

## Supporting Information

### Iridium(III)-Catalyzed Regioselective C7-Sulfonamidation of Indoles

Zengqiang Song<sup>[a,b]</sup> and Andrey P. Antonchick\*<sup>[a,b]</sup>

<sup>a</sup> Max-Planck-Institut für molekulare Physiologie, Abteilung Chemische Biologie,  
Otto-Hahn-Straße 11, 44227 Dortmund, Germany

<sup>b</sup> Technische Universität Dortmund, Fakultät für Chemie und Chemische Biologie,  
Chemische Biologie, Otto-Hahn-Straße 4a, 44221 Dortmund, Germany

\*Email: [Andrey.Antonchick@mpi-dortmund.mpg.de](mailto:Andrey.Antonchick@mpi-dortmund.mpg.de)

### Table of Contents

General information and materials	2
General procedure for C7-sulfonamidation of indoles	2
Optimization of reaction conditions	3
Characterization of products	5
Study on reaction mechanism	19
General procedure for removal of the directing group	21
References	22
Copies of <sup>1</sup> H and <sup>13</sup> C NMR spectrum of products	23

## **General information and materials:**

Unless otherwise noted, all commercially available compounds were used as provided without further purification. Solvents for chromatography were technical grade. Dry solvents were purified by the Solvent Purification System *M-BRAUN Glovebox Technology SPS-800*. Analytical thin layer chromatography (TLC) was performed on Merck silica gel *aluminium plates* with *F-254 indicator*, visualised by irradiation with UV light. Column chromatography was performed using silica gel Merck 60 (particle size 0.040-0.063 mm). Solvent mixtures are understood as volume/volume.

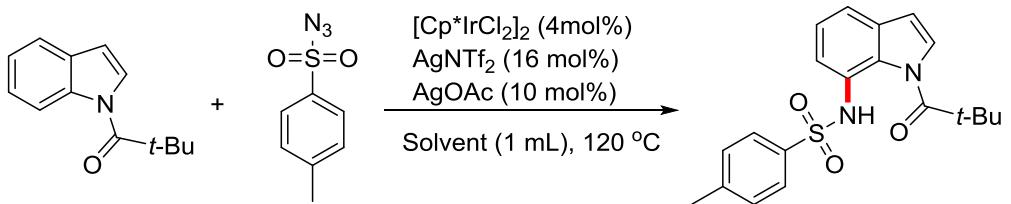
<sup>1</sup>H-NMR and <sup>13</sup>C-NMR were recorded on a *Bruker DRX400 (400 MHz), DRX500 (500 MHz)* and *DRX600 (600 MHz)* spectrometer in CD<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> ( $\delta$  = 5.320 ppm for <sup>1</sup>H,  $\delta$  = 54.000 ppm for <sup>13</sup>C). Data are reported in the following order: chemical shift ( $\delta$ ) in ppm; multiplicities are indicated s (singlet), d (doublet), t (triplet), q (quartet), m (multiplet); coupling constants ( $J$ ) are given in Hertz (Hz). High resolution mass spectra were recorded on a LTQ Orbitrap mass spectrometer coupled to an *Accela HPLC-System* (HPLC column: *Hypersyl GOLD*, 50 mm ×1 mm, 1.9  $\mu$ m). Fourier transform infrared spectroscopy (FT- IR) spectra were obtained with a Bruker Tensor 27 spectrometer (ATR, neat) and are reported in terms of frequency of absorption (cm<sup>-1</sup>). Chemical yields refer to isolated pure substances. Optical rotation was measured in a Schmidt + Haensch Polartronic HH8 polarimeter.

## **General procedure for C7-sulfonamidation of indoles**

*N*-pivaloyl indoles (0.1 mmol) were dissolved in a 12 mL screw capped tube with 1 mL of DCE. Then sulfonyl azides (0.22 mmol) followed by [(IrCp\*Cl<sub>2</sub>)<sub>2</sub>] (4 mol %), AgNTf<sub>2</sub> (16 mol %) and LiOAc (40 mol%) were added to the reaction mixture at room temperature. The reaction mixture was allowed to warm up to 120 °C and stirred for 1-12 h. After finishing the reaction, the reaction mixture was directly loaded on a silica gel column and purified with petroleum ether (40-60°C)/EtOAc mixture.

## Optimization of reaction conditions

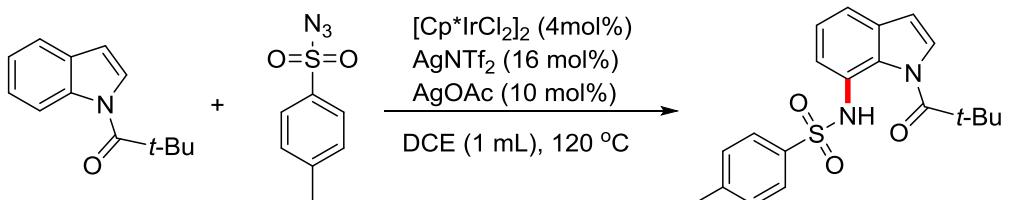
### 1. Optimization of solvent



Entry	Solvent	Reaction Time (h)	Yield (%)
<b>1</b>	<b>DCE</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>93</b>
2	Chloroform	1	69
3	1,4-Dioxane	24	12
4	Toluene	24	n.d.
5	Chlorobenzene	4	79
6	<i>tert</i> -Amyl alcohol	24	n.d.
7	DMF	24	n.r.
8	DMSO	24	n.r.

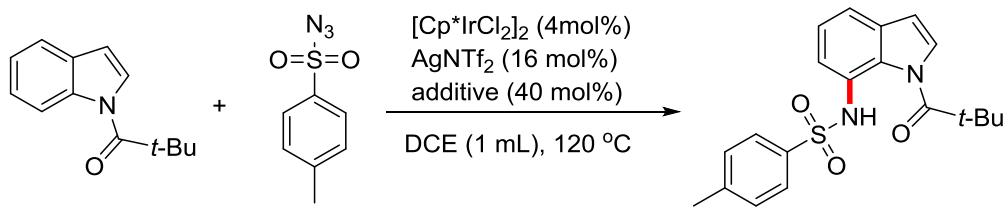
n.d. = the desired product was not detected. n.r. = reaction did not occur.

### 2. Optimization of loading of $\text{TsN}_3$



Entry	Amount of $\text{TsN}_3$ (equiv)	Reaction Time (h)	Yield (%)
<b>1</b>	<b>2.2</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>93</b>
2	1.6	1	86
3	1.1	1	58

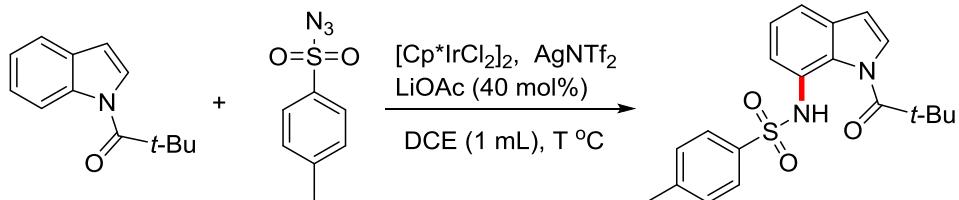
### 3. Optimization of additive



Entry	Additive	Reaction Time (h)	Yield (%)
1	-	24	18
2	Cu(OAc) <sub>2</sub>	1	61
3	NaOAc	24	21
<b>4</b>	<b>LiOAc</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>98</b>
5	PivOH	24	34
6 <sup>[a]</sup>	AgOAc	1	93

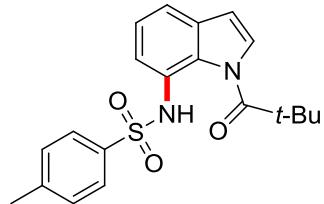
[a] 10 mol% AgOAc was used.

### 4. Optimization of catalyst, additive amount and reaction temperature



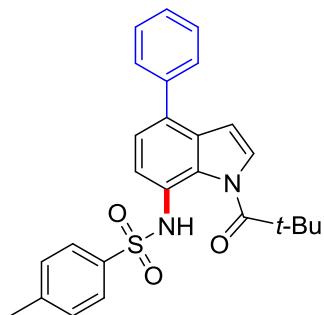
Entry	Catalyst and Additive Amount	T (°C)	Reaction Time (h)	Yield (%)
<b>1</b>	<b>[Cp*IrCl2]2 (4 mol%), AgNTf2 (16 mol%)</b>	<b>120</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>98</b>
2	[Cp*IrCl2]2 (2 mol%), AgNTf2 (8 mol%)	120	24	56
3	[Cp*IrCl2]2 (4 mol%), AgNTf2 (16 mol%)	80	1	84

## Characterization of products



### **4-Methyl-N-(1-pivaloyl-1*H*-indol-7-yl)benzenesulfonamide (3a):**

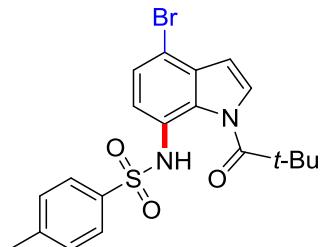
Brown amorphous solid;  $R_f = 0.25$  (20% EtOAc in petroleum ether);  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (500 MHz,  $\text{CD}_2\text{Cl}_2$ )  $\delta$  9.32 (brs, 1H), 7.56 (d,  $J = 3.9$  Hz, 1H), 7.51 (dd,  $J = 7.8, 1.2$  Hz, 1H), 7.40 (dd,  $J = 7.8, 1.2$  Hz, 1H), 7.36 – 7.35 (m, 2H), 7.31 (t,  $J = 7.7$  Hz, 1H), 7.11 – 7.09 (m, 2H), 6.61 (d,  $J = 3.9$  Hz, 1H), 2.29 (s, 3H), 1.38 (s, 9H) ppm;  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (126 MHz,  $\text{CD}_2\text{Cl}_2$ )  $\delta$  180.22, 144.11, 137.82, 133.01, 129.96, 129.80, 127.46, 127.21, 125.78, 125.63, 122.84, 119.29, 109.76, 42.21, 29.32, 21.66 ppm; FT-IR:  $\tilde{\nu} = 3854, 3734, 3629, 3286, 3136, 2985, 2360, 2342, 1541, 1117 \text{ cm}^{-1}$ ; HRMS: calc. for  $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$   $\text{C}_{20}\text{H}_{23}\text{N}_2\text{O}_3\text{S}$ : 371.14239, found: 371.14304.



### **4-Methyl-N-(4-phenyl-1-pivaloyl-1*H*-indol-7-yl)benzenesulfonamide (3b):**

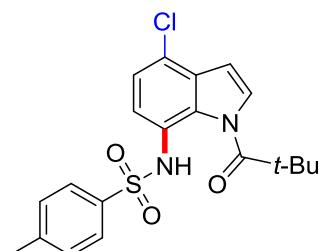
Brown oil;  $R_f = 0.25$  (20% EtOAc in petroleum ether);  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (500 MHz,  $\text{CD}_2\text{Cl}_2$ )  $\delta$  9.20 (brs, 1H), 7.59 – 7.54 (m, 4H), 7.49 (t,  $J = 7.6$  Hz, 2H), 7.42 – 7.36 (m, 4H), 7.13 (d,  $J = 8.1$  Hz, 2H), 6.74 (d,  $J = 4.0$  Hz, 1H), 2.31 (s, 3H), 1.38 (s, 9H) ppm;  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (126 MHz,  $\text{CD}_2\text{Cl}_2$ )  $\delta$  180.35, 144.16, 139.86, 137.83, 133.29, 130.91, 130.10, 130.01, 129.44, 129.18, 127.98, 127.63, 127.17, 125.67, 124.77, 123.16, 108.81, 42.25, 29.25,

21.65 ppm; FT-IR:  $\tilde{\nu}$  = 2975, 2360, 2342, 1672, 1481, 1377, 1361, 1233, 1218 cm<sup>-1</sup>; HRMS: calc. for [M+H]<sup>+</sup> C<sub>26</sub>H<sub>27</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>S: 447.17369, found: 447.17411.



**N-(4-Bromo-1-pivaloyl-1*H*-indol-7-yl)-4-methylbenzenesulfonamide (3c):**

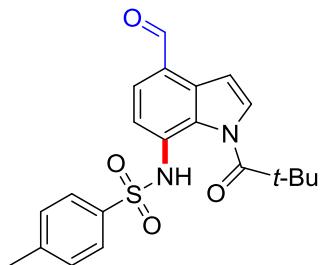
Brown amorphous solid; R<sub>f</sub> = 0.25 (20% EtOAc in petroleum ether); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CD<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>) δ 9.12 (brs, 1H), 7.62 (d, J = 4.0 Hz, 1H), 7.48 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 7.39 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 7.36 (d, J = 8.2 Hz, 2H), 7.12 (d, J = 8.2 Hz, 2H), 6.69 (d, J = 4.0 Hz, 1H), 2.30 (s, 3H), 1.36 (s, 9H) ppm; <sup>13</sup>C NMR (126 MHz, CD<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>) δ 180.45, 144.34, 137.46, 133.01, 130.11, 130.07, 128.38, 128.04, 127.13, 125.07, 123.92, 112.52, 109.42, 42.30, 29.16, 21.65 ppm; FT-IR:  $\tilde{\nu}$  = 3187, 2975, 2360, 2342, 1678, 1327, 1237 cm<sup>-1</sup>; HRMS: calc. for [M+H]<sup>+</sup> C<sub>20</sub>H<sub>22</sub><sup>79</sup>BrN<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>S: 449.05290, found: 449.05352; HRMS: calc. for [M+H]<sup>+</sup> C<sub>20</sub>H<sub>22</sub><sup>81</sup>BrN<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>S: 451.05086, found: 451.05125.



**N-(4-Chloro-1-pivaloyl-1*H*-indol-7-yl)-4-methylbenzenesulfonamide (3d):**

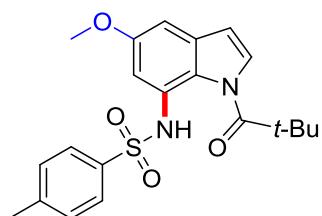
Brown amorphous solid; R<sub>f</sub> = 0.15 (25% EtOAc in petroleum ether); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CD<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>) δ 9.10 (brs, 1H), 7.60 (d, J = 4.0 Hz, 1H), 7.45 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 7.35 (d, J = 8.3 Hz, 2H), 7.32 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 7.12 (d, J = 8.3 Hz, 2H), 6.73 (d, J = 4.0 Hz, 1H), 2.30 (s, 3H), 1.36 (s, 9H) ppm; <sup>13</sup>C NMR (126 MHz, CD<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>) δ 180.37, 144.32, 137.46, 131.17, 130.43, 130.05, 128.05, 127.13, 125.19, 124.44, 124.22,

123.79, 107.58, 42.27, 29.15, 21.64 ppm; FT-IR:  $\tilde{\nu}$  = 2360, 2342, 1673, 1480, 1322, 1181, 1162, 1085  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ; HRMS: calc. for  $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$   $\text{C}_{20}\text{H}_{22}^{35}\text{ClN}_2\text{O}_3\text{S}$ : 405.10342, found: 405.10461; HRMS: calc. for  $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$   $\text{C}_{20}\text{H}_{22}^{37}\text{ClN}_2\text{O}_3\text{S}$ : 407.10047, found: 407.10146.



**N-(4-Formyl-1-pivaloyl-1H-indol-7-yl)-4-methylbenzenesulfonamide (3e):**

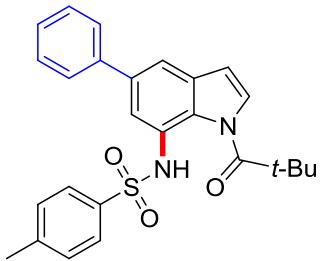
Yellow amorphous solid;  $R_f$  = 0.3 (20% EtOAc in petroleum ether);  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (500 MHz,  $\text{CD}_2\text{Cl}_2$ )  $\delta$  10.33 (s, 1H), 9.81 (brs, 1H), 8.80 (dd,  $J$  = 8.5, 0.8 Hz, 1H), 8.08 (m, 1H), 7.72 (dd,  $J$  = 8.5, 0.8 Hz, 1H), 7.63 (d,  $J$  = 8.3 Hz, 2H), 7.49 – 7.43 (m, 1H), 7.15 (d,  $J$  = 8.3 Hz, 2H), 2.28 (s, 3H), 1.52 (s, 9H) ppm;  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (126 MHz,  $\text{CD}_2\text{Cl}_2$ )  $\delta$  196.69, 177.56, 144.52, 136.57, 136.48, 134.68, 130.01, 128.83, 127.59, 125.67, 124.92, 122.11, 120.42, 118.00, 42.00, 28.76, 21.69 ppm; FT-IR:  $\tilde{\nu}$  = 2360, 2342, 1706, 1668, 1561, 1217, 1154  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ; HRMS: calc. for  $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$   $\text{C}_{21}\text{H}_{23}\text{N}_2\text{O}_4\text{S}$ : 399.13730, found: 399.13721.



**N-(5-Methoxy-1-pivaloyl-1H-indol-7-yl)-4-methylbenzenesulfonamide (3f):**

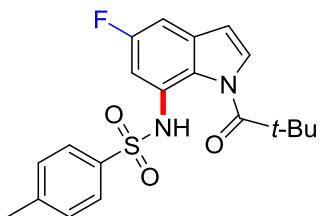
Brown amorphous solid;  $R_f$  = 0.15 (20% EtOAc in petroleum ether);  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (500 MHz,  $\text{CD}_2\text{Cl}_2$ )  $\delta$  9.75 (brs, 1H), 7.54 (d,  $J$  = 3.9 Hz, 1H), 7.41 (d,  $J$  = 8.3 Hz, 2H), 7.13 (s, 1H), 7.11 – 7.10 (m, 2H), 6.84 (d,  $J$  = 2.5 Hz, 1H), 6.52 (d,  $J$  = 3.9 Hz, 1H), 3.84 (s, 3H), 2.30 (s, 3H), 1.37 (s, 9H) ppm;  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (126 MHz,  $\text{CD}_2\text{Cl}_2$ )  $\delta$  179.68, 157.90, 144.15, 137.57, 133.82, 129.94, 128.21, 127.21, 126.57, 123.97, 109.89, 109.67,

101.86, 56.16, 42.02, 29.30, 21.65 ppm; FT-IR:  $\tilde{\nu}$  = 2934, 2360, 2342, 1658, 1616, 1378, 1230, 1128, 1042  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ; HRMS: calc. for  $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$   $\text{C}_{21}\text{H}_{25}\text{N}_2\text{O}_4\text{S}$ : 401.15295, found: 401.15347.



**4-Methyl-N-(5-phenyl-1-pivaloyl-1*H*-indol-7-yl)benzenesulfonamide (3g):**

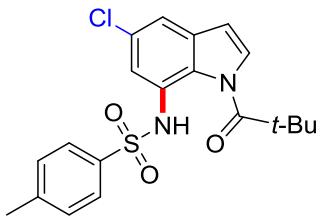
Brown oil;  $R_f$  = 0.25 (20% EtOAc in petroleum ether);  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (500 MHz,  $\text{CD}_2\text{Cl}_2$ )  $\delta$  9.49 (brs, 1H), 7.79 (d,  $J$  = 1.7 Hz, 1H), 7.68 (d,  $J$  = 8.3 Hz, 2H), 7.63 (d,  $J$  = 1.7 Hz, 1H), 7.59 (d,  $J$  = 3.9 Hz, 1H), 7.48 (t,  $J$  = 7.7 Hz, 2H), 7.41 – 7.37 (m, 3H), 7.12 (d,  $J$  = 8.3 Hz, 2H), 6.66 (d,  $J$  = 3.9 Hz, 1H), 2.30 (s, 3H), 1.38 (s, 9H) ppm;  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (126 MHz,  $\text{CD}_2\text{Cl}_2$ )  $\delta$  180.02, 144.18, 140.47, 138.70, 137.63, 133.54, 129.97, 129.41, 128.98, 128.04, 128.00, 127.63, 127.22, 125.83, 121.85, 117.30, 110.02, 42.12, 29.22, 21.64 ppm; FT-IR:  $\tilde{\nu}$  = 3151, 2974, 2930, 2360, 2342, 1670, 1332, 1220  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ; HRMS: calc. for  $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$   $\text{C}_{26}\text{H}_{27}\text{N}_2\text{O}_3\text{S}$ : 447.17369, found: 447.17420.



**N-(5-Fluoro-1-pivaloyl-1*H*-indol-7-yl)-4-methylbenzenesulfonamide (3h):**

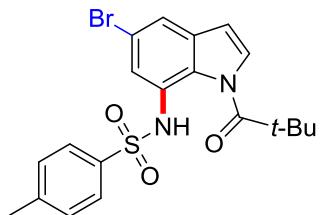
Brown amorphous solid;  $R_f$  = 0.15 (20% EtOAc in petroleum ether);  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (500 MHz,  $\text{CD}_2\text{Cl}_2$ )  $\delta$  9.69 (brs, 1H), 7.62 (d,  $J$  = 3.9 Hz, 1H), 7.44 (d,  $J$  = 8.3 Hz, 2H), 7.29 (dd,  $J$  = 10.7, 2.5 Hz, 1H), 7.14 (d,  $J$  = 8.3 Hz, 2H), 7.04 (dd,  $J$  = 10.7, 2.5 Hz, 1H), 6.57 (d,  $J$  = 3.9 Hz, 1H), 2.30 (s, 3H), 1.38 (s, 9H) ppm;  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (126 MHz,  $\text{CD}_2\text{Cl}_2$ )  $\delta$  180.18, 160.50 (d,  $J$  = 241.2 Hz), 144.43, 137.34, 133.73 (d,  $J$  = 11.2 Hz), 130.07,

129.08, 127.19, 127.00 (d,  $J = 12.0$  Hz), 125.76 (d,  $J = 1.8$  Hz), 109.71 (d,  $J = 4.1$  Hz), 109.25 (d,  $J = 28.5$  Hz), 104.25 (d,  $J = 23.6$  Hz), 42.22, 29.27, 21.67 ppm;  $^{19}\text{F}$  NMR (377 MHz,  $\text{CD}_2\text{Cl}_2$ )  $\delta$  -117.81 ppm (dd,  $J = 10.6, 7.7$  Hz); FT-IR:  $\tilde{\nu} = 3198, 2975, 1661, 1600, 1473, 1334, 1184, 1160 \text{ cm}^{-1}$ ; HRMS: calc. for  $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$   $\text{C}_{20}\text{H}_{22}\text{FN}_2\text{O}_3\text{S}$ : 389.13297, found: 389.13290.



**N-(5-Chloro-1-pivaloyl-1*H*-indol-7-yl)-4-methylbenzenesulfonamide (3i):**

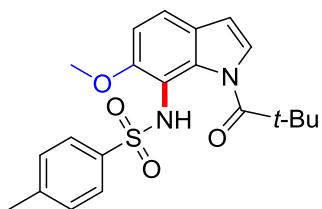
Brown amorphous solid;  $R_f = 0.15$  (20% EtOAc in petroleum ether);  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (500 MHz,  $\text{CD}_2\text{Cl}_2$ )  $\delta$  9.48 (brs, 1H), 7.59 (d,  $J = 3.9$  Hz, 1H), 7.51 (d,  $J = 2.0$  Hz, 1H), 7.40 (d,  $J = 8.2$  Hz, 2H), 7.36 (d,  $J = 2.0$  Hz, 1H), 7.13 (d,  $J = 8.2$  Hz, 2H), 6.55 (d,  $J = 3.9$  Hz, 1H), 2.30 (s, 3H), 1.36 (s, 9H) ppm;  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (126 MHz,  $\text{CD}_2\text{Cl}_2$ )  $\delta$  180.20, 144.42, 137.36, 133.91, 130.80, 130.07, 128.78, 128.11, 127.16, 126.63, 121.95, 118.48, 109.18, 42.22, 29.20, 21.66 ppm; FT-IR:  $\tilde{\nu} = 2975, 2360, 2342, 1663, 1583, 1454, 1376, 1158, 1091 \text{ cm}^{-1}$ ; HRMS: calc. for  $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$   $\text{C}_{20}\text{H}_{22}^{35}\text{ClN}_2\text{O}_3\text{S}$ : 405.10342, found: 405.10339; HRMS: calc. for  $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$   $\text{C}_{20}\text{H}_{22}^{37}\text{ClN}_2\text{O}_3\text{S}$ : 407.10047, found: 407.10022.



**N-(5-Bromo-1-pivaloyl-1*H*-indol-7-yl)-4-methylbenzenesulfonamide (3j):**

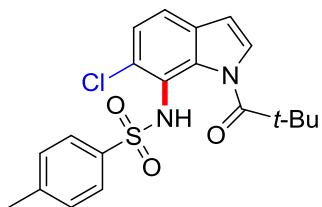
Brown amorphous solid;  $R_f = 0.15$  (20% EtOAc in petroleum ether);  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (500 MHz,  $\text{CD}_2\text{Cl}_2$ )  $\delta$  9.43 (brs, 1H), 7.64 (d,  $J = 1.9$  Hz, 1H), 7.57 (d,  $J = 3.9$  Hz, 1H), 7.52 (d,  $J = 1.9$  Hz, 1H), 7.40 (d,  $J = 8.3$  Hz, 2H), 7.13 (d,  $J = 8.3$  Hz, 2H), 6.55 (d,  $J = 3.9$  Hz, 1H) ppm; FT-IR:  $\tilde{\nu} = 2975, 2360, 2342, 1663, 1583, 1454, 1376, 1158, 1091 \text{ cm}^{-1}$ ; HRMS: calc. for  $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$   $\text{C}_{20}\text{H}_{22}^{77}\text{BrN}_2\text{O}_3\text{S}$ : 427.09342, found: 427.09339.

Hz, 1H), 2.30 (s, 3H), 1.36 (s, 9H) ppm;  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (126 MHz,  $\text{CD}_2\text{Cl}_2$ )  $\delta$  180.21, 144.42, 137.36, 134.31, 130.07, 128.64, 128.58, 127.15, 126.78, 124.75, 121.61, 118.27, 109.03, 42.22, 29.18, 21.66 ppm; FT-IR:  $\tilde{\nu}$  = 2975, 2361, 2342, 1670, 1448, 1330, 1295, 1122, 1092  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ; HRMS: calc. for  $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$   $\text{C}_{20}\text{H}_{22}^{79}\text{BrN}_2\text{O}_3\text{S}$ : 449.05290, found: 449.05215; HRMS: calc. for  $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$   $\text{C}_{20}\text{H}_{22}^{81}\text{BrN}_2\text{O}_3\text{S}$ : 451.05086; found: 451.05115.



**N-(6-Methoxy-1-pivaloyl-1H-indol-7-yl)-4-methylbenzenesulfonamide (3k):**

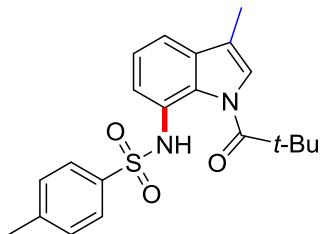
Brown amorphous solid;  $R_f$  = 0.2 (20% EtOAc in petroleum ether);  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (500 MHz,  $\text{CD}_2\text{Cl}_2$ )  $\delta$  7.55 (d,  $J$  = 3.8 Hz, 1H), 7.49 (d,  $J$  = 8.2 Hz, 2H), 7.45 – 7.43 (m, 2H), 7.21 (d,  $J$  = 8.2 Hz, 2H), 6.91 (d,  $J$  = 8.5 Hz, 1H), 6.57 (d,  $J$  = 3.8 Hz, 1H), 3.50 (s, 3H), 2.38 (s, 3H), 1.47 (s, 9H) ppm;  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (126 MHz,  $\text{CD}_2\text{Cl}_2$ )  $\delta$  179.64, 154.34, 143.73, 138.54, 133.99, 129.53, 127.57, 126.69, 126.38, 120.41, 114.00, 109.95, 108.05, 56.69, 42.13, 29.12, 21.70 ppm; FT-IR:  $\tilde{\nu}$  = 2972, 2360, 2342, 1715, 1671, 1492, 1403, 1303, 1156  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ; HRMS: calc. for  $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$   $\text{C}_{21}\text{H}_{25}\text{N}_2\text{O}_4\text{S}$ : 401.15295, found: 401.15308.



**N-(6-Chloro-1-pivaloyl-1H-indol-7-yl)-4-methylbenzenesulfonamide (3l):**

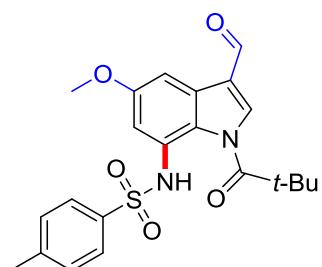
Brown amorphous solid;  $R_f$  = 0.2 (6% EtOAc in petroleum ether);  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (500 MHz,  $\text{CD}_2\text{Cl}_2$ )  $\delta$  7.70 (brs, 1H), 7.65 (d,  $J$  = 3.8 Hz, 1H), 7.55 (d,  $J$  = 8.2 Hz, 2H), 7.49 (d,  $J$  = 8.3 Hz, 1H), 7.39 (d,  $J$  = 8.3 Hz, 1H), 7.24 (d,  $J$  = 8.2 Hz, 2H), 6.65 (d,  $J$  = 3.8 Hz, 1H), 2.40 (s, 3H), 1.46 (s, 9H) ppm;  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (126 MHz,  $\text{CD}_2\text{Cl}_2$ )  $\delta$  179.98,

144.57, 137.91, 134.53, 131.94, 131.80, 129.99, 128.23, 127.82, 126.64, 121.98, 121.38, 108.29, 42.22, 29.09, 21.80 ppm; FT-IR:  $\tilde{\nu}$  = 3238, 2975, 2360, 2342, 1715, 1464, 1333, 1296, 1165 cm<sup>-1</sup>; HRMS: calc. for [M+H]<sup>+</sup> C<sub>20</sub>H<sub>22</sub><sup>35</sup>ClN<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>S: 405.10342, found: 405.10345; HRMS: calc. for [M+H]<sup>+</sup> C<sub>20</sub>H<sub>22</sub><sup>37</sup>ClN<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>S: 407.10047, found: 407.10040.



**4-Methyl-N-(3-methyl-1-pivaloyl-1H-indol-7-yl)benzenesulfonamide (3m):**

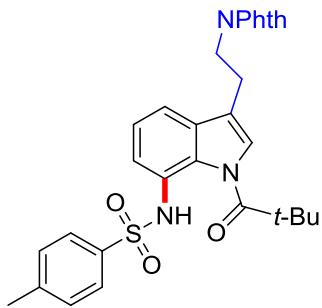
Brown amorphous solid; R<sub>f</sub> = 0.25 (20% EtOAc in petroleum ether); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (600 MHz, CD<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>) δ 9.56 (brs, 1H), 7.52 – 7.50 (m, 1H), 7.36 – 7.31 (m, 5H), 7.10 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 2.29 (s, 3H), 2.21 (d, J = 1.2 Hz, 3H), 1.36 (s, 9H) ppm; <sup>13</sup>C NMR (151 MHz, CD<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>) δ 179.70, 144.03, 137.79, 133.99, 129.97, 129.93, 127.17, 125.77, 125.36, 124.23, 122.66, 118.75, 117.04, 41.99, 29.23, 21.65, 9.93 ppm; FT-IR:  $\tilde{\nu}$  = 2976, 2919, 2360, 2342, 1662, 1321, 1258, 1119 cm<sup>-1</sup>; HRMS: calc. for [M+H]<sup>+</sup> C<sub>21</sub>H<sub>25</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>S: 385.15804, found: 385.15888.



**N-(3-Formyl-5-methoxy-1-pivaloyl-1H-indol-7-yl)-4-methylbenzenesulfonamide (3n):**

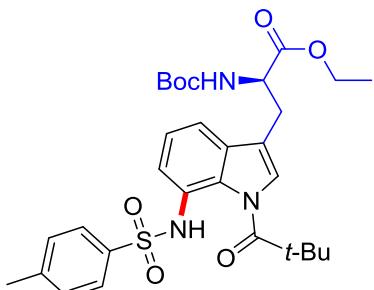
Brown amorphous solid; R<sub>f</sub> = 0.2 (20% EtOAc in petroleum ether); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CD<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>) δ 10.00 (s, 1H), 9.02 (brs, 1H), 8.38 (s, 1H), 8.25 (d, J = 9.2 Hz, 1H), 7.58 (d, J = 8.3 Hz, 2H), 7.23 (d, J = 8.3 Hz, 2H), 6.98 (d, J = 9.2 Hz, 1H), 3.45 (s, 3H), 2.39 (s, 3H), 1.53 (s, 9H) ppm; <sup>13</sup>C NMR (126 MHz, CD<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>) δ 187.17, 177.46, 151.23,

143.70, 138.54, 138.15, 133.62, 129.36, 127.58, 122.79, 122.12, 119.67, 115.88, 112.43, 56.38, 42.19, 28.90, 21.75 ppm; FT-IR:  $\tilde{\nu}$  = 3166, 2927, 2360, 2342, 1702, 1654, 1538, 1499, 1266 cm<sup>-1</sup>; HRMS: calc. for [M+H]<sup>+</sup> C<sub>22</sub>H<sub>25</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O<sub>5</sub>S: 429.14787, found: 429.14907.



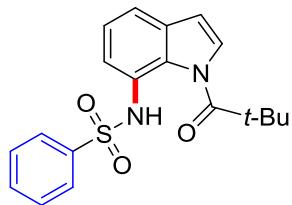
**N-(3-(2-(1,3-Dioxoisooindolin-2-yl)ethyl)-1-pivaloyl-1H-indol-7-yl)-4-methylbenzenesulfonamide (3o):**

Brown oil; R<sub>f</sub> = 0.15 (25% EtOAc in petroleum ether); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CD<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>)  $\delta$  9.40 (brs, 1H), 7.81 – 7.80 (m, 2H), 7.73 – 7.72 (m, 2H), 7.49 (td, *J* = 7.9, 0.9 Hz, 2H), 7.40 (s, 1H), 7.36 – 7.32 (m, 3H), 7.09 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 3.98 (t, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 3.06 (t, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 2.27 (s, 3H), 1.29 (s, 9H) ppm; <sup>13</sup>C NMR (126 MHz, CD<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>)  $\delta$  179.85, 168.62, 144.01, 137.72, 134.62, 132.87, 132.46, 130.03, 129.93, 127.09, 125.77, 125.49, 124.52, 123.60, 123.01, 119.33, 117.04, 41.96, 37.41, 29.06, 24.29, 21.63 ppm; FT-IR:  $\tilde{\nu}$  = 3727, 2918, 2850, 2360, 2342, 1709, 1669, 1346, 1163 cm<sup>-1</sup>; HRMS: calc. for [M+H]<sup>+</sup> C<sub>30</sub>H<sub>30</sub>N<sub>3</sub>O<sub>5</sub>S: 544.19007, found: 544.19064.



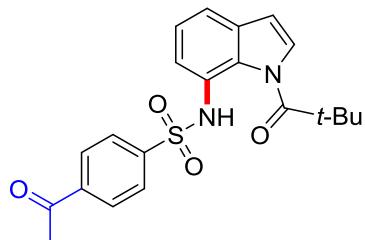
**Ethyl(R)-2-((tert-butoxycarbonyl)amino)-3-(7-((4-methylphenyl)sulfonamido)-1-pivaloyl-1H-indol-3-yl)propanoate (3p):**

Brown oil;  $R_f = 0.1$  (25% EtOAc in petroleum ether);  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (500 MHz,  $\text{CD}_2\text{Cl}_2$ )  $\delta$  9.39 (brs, 1H), 7.51 (dd,  $J = 6.4, 2.4$  Hz, 1H), 7.38 (s, 1H), 7.36 – 7.31 (m, 4H), 7.11 (d,  $J = 8.1$  Hz, 2H), 5.11 – 5.09 (brs, 1H), 4.62 – 4.58 (m, 1H), 4.16 – 4.06 (m, 2H), 3.22 (dd,  $J = 13.0, 5.9$  Hz, 1H), 3.08 (dd,  $J = 13.0, 5.9$  Hz, 1H), 2.30 (s, 3H), 1.40 (s, 9H), 1.35 (s, 9H), 1.23 – 1.20 (m, 3H) ppm;  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (126 MHz,  $\text{CD}_2\text{Cl}_2$ )  $\delta$  179.78, 172.05, 155.42, 144.11, 137.61, 133.16, 129.96, 129.83, 127.11, 125.81, 125.46, 125.35, 122.97, 117.68, 117.03, 80.37, 62.21, 42.06, 29.57, 29.22, 28.55, 27.88, 21.65, 14.43 ppm; FT-IR:  $\tilde{\nu} = 2977, 2360, 2342, 1711, 1670, 1601, 1495, 1347, 1160$   $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ; HRMS: calc. for  $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$   $\text{C}_{30}\text{H}_{40}\text{N}_3\text{O}_7\text{S}$ : 586.25815, found: 586.25979;  $[\alpha]_D^{25} = 29.8$  ( $\text{CHCl}_3, c = 1$ ).



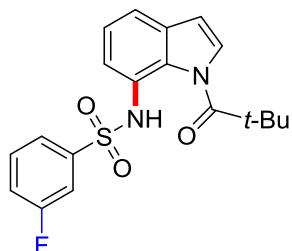
**N-(1-pivaloyl-1H-indol-7-yl)benzenesulfonamide (3q):**

Brown amorphous solid;  $R_f = 0.1$  (20% EtOAc in petroleum ether);  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CD}_2\text{Cl}_2$ )  $\delta$  9.38 (brs, 1H), 7.55 (d,  $J = 4.0$  Hz, 1H), 7.52 (dd,  $J = 7.8, 1.2$  Hz, 1H), 7.49 – 7.44 (m, 3H), 7.43 – 7.40 (m, 1H), 7.34 – 7.28 (m, 3H), 6.60 (d,  $J = 4.0$  Hz, 1H), 1.38 (s, 9H) ppm;  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (101 MHz,  $\text{CD}_2\text{Cl}_2$ )  $\delta$  180.26, 140.72, 133.13, 133.04, 129.83, 129.38, 127.48, 127.17, 125.67, 125.62, 122.84, 119.41, 109.79, 42.23, 29.37 ppm; FT-IR:  $\tilde{\nu} = 3118, 2360, 2342, 1663, 1580, 1363, 1326, 1174, 1163$   $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ; HRMS: calc. for  $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$   $\text{C}_{19}\text{H}_{21}\text{N}_2\text{O}_3\text{S}$ : 357.12674, found: 357.12782.



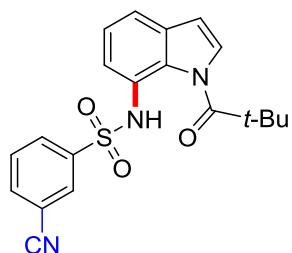
**4-Acetyl-N-(1-pivaloyl-1H-indol-7-yl)benzenesulfonamide (3r):**

Brown amorphous solid;  $R_f = 0.15$  (25% EtOAc in petroleum ether);  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (500 MHz,  $\text{CD}_2\text{Cl}_2$ )  $\delta$  9.58 (brs, 1H), 7.84 (d,  $J = 8.2$  Hz, 2H), 7.58 (d,  $J = 8.2$  Hz, 2H), 7.55 (d,  $J = 3.7$  Hz, 1H), 7.51 (d,  $J = 7.8$  Hz, 1H), 7.42 (d,  $J = 7.8$  Hz, 1H), 7.33 (t,  $J = 7.7$  Hz, 1H), 6.61 (d,  $J = 3.7$  Hz, 1H), 2.52 (s, 3H), 1.36 (s, 9H) ppm;  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (126 MHz,  $\text{CD}_2\text{Cl}_2$ )  $\delta$  197.03, 180.24, 144.26, 140.43, 133.06, 129.61, 129.06, 127.52, 127.50, 125.76, 125.11, 122.54, 119.59, 109.91, 42.17, 29.27, 27.20 ppm; FT-IR:  $\tilde{\nu} = 2925$ , 2360, 2342, 1686, 1667, 1321, 1230, 1180, 1164  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ; HRMS: calc. for  $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$   $\text{C}_{21}\text{H}_{23}\text{N}_2\text{O}_4\text{S}$ : 399.13730, found: 399.13777.



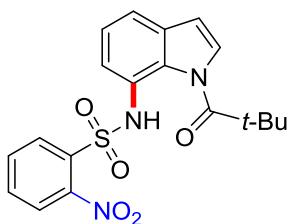
**3-Fluoro-N-(1-pivaloyl-1*H*-indol-7-yl)benzenesulfonamide (3s):**

Brown amorphous solid;  $R_f = 0.25$  (20% EtOAc in petroleum ether);  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CD}_2\text{Cl}_2$ )  $\delta$  9.53 (brs, 1H), 7.58 (d,  $J = 4.0$  Hz, 1H), 7.52 (dd,  $J = 7.8, 1.2$  Hz, 1H), 7.43 (dd,  $J = 7.8, 1.2$  Hz, 1H), 7.35 – 7.22 (m, 4H), 7.17 – 7.13 (m, 1H), 6.62 (d,  $J = 4.0$  Hz, 1H), 1.40 (s, 9H) ppm;  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (101 MHz,  $\text{CD}_2\text{Cl}_2$ )  $\delta$  180.33, 162.69 (d,  $J = 250.7$  Hz), 142.66 (d,  $J = 6.8$  Hz), 133.13, 131.23 (d,  $J = 7.8$  Hz), 129.83, 127.57, 125.80, 125.24, 123.15 (d,  $J = 3.3$  Hz), 122.83, 120.28 (d,  $J = 21.2$  Hz), 119.69, 114.53 (d,  $J = 24.4$  Hz), 109.94, 42.26, 29.35 ppm;  $^{19}\text{F}$  NMR (377 MHz,  $\text{CD}_2\text{Cl}_2$ )  $\delta$  -110.71 ppm (td,  $J = 8.3, 5.0$  Hz); FT-IR:  $\tilde{\nu} = 2980, 2360, 2342, 1656, 1364, 1328, 1163, 1081$   $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ; HRMS: calc. for  $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$   $\text{C}_{19}\text{H}_{20}\text{FN}_2\text{O}_3\text{S}$ : 375.11732, found: 375.11799.



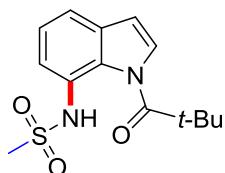
**3-Cyano-N-(1-pivaloyl-1*H*-indol-7-yl)benzenesulfonamide (3t):**

Brown amorphous solid;  $R_f = 0.1$  (20% EtOAc in petroleum ether);  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (500 MHz,  $\text{CD}_2\text{Cl}_2$ )  $\delta$  9.71 (brs, 1H), 7.78 (s, 1H), 7.73 – 7.70 (m, 2H), 7.59 (d,  $J = 3.9$  Hz, 1H), 7.50 – 7.44 (m, 3H), 7.34 (t,  $J = 7.8$  Hz, 1H), 6.64 (d,  $J = 3.9$  Hz, 1H), 1.40 (s, 9H) ppm;  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (126 MHz,  $\text{CD}_2\text{Cl}_2$ )  $\delta$  180.31, 141.95, 136.31, 133.17, 131.18, 130.83, 130.45, 129.61, 127.63, 125.94, 124.80, 122.45, 119.86, 117.44, 113.85, 110.09, 42.24, 29.34 ppm; FT-IR:  $\tilde{\nu} = 2976, 2360, 2342, 2234, 1666, 1587, 1333, 1302, 1179, 1158$   $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ; HRMS: calc. for  $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$   $\text{C}_{20}\text{H}_{20}\text{N}_3\text{O}_3\text{S}$ : 382.12199, found: 382.12259.



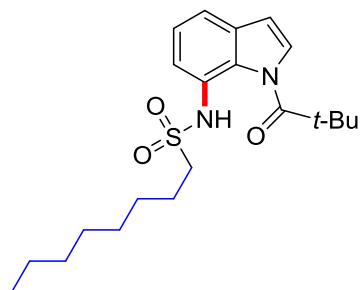
**2-Nitro-N-(1-pivaloyl-1*H*-indol-7-yl)benzenesulfonamide (3u):**

Yellow amorphous solid;  $R_f = 0.1$  (20% EtOAc in petroleum ether);  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CD}_2\text{Cl}_2$ )  $\delta$  9.49 (brs, 1H), 7.77 – 7.75 (m, 1H), 7.68 (d,  $J = 3.9$  Hz, 1H), 7.67 – 7.56 (m, 3H), 7.52 – 7.47 (m, 1H), 7.39 (dd,  $J = 7.7, 1.2$  Hz, 1H), 7.30 (t,  $J = 7.8$  Hz, 1H), 6.62 (d,  $J = 3.9$  Hz, 1H), 1.50 (s, 9H) ppm;  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (151 MHz,  $\text{CD}_2\text{Cl}_2$ )  $\delta$  180.39, 148.39, 134.37, 133.28, 133.26, 132.52, 131.86, 129.20, 127.91, 125.62, 125.08, 125.04, 120.15, 119.15, 109.65, 42.25, 29.27 ppm; FT-IR:  $\tilde{\nu} = 3101, 2987, 2360, 2342, 1685, 1672, 1588, 1365, 1127$   $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ; HRMS: calc. for  $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$   $\text{C}_{19}\text{H}_{20}\text{N}_3\text{O}_5\text{S}$ : 402.11182, found: 402.11254.



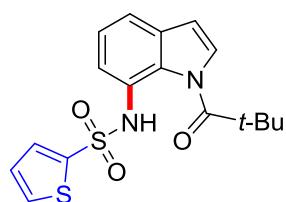
**N-(1-Pivaloyl-1*H*-indol-7-yl)methanesulfonamide (3v):**

Brown oil;  $R_f = 0.2$  (20% EtOAc in petroleum ether);  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (500 MHz,  $\text{CD}_2\text{Cl}_2$ )  $\delta$  9.13 (brs, 1H), 7.79 (d,  $J = 3.9$  Hz, 1H), 7.49 – 7.44 (m, 2H), 7.34 (t,  $J = 7.8$  Hz, 1H), 6.73 (d,  $J = 3.9$  Hz, 1H), 2.87 (s, 3H), 1.55 (s, 9H) ppm;  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (126 MHz,  $\text{CD}_2\text{Cl}_2$ )  $\delta$  180.72, 133.37, 129.23, 127.77, 126.10, 125.77, 120.71, 119.00, 109.89, 42.53, 40.10, 29.46 ppm; FT-IR:  $\tilde{\nu} = 3188, 2977, 2935, 2360, 2341, 1669, 1590, 1316, 1230, 1179, 1152 \text{ cm}^{-1}$ ; HRMS: calc. for  $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$   $\text{C}_{14}\text{H}_{19}\text{N}_2\text{O}_3\text{S}$ : 295.11109, found: 295.11191.



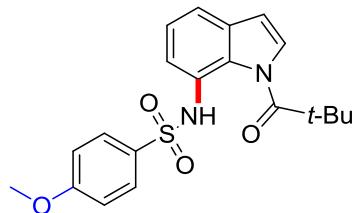
**N-(1-Pivaloyl-1*H*-indol-7-yl)octane-1-sulfonamide (3w):**

Brown oil;  $R_f = 0.2$  (12% EtOAc in petroleum ether);  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (500 MHz,  $\text{CD}_2\text{Cl}_2$ )  $\delta$  9.05 (brs, 1H), 7.78 (d,  $J = 3.9$  Hz, 1H), 7.50 (d,  $J = 7.8$  Hz, 1H), 7.42 (d,  $J = 7.8$  Hz, 1H), 7.32 (t,  $J = 7.8$  Hz, 1H), 6.71 (d,  $J = 3.9$  Hz, 1H), 2.97 – 2.94 (m, 2H), 1.73 – 1.67 (m, 2H), 1.56 (s, 9H), 1.33 – 1.17 (m, 10H), 0.85 (t,  $J = 7.1$  Hz, 3H) ppm;  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (126 MHz,  $\text{CD}_2\text{Cl}_2$ )  $\delta$  180.79, 133.39, 129.06, 127.71, 126.43, 125.81, 119.92, 118.63, 109.95, 52.37, 42.57, 32.23, 29.54, 29.44, 29.41, 28.65, 23.95, 23.11, 14.37 ppm; FT-IR:  $\tilde{\nu} = 3190, 2926, 2856, 2360, 2342, 1671, 1318, 1301, 1179, 1146 \text{ cm}^{-1}$ ; HRMS: calc. for  $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$   $\text{C}_{21}\text{H}_{33}\text{N}_2\text{O}_3\text{S}$ : 393.22064, found: 393.22175.



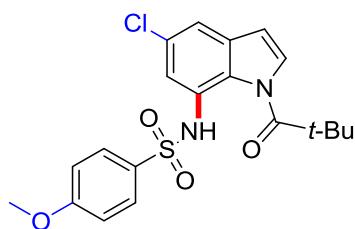
**N-(1-Pivaloyl-1*H*-indol-7-yl)thiophene-2-sulfonamide (3x):**

Brown amorphous solid;  $R_f = 0.3$  (33% EtOAc in petroleum ether);  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (500 MHz,  $\text{CD}_2\text{Cl}_2$ )  $\delta$  9.56 (brs, 1H), 7.60 (d,  $J = 3.9$  Hz, 1H), 7.56 (dd,  $J = 7.8, 1.2$  Hz, 1H), 7.45 (dd,  $J = 7.8, 1.2$  Hz, 1H), 7.42 (dd,  $J = 5.0, 1.3$  Hz, 1H), 7.35 (t,  $J = 7.8$  Hz, 1H), 7.17 (dd,  $J = 5.0, 1.3$  Hz, 1H), 6.89 – 6.87 (m, 1H), 6.64 (d,  $J = 3.9$  Hz, 1H), 1.41 (s, 9H) ppm;  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (126 MHz,  $\text{CD}_2\text{Cl}_2$ )  $\delta$  180.24, 140.92, 133.02, 132.50, 132.21, 129.92, 127.72, 127.55, 125.67, 125.16, 123.27, 119.75, 109.84, 42.20, 29.33 ppm; FT-IR:  $\tilde{\nu} = 3094, 2360, 2342, 1662, 1328, 1300, 1180, 1157, 1013 \text{ cm}^{-1}$ ; HRMS: calc. for  $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$   $\text{C}_{17}\text{H}_{19}\text{N}_2\text{O}_3\text{S}_2$ : 363.08316, found: 363.08379.



**4-Methoxy-N-(1-pivaloyl-1*H*-indol-7-yl)benzenesulfonamide (3y):**

Brown amorphous solid;  $R_f = 0.1$  (20% EtOAc in petroleum ether);  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CD}_2\text{Cl}_2$ )  $\delta$  9.31 (brs, 1H), 7.58 (d,  $J = 4.0$  Hz, 1H), 7.50 (dd,  $J = 7.8, 1.2$  Hz, 1H), 7.43 – 7.39 (m, 3H), 7.31 (t,  $J = 7.7$  Hz, 1H), 6.78 – 6.76 (m, 2H), 6.61 (d,  $J = 4.0$  Hz, 1H), 3.75 (s, 3H), 1.41 (s, 9H) ppm;  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (101 MHz,  $\text{CD}_2\text{Cl}_2$ )  $\delta$  180.23, 163.44, 133.03, 132.36, 129.80, 129.34, 127.49, 125.91, 125.62, 122.68, 119.21, 114.49, 109.79, 56.13, 42.25, 29.40 ppm; FT-IR:  $\tilde{\nu} = 3141, 2969, 2360, 2342, 1672, 1597, 1331, 1305, 1261, 1162 \text{ cm}^{-1}$ ; HRMS: calc. for  $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$   $\text{C}_{20}\text{H}_{23}\text{N}_2\text{O}_4\text{S}$ : 387.13730, found: 387.13848.



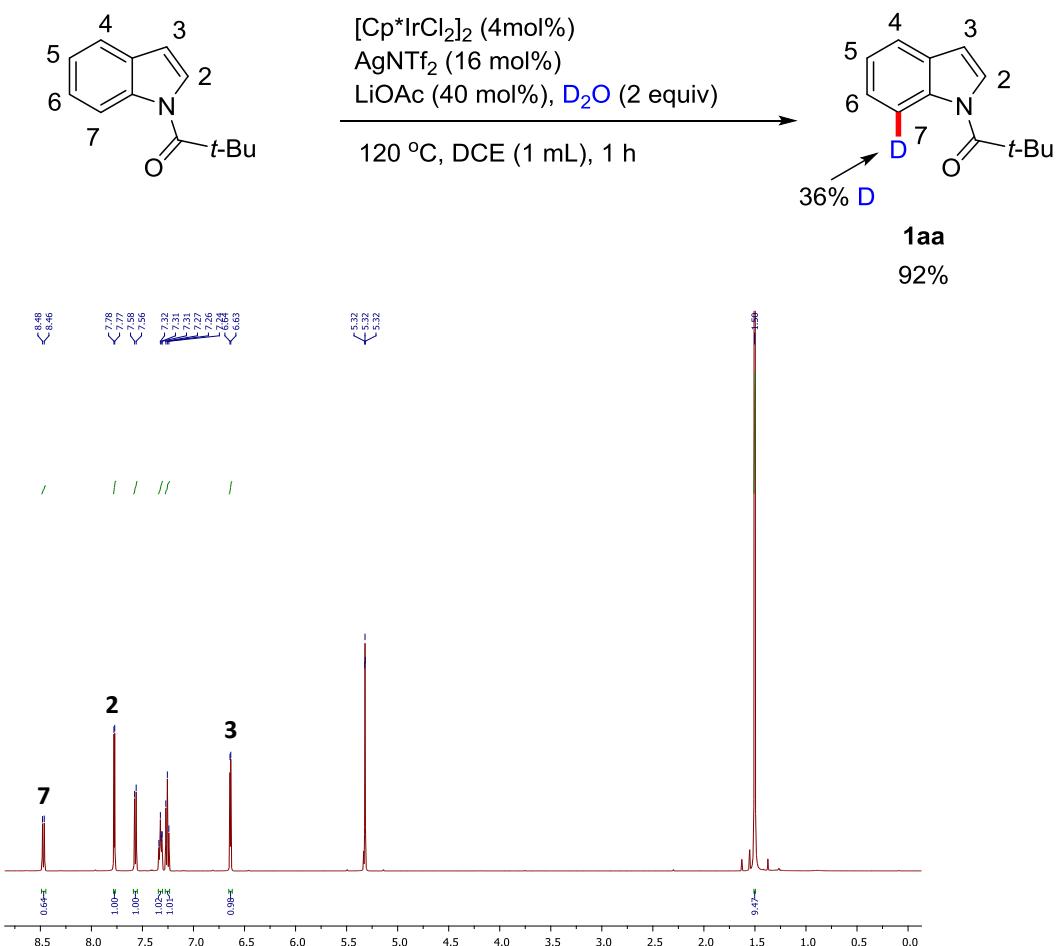
**N-(5-Chloro-1-pivaloyl-1*H*-indol-7-yl)-4-methoxybenzenesulfonamide (3z):**

Brown amorphous solid;  $R_f = 0.15$  (25% EtOAc in petroleum ether);  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (500 MHz,  $\text{CD}_2\text{Cl}_2$ )  $\delta$  9.47 (brs, 1H), 7.62 (d,  $J = 3.9$  Hz, 1H), 7.50 – 7.48 (m, 3H), 7.35 (d,  $J = 2.0$  Hz, 1H), 6.80 (d,  $J = 8.9$  Hz, 2H), 6.56 (d,  $J = 3.9$  Hz, 1H), 3.76 (s, 3H), 1.40 (s, 9H) ppm;  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (126 MHz,  $\text{CD}_2\text{Cl}_2$ )  $\delta$  180.27, 163.63, 133.99, 131.97, 130.87, 129.41, 128.83, 128.13, 126.89, 121.70, 118.37, 114.62, 109.24, 56.17, 42.33, 29.35 ppm; FT-IR:  $\tilde{\nu} = 2932, 2360, 2342, 1667, 1582, 1501, 1328, 1303, 1266, 1095 \text{ cm}^{-1}$ ; HRMS: calc. for  $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$   $\text{C}_{20}\text{H}_{22}^{35}\text{ClN}_2\text{O}_4\text{S}$ : 421.09833, found: 421.09866; HRMS: calc. for  $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$   $\text{C}_{20}\text{H}_{22}^{37}\text{ClN}_2\text{O}_4\text{S}$ : 423.09538, found: 423.09548.

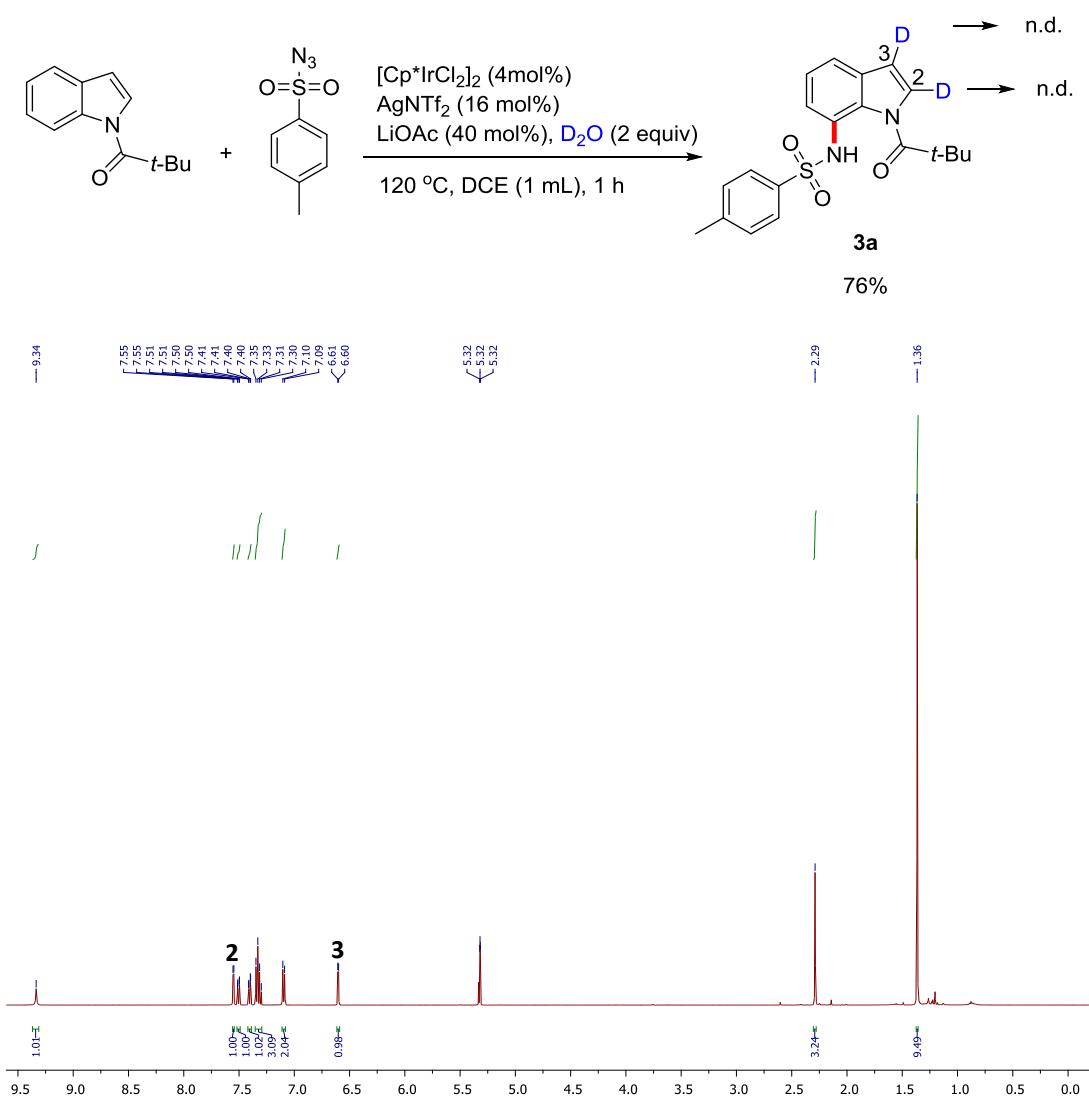
## Study on reaction mechanism

### Deuterium labeling experiments

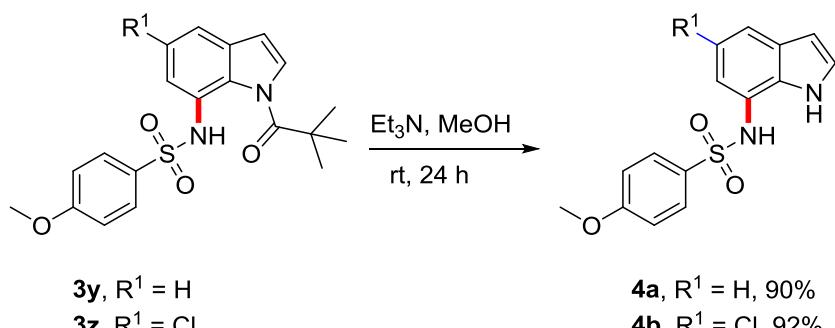
*N*-pivaloyl indole **1a** (0.1 mmol) was dissolved in a 12 mL screw capped tube with 1 mL of DCE, followed by  $[(\text{IrCp}^*\text{Cl}_2)_2]$  (4 mol %). AgNTf<sub>2</sub> (16 mol %), LiOAc (40 mol%) and D<sub>2</sub>O (2 equiv) were added to the reaction mixture at room temperature. The reaction mixture was allowed to warm up to 120 °C and stirred for 1h. After finishing the reaction, the reaction mixture was directly loaded on a silica gel column and purified with petroleum ether (40-60°C)/EtOAc mixture to afford the recovered starting material **1aa** in 92% yield. The analysis by <sup>1</sup>H NMR showed 36% deuterium incorporation at the C7-position of **1aa**.



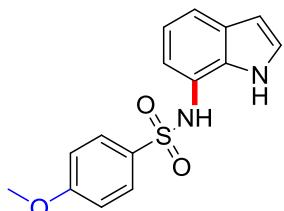
*N*-pivaloyl indole **1a** (0.1 mmol) and *TsN*<sub>3</sub> **2a** (0.22 mmol) were dissolved in a 12 mL screw capped tube with 1 mL of DCE, followed by [(IrCp<sup>\*</sup>Cl<sub>2</sub>)<sub>2</sub>] (4 mol %). AgNTf<sub>2</sub> (16 mol %), LiOAc (40 mol%) and D<sub>2</sub>O (2 equiv) were added to the reaction mixture at room temperature. The reaction mixture was allowed to warm up to 120 °C and stirred for 1h. After finishing the reaction, the reaction mixture was directly loaded on a silica gel column and purified with petroleum ether (40–60°C)/EtOAc mixture to afford the product **3a** in 76% yield. An analysis by <sup>1</sup>H NMR showed no deuterium incorporation on the ring of **1aa**.



### General procedure for removal of the directing group

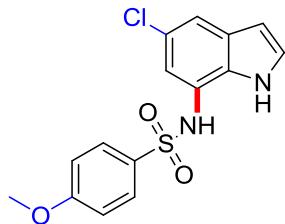


To a solution of **3y** or **3z** (0.1 mmol) in MeOH (1.0 mL) at room temperature was added Et<sub>3</sub>N (0.2 mL) dropwise. Then the reaction was stirred for 24 h and quenched by addition of saturated NH<sub>4</sub>Cl solution. The organic layer was separated and the aqueous layer was extracted with dichloromethane. Combined organic layers were washed with brine, dried over MgSO<sub>4</sub>, filtered and concentrated. The residue was then purified by flash chromatography over silica gel with petroleum ether and ethyl acetate to give the corresponding product **4**.



#### *N*-(1*H*-indol-7-yl)-4-methoxybenzenesulfonamide (**4a**)<sup>[1]</sup>:

Brown amorphous solid; R<sub>f</sub> = 0.2 (25% EtOAc in petroleum ether); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CD<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>) δ 9.32 (brs, 1H), 7.59 – 7.56 (m, 2H), 7.48 (d, J = 7.9 Hz, 1H), 7.30 – 7.29 (m, 1H), 6.88 – 6.84 (m, 3H), 6.55 – 6.54 (m, 1H), 6.44 (dd, J = 7.5, 0.5 Hz, 1H), 3.81 (s, 3H) ppm; <sup>13</sup>C NMR (126 MHz, CD<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>) δ 163.93, 132.48, 130.68, 130.06, 130.00, 125.82, 120.80, 120.25, 120.14, 118.60, 114.66, 103.08, 56.20 ppm; FT-IR: ν = 3394, 3239, 2925, 2360, 2342, 1593, 1496, 1323, 1304, 1186 cm<sup>-1</sup>; HRMS: calc. for [M+H]<sup>+</sup> C<sub>15</sub>H<sub>15</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>S: 303.07979, found: 303.08038.



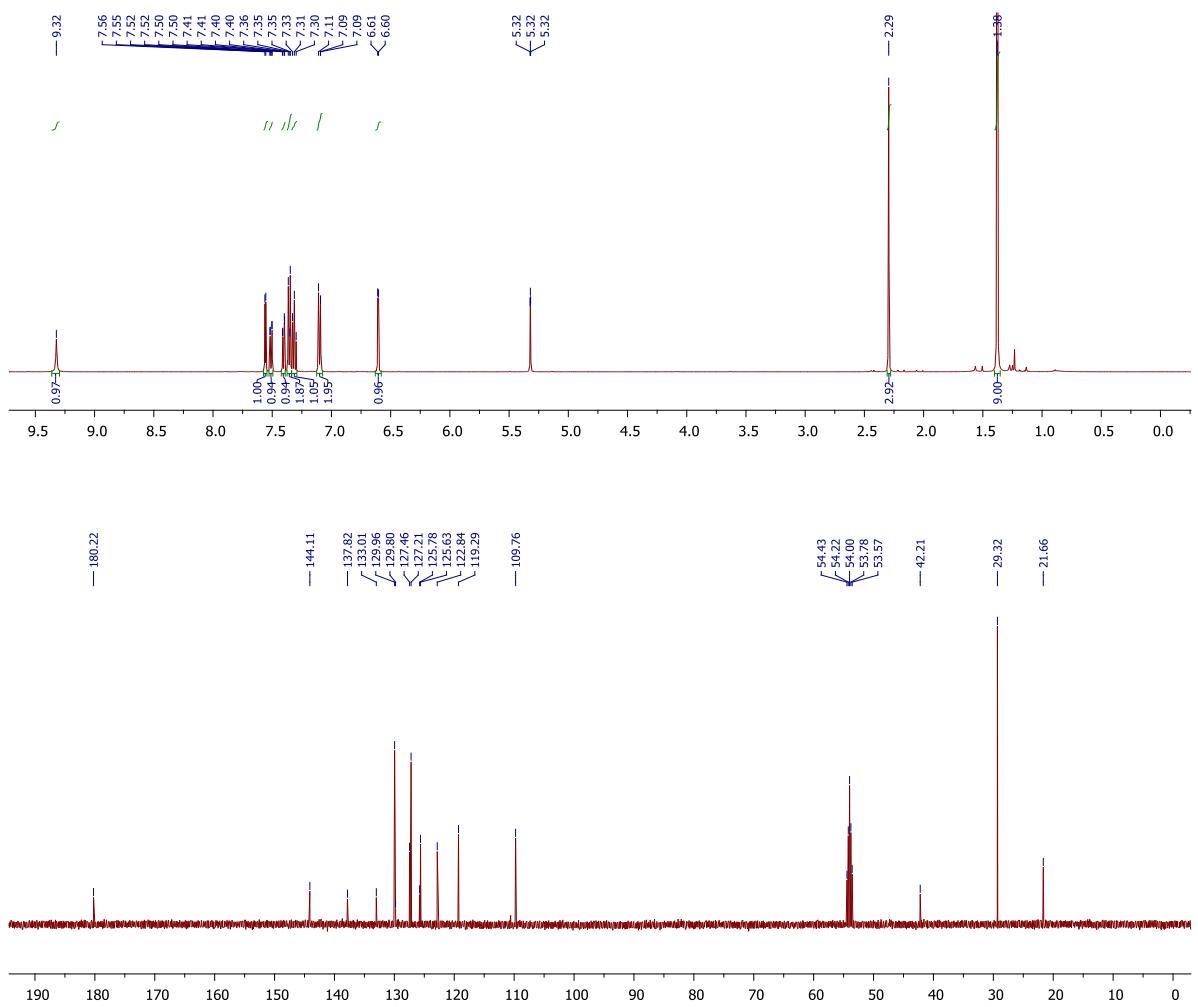
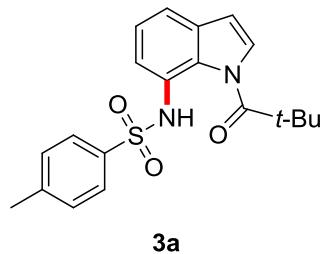
**N-(5-Chloro-1*H*-indol-7-yl)-4-methoxybenzenesulfonamide (**4b**)<sup>[2]</sup>:**

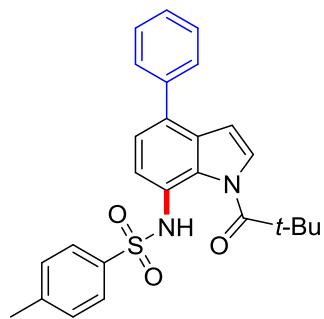
Brown amorphous solid; R<sub>f</sub> = 0.2 (25% EtOAc in petroleum ether); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CD<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>) δ 9.47 (brs, 1H), 7.64 – 7.61 (m, 2H), 7.44 (d, J = 1.8 Hz, 1H), 7.30 (d, J = 2.3 Hz, 1H), 6.90 – 6.87 (m, 2H), 6.55 (d, J = 1.8 Hz, 1H), 6.49 (d, J = 2.3 Hz, 1H), 3.81 (s, 3H) ppm; <sup>13</sup>C NMR (126 MHz, CD<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>) δ 164.13, 131.24, 130.56, 130.03, 129.73, 127.23, 125.02, 121.82, 119.21, 117.91, 114.85, 102.88, 56.25 ppm; FT-IR: ̄ = 3400, 3244, 3196, 2928, 2838, 2360, 2342, 1302, 1262, 1120 cm<sup>-1</sup>; HRMS: calc. for [M+H]<sup>+</sup> C<sub>15</sub>H<sub>14</sub><sup>35</sup>ClN<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>S: 337.04082, found: 337.04158; HRMS: calc. for [M+H]<sup>+</sup> C<sub>15</sub>H<sub>14</sub><sup>37</sup>ClN<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>S: 339.03787, found: 339.03839.

## References

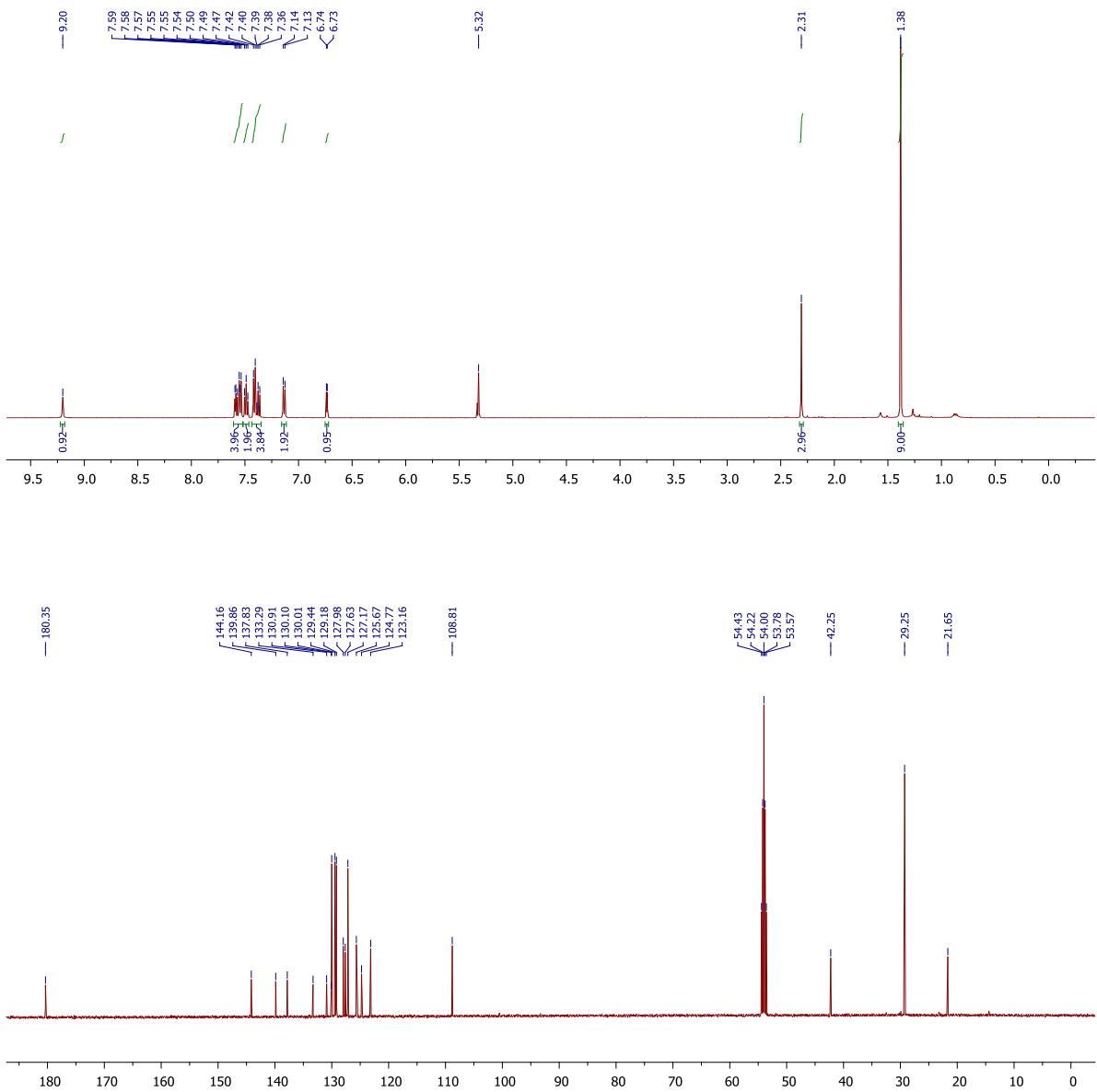
- [1] T. Owa, H. Yoshino, T. Okauchi, K. Yoshimatsu, Y. Ozawa, N. H. Sugi, T. Nagasu, N. Koyanagi, K. Kitoh, *J. Med. Chem.* **1999**, *42*, 3789 – 3799.
- [2] M Banerjee, A. Poddar, G. Mitra, A. Surolia, T. Owa, B. Bhattacharyya, *J. Med. Chem.* **2005**, *48*, 547 – 555.

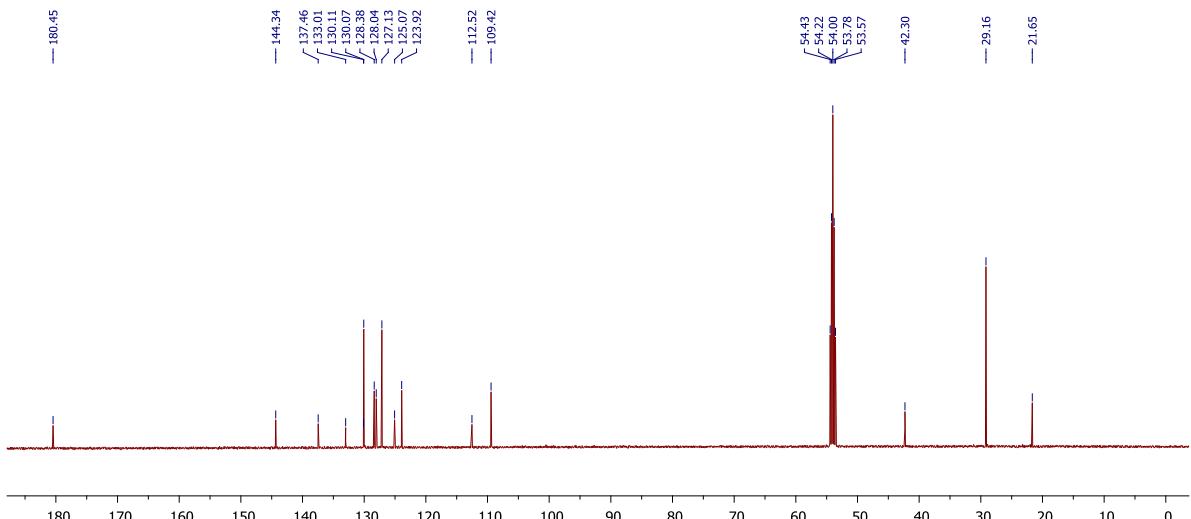
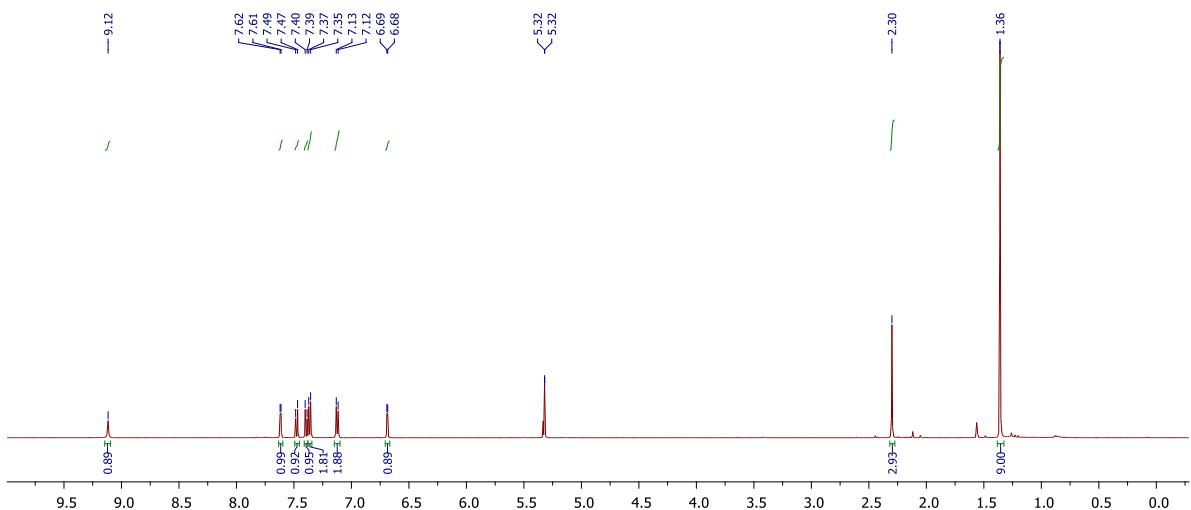
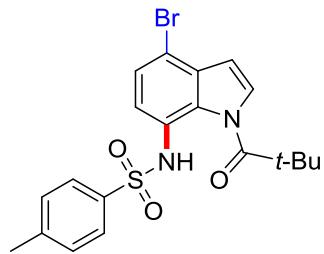
**Copies of  $^1\text{H}$  and  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR spectrum of products**

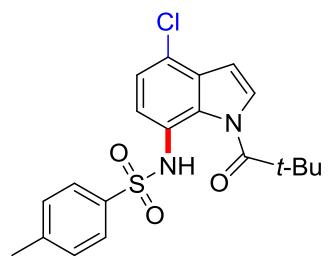




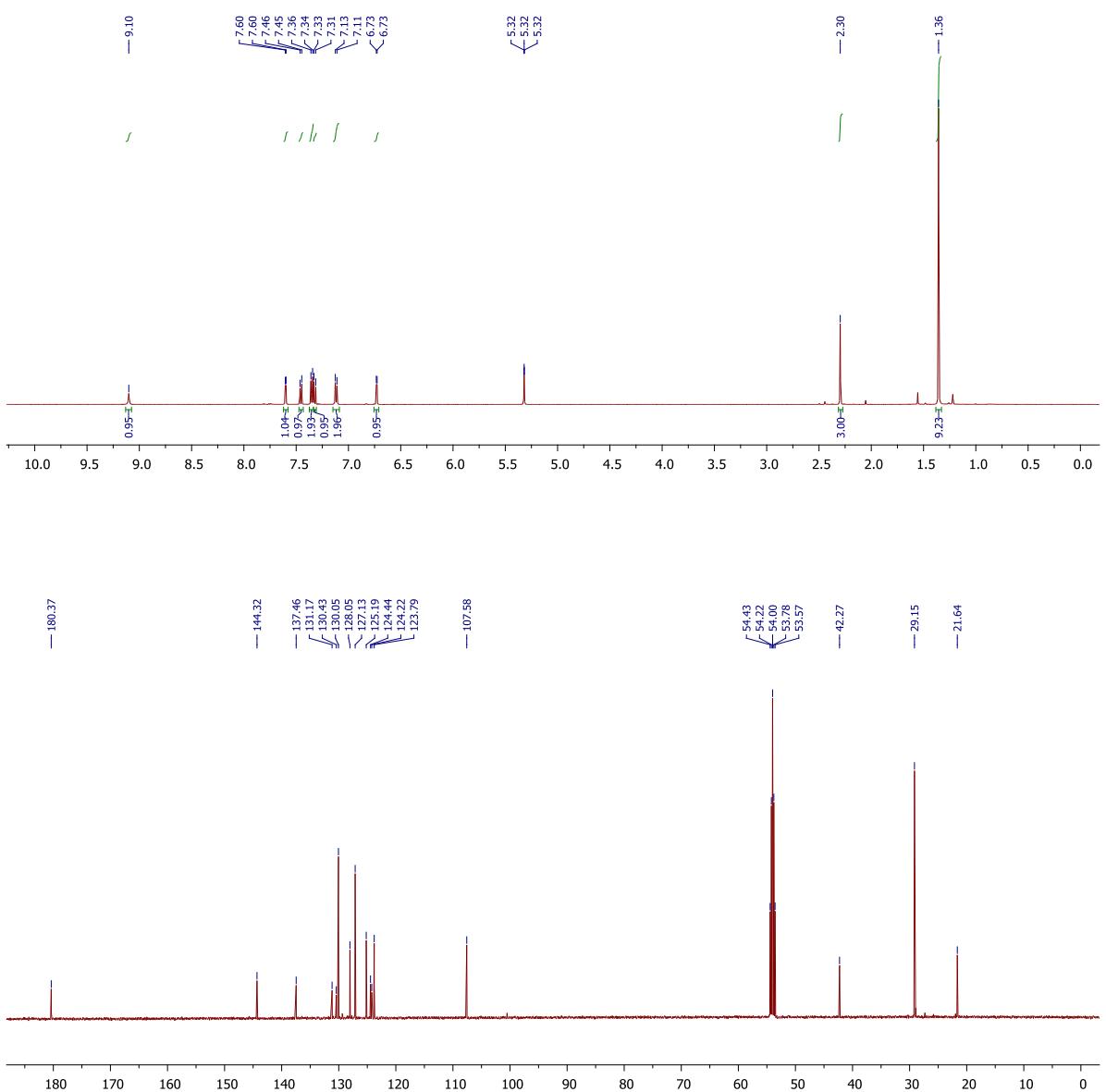
**3b**

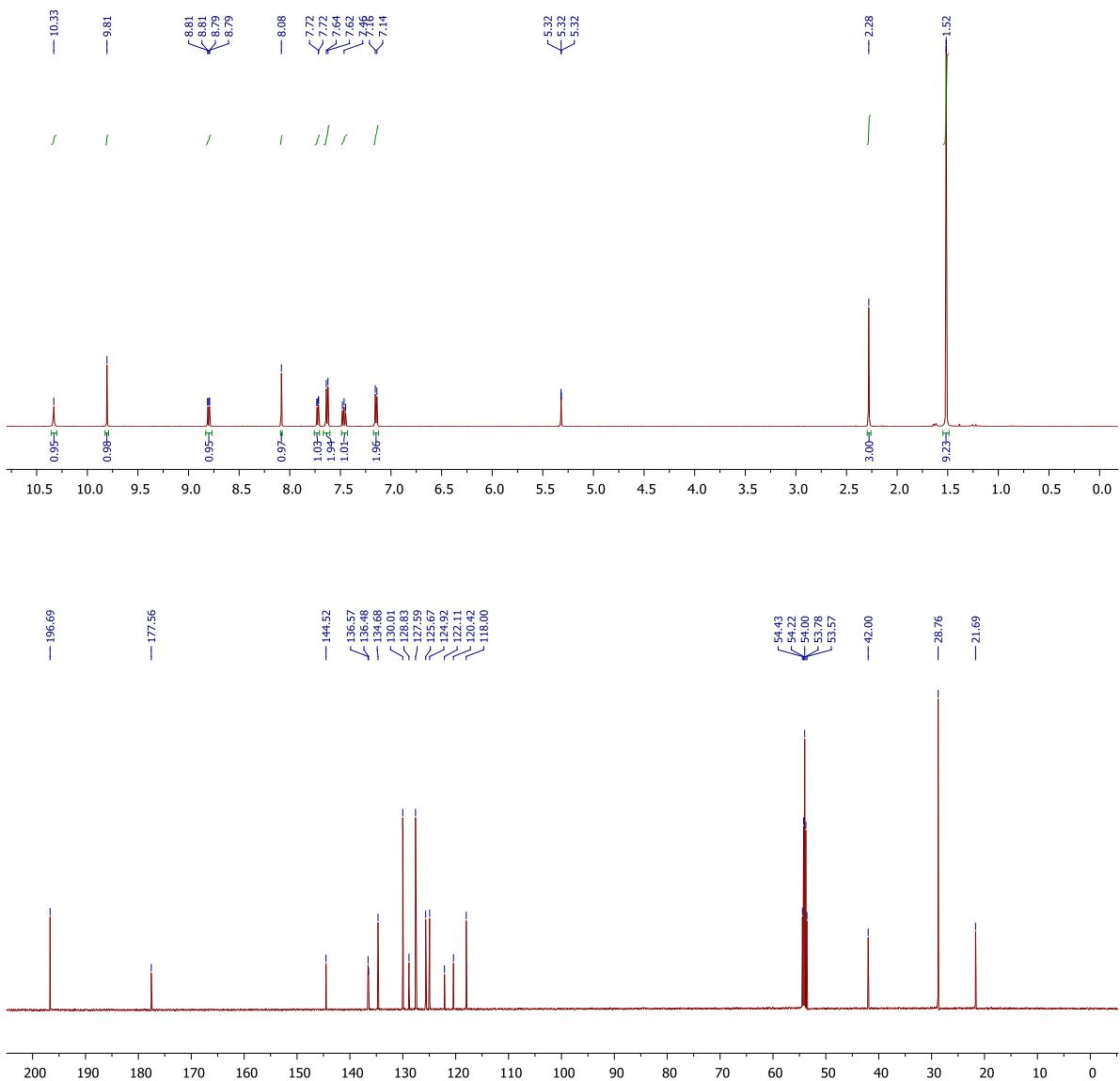
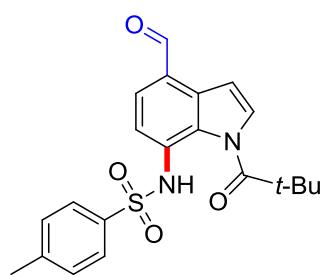


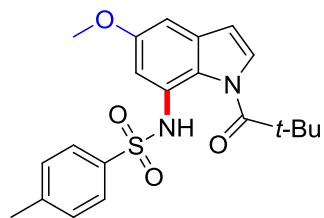




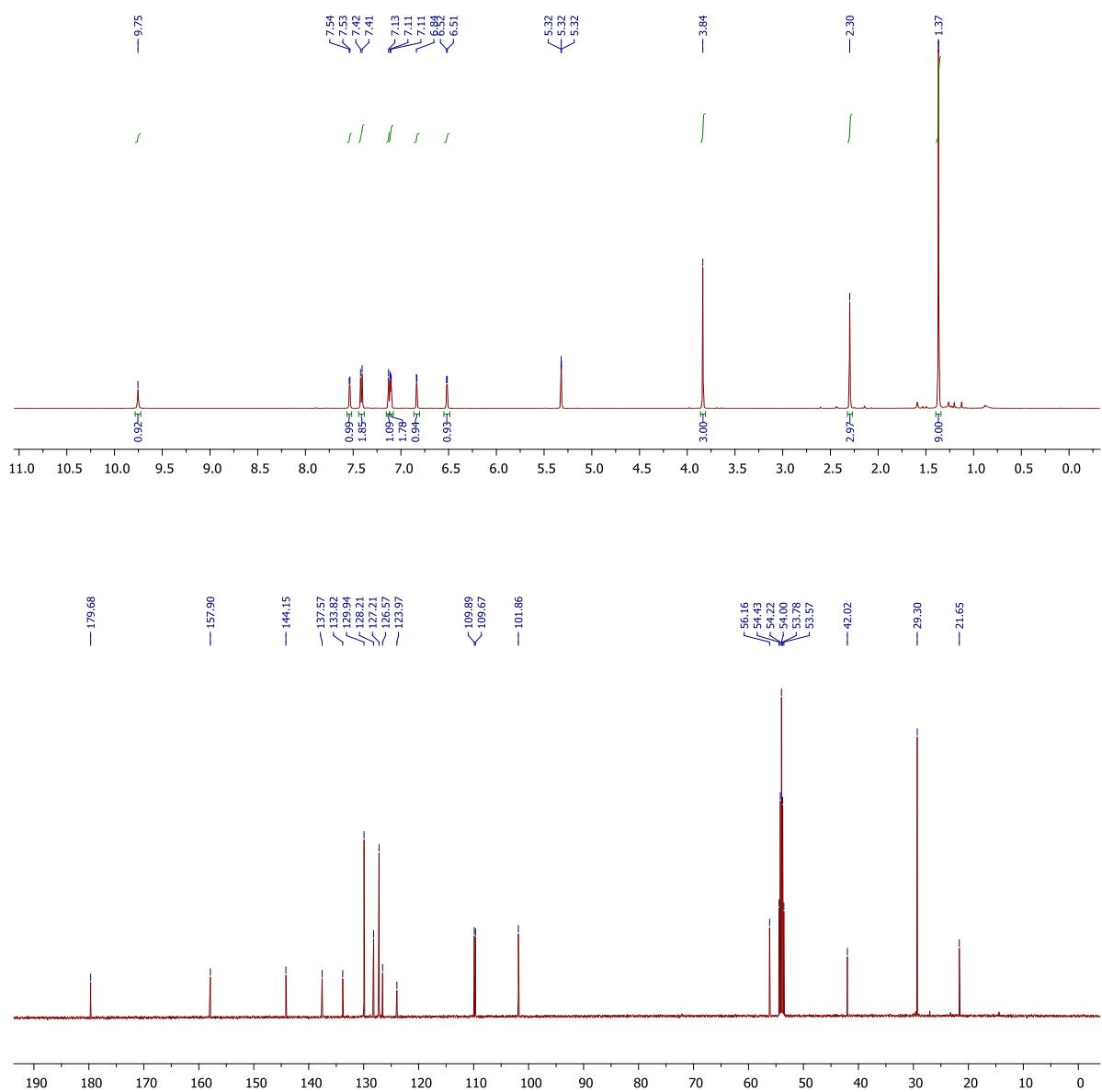
3d

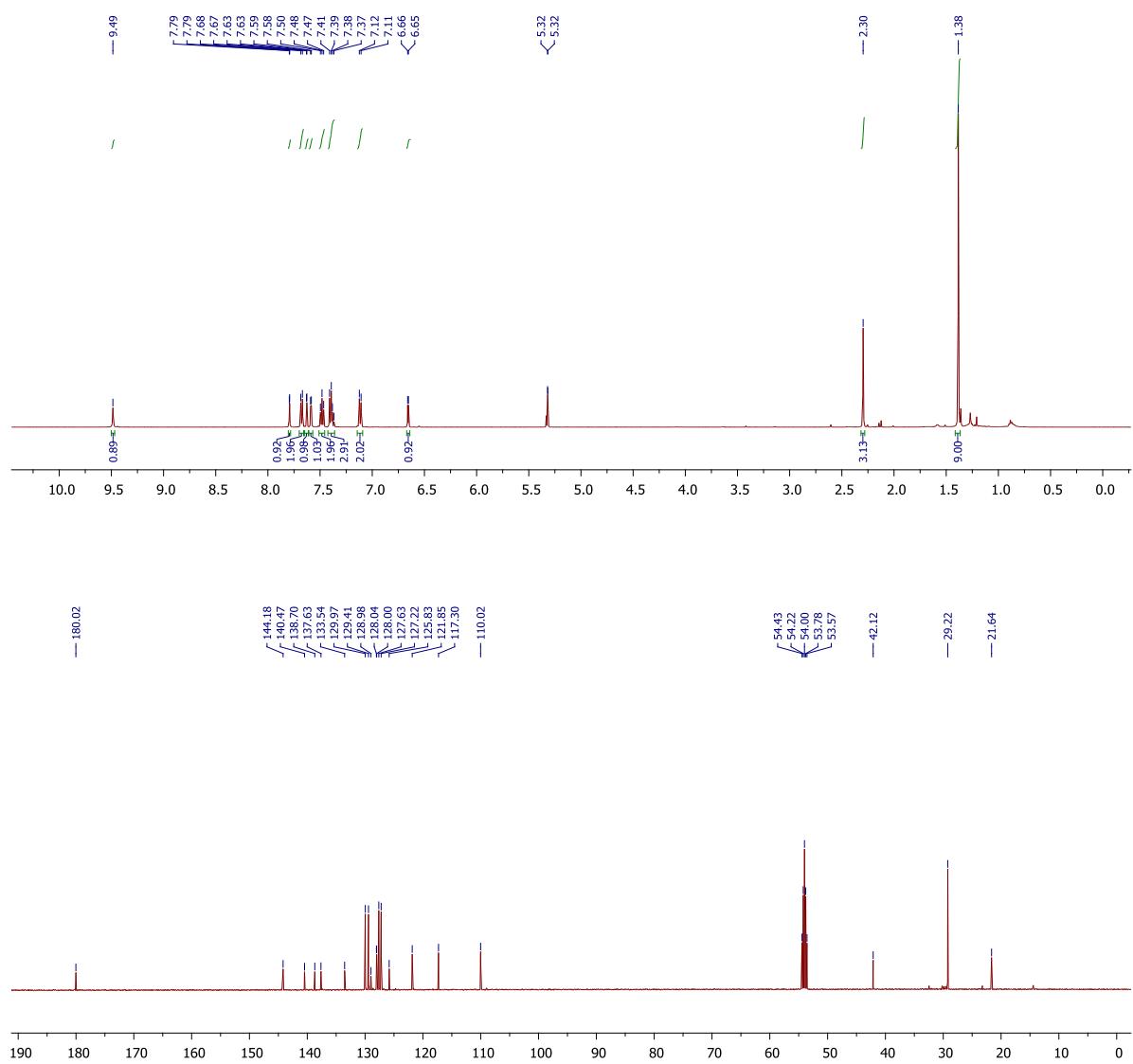
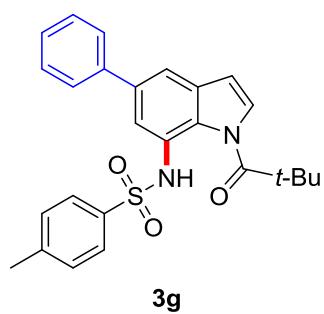


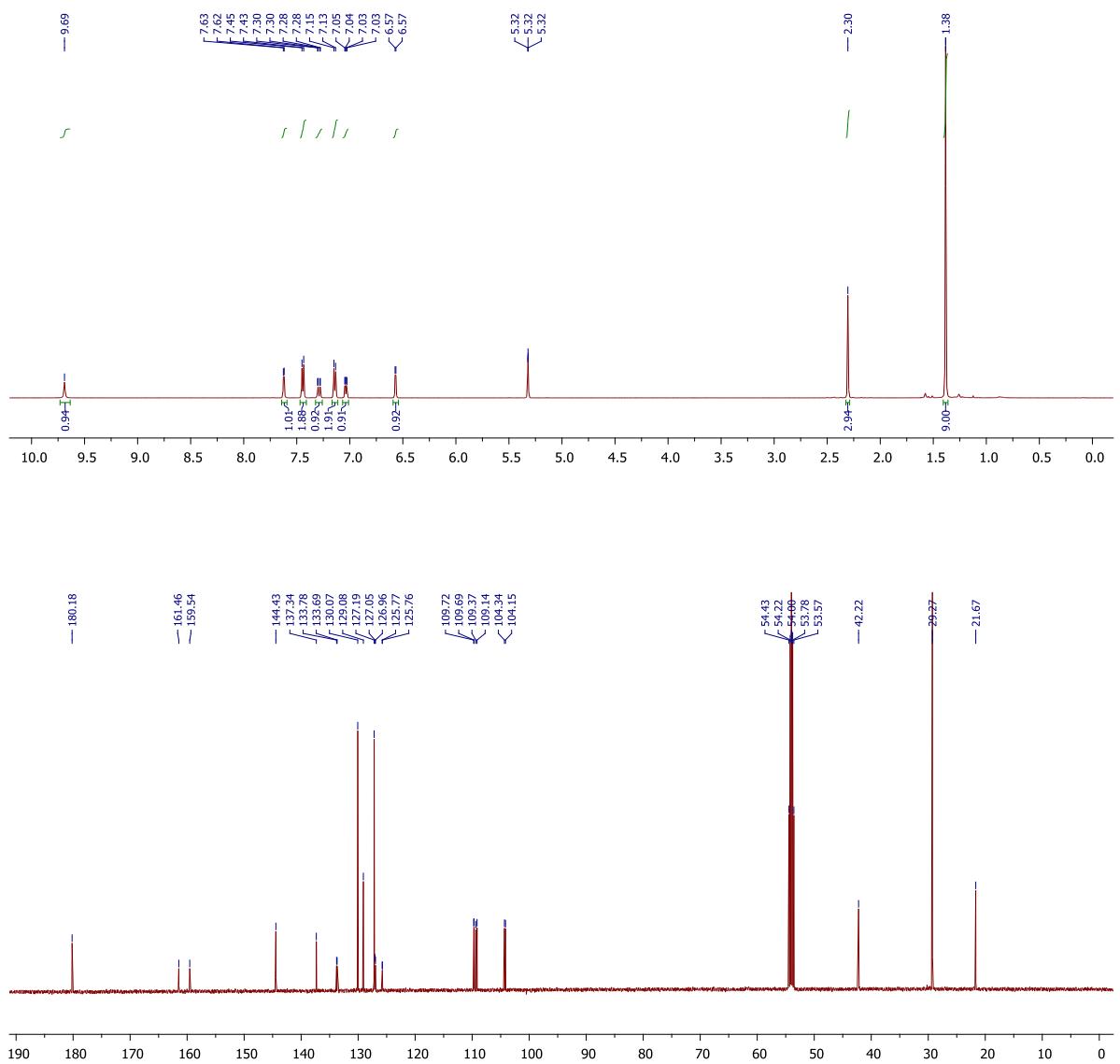
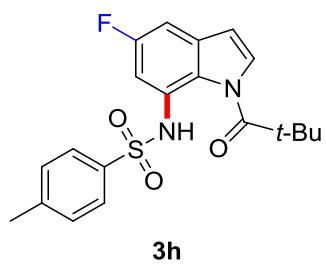


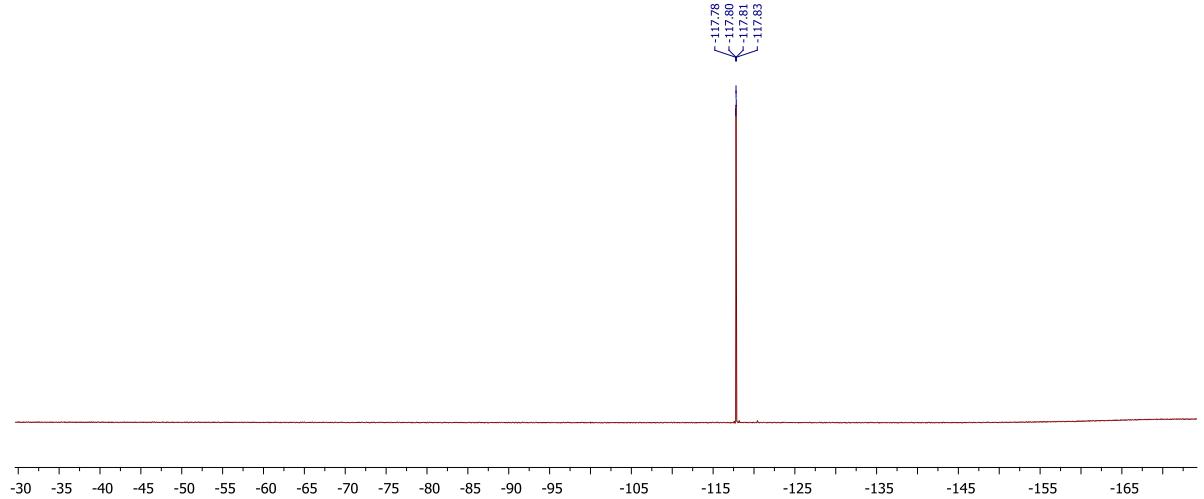


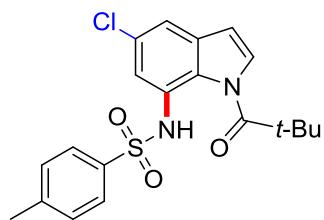
**3f**



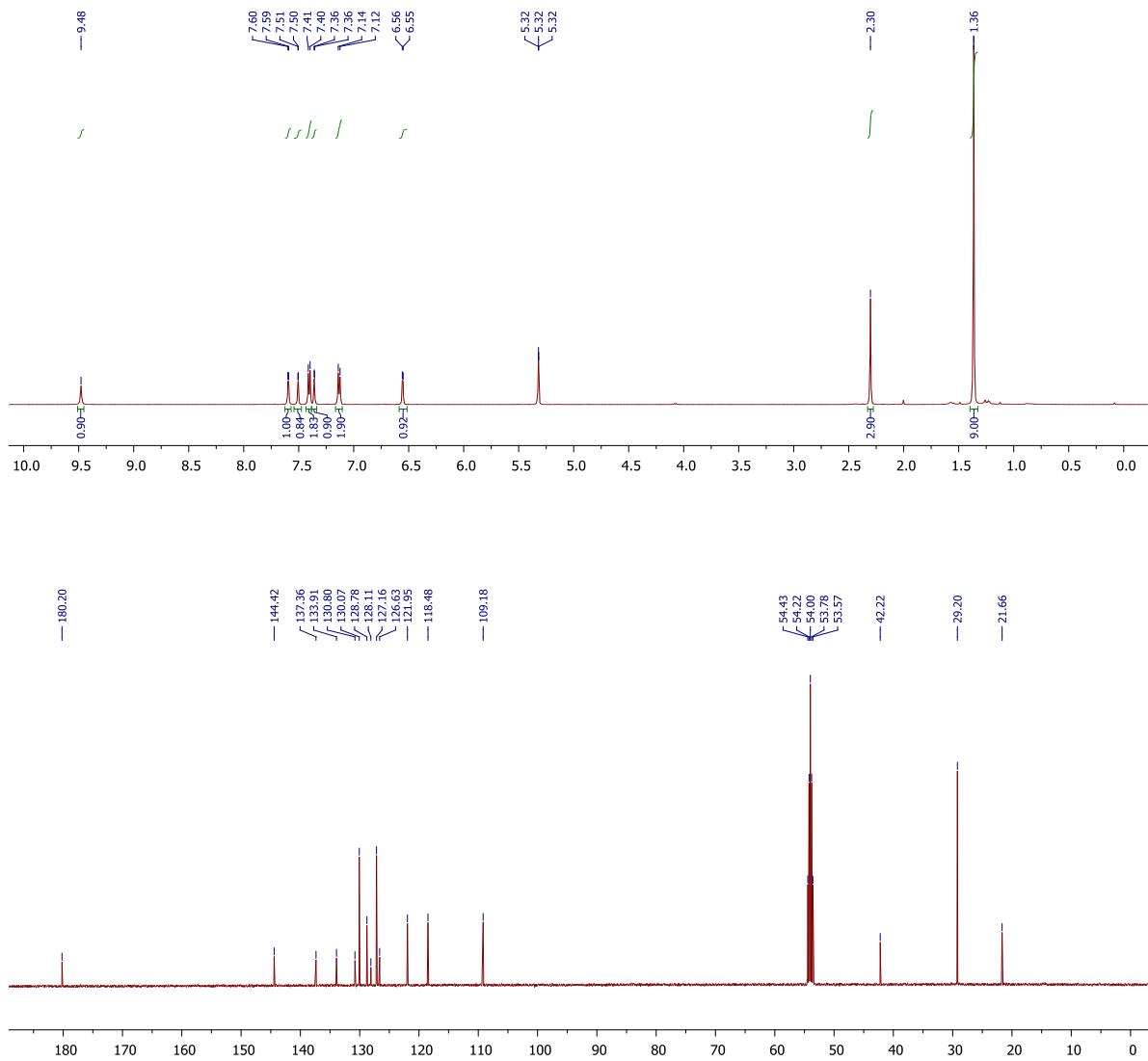


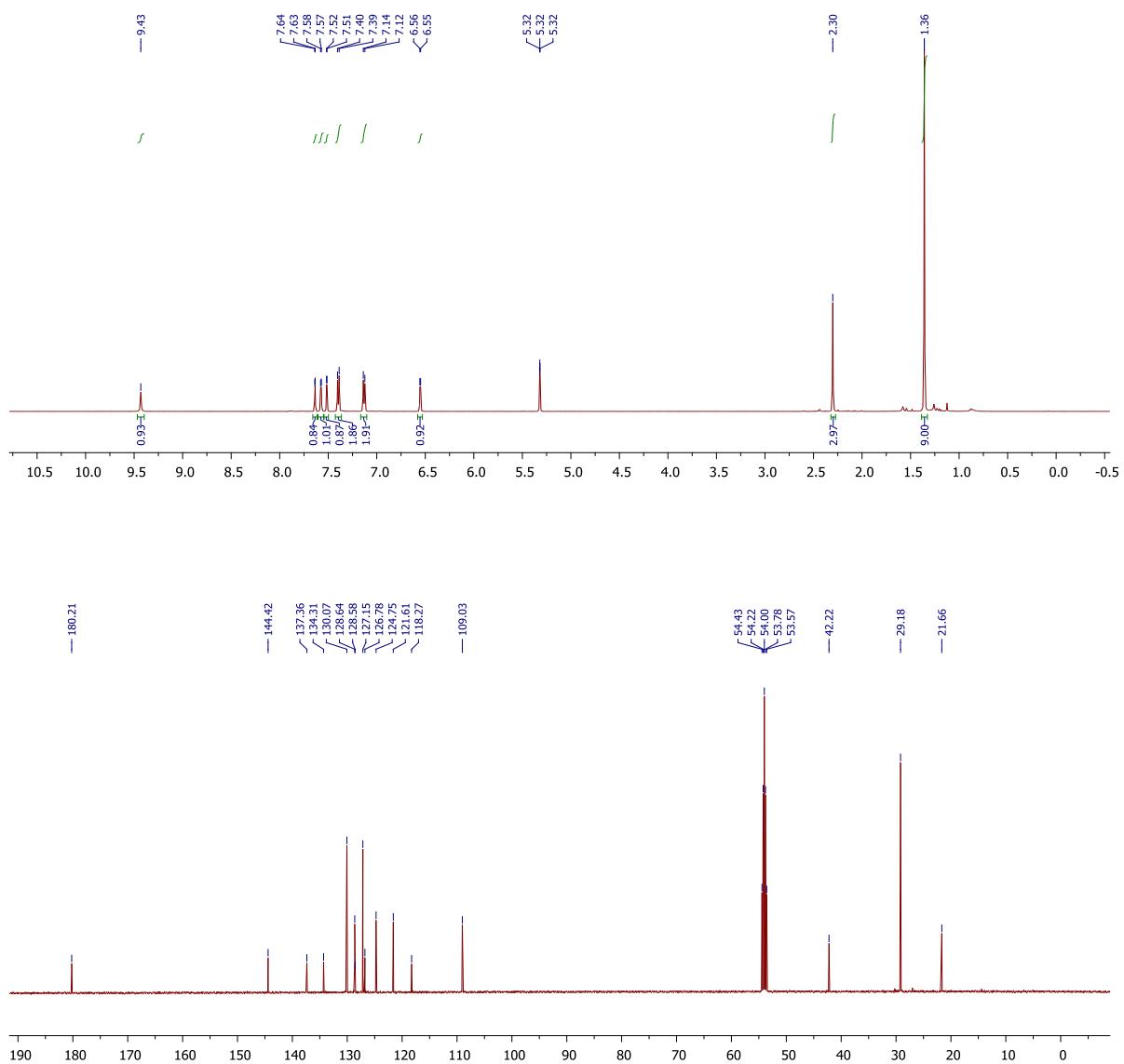
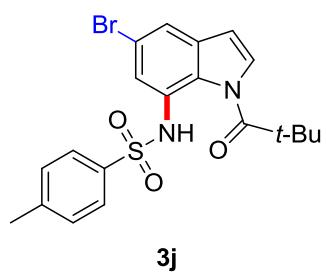


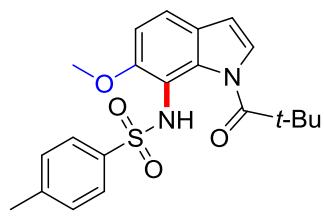




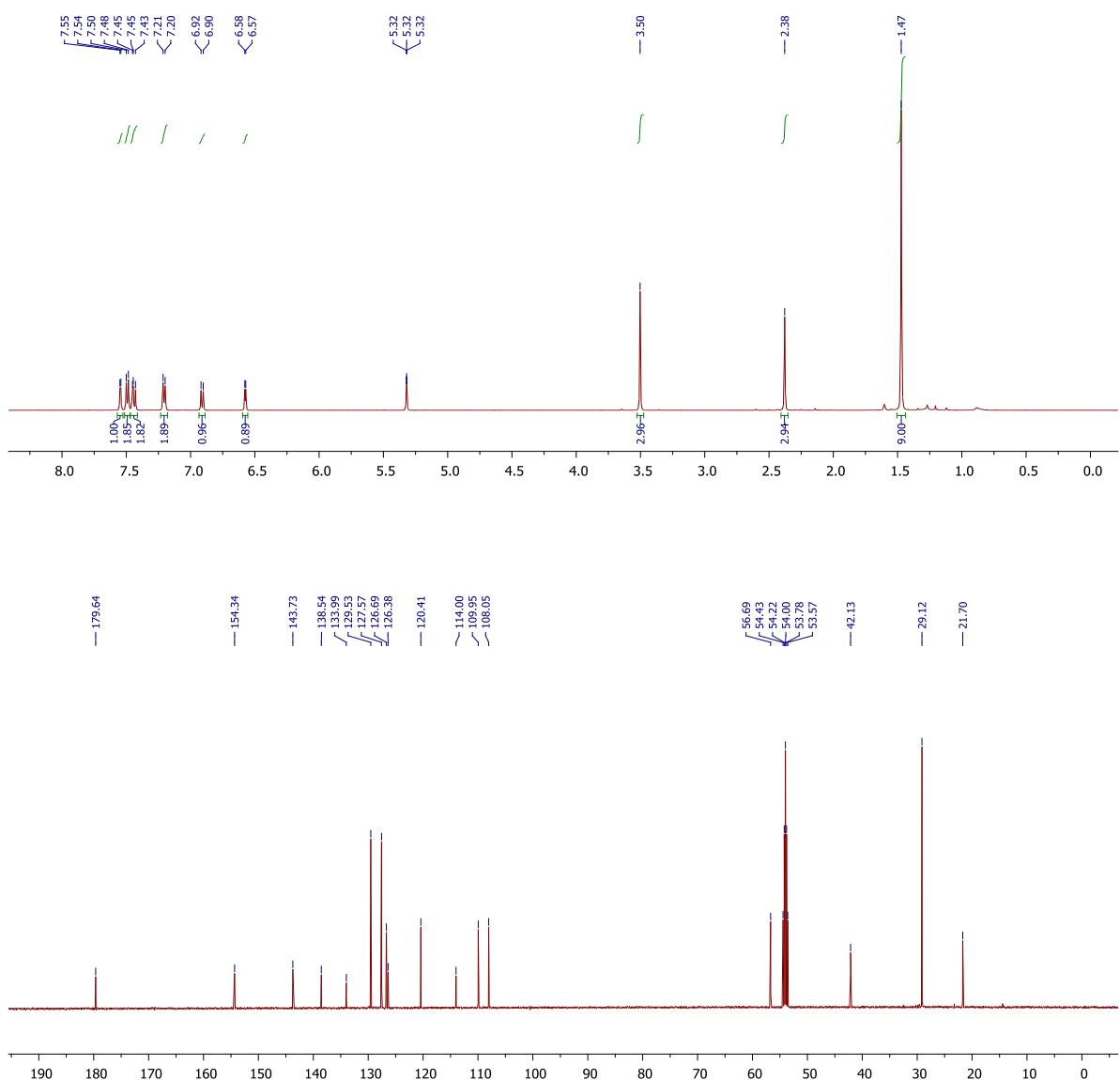
**3i**

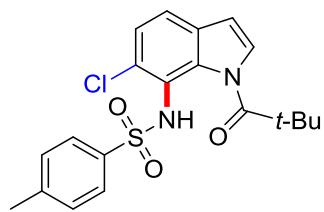




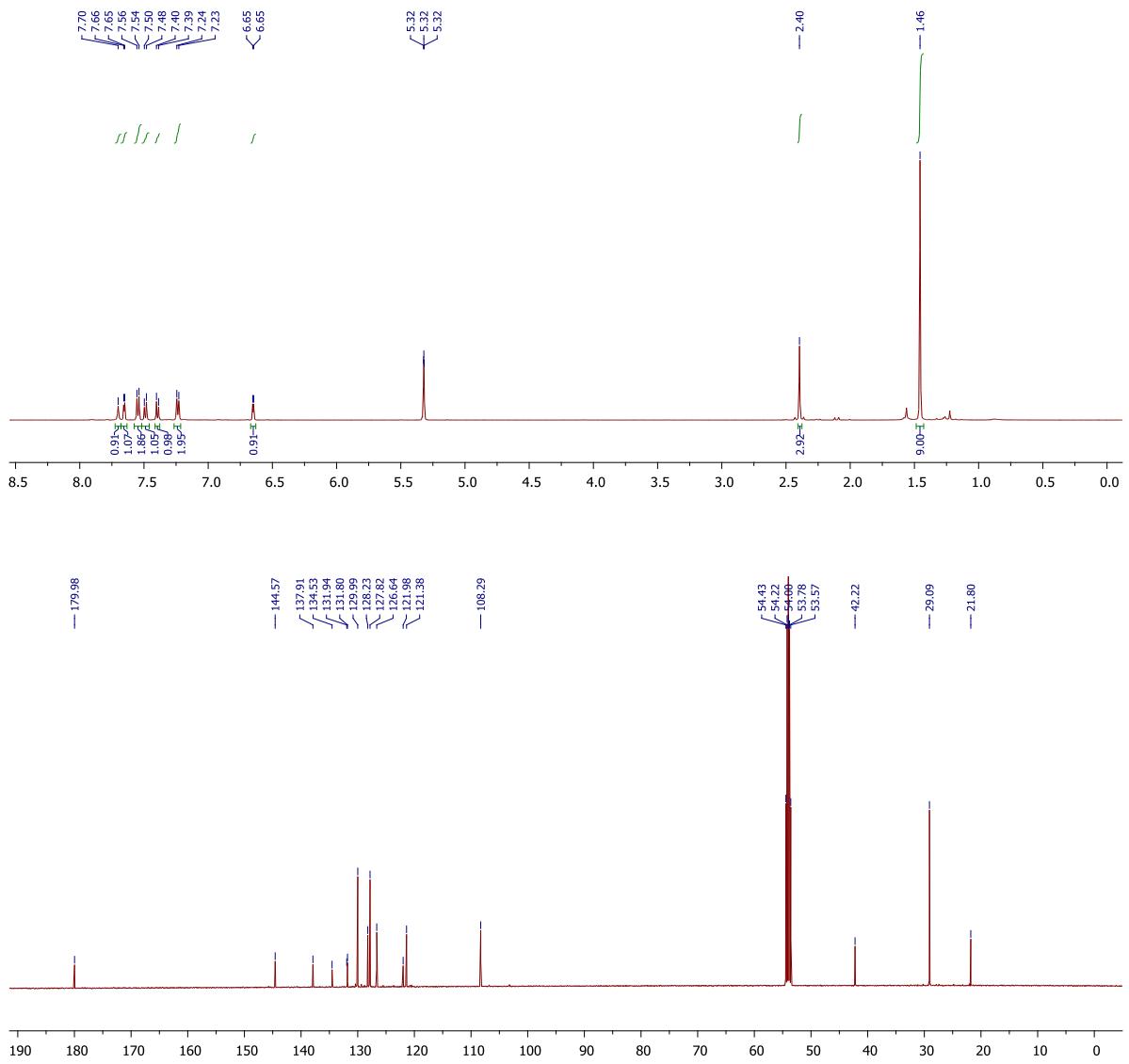


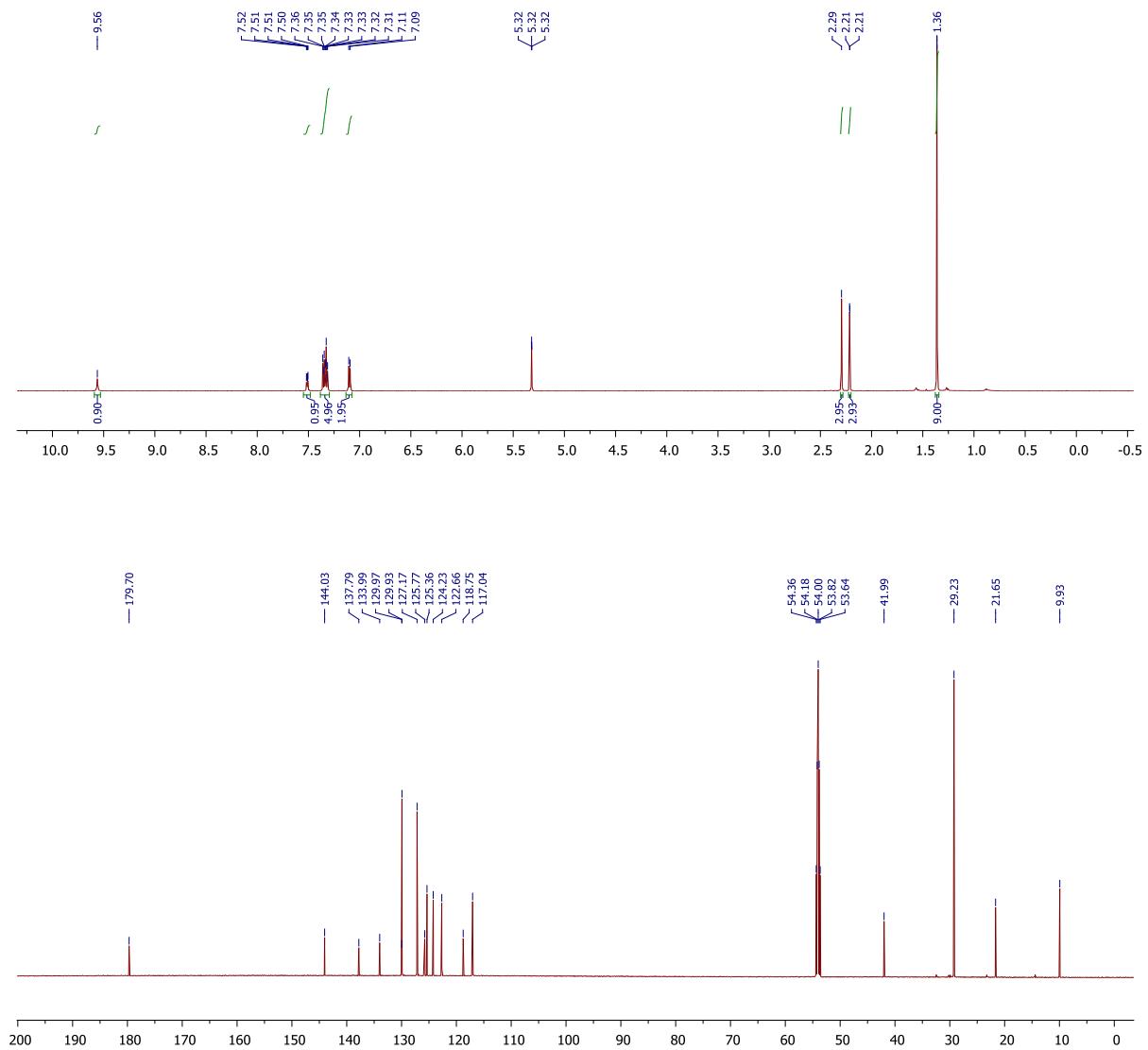
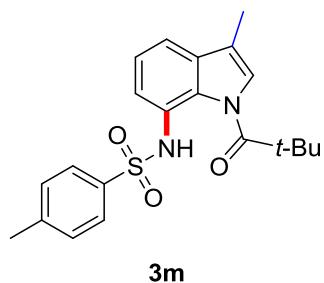
**3k**

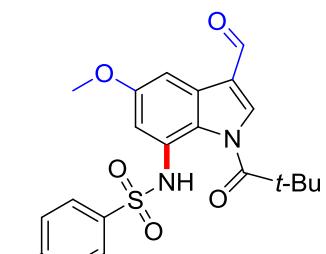




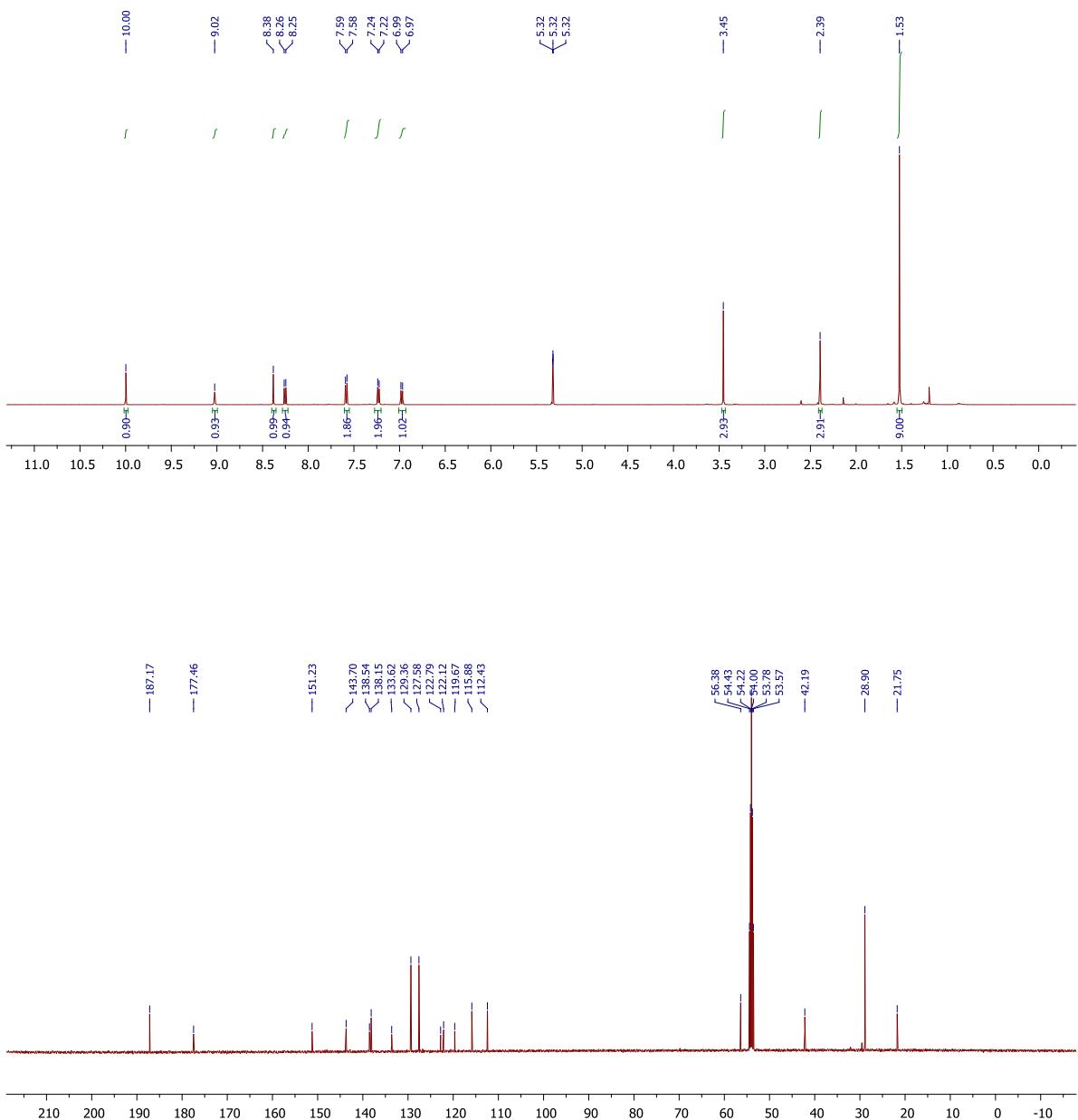
**3I**

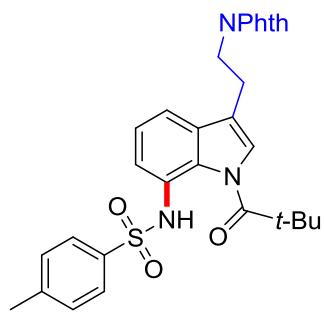




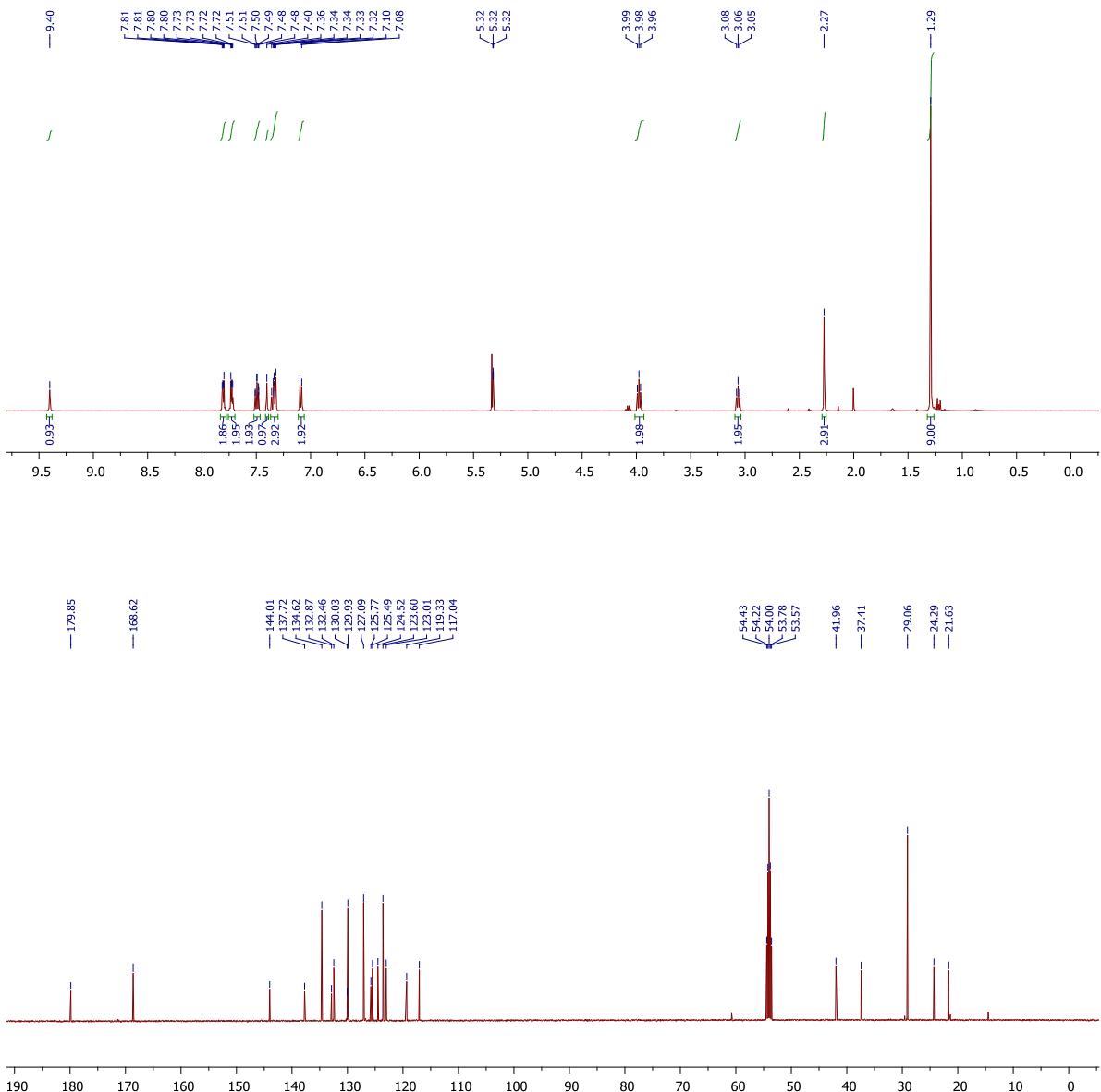


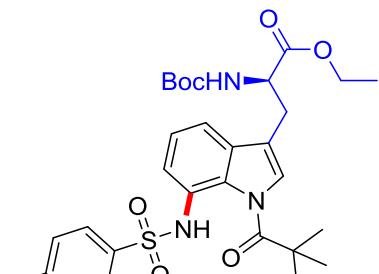
**3n**



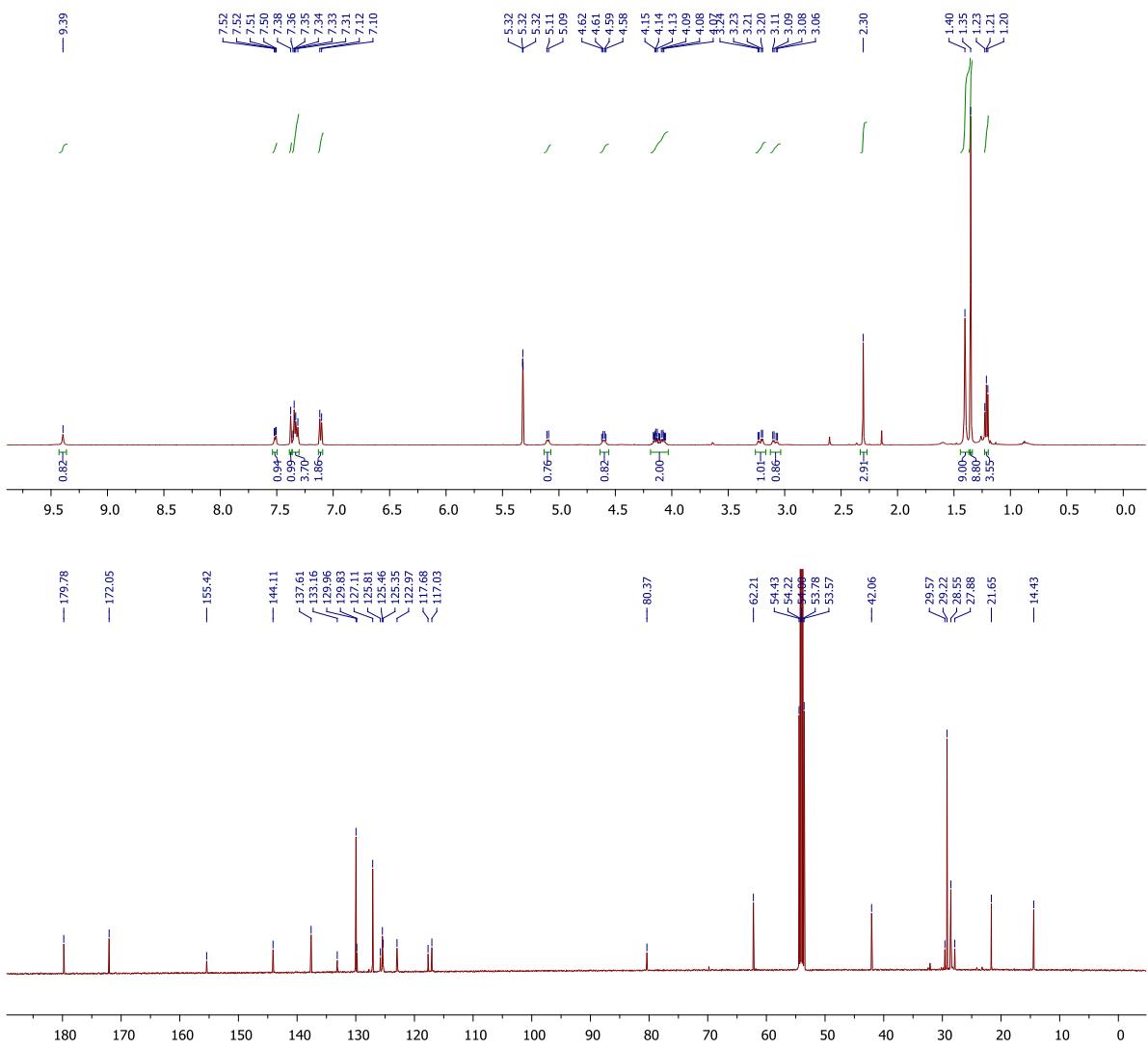


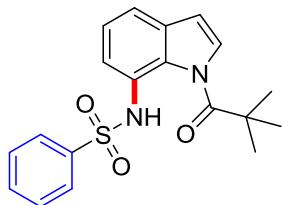
**3o**



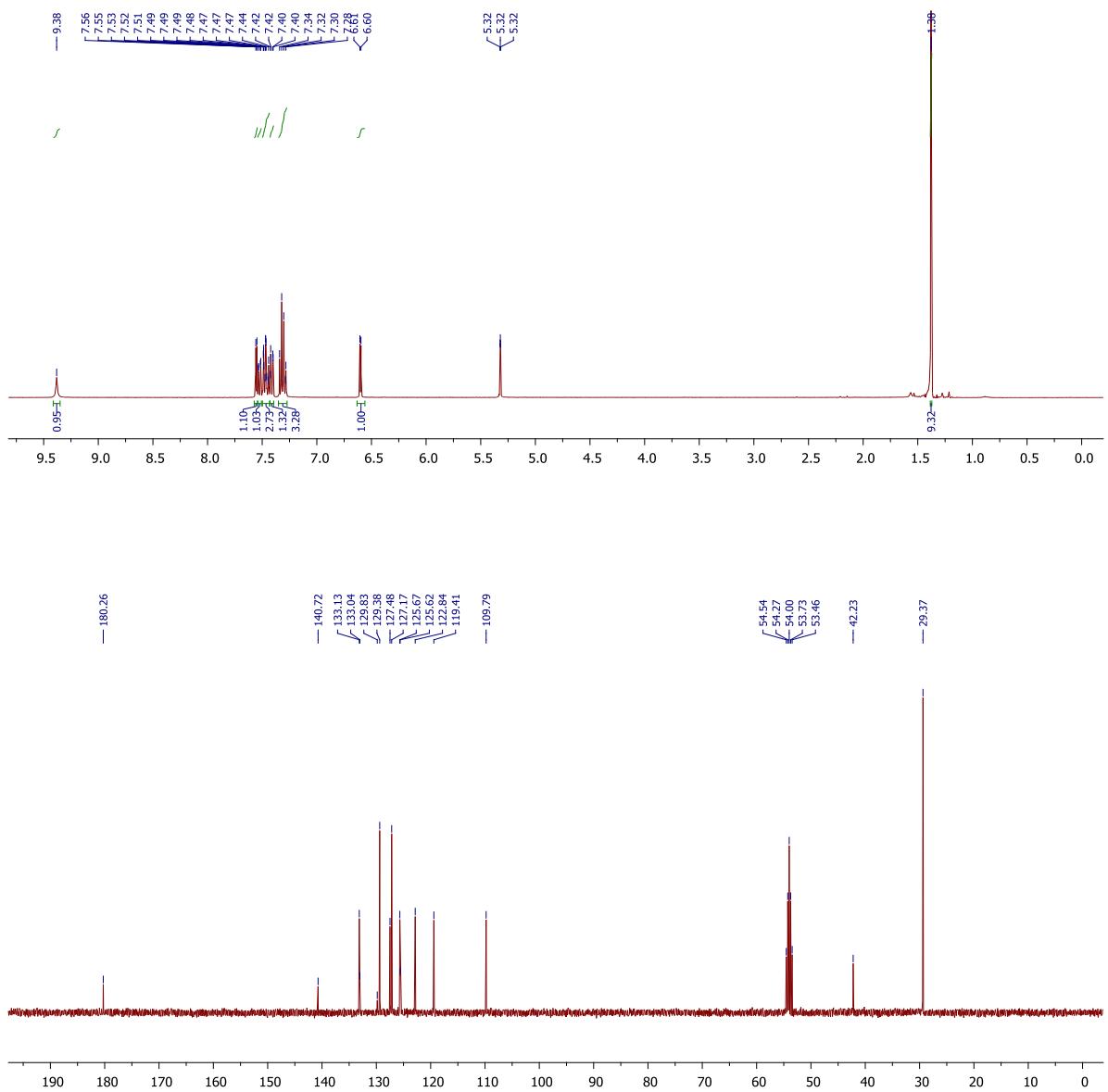


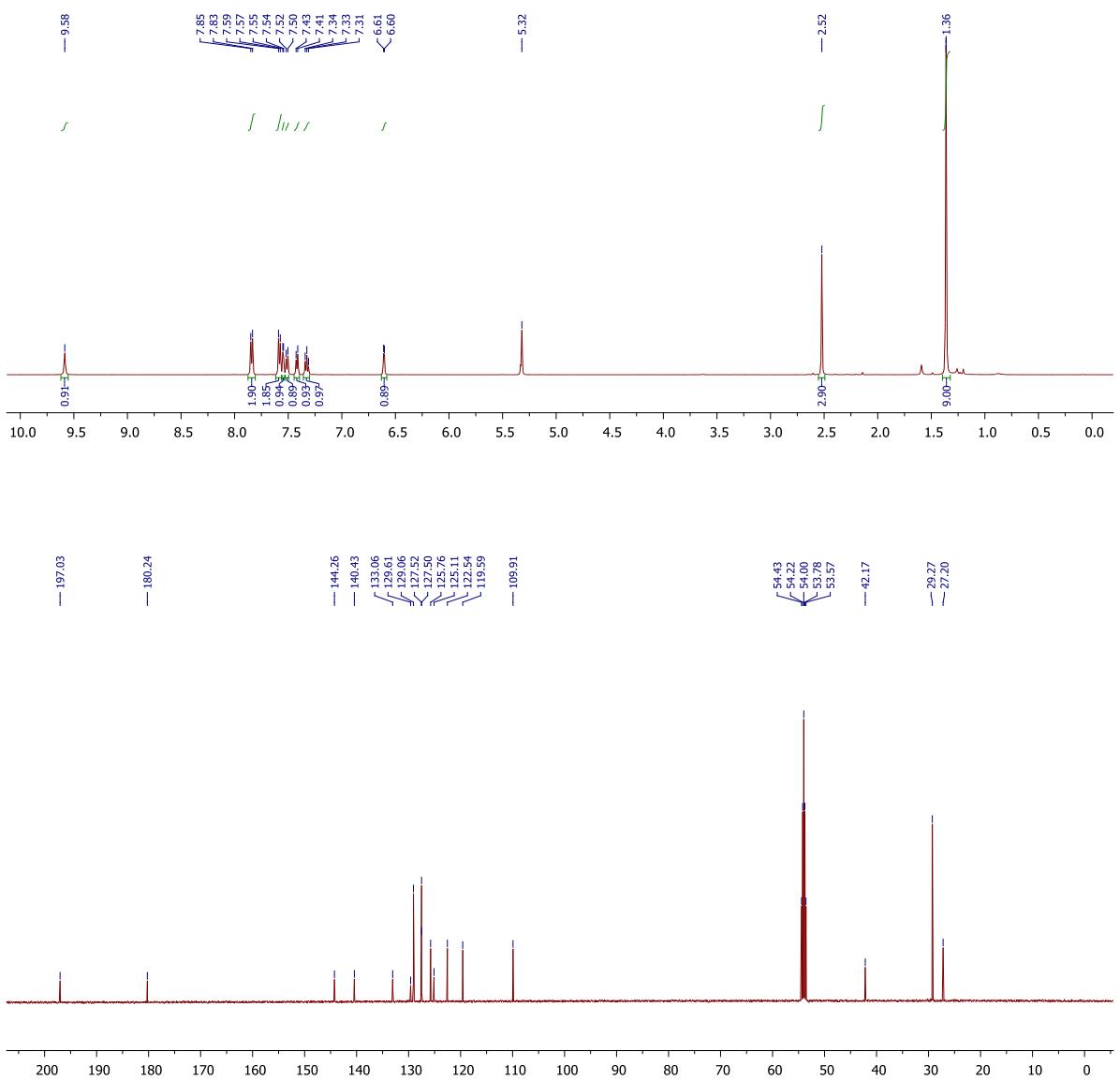
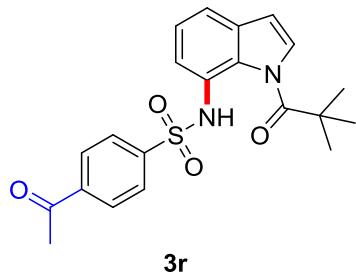
**3p**

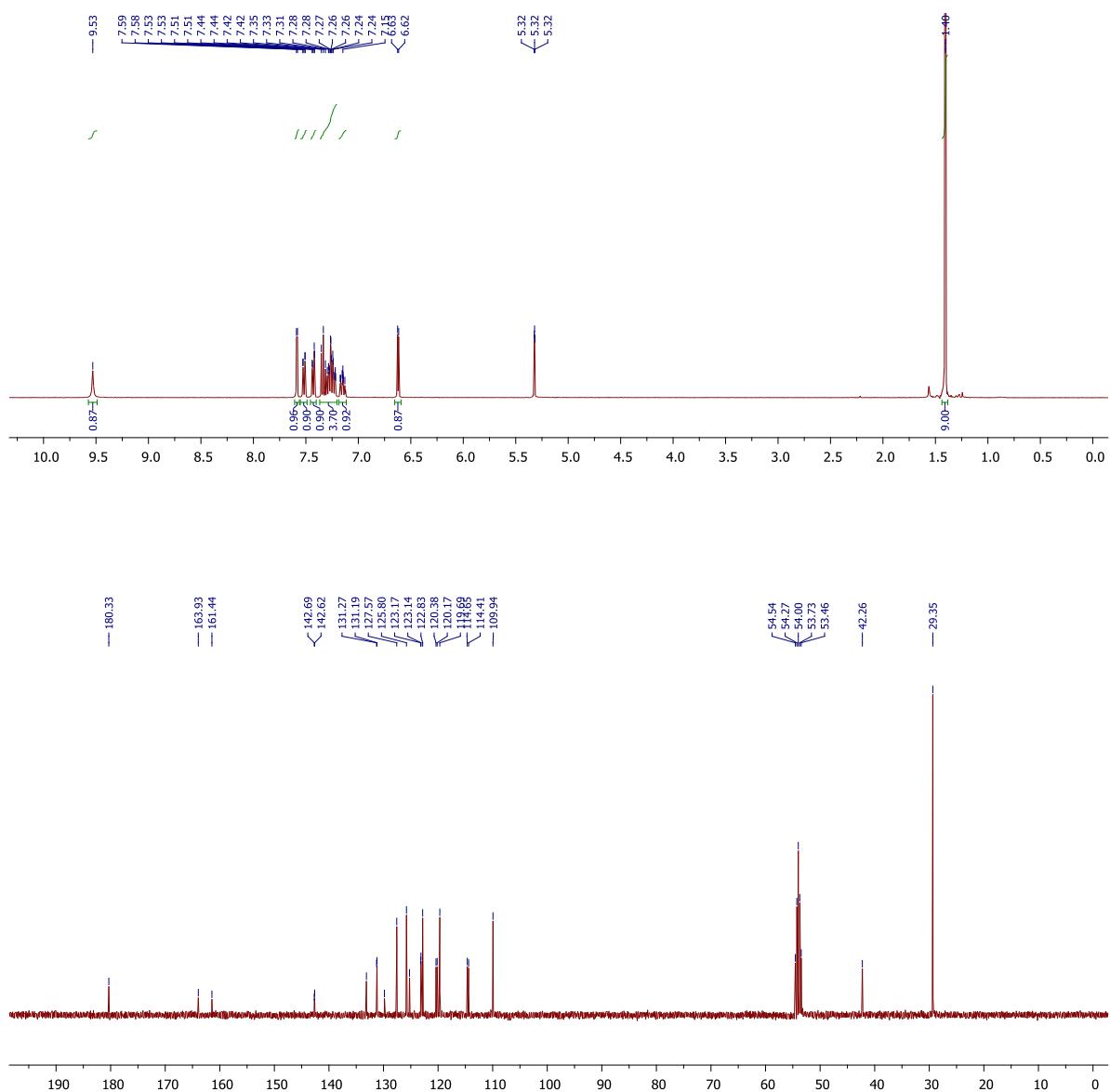
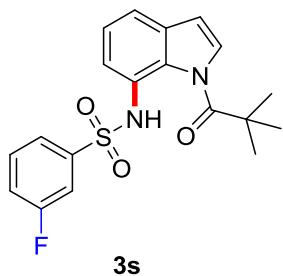


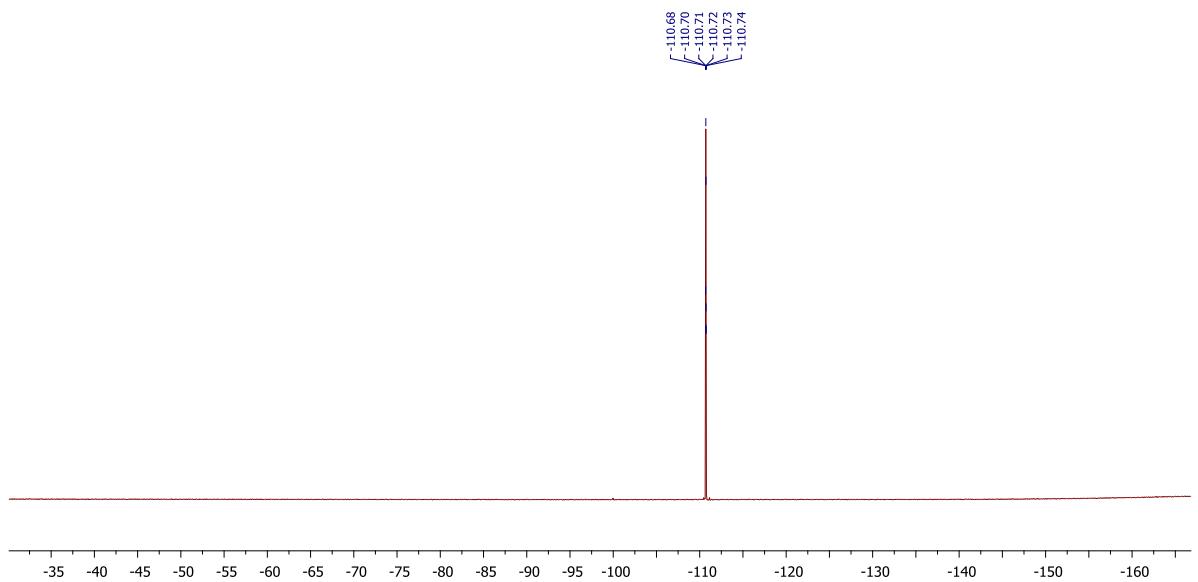


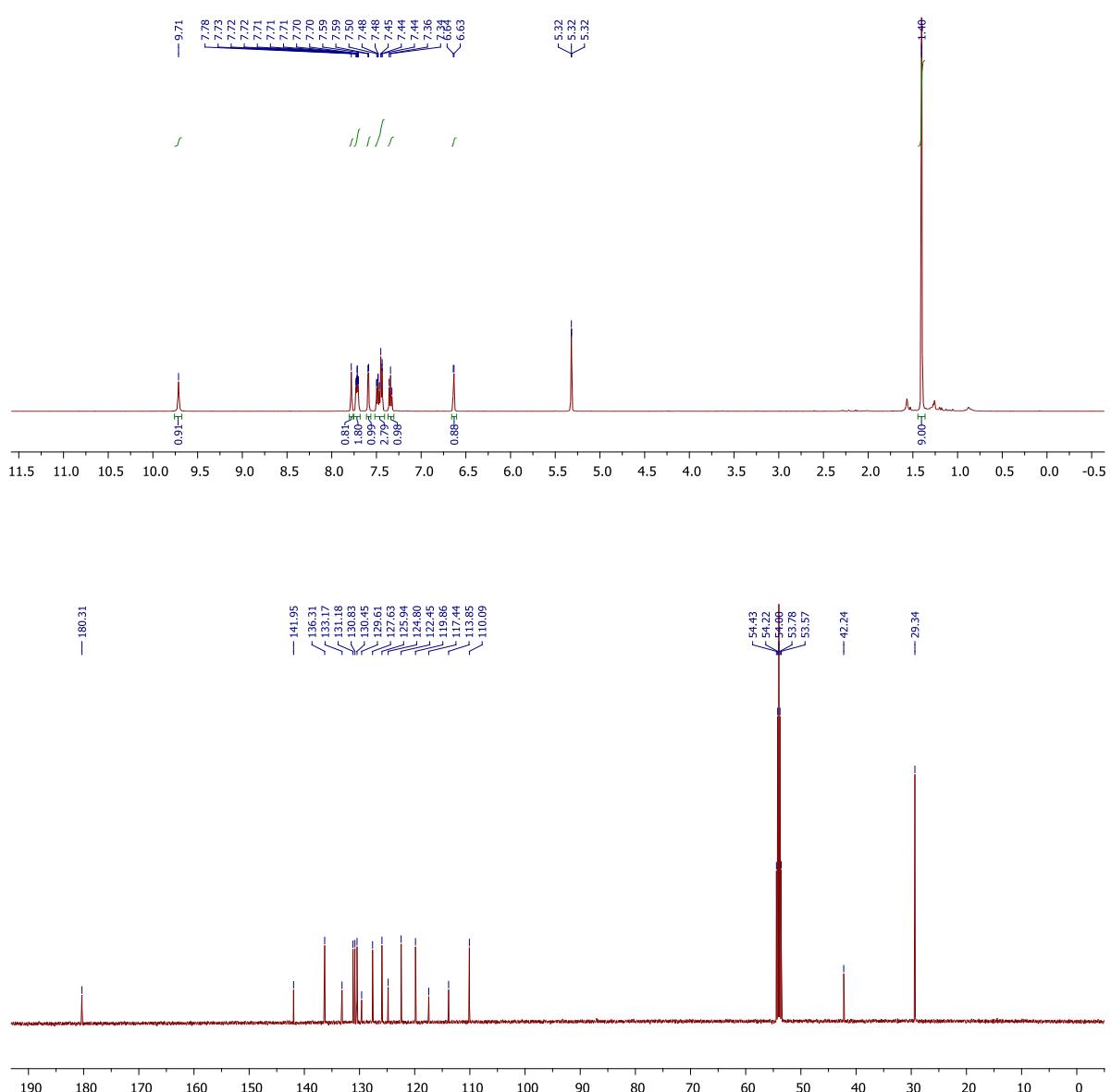
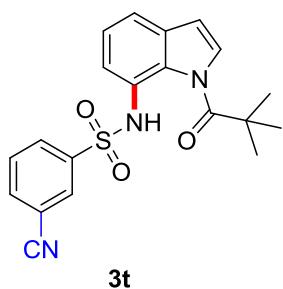
3q

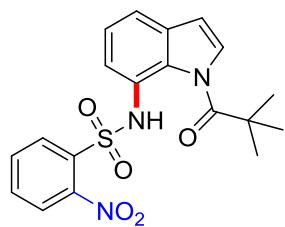




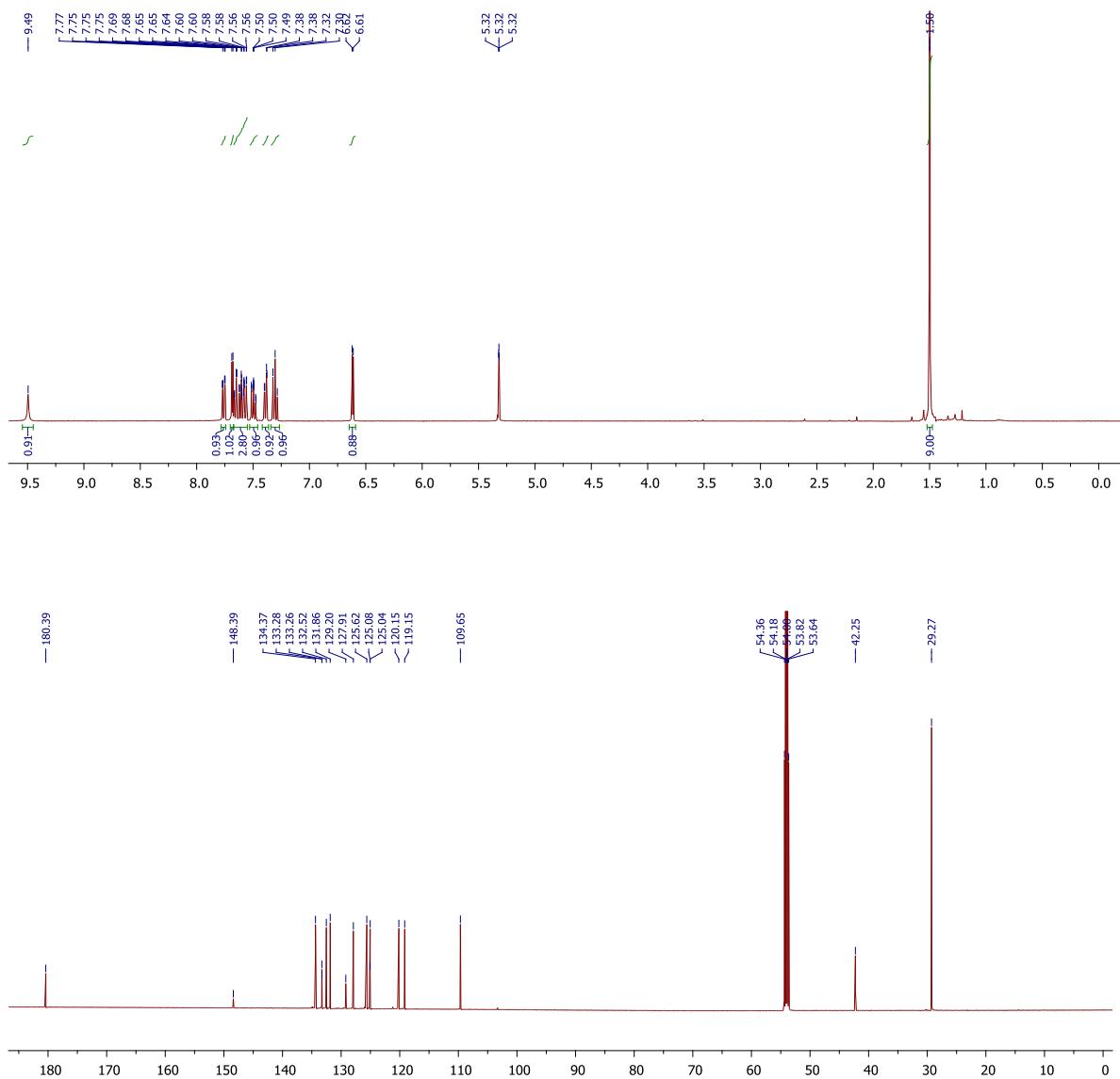


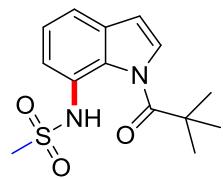




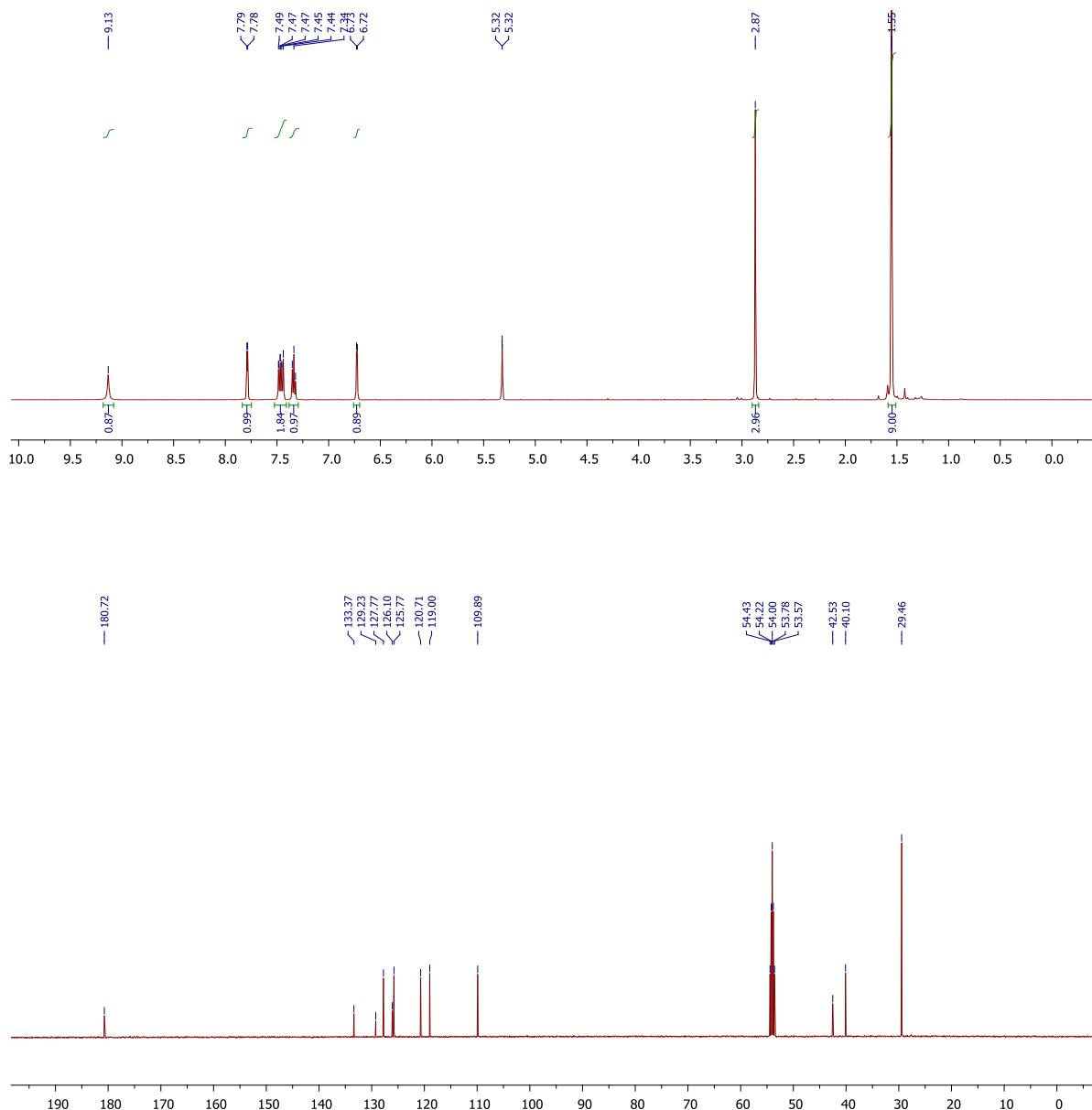


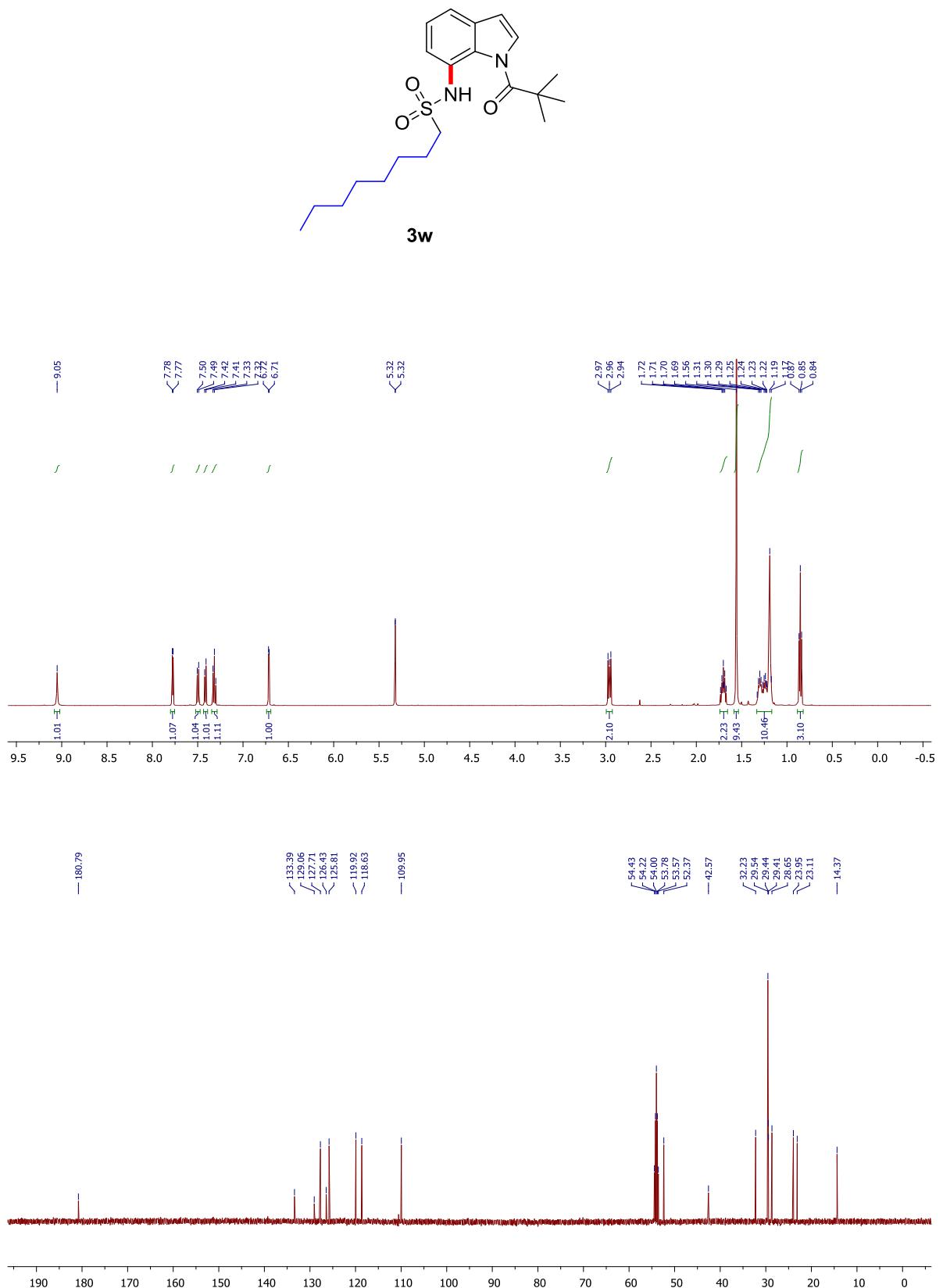
**3u**

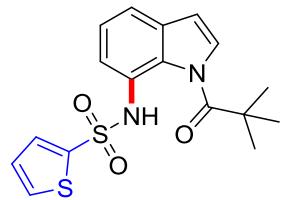




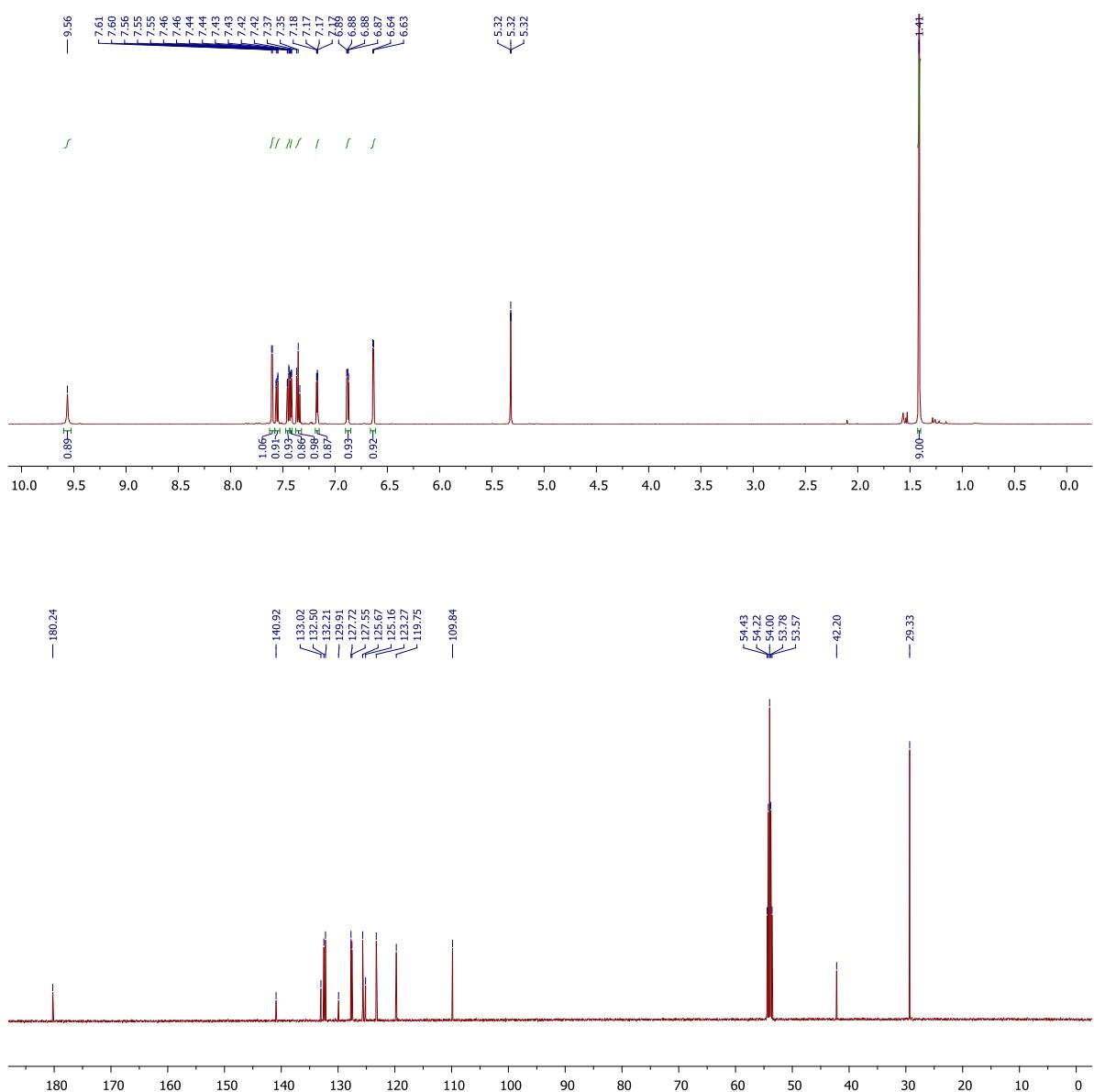
**3v**

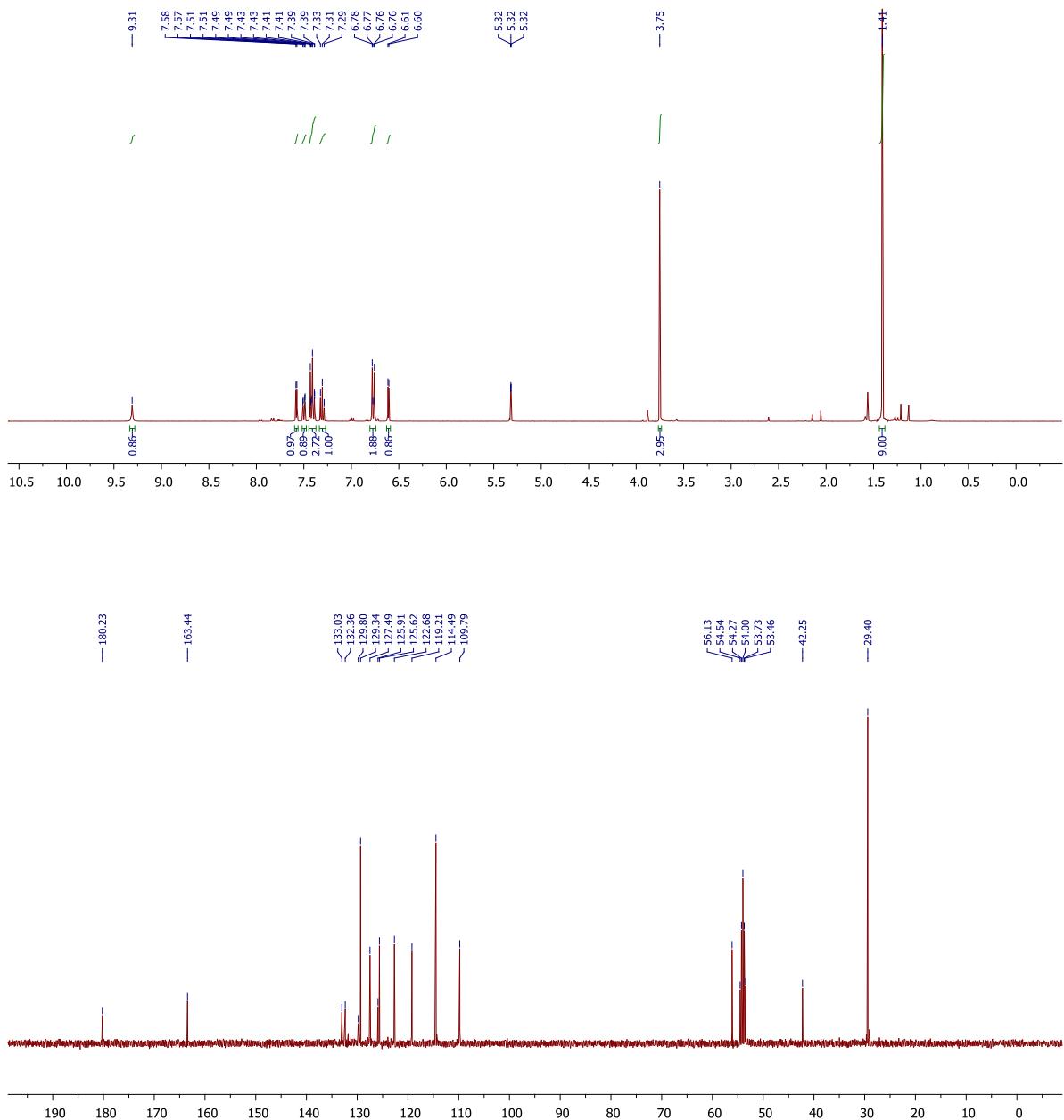
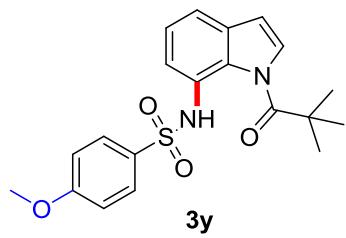


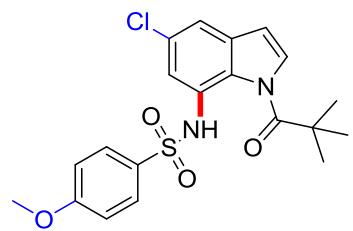




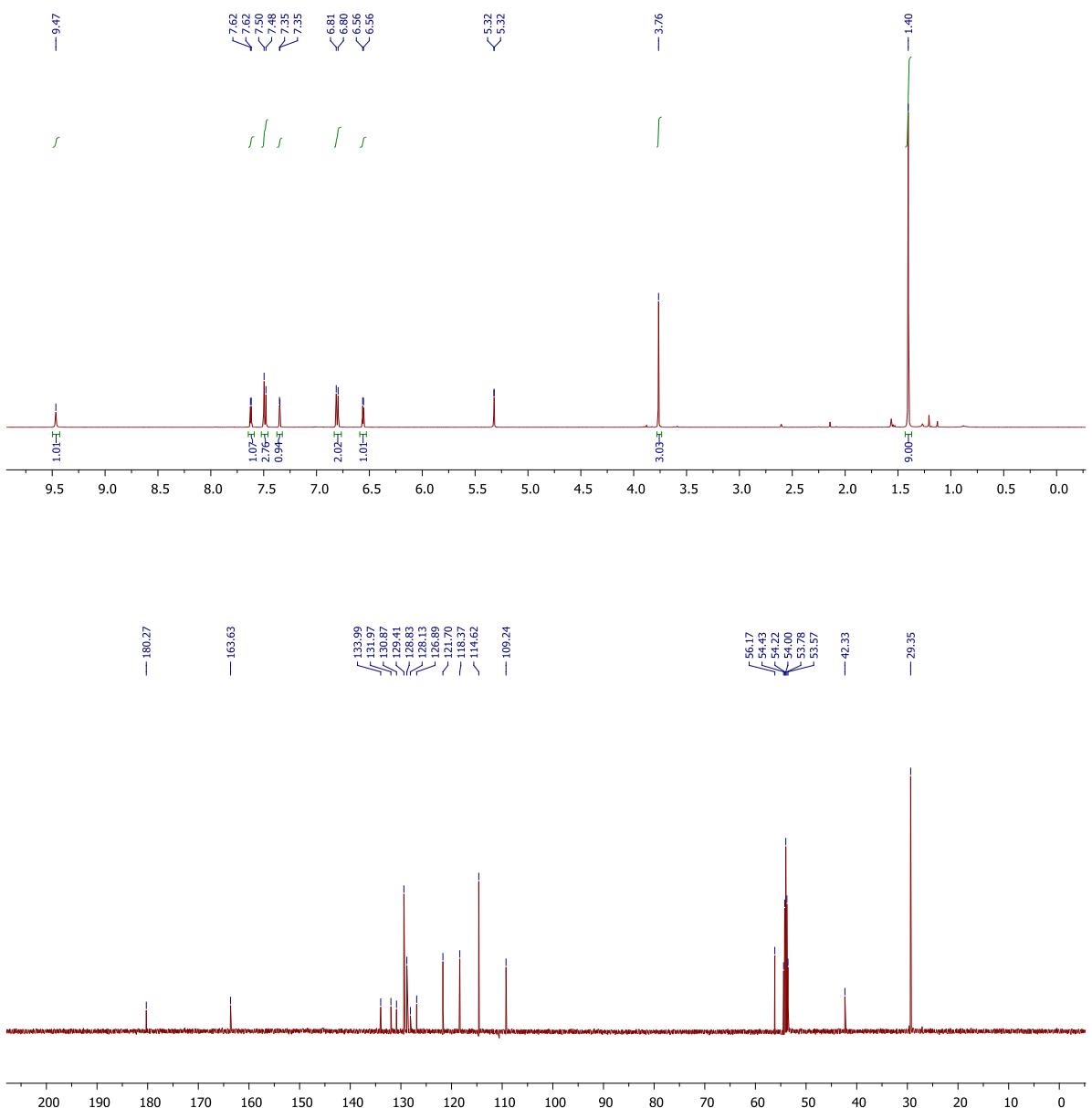
**3x**

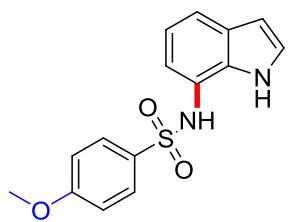






**3z**





**4a**

