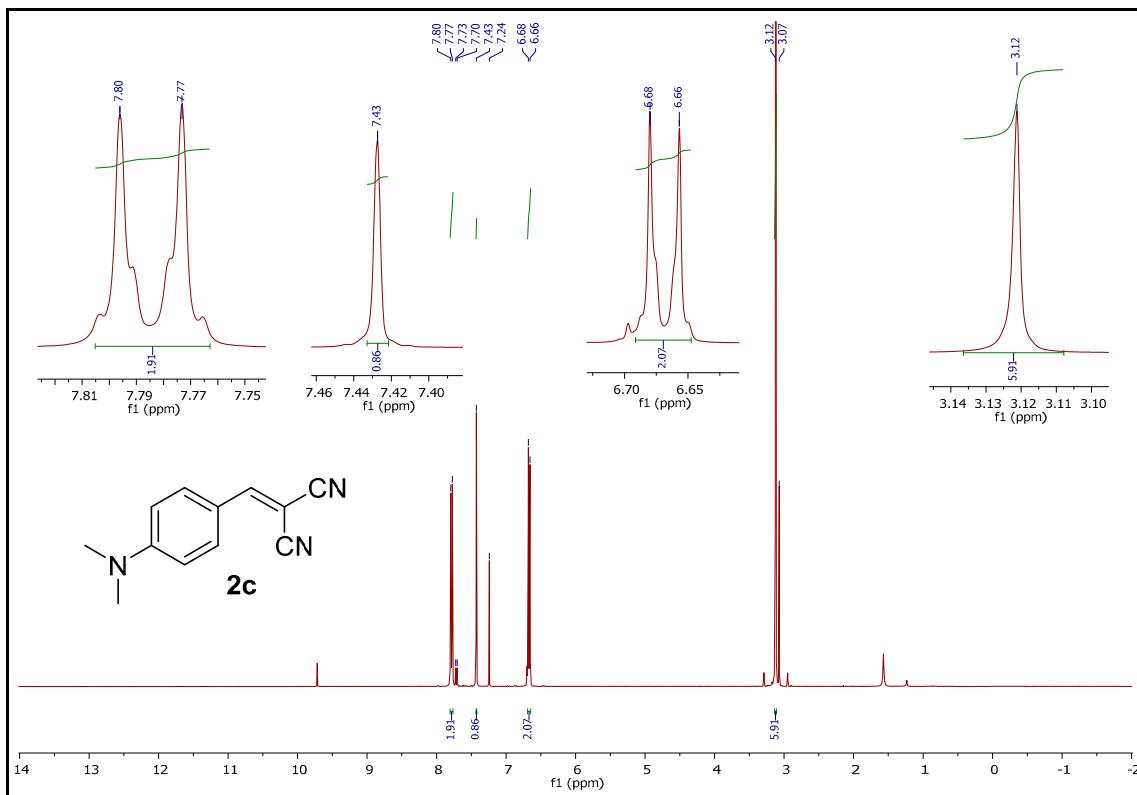
**Figure S6.** <sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) of 2-(4-methylbenzylidene)malononitrile **2b**.

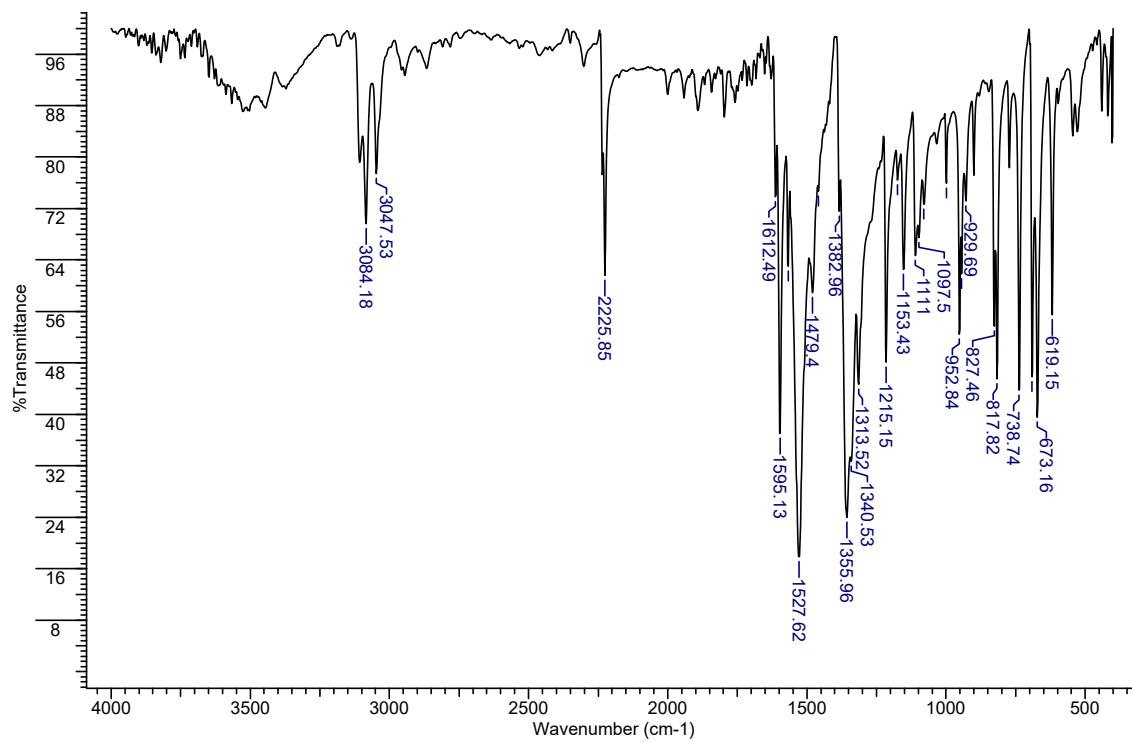


**Figure S7.** FT-IR of 2-(4-methylbenzylidene)malononitrile **2b**.

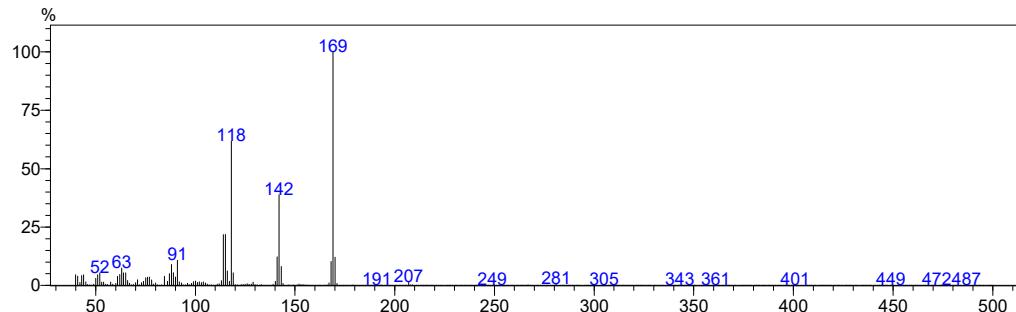


**Figure S8.** MS (70 eV) of 2-(4-methylbenzylidene)malononitrile **2b**.

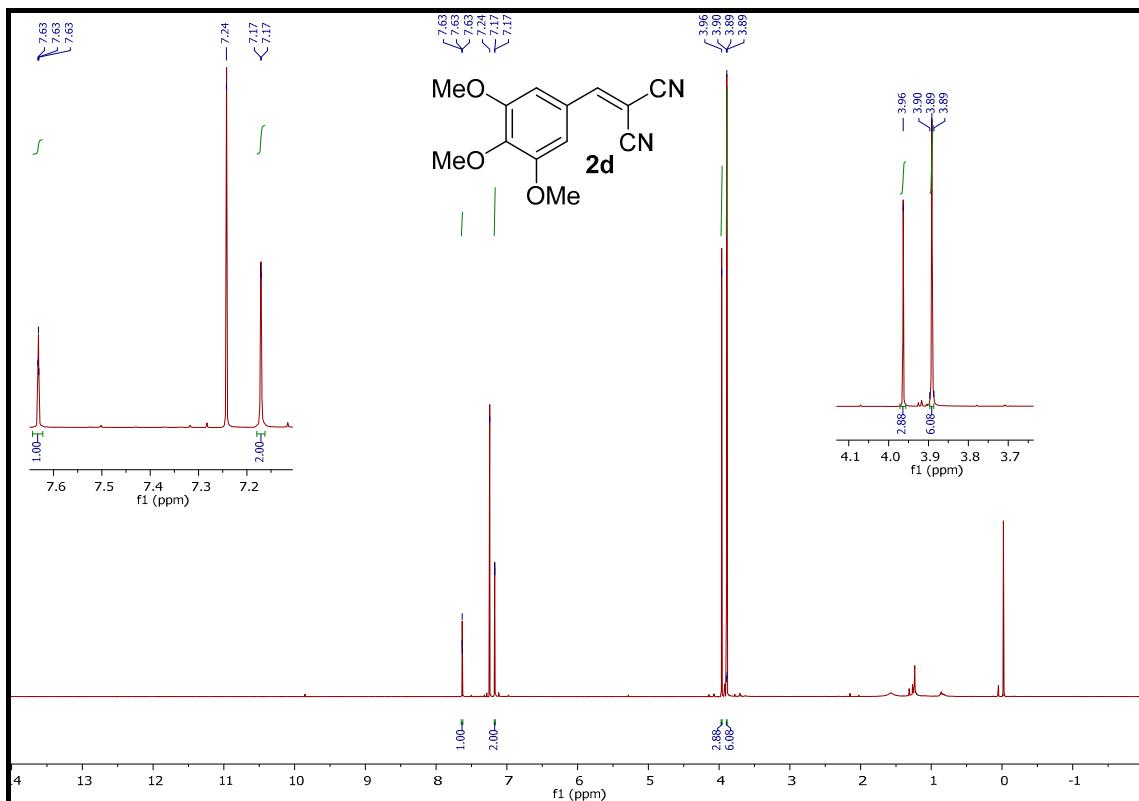




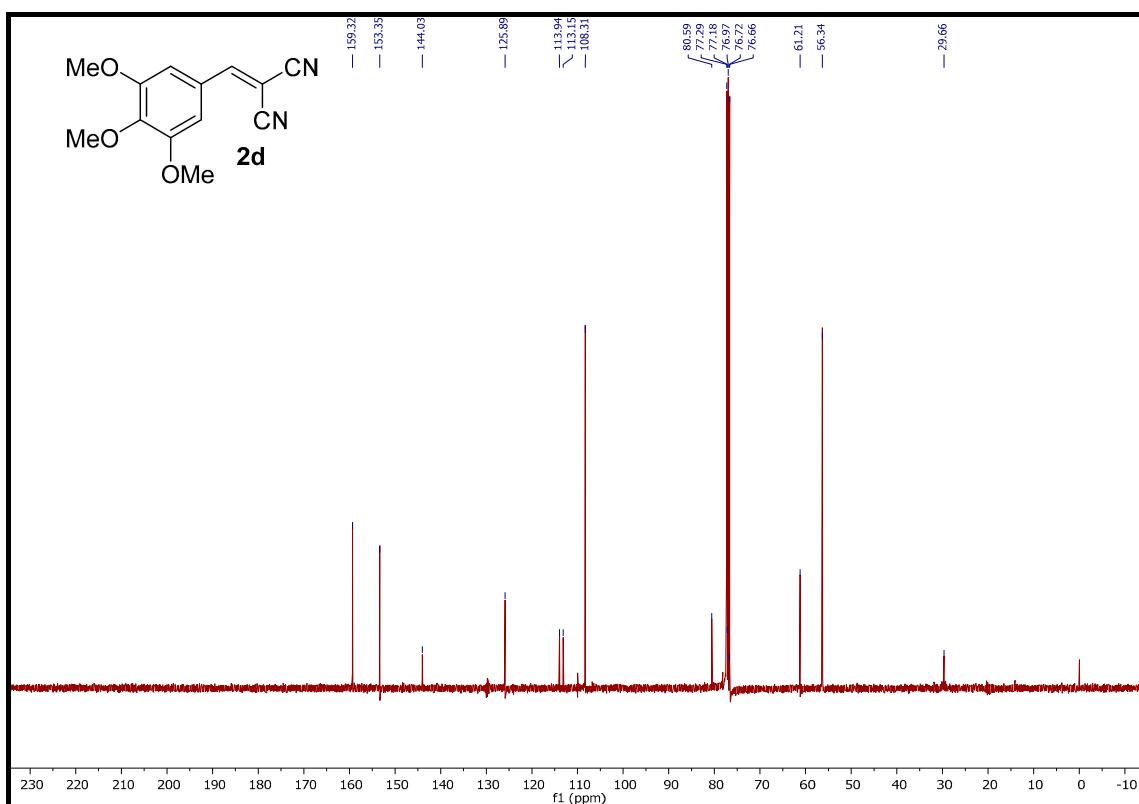
**Figure S11.** FT-IR of 2-(4-(dimethylamino)benzylidene)malononitrile **2c**.



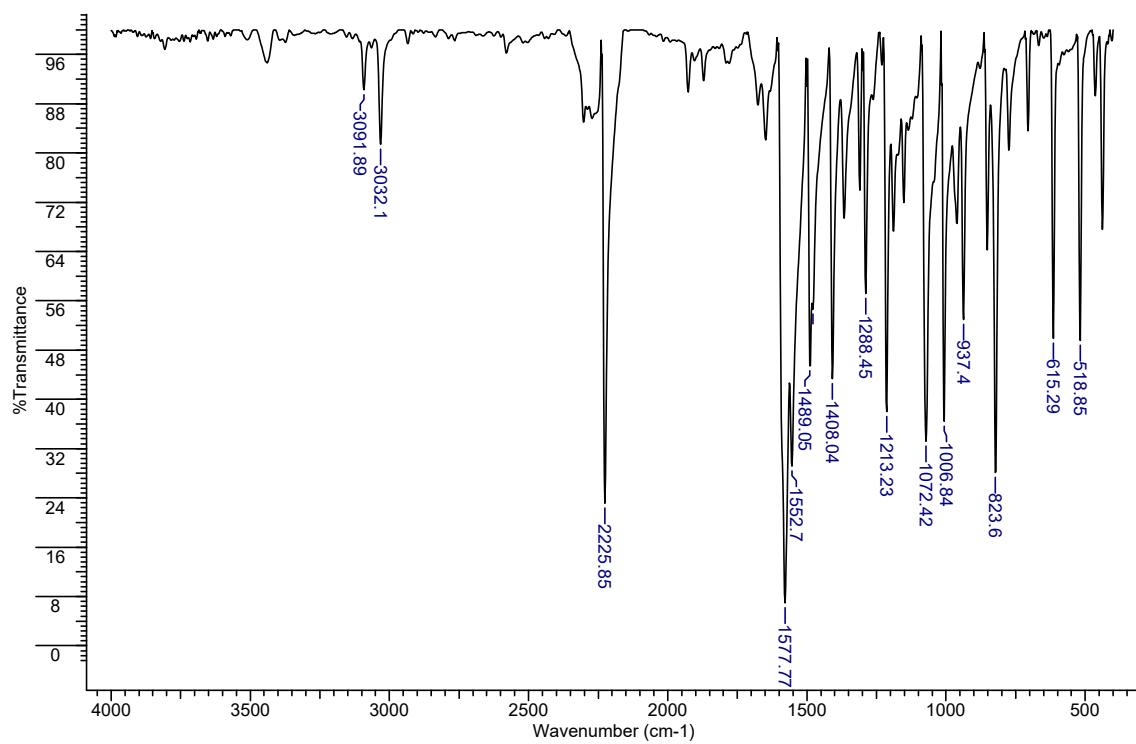
**Figure S12.** MS (70 eV) of 2-(4-(dimethylamino)benzylidene)malononitrile **2c**.



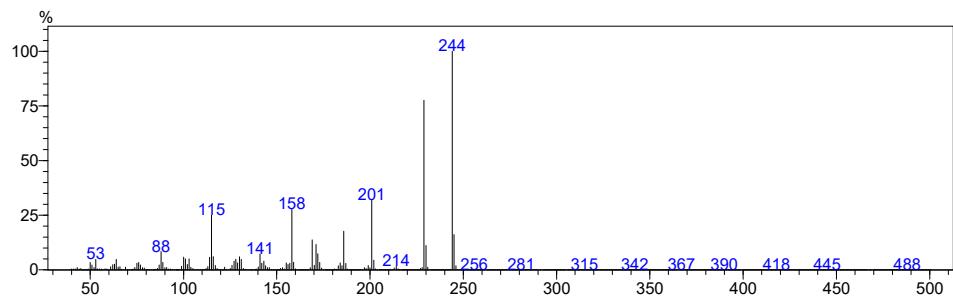
**Figure S13.** <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) of 2-(3,4,5-trimethoxybenzylidene)malononitrile **2d**.



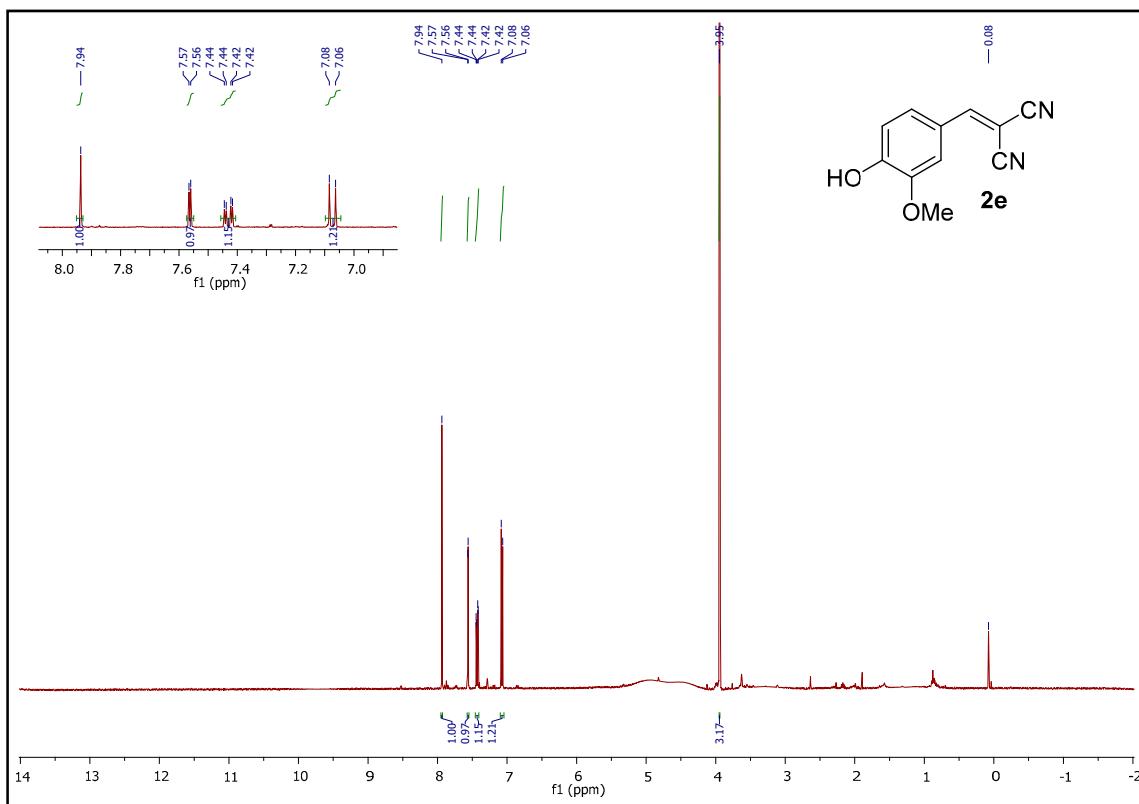
**Figure S14.** <sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) of 2-(3,4,5-trimethoxybenzylidene)malononitrile **2d**.



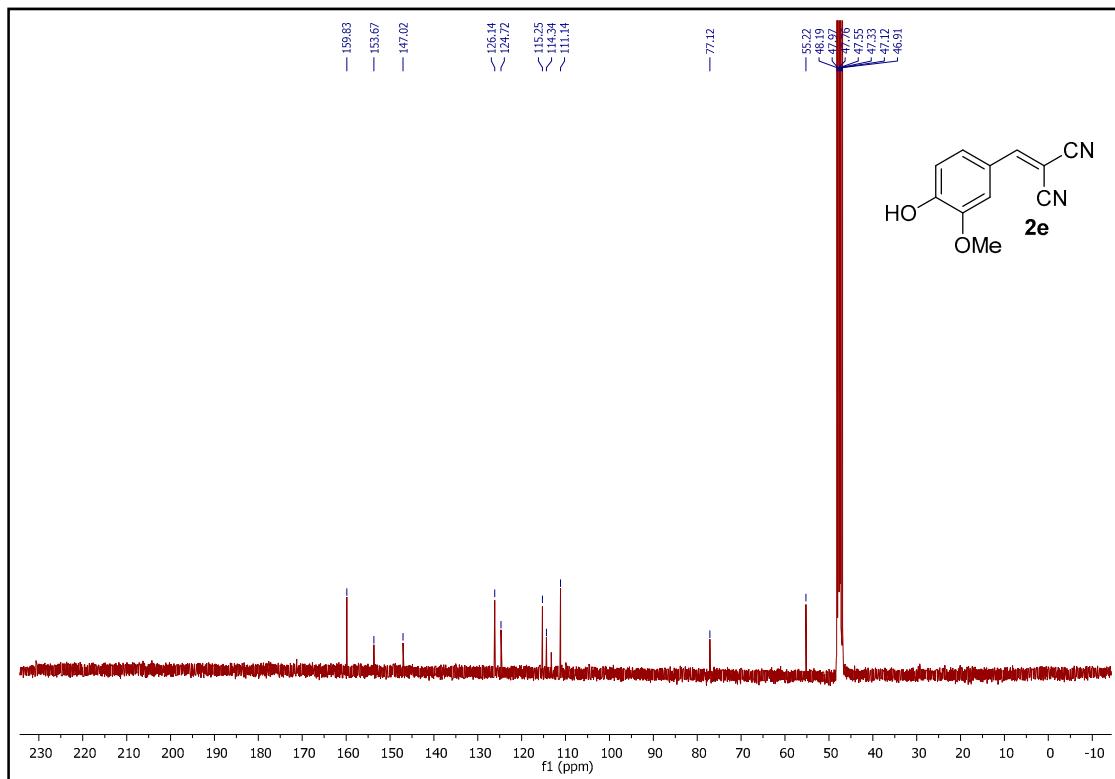
**Figure S15.** FT-IR of 2-(3,4,5-trimethoxybenzylidene)malononitrile **2d**.



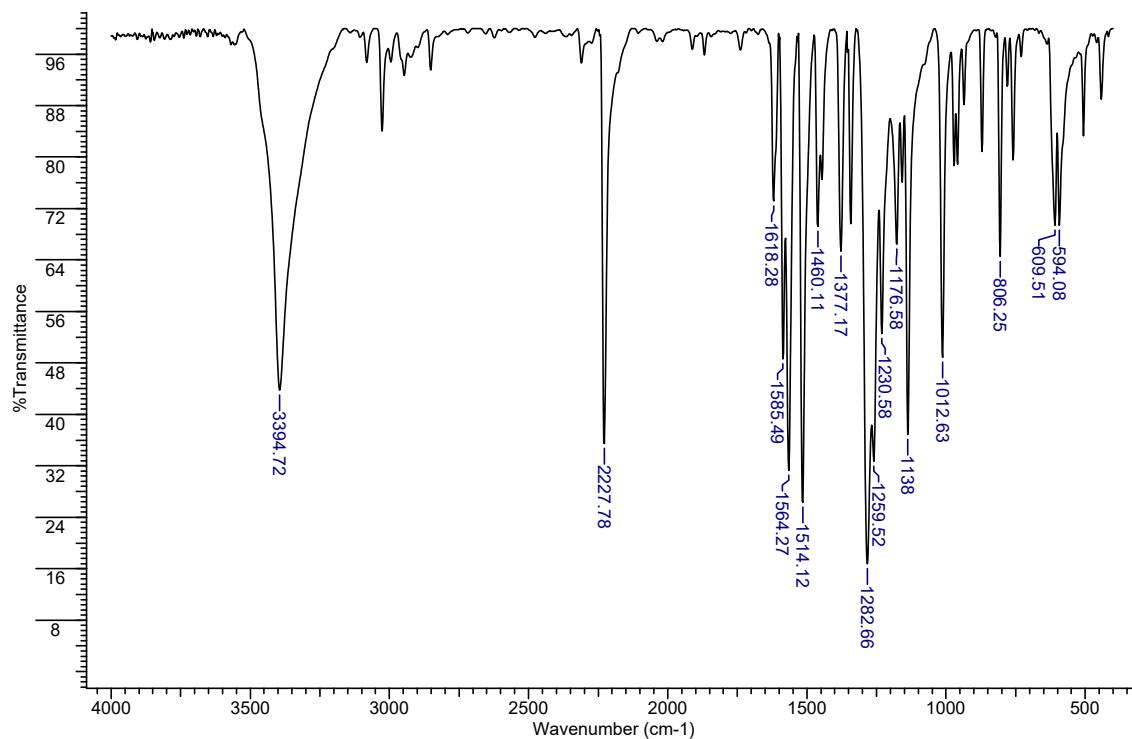
**Figure S16.** MS (70 eV) of 2-(3,4,5-trimethoxybenzylidene)malononitrile **2d**.



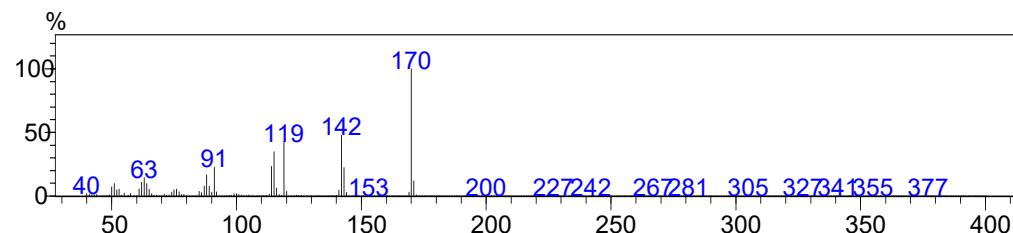
**Figure S17.** <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, MeOD) of 2-(4-hydroxy-3-methoxybenzylidene)malononitrile **2e**.



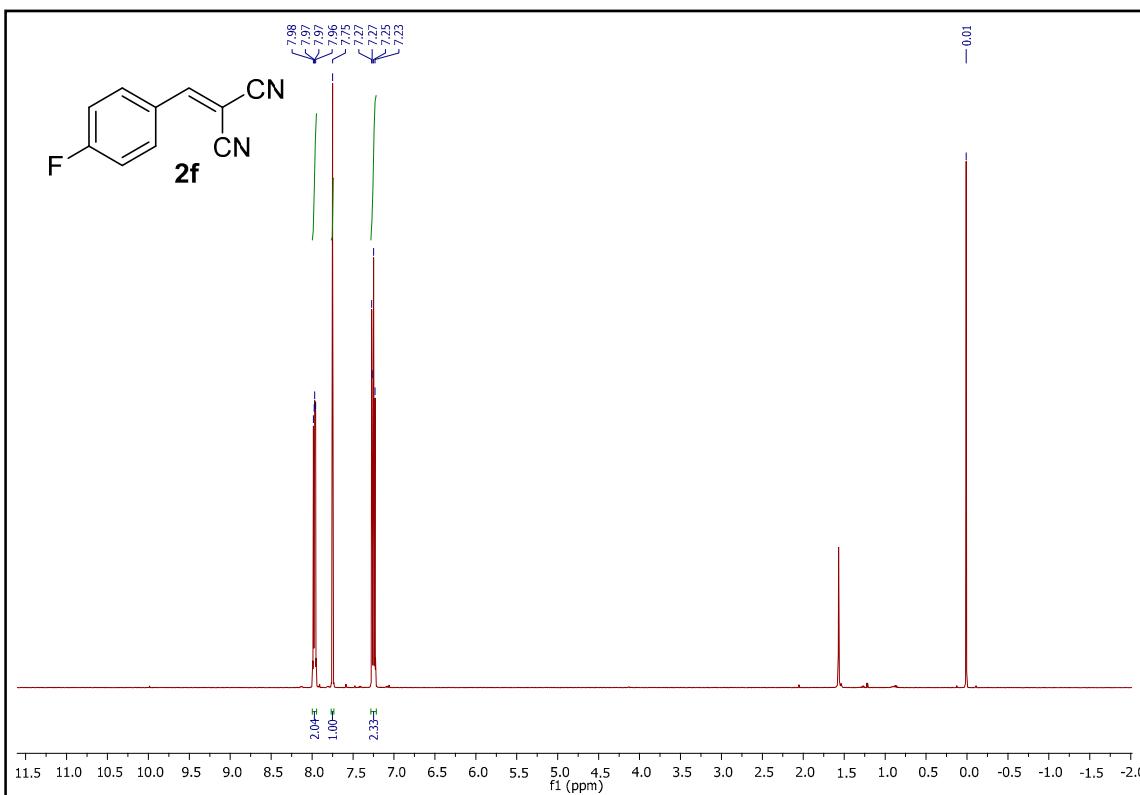
**Figure S18.** <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, MeOD) of 2-(4-hydroxy-3-methoxybenzylidene)malononitrile **2e**.



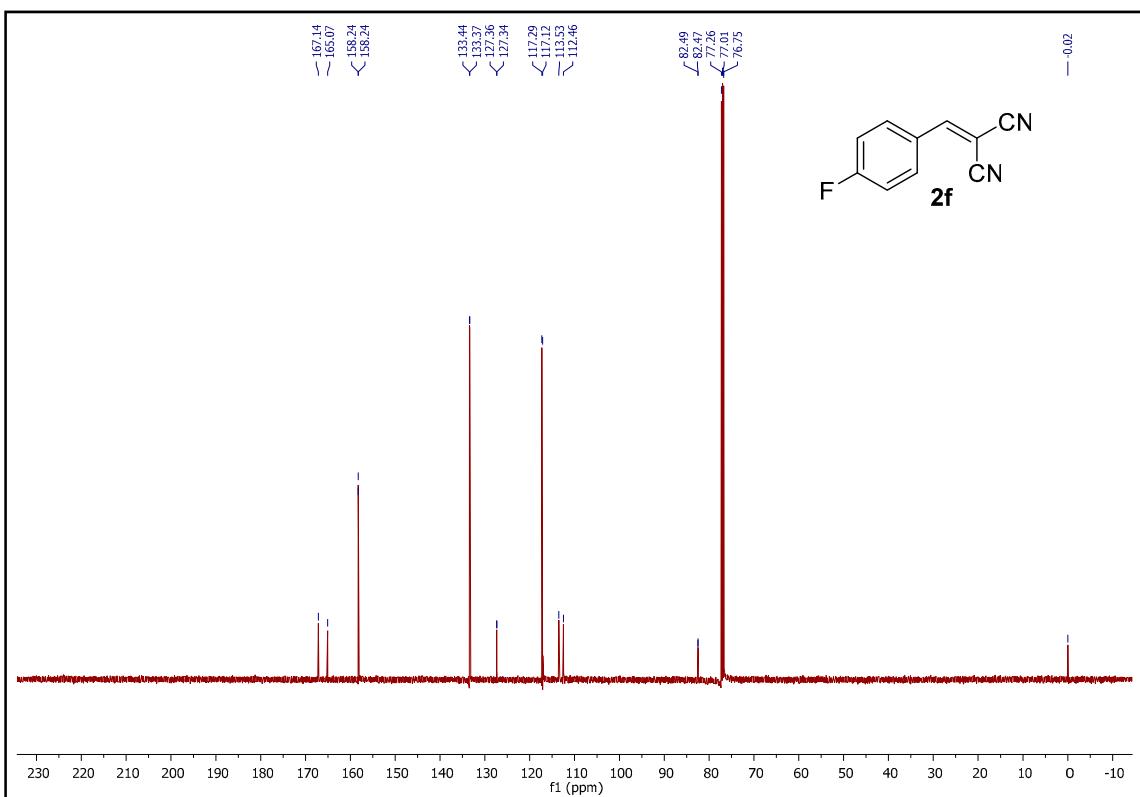
**Figure S19.** FT-IR of 2-(4-hydroxy-3-methoxybenzylidene)malononitrile **2e**.



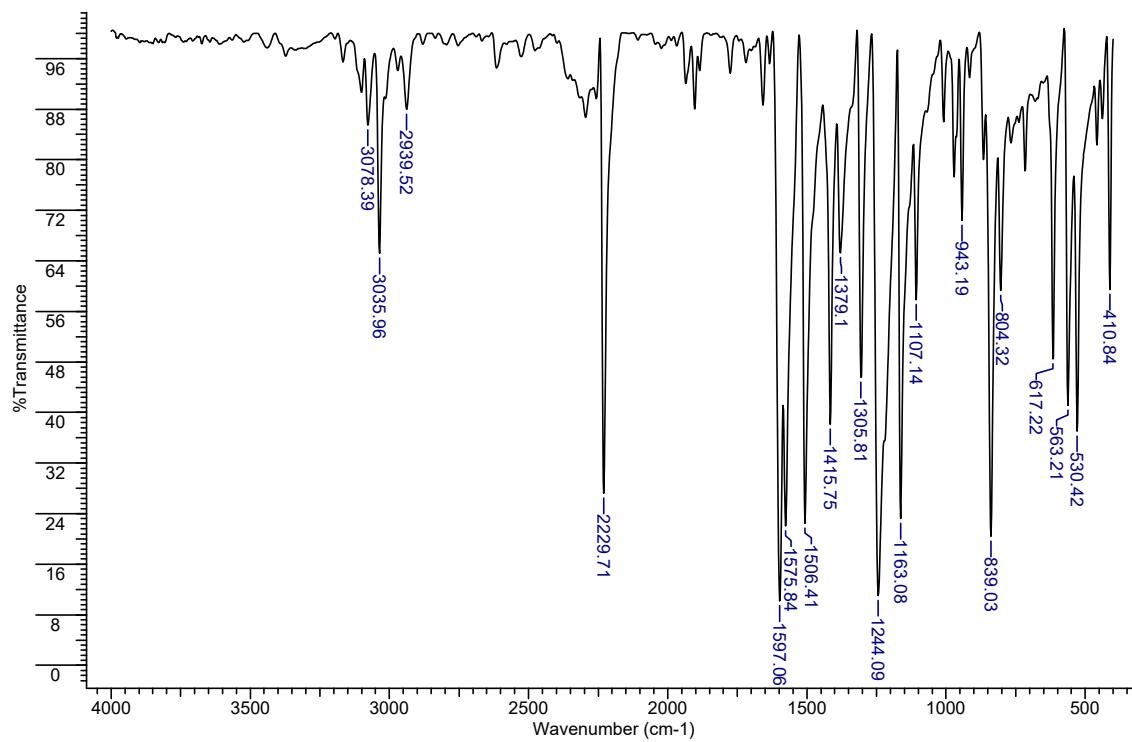
**Figure S20.** MS (70 eV) of 2-(4-hydroxy-3-methoxybenzylidene)malononitrile **2e**.



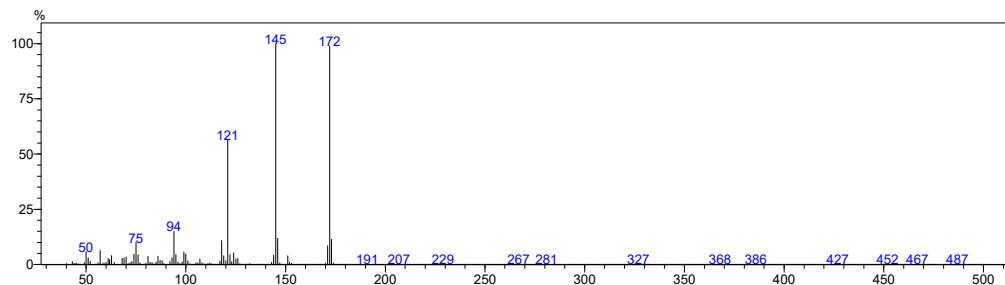
**Figure S21.** <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) of 2-(4-fluorobenzylidene)malononitrile **2f**.



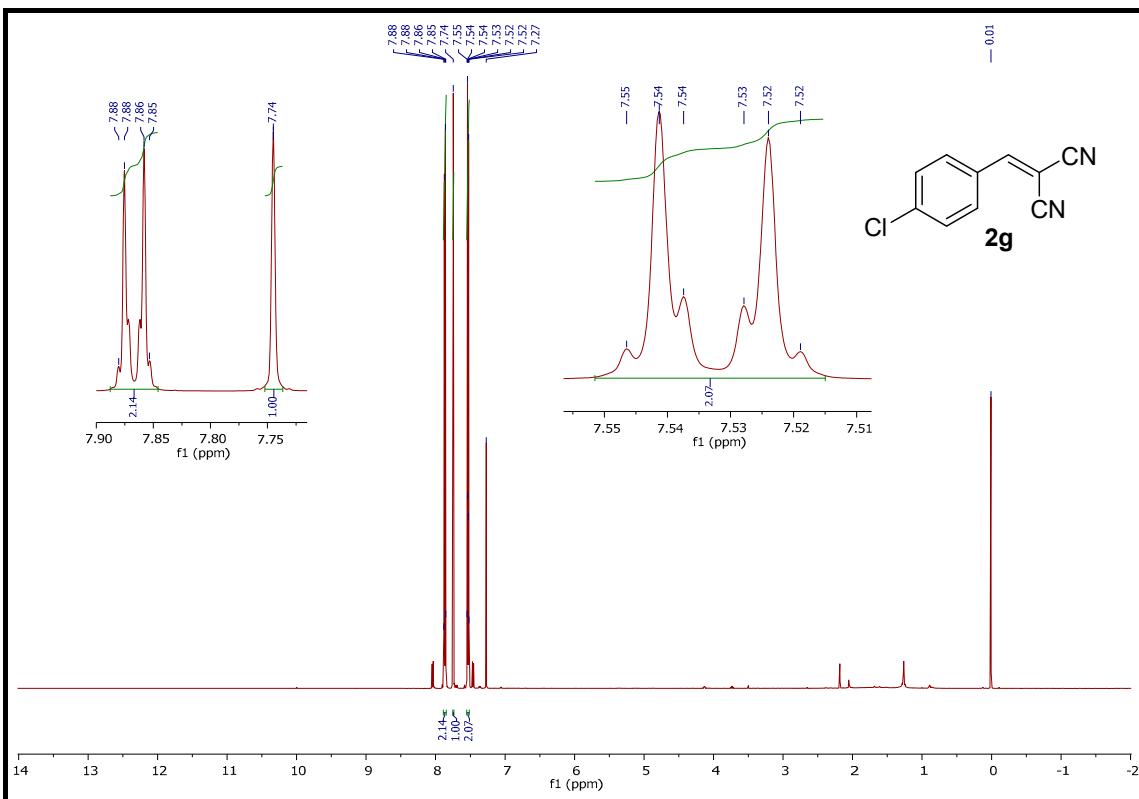
**Figure S22.** <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) of 2-(4-fluorobenzylidene)malononitrile **2f**.



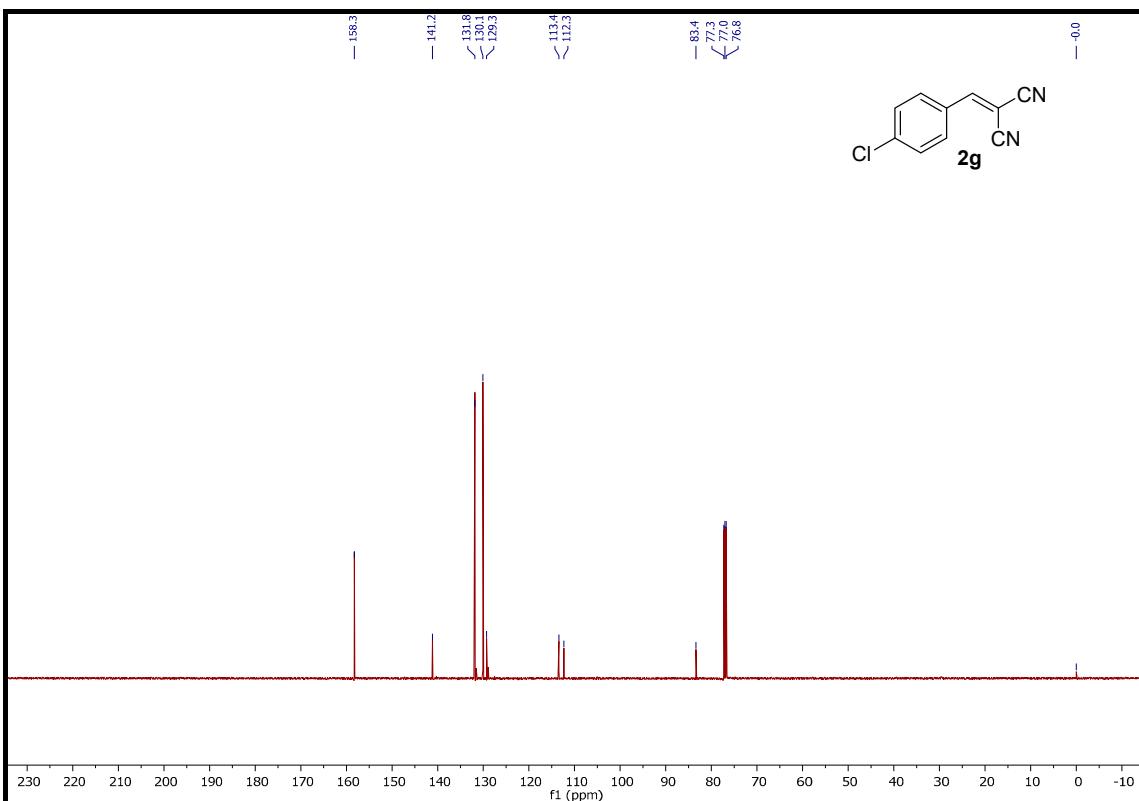
**Figure S23.** FT-IR of 2-(4-fluorobenzylidene)malononitrile **2f**.



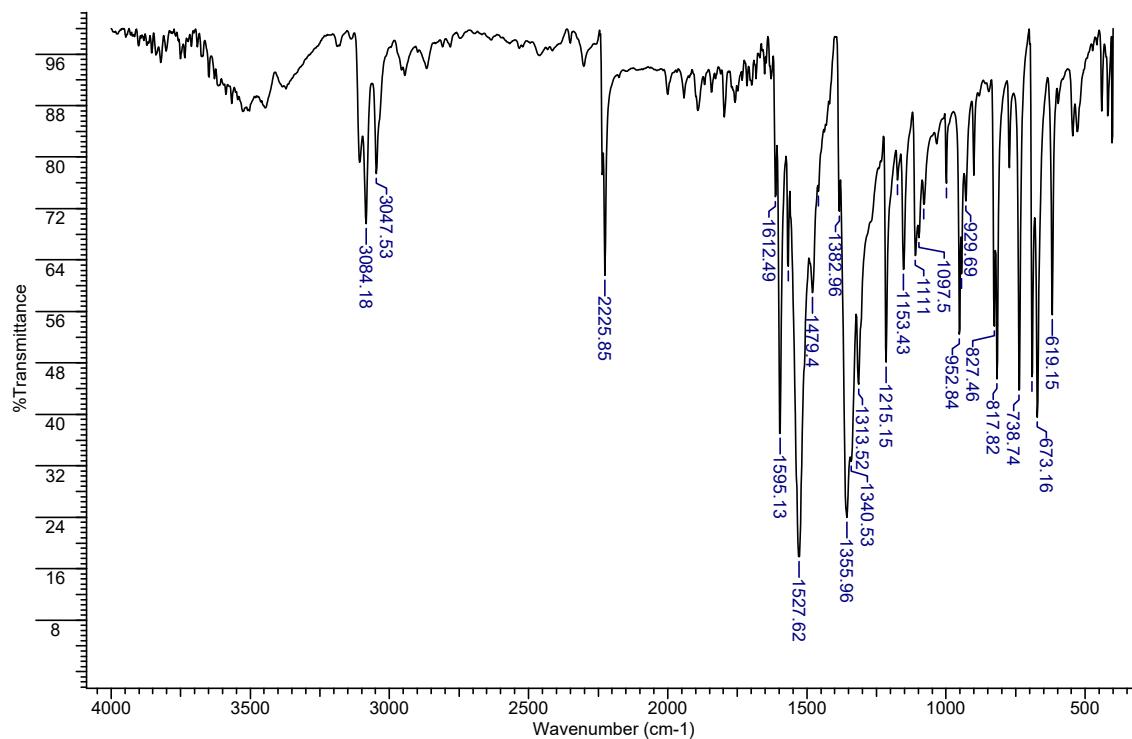
**Figure S24.** MS (70 eV) of 2-(4-fluorobenzylidene)malononitrile **2f**.



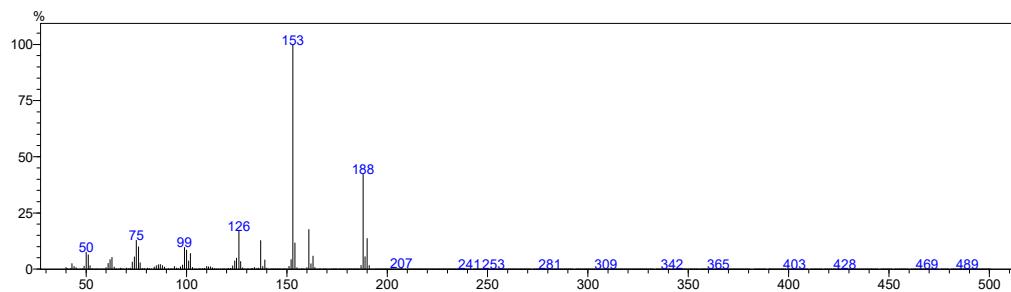
**Figure S25.** <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) of 2-(4-chlorobenzylidene)malononitrile **2g**.



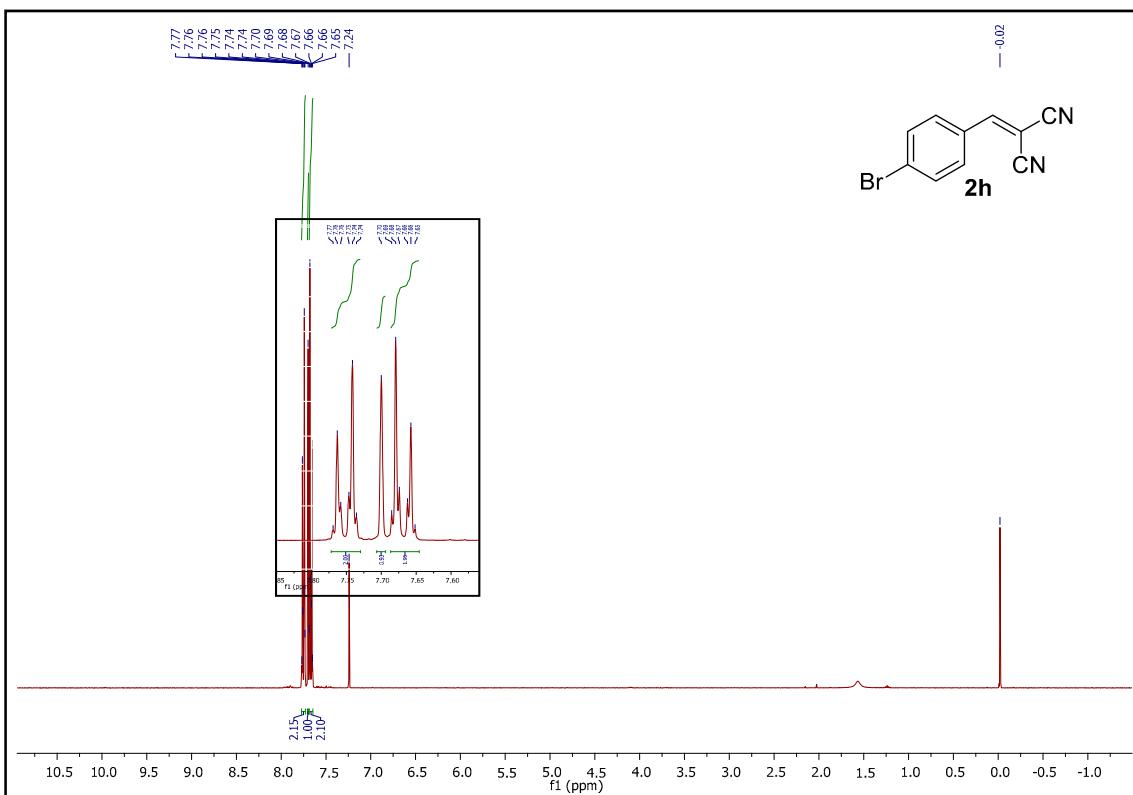
**Figure S26.** <sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) of 2-(4-chlorobenzylidene)malononitrile **2g**.



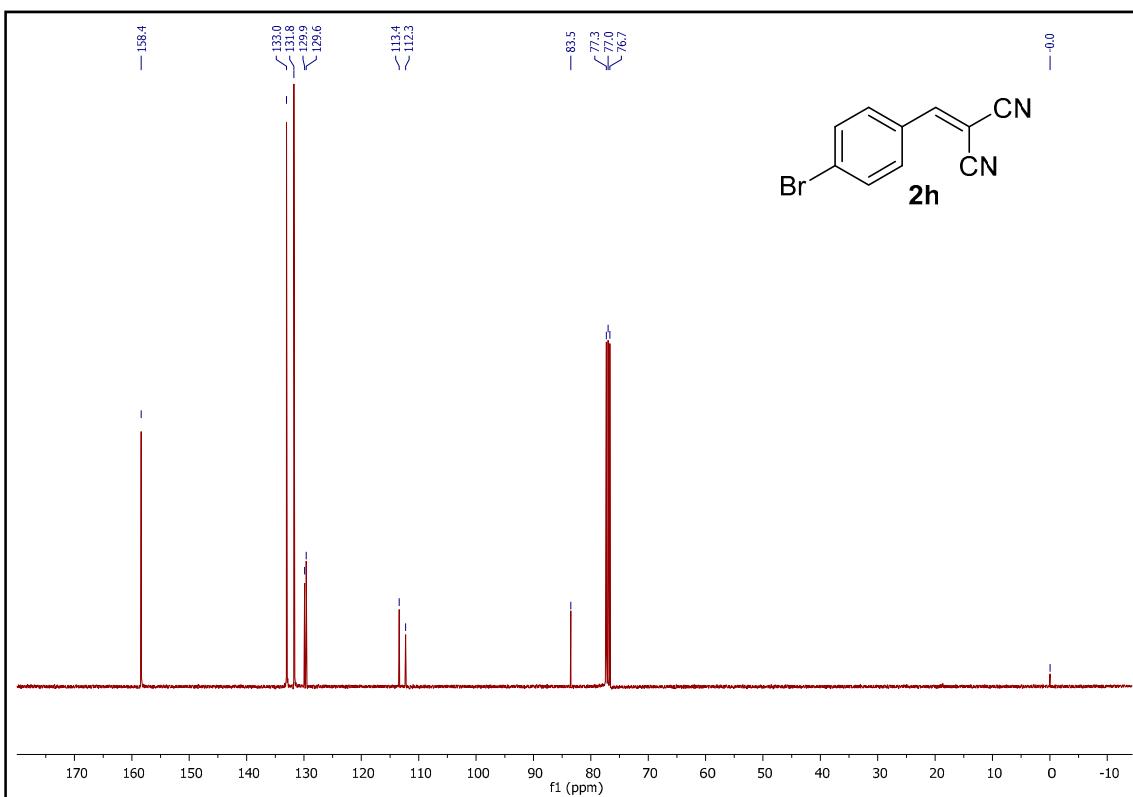
**Figure S27.** FT-IR of 2-(4-chlorobenzylidene)malononitrile **2g**.



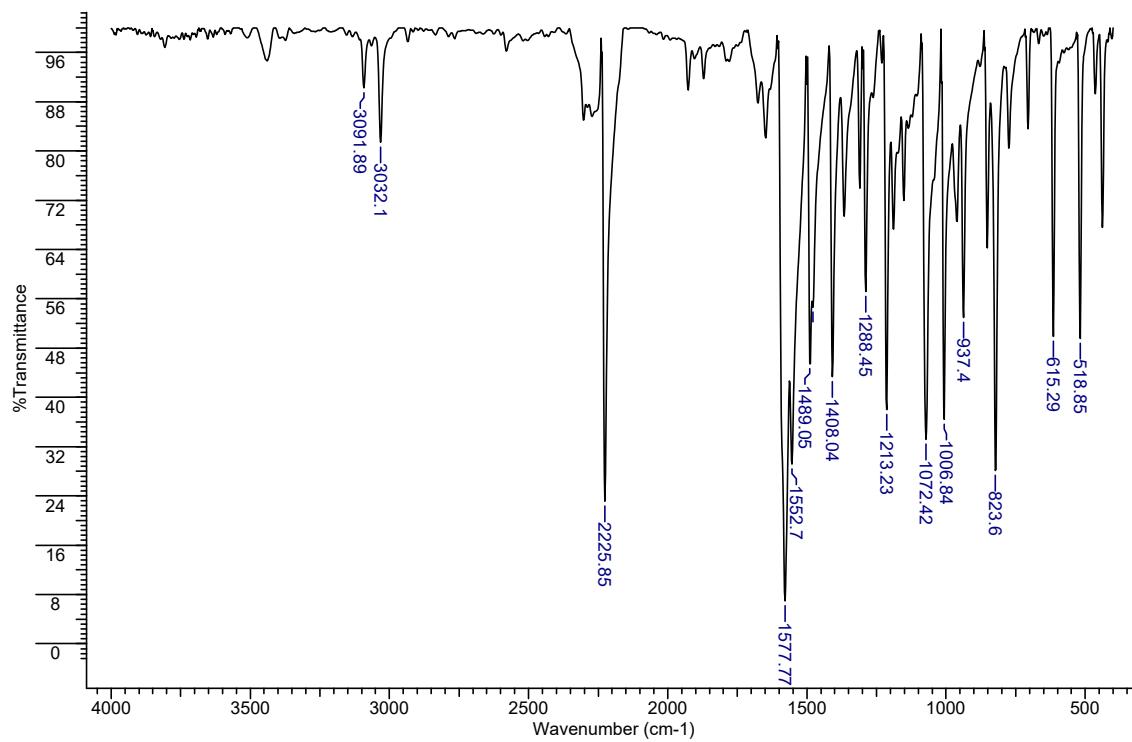
**Figure S28.** MS (70 eV) of 2-(4-chlorobenzylidene)malononitrile **2g**.



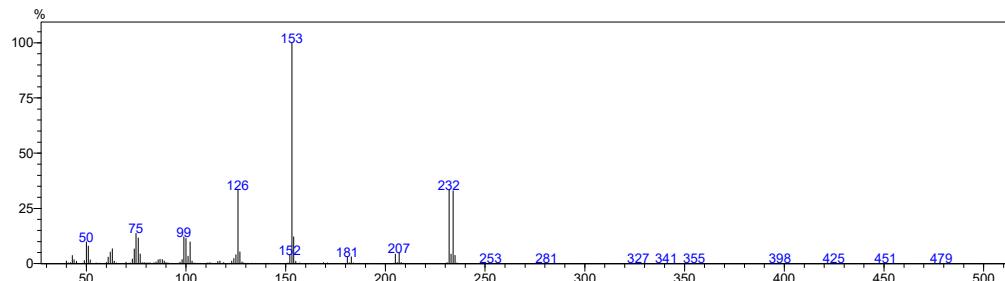
**Figure S29.** <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) of 2-(4-bromobenzylidene)malononitrile **2h**.



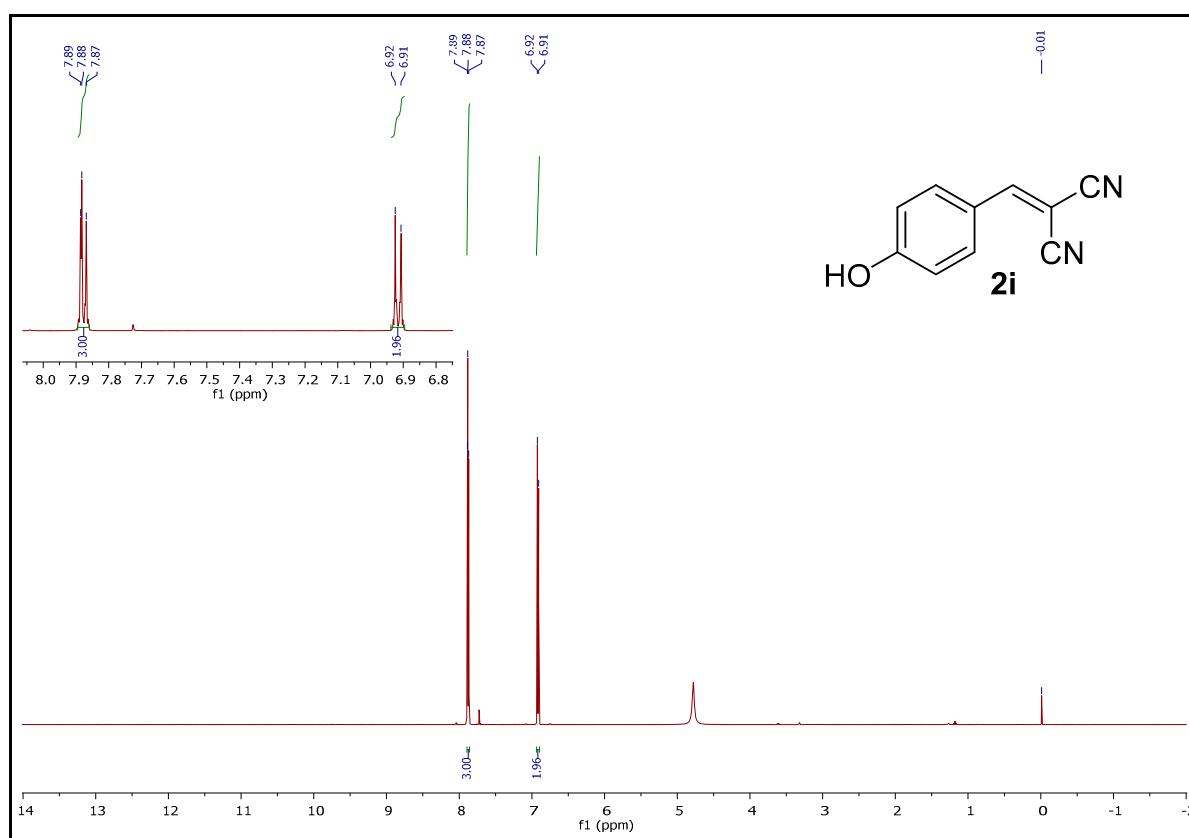
**Figure S30.** <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) of 2-(4-bromobenzylidene)malononitrile **2h**.



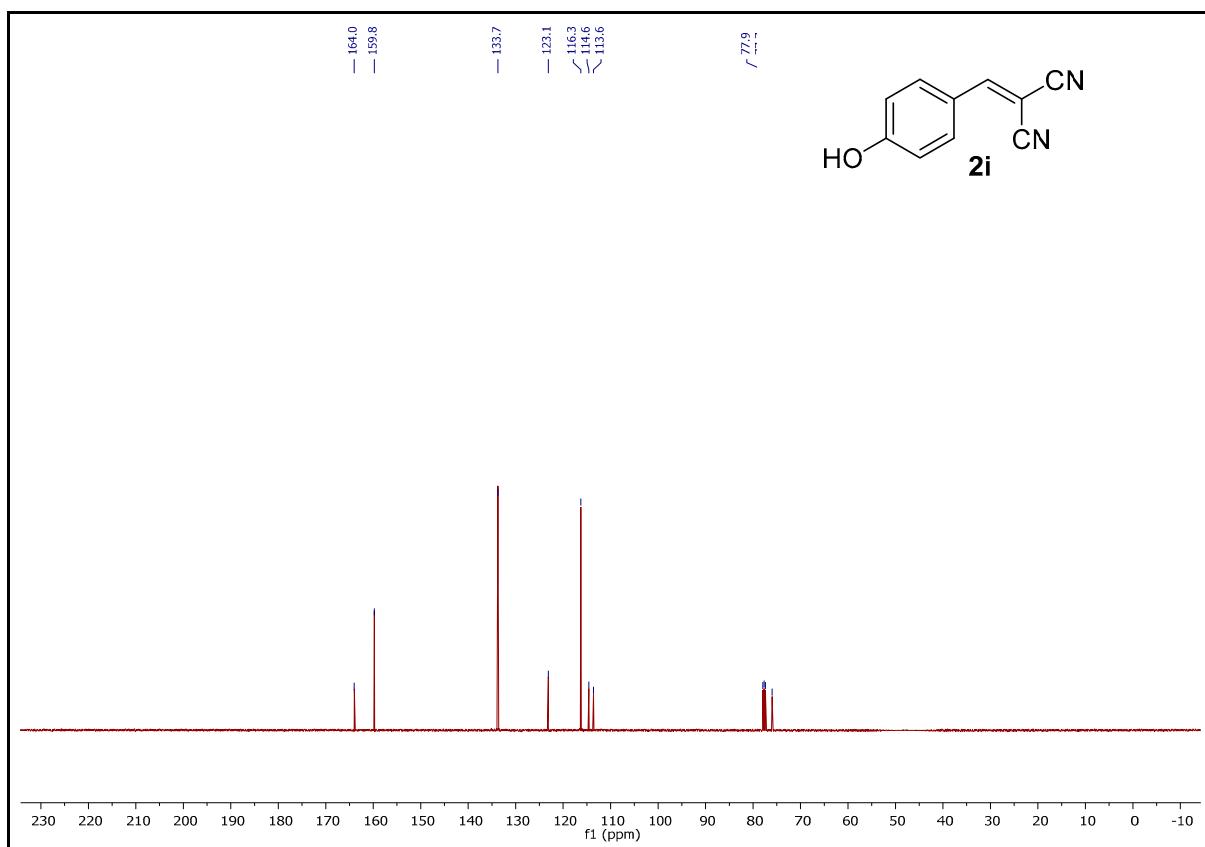
**Figure S31.** FT-IR of 2-(4-bromobenzylidene)malononitrile **2h**.



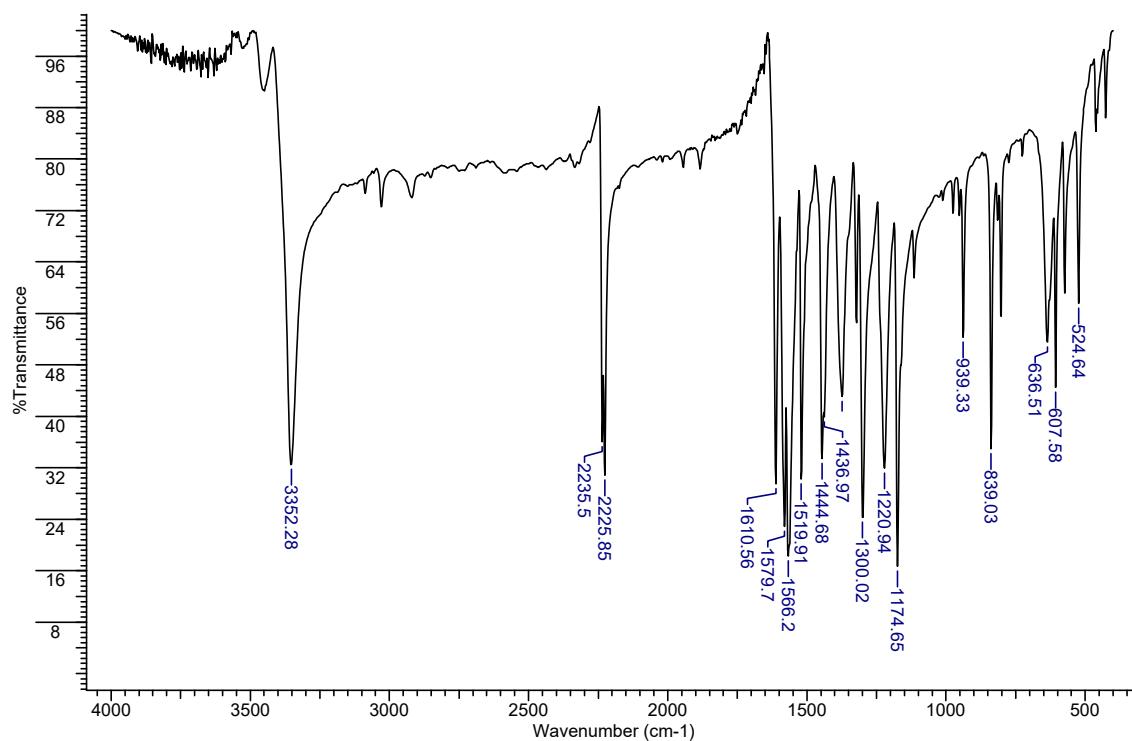
**Figure S32.** MS (70 eV) of 2-(4-bromobenzylidene)malononitrile **2h**.



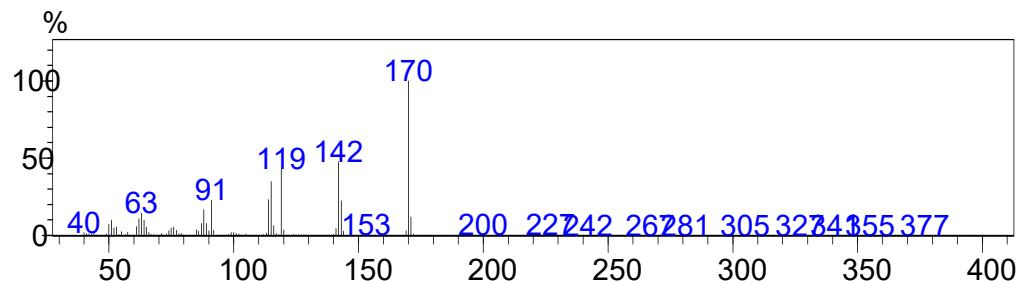
**Figure S33.** <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) of 2-(4-hydroxybenzylidene)malononitrile **2i**.



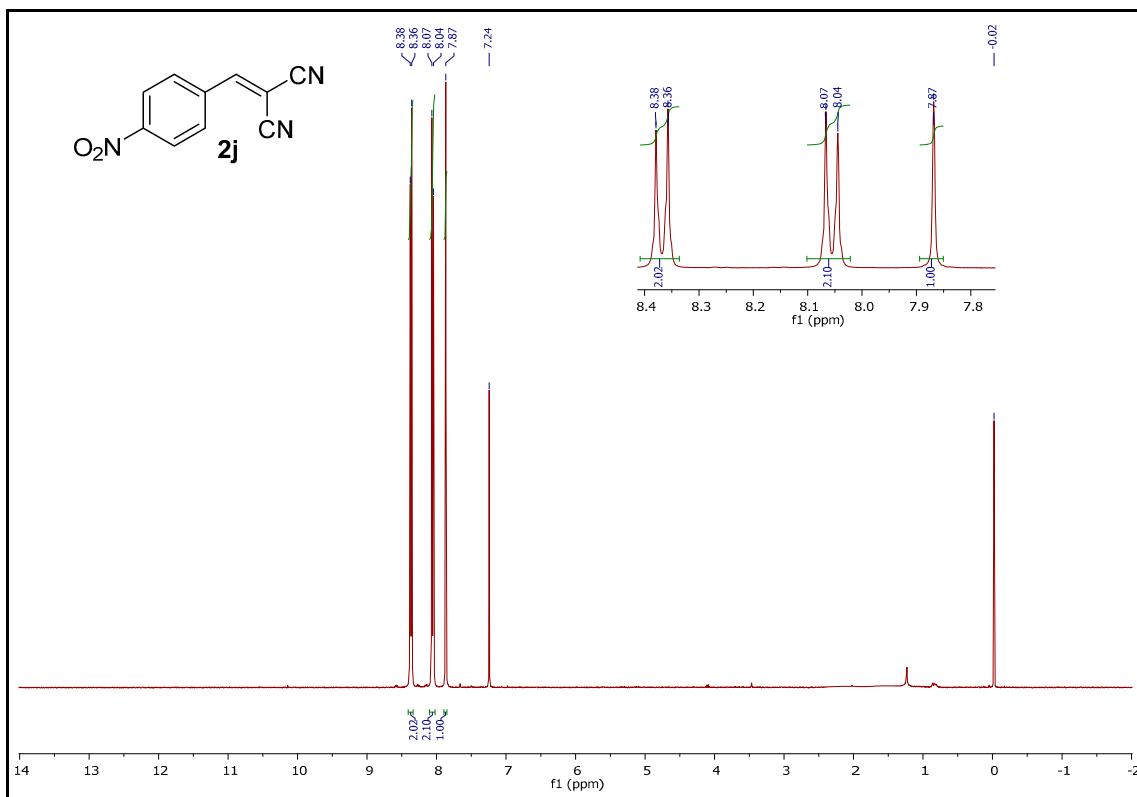
**Figure S34.** <sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) of 2-(4-hydroxybenzylidene)malononitrile **2i**.



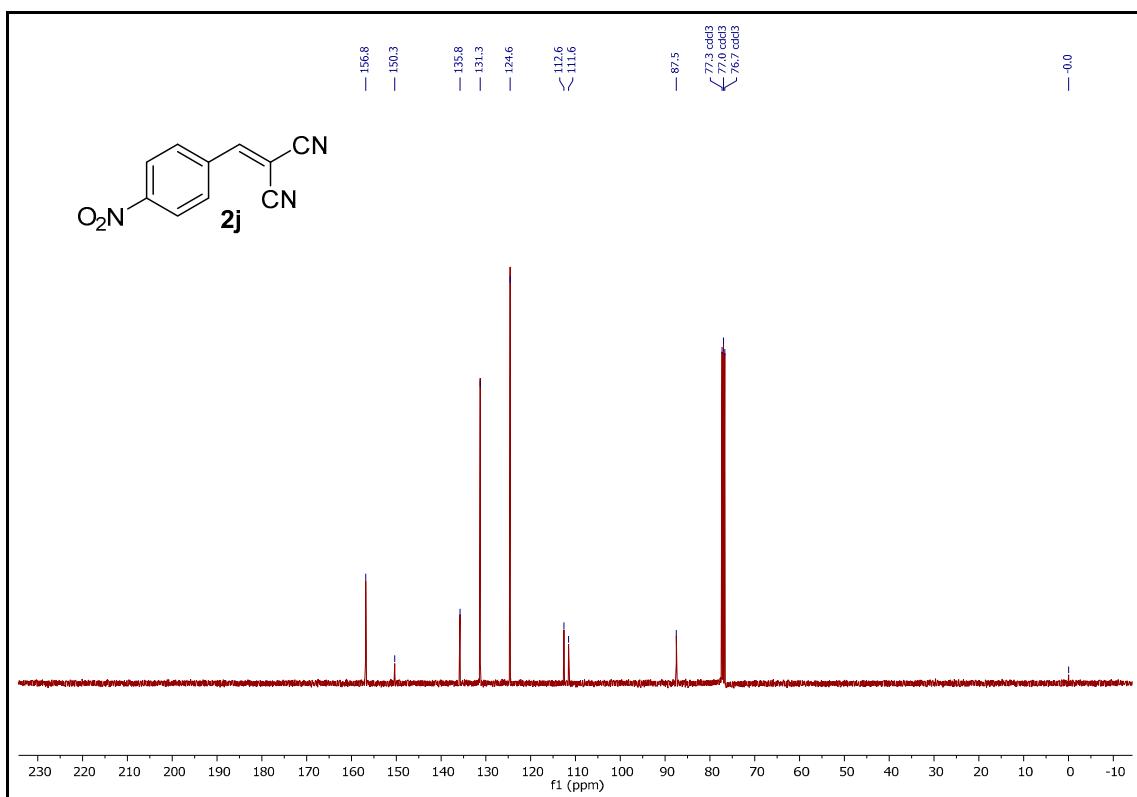
**Figure S35.** FT-IR of 2-(4-hydroxybenzylidene)malononitrile **2i**.



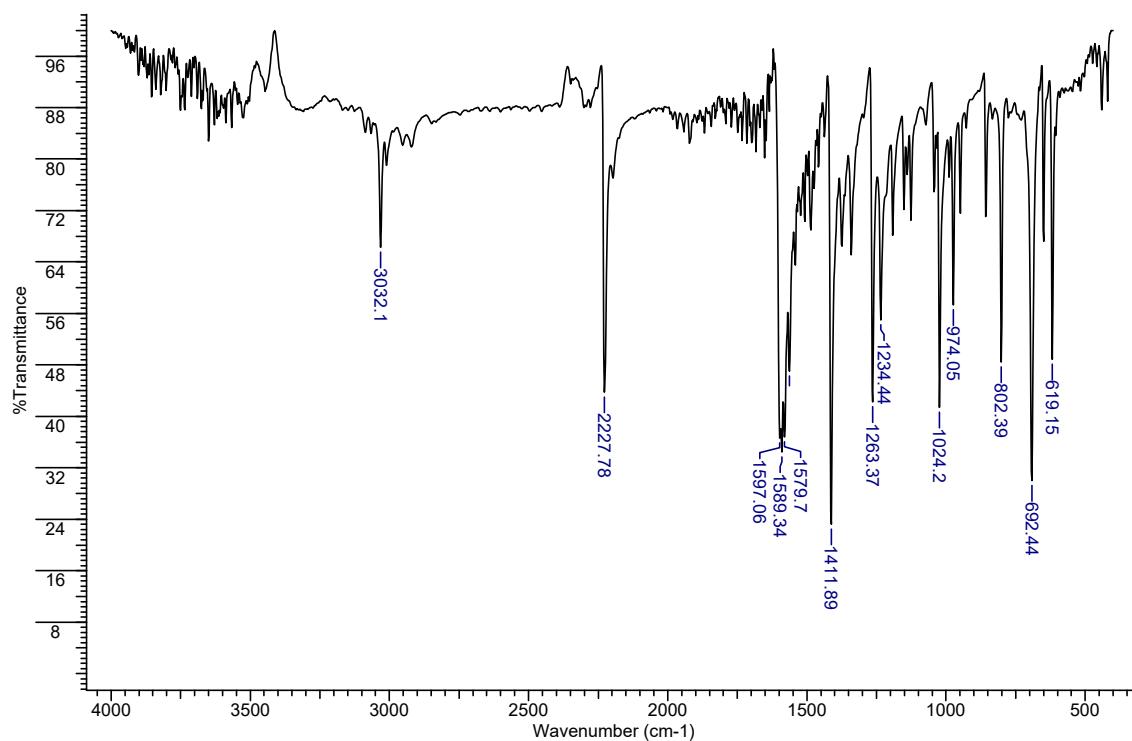
**Figure S36.** MS (70 eV) of 2-(4-hydroxybenzylidene)malononitrile **2i**.



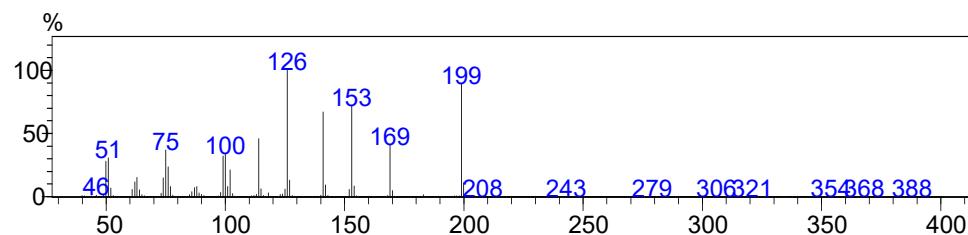
**Figure S37.** <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) of 2-(4-nitrobenzylidene)malononitrile **2j**.



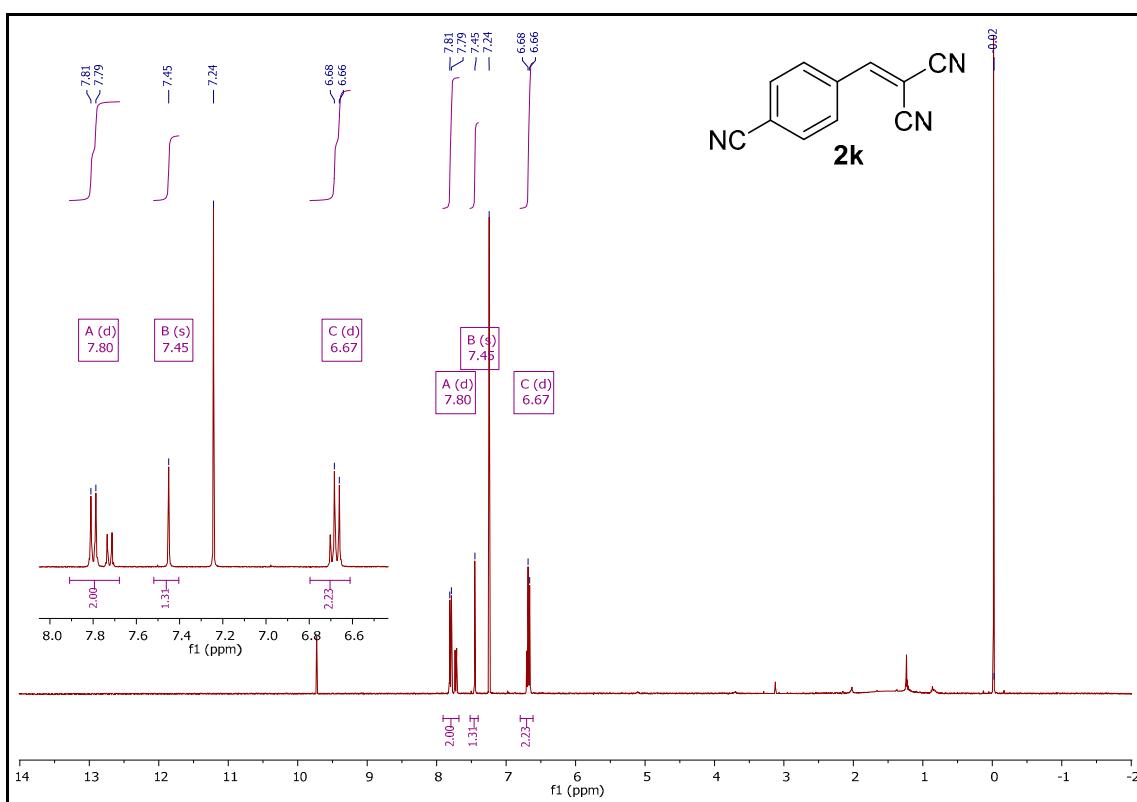
**Figure S38.** <sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) of 2-(4-nitrobenzylidene)malononitrile **2j**.



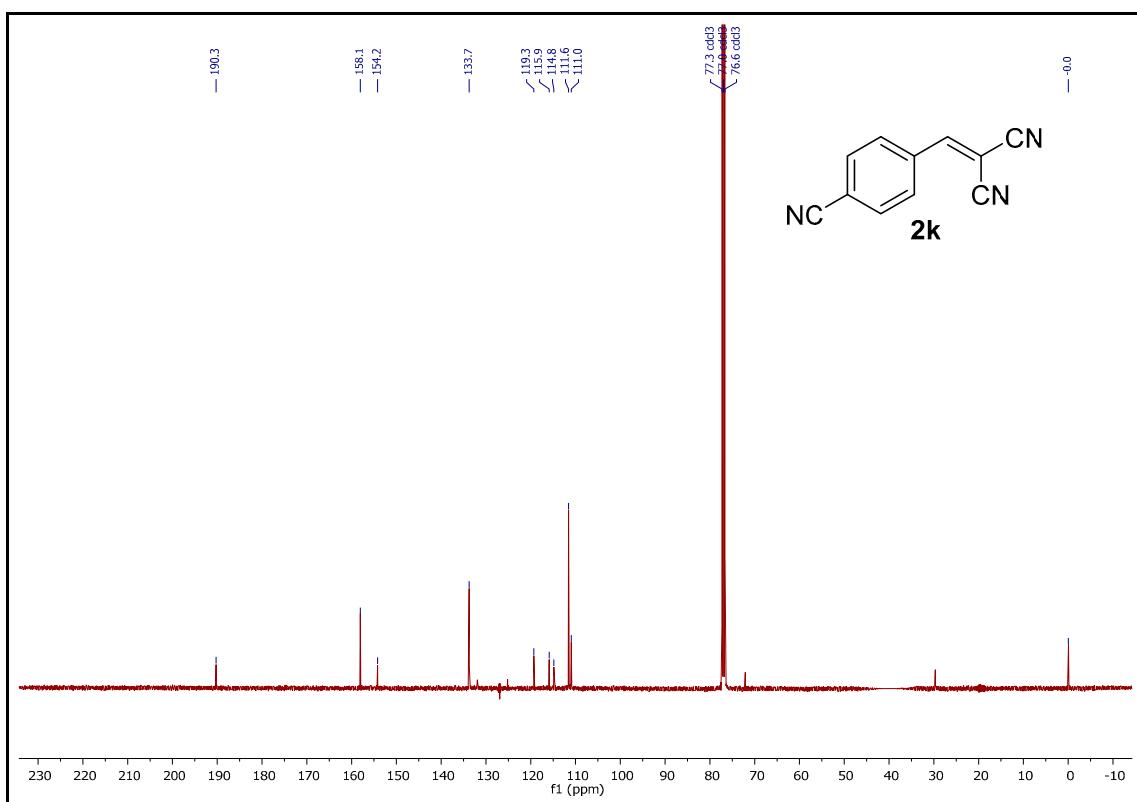
**Figure S39.** FT-IR of 2-(4-nitrobenzylidene)malononitrile **2j**.



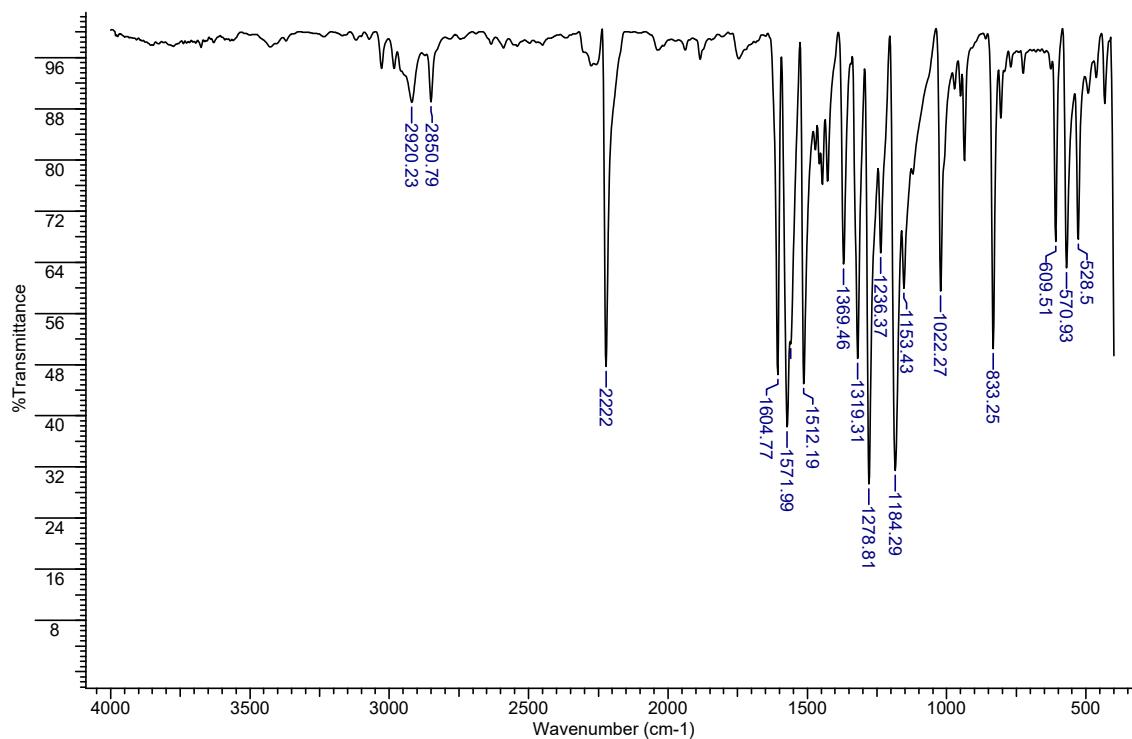
**Figure S40.** MS (70 eV) of 2-(4-nitrobenzylidene)malononitrile **2j**.



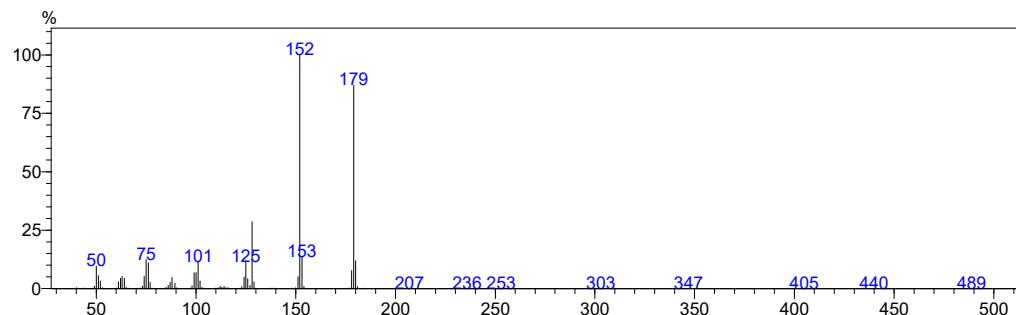
**Figure S41.** <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) of 2-(4-cyanobenzylidene)malononitrile **2k**.



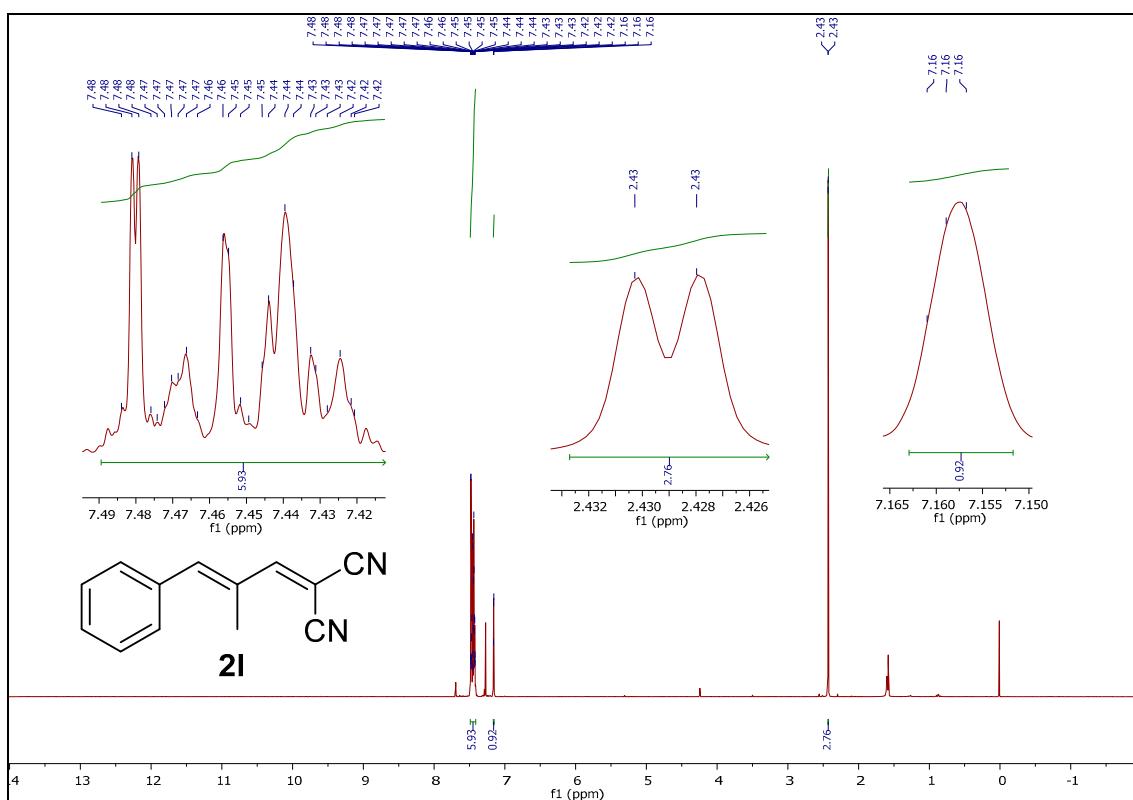
**Figure S42.** <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) of 2-(4-cyanobenzylidene)malononitrile **2k**.



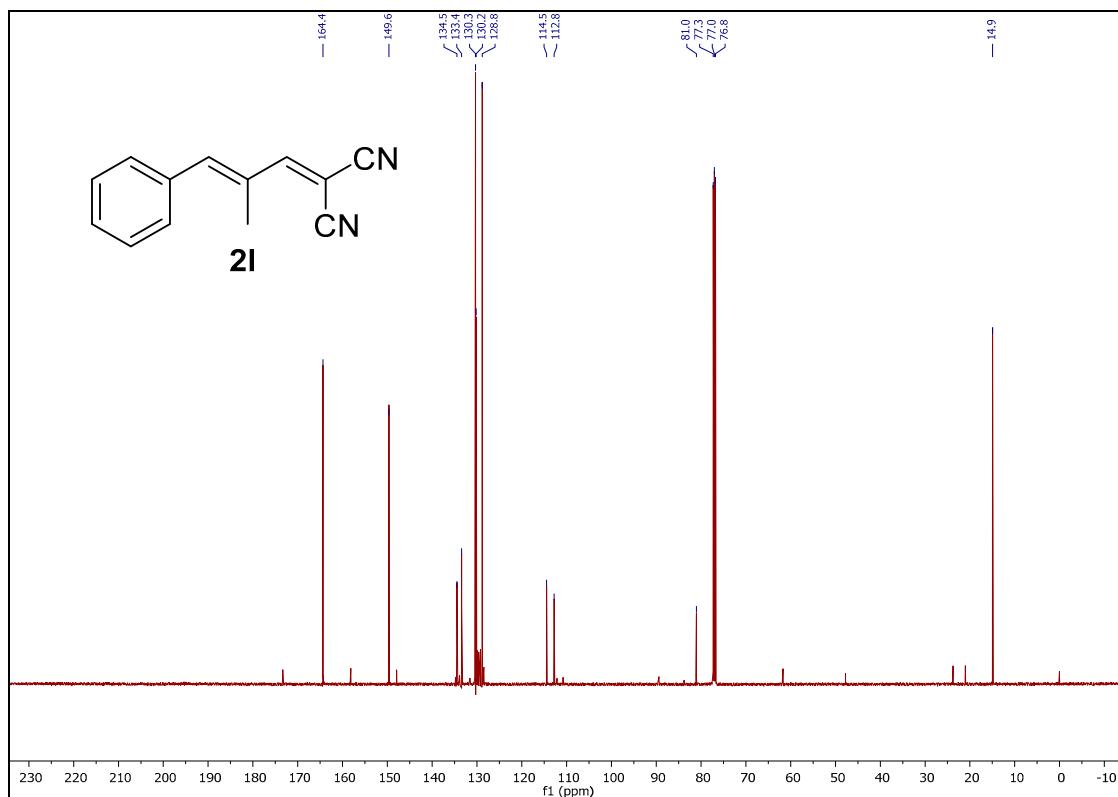
**Figure S43.** FT-IR of 2-(4-cyanobenzylidene)malononitrile **2k**.



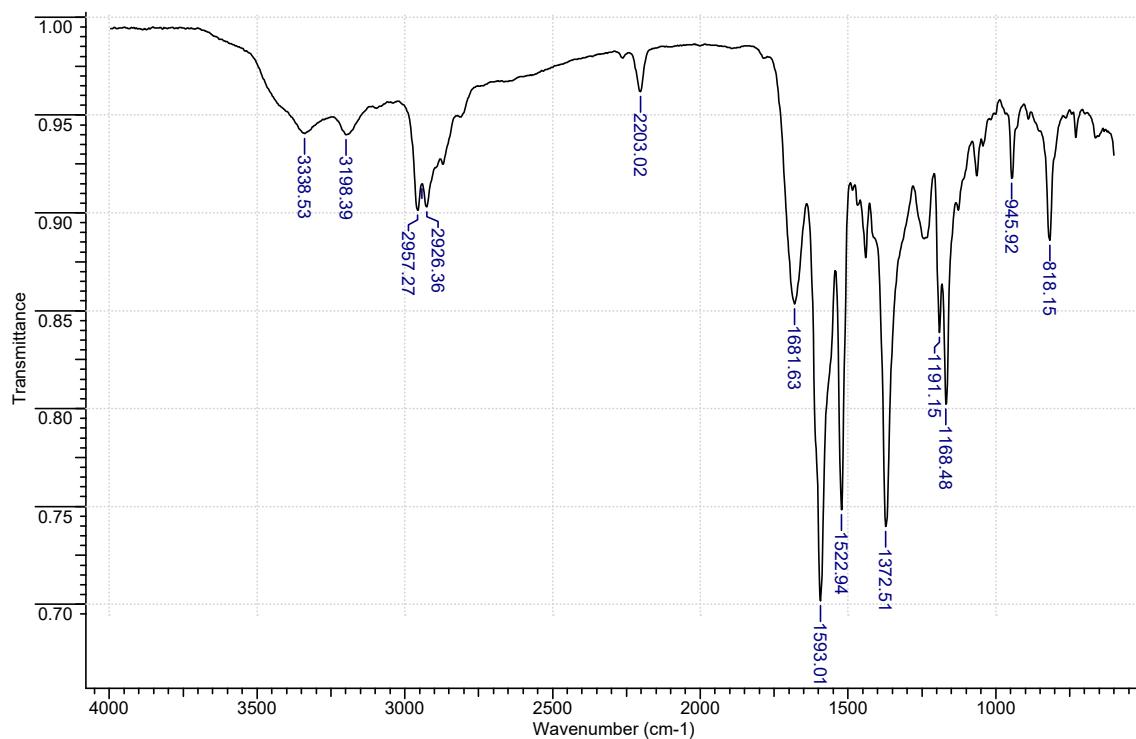
**Figure S44.** MS (70 eV) of 2-(4-cyanobenzylidene)malononitrile **2k**.



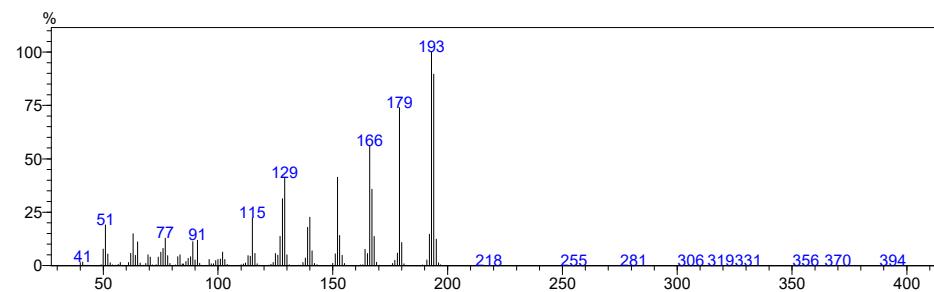
**Figure S45.** <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) of (2-methyl-3-phenylallylidene)malononitrile **2I**.



**Figure S46.** <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) of (2-methyl-3-phenylallylidene)malononitrile **2I**.



**Figure S47.** FT-IR of 2-(3-phenylallylidene)malononitrile **2l**.



**Figure S48.** MS (70 eV) of 2-(3-phenylallylidene)malononitrile **2l**.