

Supporting Information

A greener borrowing hydrogen methodology: palladium-catalyzed dehydrative N-benzylation of 2-aminopyridines in water

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1. Table of contents	S1
2. Characterization of all compounds	S2-6
3. Table S1, Entry 1	S7
3. Scheme 3S. Crossover experiment.	S8
4. Scheme 4S. Kinetic isotope effects.	S9
5. Hammett study.	S10
6. Scheme 6S. Control experiments (B).	S11
7. Scheme 6S. Control experiments (C).	S12
8. Copies of ^1H and ^{13}C NMR spectra of all compounds	S13-S50

General procedure: A mixture of aminopyridines **1** (1 mmol), palladium(II) acetate (12 mg, 0.05 mmol), sodium diphenylphosphinobenzene-3-sulfonate (TPPMS, 36 mg, 0.1 mmol) and benzyl alcohol **2** (5-10 mmol) in H₂O (4 mL) was heated for 16 h in a sealed tube under air. After cooling, the reaction mixture was poured into water and extracted with EtOAc. The organic layer was washed with brine, dried over MgSO₄ and concentrated in vacuo. The residue was purified by flash column chromatography (silica gel, hexanes/EtOAc) to give desired product **3**.

N-Benzylpyridin-2-amine **3a**¹

Yield 165 mg (90%) as a white solid; mp 90-91 °C; IR (KBr) (cm⁻¹) 3226, 3029, 1600, 1575; ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 4.50 (d, *J*=5.7 Hz, 2H), 4.95 (brs, 1H), 6.36 (dt, *J*=8.5, 0.9 Hz, 1H), 6.58 (ddd, *J*=7.1, 5.0, 0.9 Hz, 1H), 7.23-7.36 (m, 4H), 7.39 (dd, *J*=8.7, 7.1, 1.8 Hz, 1H), 8.09 (ddd, *J*=5.0, 1.8, 0.9 Hz, 2H); ¹³C-NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ: 46.3, 106.8, 113.1, 127.2, 127.4, 128.6, 137.5, 139.2, 148.2, 158.6; MS (FAB): *m/z* 185 [M+H]⁺.

N-Benzyl-5-methylpyridin-2-amine **3b**¹

Yield 158 mg (80%) as a pale yellow solid; mp 105-107 °C; IR (KBr) (cm⁻¹) 3234, 3027, 1610, 1535; ¹H-NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 2.17 (s, 3H), 4.47 (d, *J*=5.5 Hz, 2H), 4.77 (brs, 1H), 6.31 (d, *J*=8.2 Hz, 1H), 7.20-7.29 (m, 2H), 7.29-7.39 (m, 4H), 7.92 (d, *J*=2.3 Hz, 1H); ¹³C-NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 17.4, 46.5, 106.4, 121.9, 127.1, 127.4, 128.6, 138.5, 139.4, 147.7, 156.9; MS (FAB): *m/z* 199 [M+H]⁺.

N-Benzyl-3-methylpyridin-2-amine **3c**¹

Yield 163 mg (82%) as a colorless oil; IR (KBr) (cm⁻¹) 3443, 1601; ¹H-NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 2.09 (s, 3H), 4.35 (brs, 1H), 4.69 (d, *J*=5.5 Hz, 2H), 6.56 (dd, *J*=6.9, 5.0 Hz 1H), 7.22-7.26 (m, 1H), 7.28 (tt, *J*=6.9, 1.8 Hz 1H), 7.32-7.42 (m, 3H), 8.05 (dd, *J*=4.8, 1.4 Hz 1H); ¹³C-NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 17.1, 45.9, 113.1, 116.7, 127.3, 128.0, 128.7, 137.0, 140.2, 145.6, 156.8; MS (FAB): *m/z* 199 [M+H]⁺.

N-Benzyl-5-fluoropyridin-2-amine **3d**¹

Yield 113 mg (56%) as a white solid; mp 95-97 °C; IR (KBr) (cm⁻¹) 3239, 3031, 1618, 1585; ¹H-NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 4.47 (d, *J*=6.0 Hz 2H), 4.80 (brs, 1H), 6.33 (dd, *J*=9.1, 3.2 Hz 1H), 7.18 (d, *J*=9.2, 7.8, 2.8 Hz 1H), 7.24-7.38 (m, 5H), 7.97 (d, *J*=2.8 Hz 1H); ¹³C-NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 46.8, 107.1 (d, *J*_{CF}=3.8 Hz), 125.2 (d, *J*_{CF}=21.1 Hz), 127.3, 127.4, 128.7, 134.8 (d, *J*_{CF}=24.9 Hz), 139.0, 153.5 (d, *J*_{CF}=242 Hz), 155.3; MS (FAB): *m/z* 203 [M+H]⁺.

Ethyl 2-(benzylamino)nicotinate **3e**²

Yield 213 mg (83%) as a colorless oil; IR (KBr) (cm^{-1}) 3367, 1686, 1594; $^1\text{H-NMR}$ (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 1.37 (t, $J=6.9$ Hz, 3H), 4.31 (q, $J=7.3$ Hz, 2H), 4.76 (d, $J=5.5$ Hz, 2H), 6.55 (dd, $J=7.8, 4.6$ Hz, 1H), 7.22-7.28 (m, 1H), 7.30-7.40 (m, 3H), 8.15 (dd, $J=7.8, 1.8$ Hz, 1H), 8.29 (dd, $J=4.6, 1.8$ Hz, 1H), 8.32 (brs, 1H); $^{13}\text{C-NMR}$ (100 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 14.4, 45.0, 60.9, 106.3, 111.3, 127.1, 127.6, 128.7, 139.7, 140.0, 153.7, 158.6, 167.6; MS (FAB): m/z 257 [M+H]⁺.

Methyl 6-(benzylamino)nicotinate **3f**

Yield 208 mg (86%) as a white solid; mp 147-149 °C; IR (KBr) (cm^{-1}) 3222, 1706, 1601; $^1\text{H-NMR}$ (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 3.87 (s, 3H), 4.58 (d, $J=6.0$ Hz, 2H), 5.41 (brs, 1H), 6.36 (d, $J=8.7$ Hz, 1H), 7.27-7.38 (m, 5H), 7.99 (d, $J=8.7, 2.3$ Hz, 1H), 8.76 (d, $J=1.8$ Hz, 1H); $^{13}\text{C-NMR}$ (100 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 46.1, 51.7, 105.7, 115.5, 127.4, 127.6, 128.8, 138.1, 138.6, 151.5, 160.8, 166.4; MS (FAB): m/z 243 [M+H]⁺; Anal. Calcd for $\text{C}_{14}\text{H}_{14}\text{N}_2\text{O}_2$: C, 69.41; H, 5.82; N, 11.56. Found: C, 69.41; H, 5.93; N, 11.45.

N-Benzyl-5-(trifluoromethyl)pyridin-2-amine **3g**¹

Scale-up experiment (see Scheme 8): A mixture of 5-(trifluoromethyl)pyridin-2-amine (**1b**) (1.13 g, 7 mmol), $\text{Pd}(\text{OAc})_2$ (78.6 mg, 0.35 mmol), sodium diphenylphosphinobenzene-3-sulfonate (TPPMS, 255.0 mg, 0.7 mmol) and benzyl alcohol (**2a**) (3.4 mL, 35 mmol) in H_2O (28 mL) was heated at 100 °C for 16 h under air. After cooling, the reaction mixture was poured into water and extracted with EtOAc. The organic layer was washed with brine, dried over MgSO_4 and concentrated in vacuo. The residue was purified by flash column chromatography (silica gel, hexanes/EtOAc) to give desired product **3g** (1.27 g, 5.0 mmol, 72%) as a white solid; mp 148-150 °C; IR (KBr) (cm^{-1}) 3233, 1616; $^1\text{H-NMR}$ (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 4.57 (d, $J=6.0$ Hz, 2H), 5.20 (brs, 1H), 6.40 (d, $J=8.7$ Hz, 1H), 7.25-7.40 (m, 5H), 7.58 (dd, $J=8.7, 2.8$ Hz, 1H), 8.36 (s, 1H); $^{13}\text{C-NMR}$ (100 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 46.1, 106.1, 115.8 (q, $J_{CF}=32.6$ Hz), 124.6 (q, $J_{CF}=270.3$ Hz), 127.4, 127.6, 128.8, 134.5 (q, $J_{CF}=2.9$ Hz), 138.2, 146.1 (q, $J_{CF}=3.8$ Hz), 160.2; MS (FAB): m/z 253 [M+H]⁺.

6-(Benzylamino)nicotinonitrile **3h**³

Yield 178 mg (85%) as a white solid; mp 118-120 °C; IR (KBr) (cm^{-1}) 3227, 2219, 1604; $^1\text{H-NMR}$ (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 4.56 (d, $J=5.5$ Hz, 2H), 5.63 (brs, 1H), 6.38 (d, $J=9.2$ Hz, 1H), 7.27-7.39 (m, 4H), 7.56 (dd, $J=8.7, 2.3$ Hz, 1H), 8.29 (d, $J=1.8$ Hz, 1H); $^{13}\text{C-NMR}$ (100 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 46.0, 97.3, 106.6, 118.5, 127.5, 127.8, 128.9, 137.6, 139.8, 153.2, 159.7; MS (FAB): m/z 210 [M+H]⁺.

6-(Benzylamino)nicotinamide **3i**⁴

Yield 205 mg (90%) as a white solid; mp 168-170 °C; IR (KBr) (cm^{-1}) 3411, 3178, 1648, 1603; $^1\text{H-NMR}$ (400 MHz, $\text{DMSO}-d_6$) δ 4.53 (d, $J=6.0$ Hz, 2H), 6.51 (d, $J=8.7$ Hz, 1H), 7.06 (brs, 1H), 7.18-7.27 (m, 1H), 7.28-7.35 (m, 4H), 7.60 (t, $J=6.0$ Hz, 1H), 7.67 (brs, 1H), 7.82 (dd, $J=8.7, 2.3$ Hz, 1H), 8.52 (d,

$J=2.3$ Hz, 1H); ^{13}C -NMR (100 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆) δ 44.5, 107.6, 118.4, 127.2, 127.8, 128.8, 136.6, 140.6, 149.1, 160.6, 167.5; MS (FAB): *m/z* 228 [M+H]⁺.

N-Benzylpyridin-3-amine **3j**⁵

Yield 166 mg (90%) as a pale brow solid; mp 87-89 °C; IR (KBr) (cm⁻¹) 3263, 1591; ^1H -NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 4.14 (brs, 1H), 4.34 (d, $J=5.0$ Hz, 2H), 6.87 (dd, $J=8.2, 3.2$ Hz, 1H), 7.06 (dd, $J=8.2, 4.6$ Hz, 1H), 7.26-7.40 (m, 5H), 7.97 (dd, $J=4.6, 1.4$ Hz, 1H), 8.01 (d, $J=3.2$ Hz, 1H); ^{13}C -NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 47.9, 118.6, 123.8, 127.5, 127.6, 128.9, 136.3, 138.6, 139.0, 144.1; MS (FAB): *m/z* 185 [M+H]⁺.

N-Benzylpyrimidin-2-amine **3k**⁶

Yield 130 mg (70%) as a white solid; mp 78-80 °C; IR (KBr) (cm⁻¹) 3236, 1600; ^1H -NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 4.64 (d, $J=5.5$ Hz, 2H), 5.84 (brs, 1H), 6.52 (t, $J=4.6$ Hz, 1H), 7.24-7.38 (m, 5H), 8.22 (brd, $J=4.1$ Hz, 1H); ^{13}C -NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 45.5, 110.9, 127.3, 127.6, 128.7, 139.2, 158.2, 162.4; MS (FAB): *m/z* 186 [M+H]⁺.

N-(4-Methylbenzyl)pyridin-2-amine **3l**¹

Yield 149 mg (75%) as a white solid; mp 72-74 °C; IR (KBr) (cm⁻¹) 3235, 1609; ^1H -NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 2.34 (s, 3H), 4.45 (d, $J=5.5$ Hz, 2H), 4.83 (brs, 1H), 6.37 (d, $J=8.9$ Hz, 1H), 6.58 (dd, $J=7.3, 5.0, 0.7$ Hz, 1H), 7.15 (d, $J=7.8$ Hz, 2H), 7.25 (d, $J=8.2$ Hz, 2H), 7.39 (ddd, $J=8.7, 7.3, 1.8$ Hz, 1H), 8.10 (dd, $J=5.0, 1.4$ Hz, 1H); ^{13}C -NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 21.1, 46.1, 106.7, 113.0, 127.4, 129.3, 136.1, 136.9, 137.4, 148.2, 158.7; MS (FAB): *m/z* 199 [M+H]⁺.

N-(3-Methylbenzyl)pyridin-2-amine **3m**¹

Yield 159 mg (80%) as a white solid; mp 95-97 °C; IR (KBr) (cm⁻¹) 3240, 1608; ^1H -NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 2.37 (s, 3H), 4.47 (d, $J=5.5$ Hz, 2H), 4.64 (brs, 1H), 6.38 (dt, $J=8.2, 0.9$ Hz, 1H), 6.60 (ddd, $J=6.9, 5.0, 0.9$ Hz, 1H), 7.15-7.23 (m, 3H), 7.32 (d, $J=6.9$ Hz, 1H), 7.41 (ddd, $J=9.2, 7.3, 1.8$ Hz, 1H), 8.12 (ddd, $J=5.0, 1.8, 0.9$ Hz, 1H); ^{13}C -NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 19.1, 44.5, 106.9, 113.1, 126.2, 127.5, 128.1, 130.5, 136.4, 136.9, 137.5, 148.3, 158.7; MS (FAB): *m/z* 199 [M+H]⁺.

N-(2-Methylbenzyl)pyridin-2-amine **3n**¹

Yield 159 mg (80%) as a white solid; mp 74-76 °C; IR (KBr) (cm⁻¹) 3223, 1601; ^1H -NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 2.34 (s, 3H), 4.46 (d, $J=6.0$ Hz, 2H), 4.84 (brs, 1H), 6.37 (d, $J=8.2$ Hz, 1H), 6.59 (dd, $J=7.3, 5.5$ Hz, 1H), 7.08 (d, $J=7.3$ Hz, 1H), 7.13-7.20 (m, 2H), 7.23 (t, $J=7.3$ Hz, 1H), 7.40 (dd, $J=6.9, 1.8$ Hz, 1H), 8.11 (dt, $J=5.0, 0.9$ Hz, 1H); ^{13}C -NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 21.4, 46.3, 106.7, 113.1, 124.4, 128.0, 128.1, 128.5, 137.4, 138.3, 139.1, 148.2, 158.7; MS (FAB): *m/z* 199 [M+H]⁺.

N-(3-Methylbenzyl)-4-(trifluoromethyl)aniline **3o**

Yield 178 mg (67%) as a white solid; mp 110-112 °C; IR (KBr) (cm⁻¹) 3245, 1620; ¹H-NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 2.35 (s, 2H), 4.51 (d, *J*=5.5 Hz, 2H), 5.27 (brs, 1H), 6.39 (d, *J*=9.2 Hz, 1H), 7.08-7.18 (m, 3H), 7.24 (t, *J*=7.8 Hz, 1H), 7.57 (dd, *J*=8.7, 2.3 Hz, 1H), 8.33 (s, 1H); ¹³C-NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 21.4, 46.1, 105.9, 115.6 (q, *J*_{CF}=33.6 Hz), 124.5, 124.6 (q, *J*_{CF}=270.3 Hz), 128.2, 128.4, 128.7, 134.5 (q, *J*_{CF}=2.9 Hz), 138.1, 138.6, 146.1 (q, *J*_{CF}=4.8 Hz), 160.3; MS (FAB): *m/z* 267 [M+H]⁺; HRMS-FAB: *m/z* (M⁺) calcd for C₁₄H₁₃F₃N₂ 267.1109, found 267.1109.

N-(4-Methoxybenzyl)pyridin-2-amine **3p**¹

Yield 176 mg (82%) as a white solid; mp 118-120 °C; IR (KBr) (cm⁻¹) 3234, 1604; ¹H-NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 3.80 (s, 3H), 4.43 (d, *J*=6.0 Hz, 2H), 4.78 (brs, 1H), 6.37 (d, *J*=8.2 Hz, 1H), 6.59 (ddd, *J*=7.3, 5.0, 0.9 Hz, 1H), 6.88 (d, *J*=8.7 Hz, 2H), 7.29 (d, *J*=8.7 Hz, 2H), 7.40 (d, *J*=8.7, 6.9, 1.8 Hz, 1H), 8.11 (dd, *J*=5.0, 1.4 Hz, 1H); ¹³C-NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 45.8, 55.3, 106.8, 113.1, 114.0, 128.7, 131.1, 137.4, 148.2, 158.6, 158.8; MS (FAB): *m/z* 215 [M+H]⁺.

N-(4-Butoxybenzyl)pyridin-2-amine **3q**⁷

Yield 208 mg (81%) as a white solid; mp 83-85 °C; IR (KBr) (cm⁻¹) 3229, 1606; ¹H-NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 0.97 (t, *J*=7.3 Hz 1H), 1.48 (sext, *J*=7.8 Hz 1H), 1.76 (quin, *J*=7.3 Hz 1H), 3.95 (t, *J*=6.9 Hz 2H), 4.42 (d, *J*=5.5 Hz 2H), 4.77 (brs, 1H), 6.37 (d, *J*=8.7 Hz, 1H), 6.58 (dd, *J*=7.3, 5.0 Hz, 1H), 6.86 (d, *J*=8.0 Hz, 2H), 7.26 (d, *J*=8.0 Hz, 2H), 7.40 (dd, *J*=6.9, 1.8 Hz, 1H), 8.10 (dt, *J*=5.0, 0.9 Hz, 1H); ¹³C-NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 13.9, 19.3, 31.3, 45.9, 67.7, 106.8, 113.1, 114.6, 128.7, 130.9, 137.4, 148.2, 158.4, 158.6; MS (FAB): *m/z* 257 [M+H]⁺; Anal. Calcd for C₁₆H₂₀N₂O: C, 74.97; H, 7.86; N, 10.93. Found: C, 74.73; H, 7.90; N, 10.79.

N-[1-(4-Methoxyphenyl)ethyl]pyridin-2-amine **3r**⁸

Yield 139 mg (61%) as a white solid; mp 89-91 °C; IR (KBr) (cm⁻¹) 3263, 2978, 1610; ¹H-NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 1.53 (d, *J*=6.9 Hz, 3H), 3.79 (s, 3H), 4.68 (quint, *J*=6.6 Hz, 1H), 4.88 (brd, *J*=5.5 Hz, 1H), 6.19 (d, *J*=8.7 Hz, 1H), 6.54 (dd, *J*=6.9, 5.0 Hz, 1H), 6.86 (d, *J*=8.7 Hz, 2H), 7.29 (d, *J*=8.7 Hz, 2H), 7.32 (dd, *J*=6.4, 2.3 Hz, 1H); ¹³C-NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 24.4, 51.3, 55.3, 106.7, 113.0, 114.0, 126.9, 136.7, 137.4, 148.2, 158.1, 158.6; MS (FAB): *m/z* 229 [M+H]⁺.

N-(Naphthalen-2-ylmethyl)pyridin-2-amine **3s**⁹

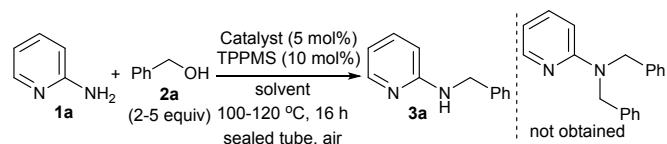
Yield 176 mg (75%) as a white solid; mp 110-112 °C; IR (KBr) (cm⁻¹) 3228, 1600; ¹H-NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 4.67 (d, *J*=5.8 Hz, 2H), 4.98 (brs, 1H), 6.40 (d, *J*=8.2 Hz, 1H), 6.60 (dd, *J*=6.9, 5.0, 0.9 Hz,

1H), 7.36-7.52 (m, 3H), 7.76-7.86 (m, 4H), 8.13 (dd, $J=5.0, 1.8, 0.9$ Hz, 1H); ^{13}C -NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 46.5, 106.8, 113.3, 125.7, 125.8, 126.2, 127.7, 128.4, 132.7, 133.4, 136.7, 137.5, 148.3, 158.6; MS (FAB): m/z 235 [M+H]⁺.

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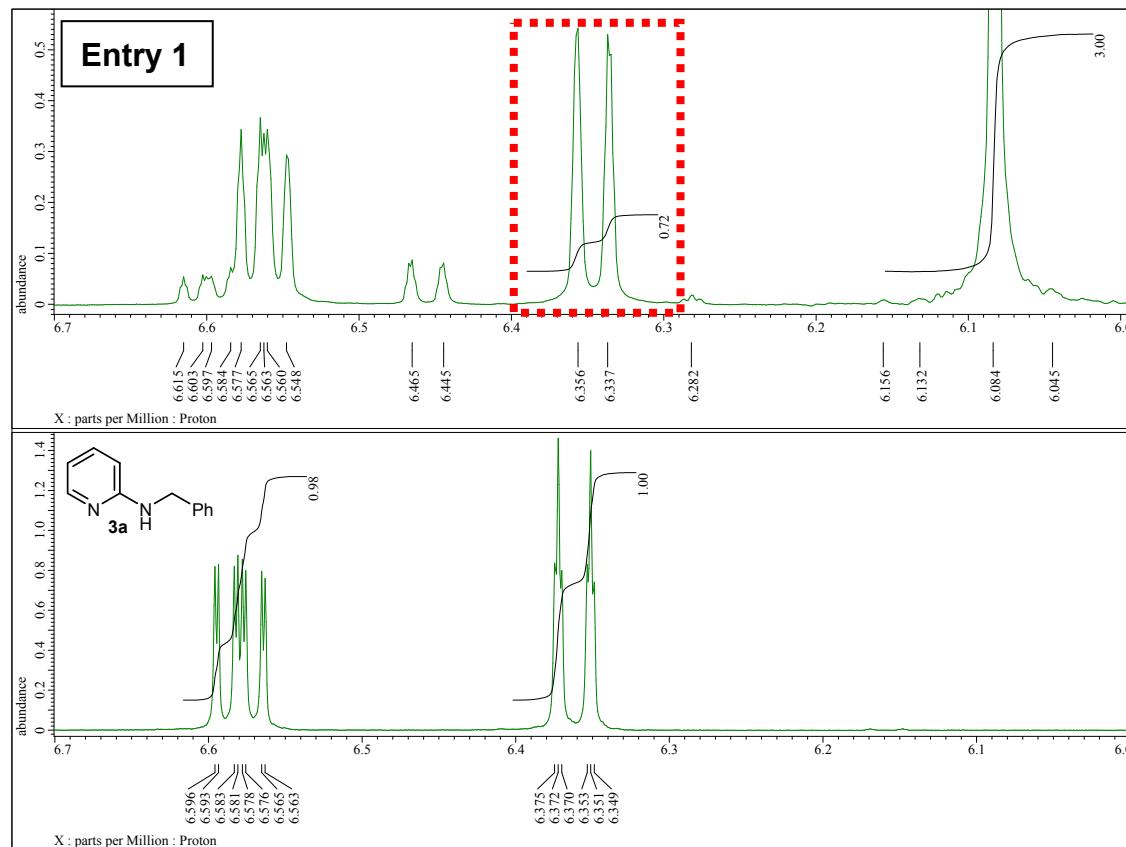
Table S1, Entry 1 (The yield was determined by ^1H NMR analysis of the crude product using 1,3,5-trimethoxybenzene as an internal standard.)



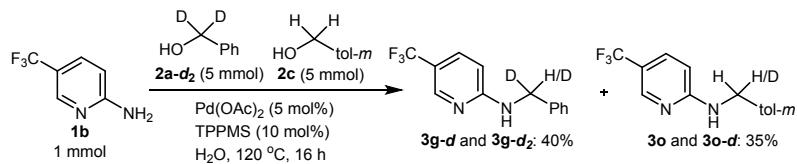
A mixture of 2-aminopyridine **1a** (94 mg, 1 mmol), $\text{Pd}(\text{OAc})_2$ (11 mg, 0.05 mmol), sodium diphenylphosphinobenzene-3-sulfonate (TPPMS, 36 mg, 0.1 mmol), and benzyl alcohol **2a** (216 mg, 2 mmol), in H_2O (4 mL) was heated at 120 °C for 16 h in a sealed tube under air. After the reaction mixture was cooled, 1,3,5-trimethoxybenzene (168 mg, 1 mmol, internal standard) was added to the reaction mixture, which was extracted with AcOEt . The organic layer was concentrated in vacuo. The residue was analyzed by ^1H -NMR spectroscopy.

Conversion yield was calculated by integration.

	desired 3a	1,3,5-trimethoxybenzene, internal standard
Signal δ	6.34 (Ar-H)	6.08 (Ar-H)
Integral value	0.72 (1H)	3.00 (3H)
Calculated ratio	72% from 1a	1 mmol



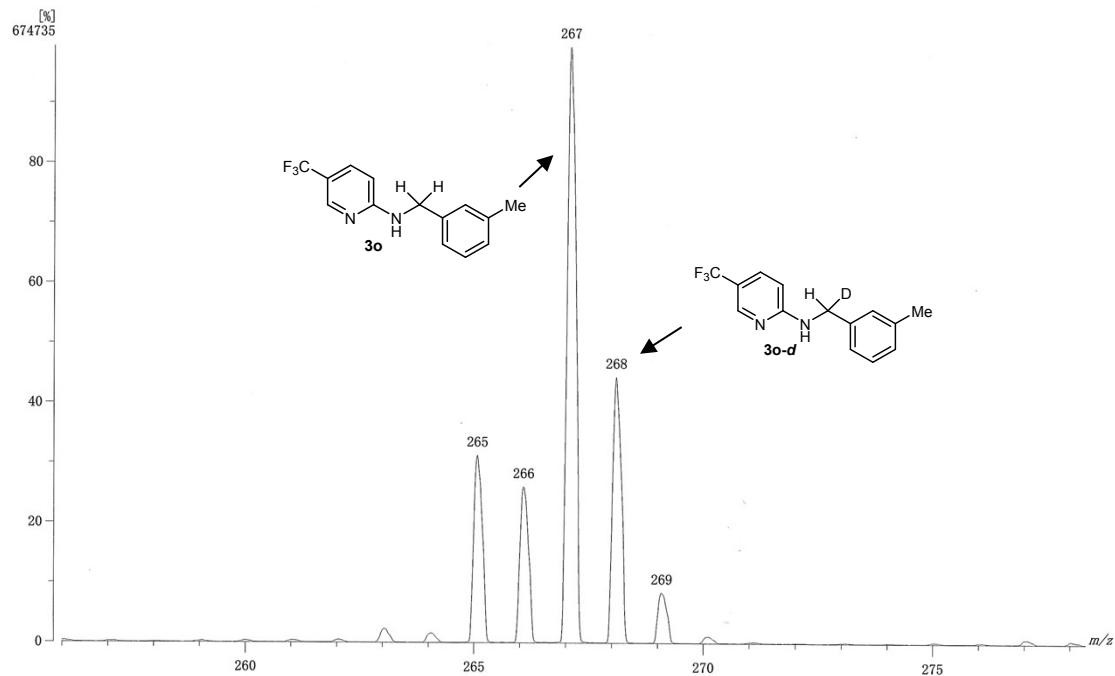
Scheme 3S. Crossover experiment.



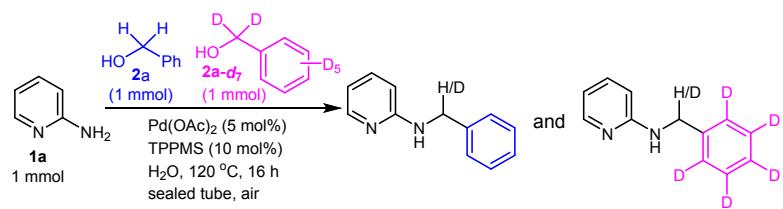
A mixture of **1b** (162 mg, 1 mmol), $\text{Pd}(\text{OAc})_2$ (11 mg, 0.05 mmol), sodium diphenylphosphinobenzene-3-sulfonate (TPPMS, 36 mg, 0.1 mmol), benzyl- α,α -*d*₂ alcohol **2a-d₂** (5 mmol), and 3-methylbenzyl alcohol **2c** (5 mmol) in H_2O (4 mL) was heated at 120 °C for 16 h in a sealed tube under air. After cooling, the reaction mixture was poured into water and extracted with EtOAc . The organic layer was washed with brine, dried over MgSO_4 and concentrated in vacuo. The residue was purified by flash column chromatography (silica gel, hexanes/ EtOAc) to give H/D scrambling products *N*-benzyl-5-(trifluoromethyl)pyridin-2-amine (**3g-d** and **3g-d₂** mixture) and *N*-(3-methylbenzyl)-5-(trifluoromethyl)pyridin-2-amine (**3o** and **3o-d** mixture) in 40% and 35% isolated yields, respectively.

***N*-(3-Methylbenzyl)-5-(trifluoromethyl)pyridin-2-amine (**3o** and **3o-d** mixture)**

FAB-MS: m/z [M+H]⁺ **3o**; 267, **3o-d**; 268.

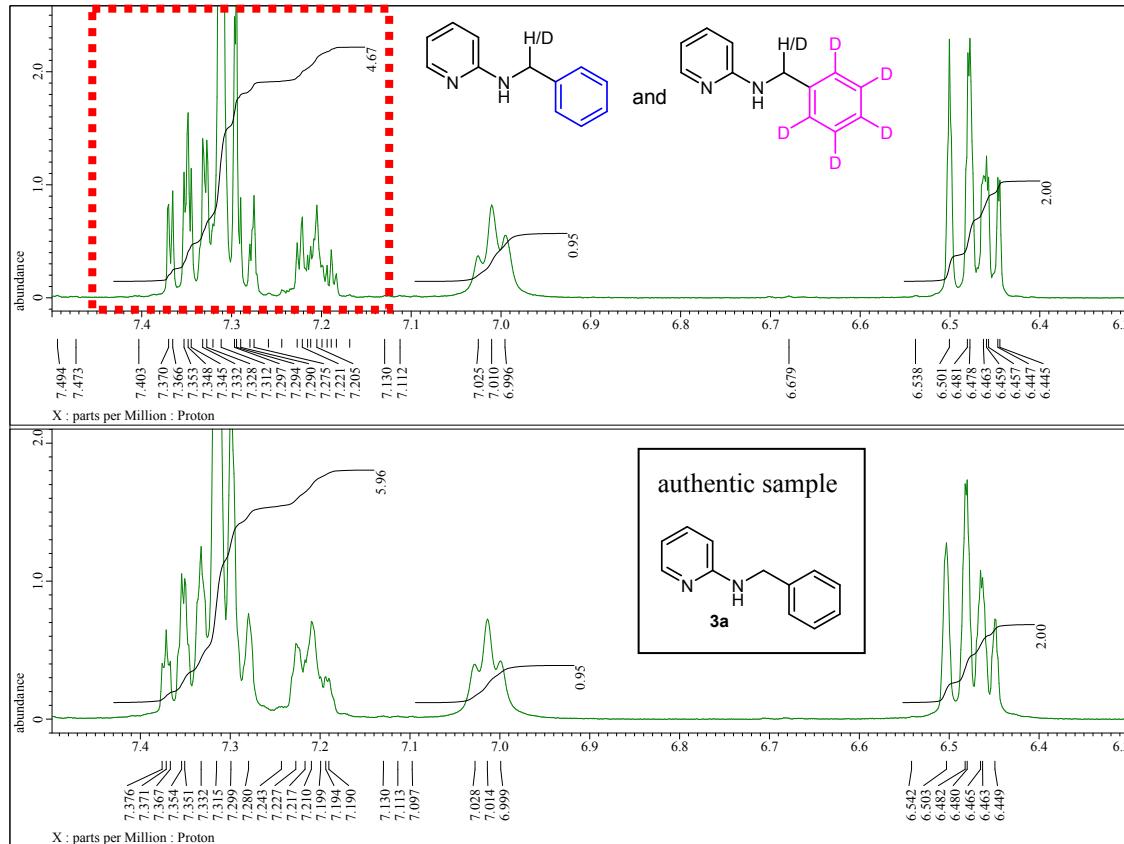


Scheme 4S. Kinetic isotope effects.

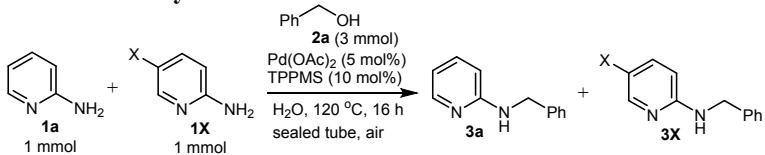


A mixture of 2-aminopyridine **1a** (94 mg, 1 mmol), Pd(OAc)₂ (11 mg, 0.05 mmol), sodium diphenylphosphinobenzene-3-sulfonate (TPPMS, 36 mg, 0.1 mmol), benzyl alcohol **2a** (108 mg, 1 mmol), and **2a-d₇** (115 mg, 1 mmol) in H₂O (2 mL) was heated at 120 °C for 16 h in a sealed tube under air. After cooling, the reaction mixture was poured into water and extracted with EtOAc. The organic layer was washed with brine, dried over MgSO₄ and concentrated in vacuo. The residue was purified by flash column chromatography (silica gel, hexanes/EtOAc). The product was analyzed by ¹H-NMR spectroscopy.

Signal δ	7.18-7.40 (Ph- 5H and Py- H)	6.43-6.52 (Py- 2H)
Integral value	4.67	2.00
	4.67-1.00 = 3.67 (Ph- 5H), 5.00-3.67 = 1.33 (Ph- 5D)	
	KIE = 3.67/1.33 = 2.8	



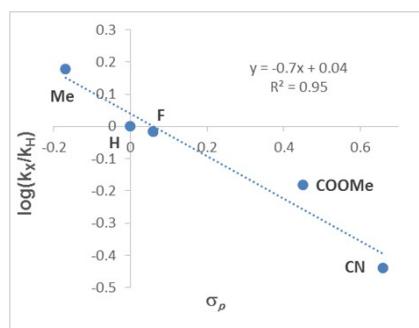
Hammett study



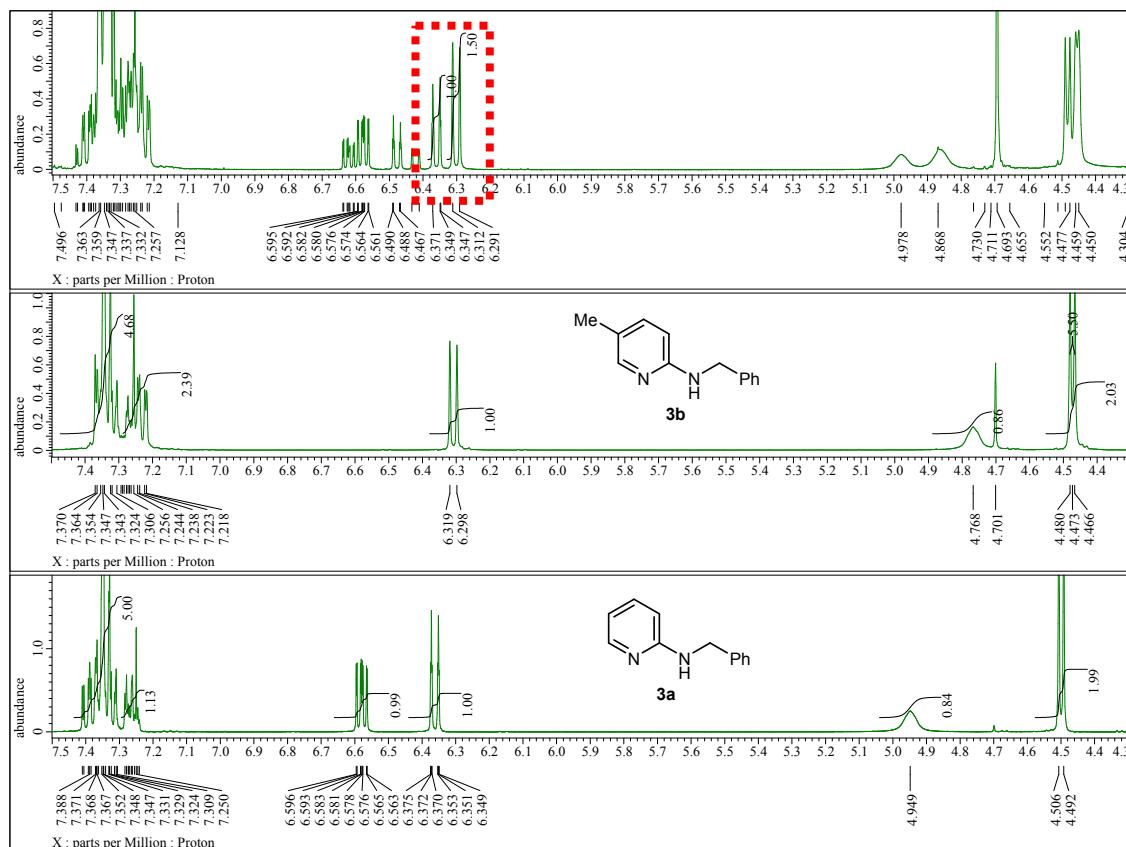
A mixture of 2-aminopyridine **1a** (94 mg, 1 mmol), **1X** (1 mmol), Pd(OAc)₂ (11 mg, 0.05 mmol), sodium diphenylphosphinobenzene-3-sulfonate (TPPMS, 36 mg, 0.1 mmol), and benzyl alcohol **2a** (310 μ L, 2 mmol), in H₂O (4 mL) was heated at 120 °C for 16 h in a sealed tube under air. After cooling, the reaction mixture was poured into water and extracted with EtOAc. The organic layer was concentrated in vacuo. The residue was analyzed by ¹H-NMR spectroscopy.

Figure S3

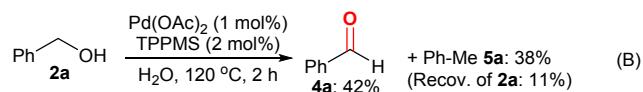
R =	σ	$\log(k_X/k_H)$
Me	-0.17	0.176
H	0	0
F	0.06	-0.018
COOMe	0.45	-0.182
CN	0.66	-0.44



$$R = \text{Me}: \log(k_X/k_H) = \log(1.50/1.00) = 0.176$$



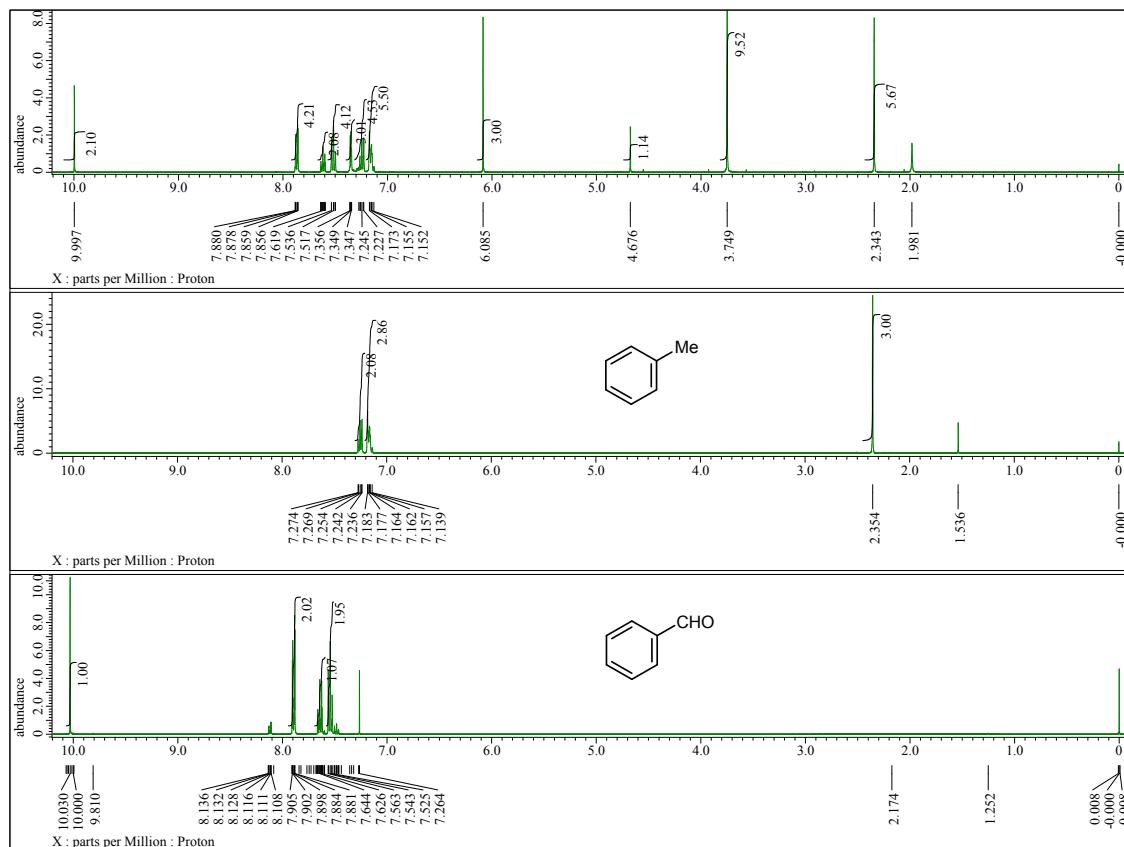
Scheme 6(B)S. Control experiments.



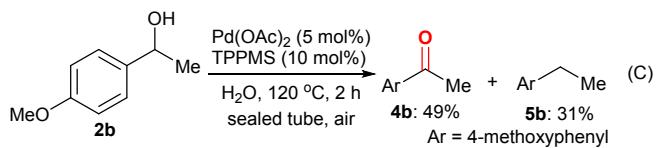
A mixture of benzyl alcohol **2a** (541 mg, 5 mmol), palladium(II) acetate (11 mg, 0.05 mmol), sodium diphenylphosphinobenzene-3-sulfonate (TPPMS, 36 mg, 0.1 mmol) in H₂O (4 mL) was heated for 2 h in sealed tube. After the reaction mixture was cooled, 1,3,5-trimethoxybenzene (168 mg, 1 mmol, internal standard) was added to the reaction mixture, which was extracted with CDCl₃ (8 mL), then the organic layer was analyzed by ¹H-NMR spectroscopy.

Conversion yield was calculated by integration.

	Ph-CHO 4a	Ph-Me 5a	1,3,5-trimethoxybenzene, internal standard
Signal δ	10.0 (Ph- <u>CHO</u>)	2.34 (Ph- <u>CH₃</u>)	6.09 (Ar- <u>H</u>)
Integral value	2.1 (1H)	5.67 (3H)	3.00 (3H)
Calculated ratio	42% from 2a	38% from 2a	1 mmol



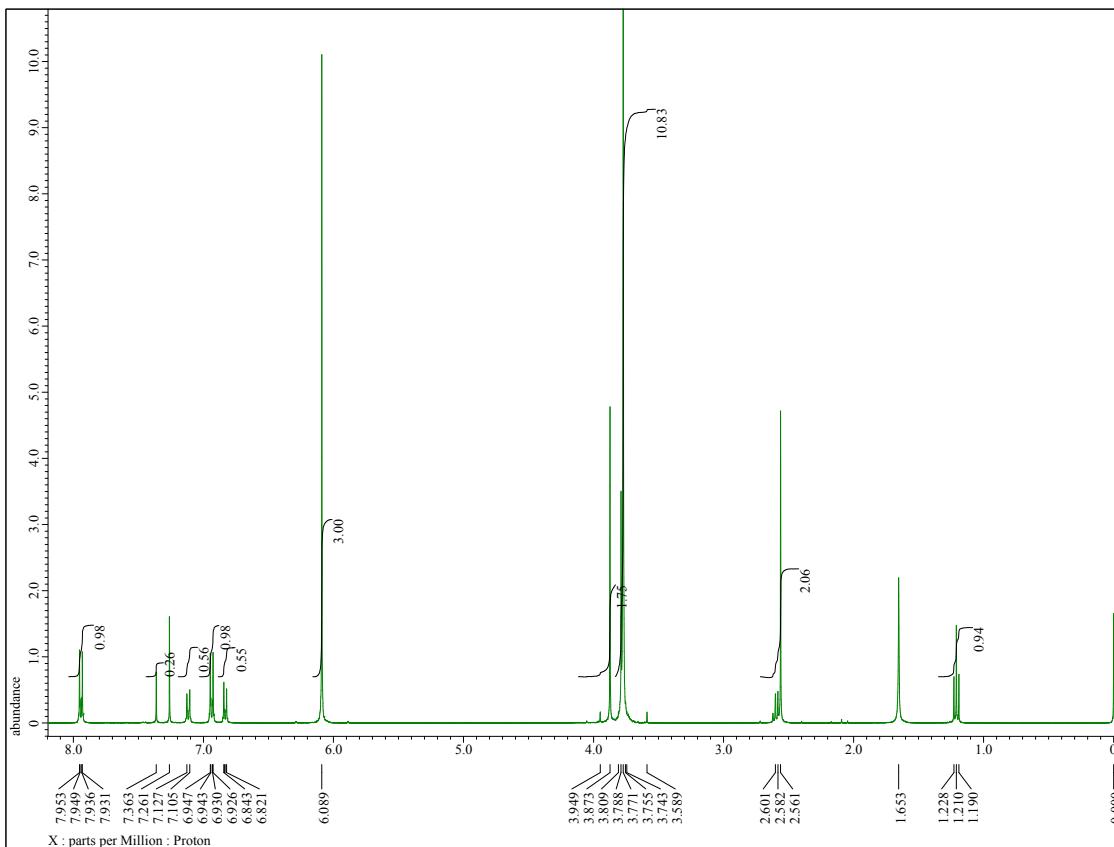
Scheme 6(C)S. Control experiments.

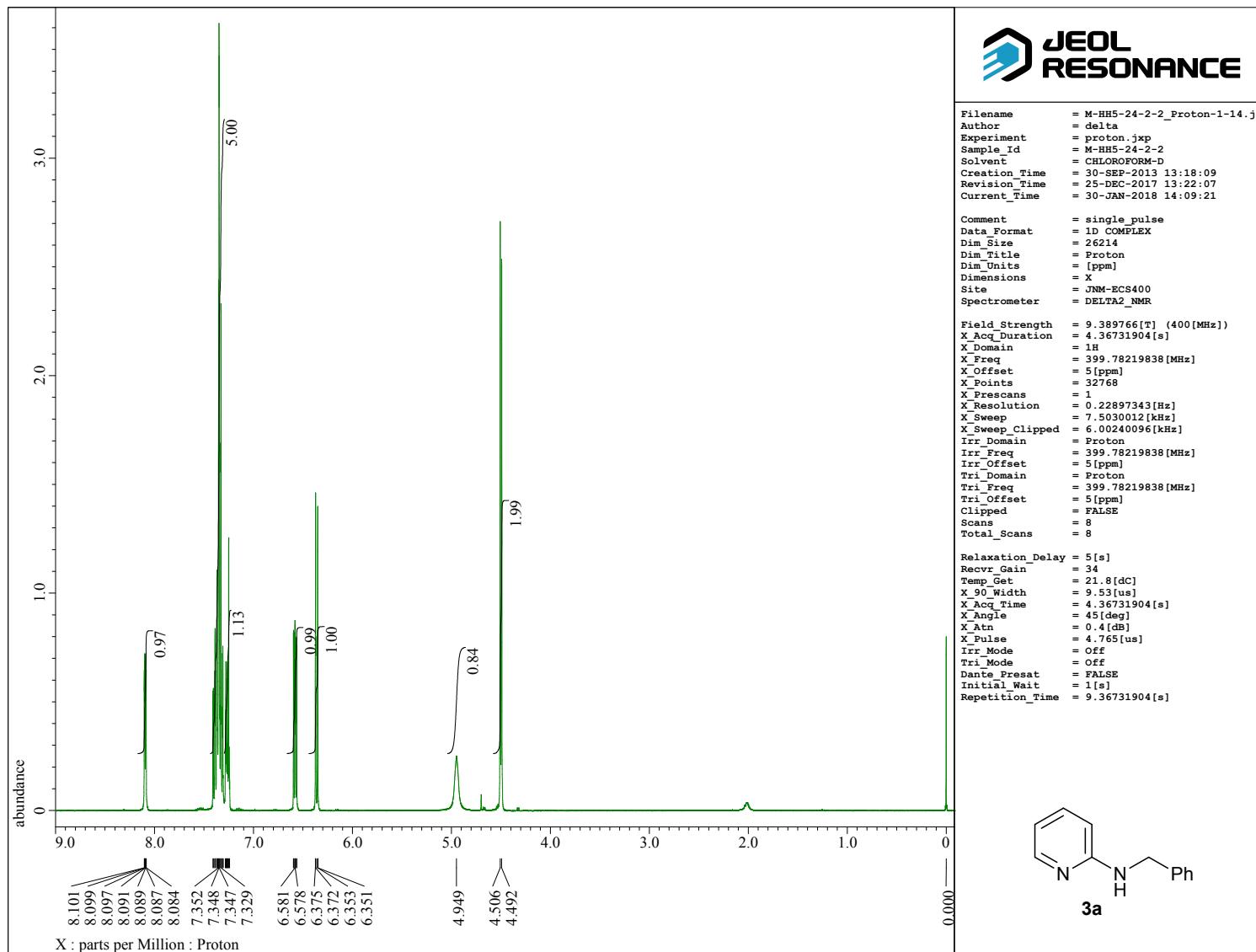


A mixture of benzyl alcohol **2b** (152 mg, 1 mmol), palladium(II) acetate (11 mg, 0.05 mmol), sodium diphenylphosphinobenzene-3-sulfonate (TPPMS, 36 mg, 0.1 mmol) in H_2O (4 mL) was heated for 2 h in sealed tube. After the reaction mixture was cooled, 1,3,5-trimethoxybenzene (168 mg, 1 mmol, internal standard) was added to the reaction mixture, which was extracted with CDCl_3 (8 mL), then the organic layer was analyzed by $^1\text{H-NMR}$ spectroscopy.

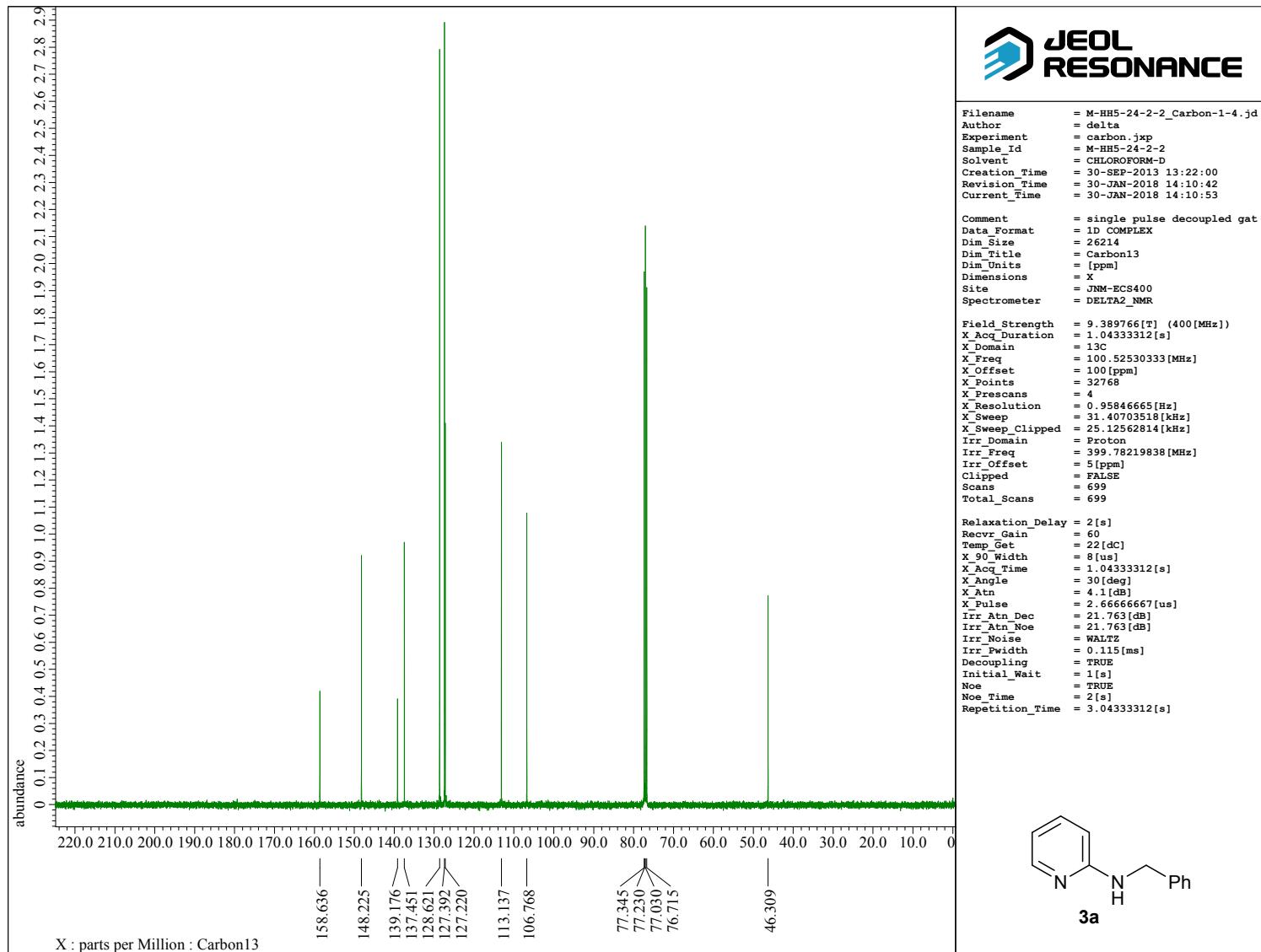
Conversion yield was calculated by integration.

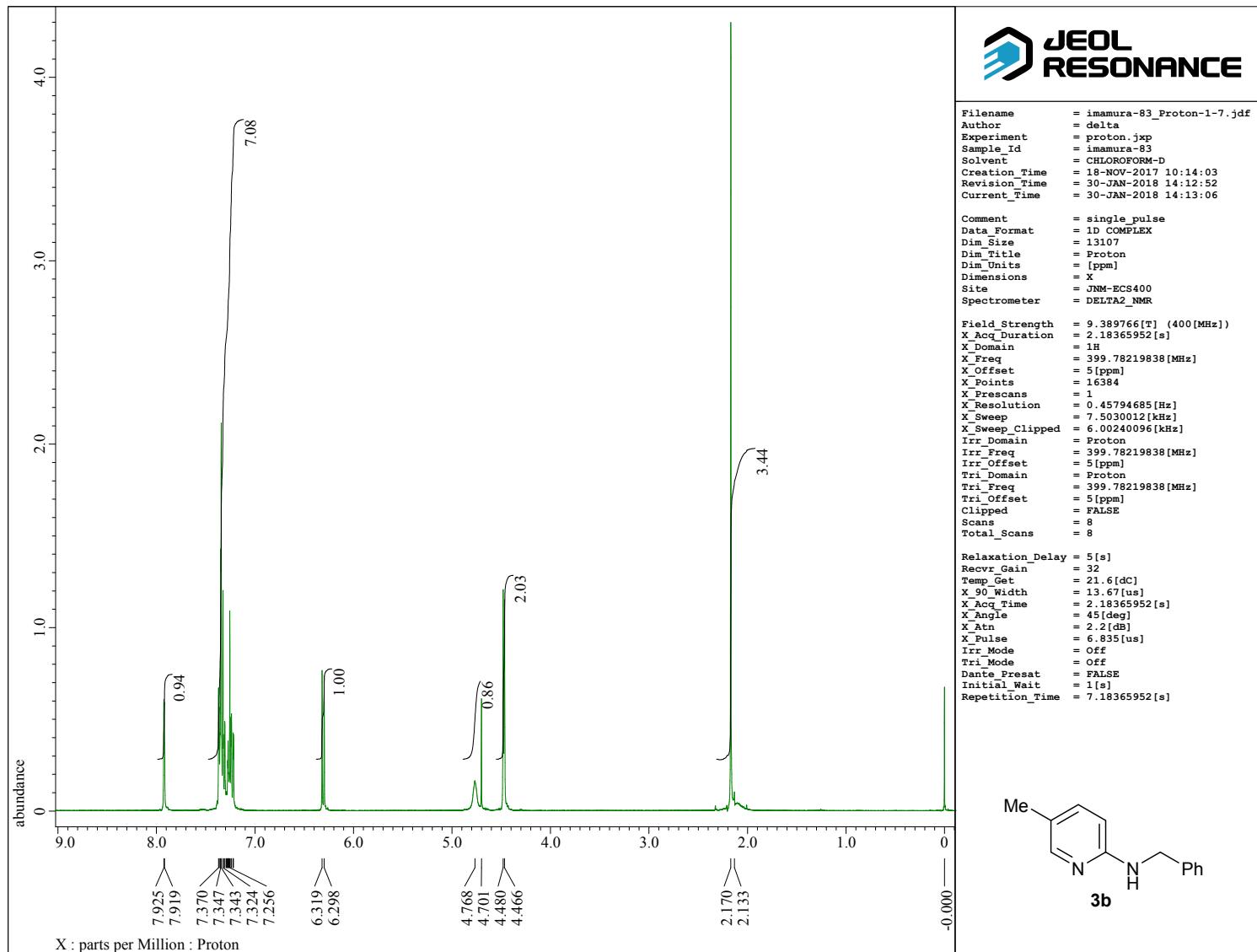
	4b	5b	1,3,5-trimethoxybenzene, internal standard
Signal δ	7.94 (Ar- <u>2H</u>)	1.21 (Ar-CH ₂ CH <u>3</u>)	6.09 (Ar- <u>H</u>)
Integral value	0.98 (2H)	0.94 (3H)	3.00 (3H)
Calculated ratio	49% from 2b	31% from 2b	1 mmol

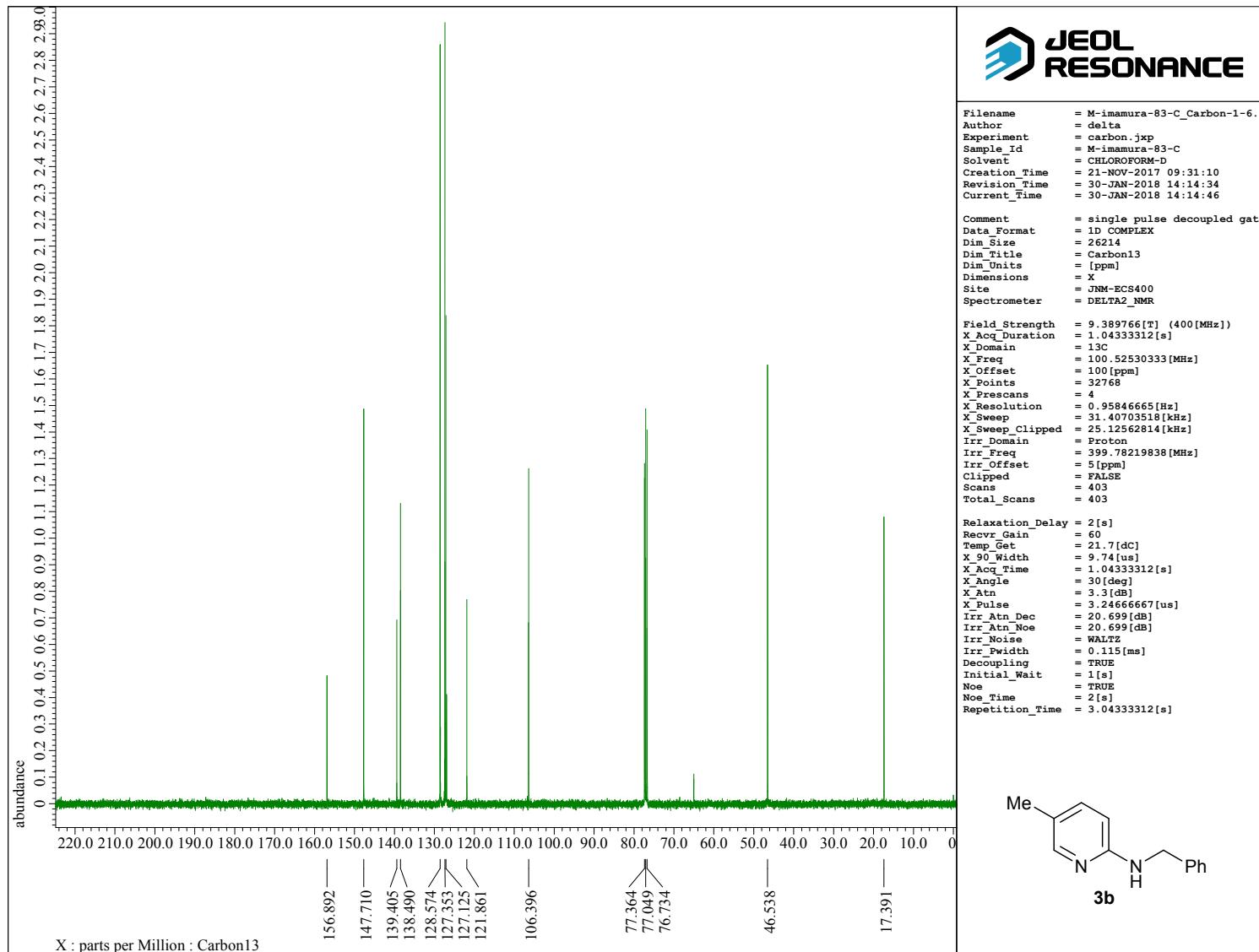


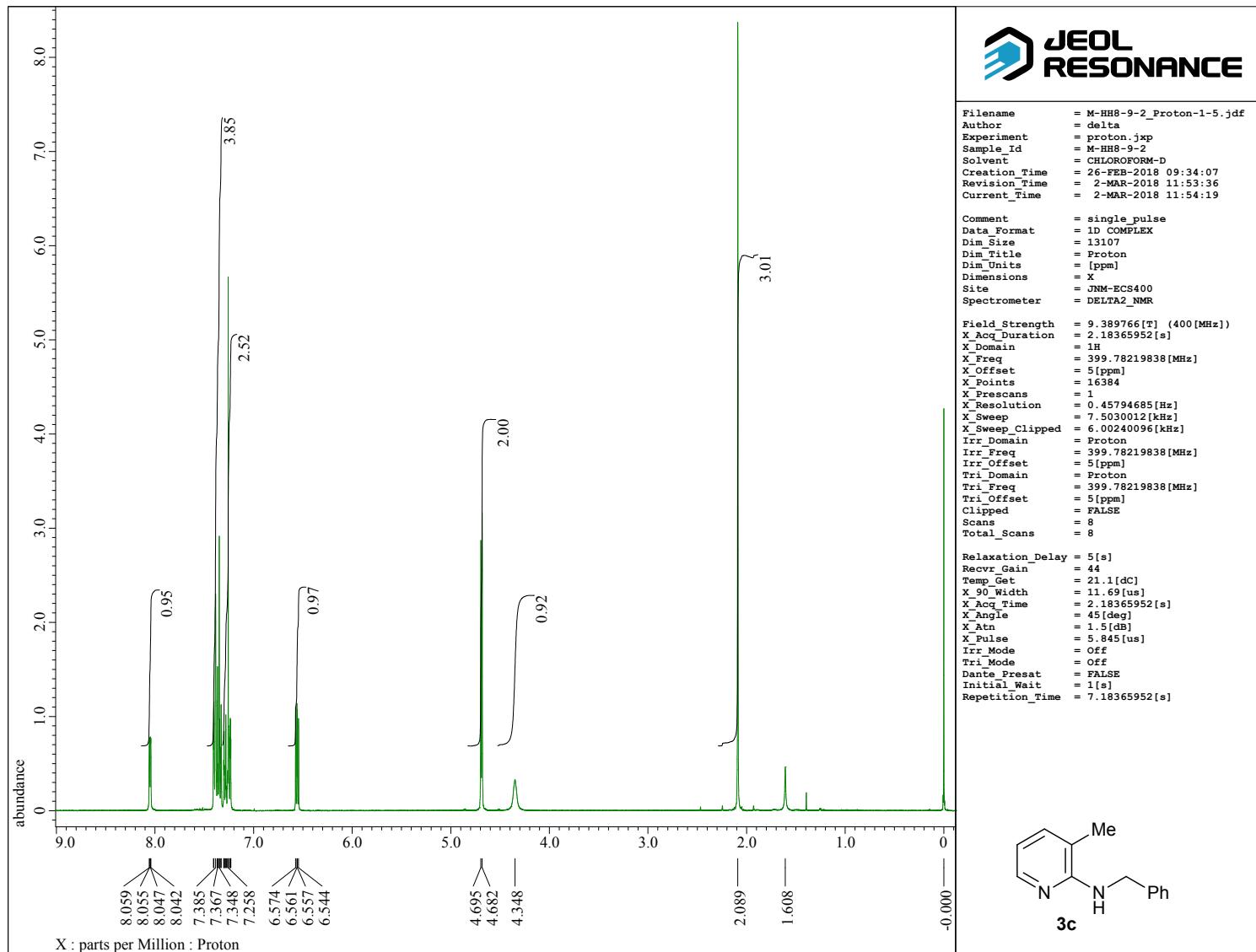


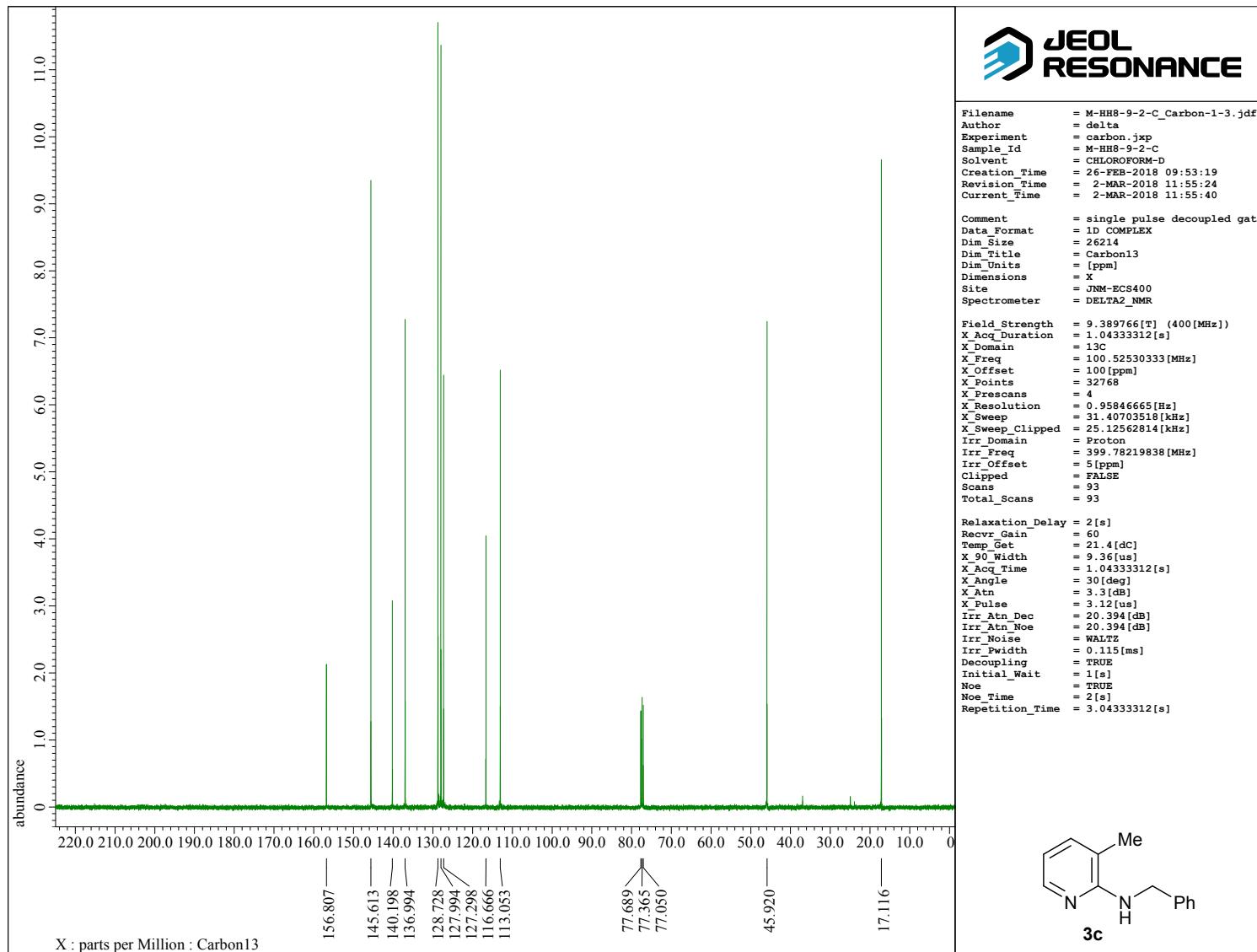
S13

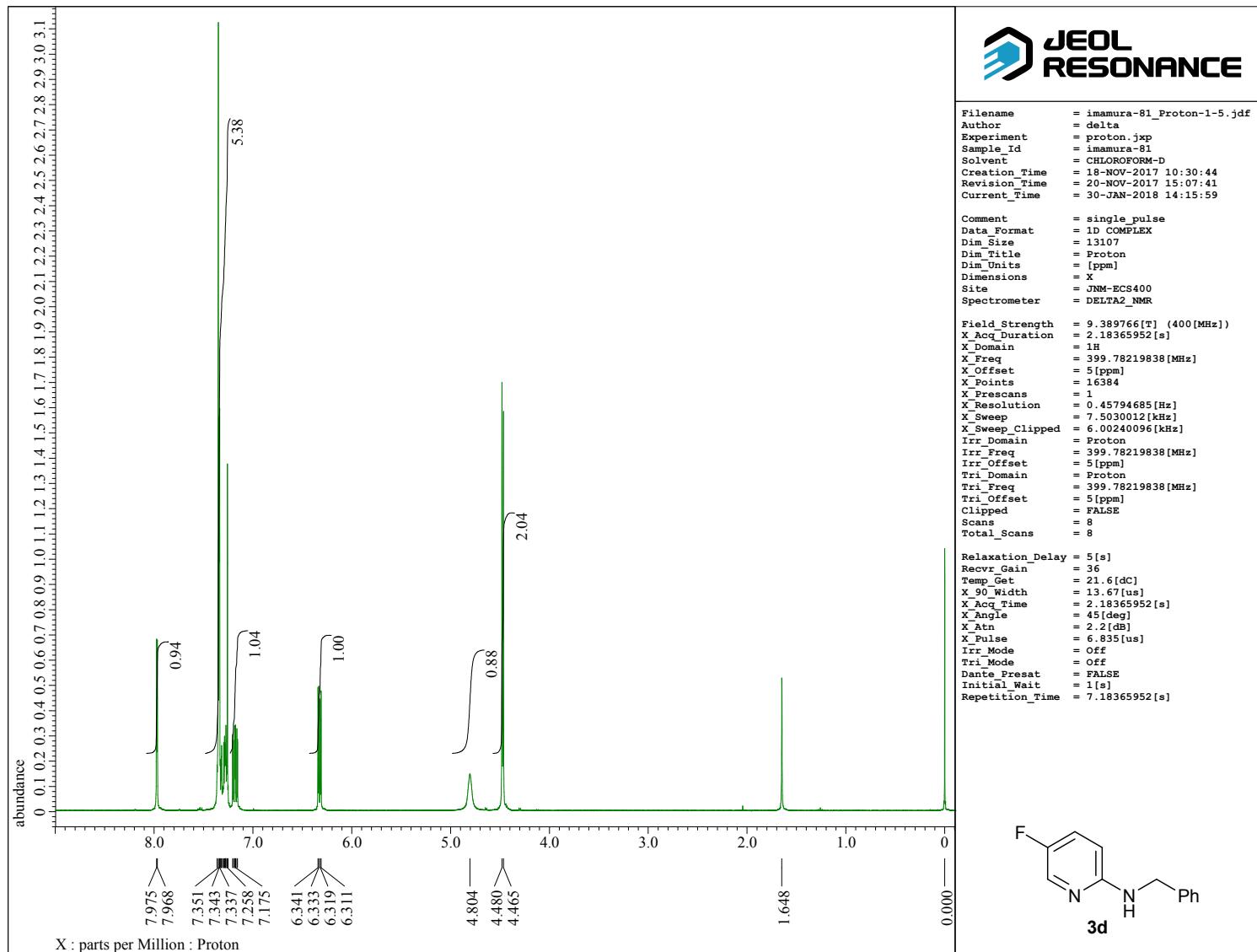


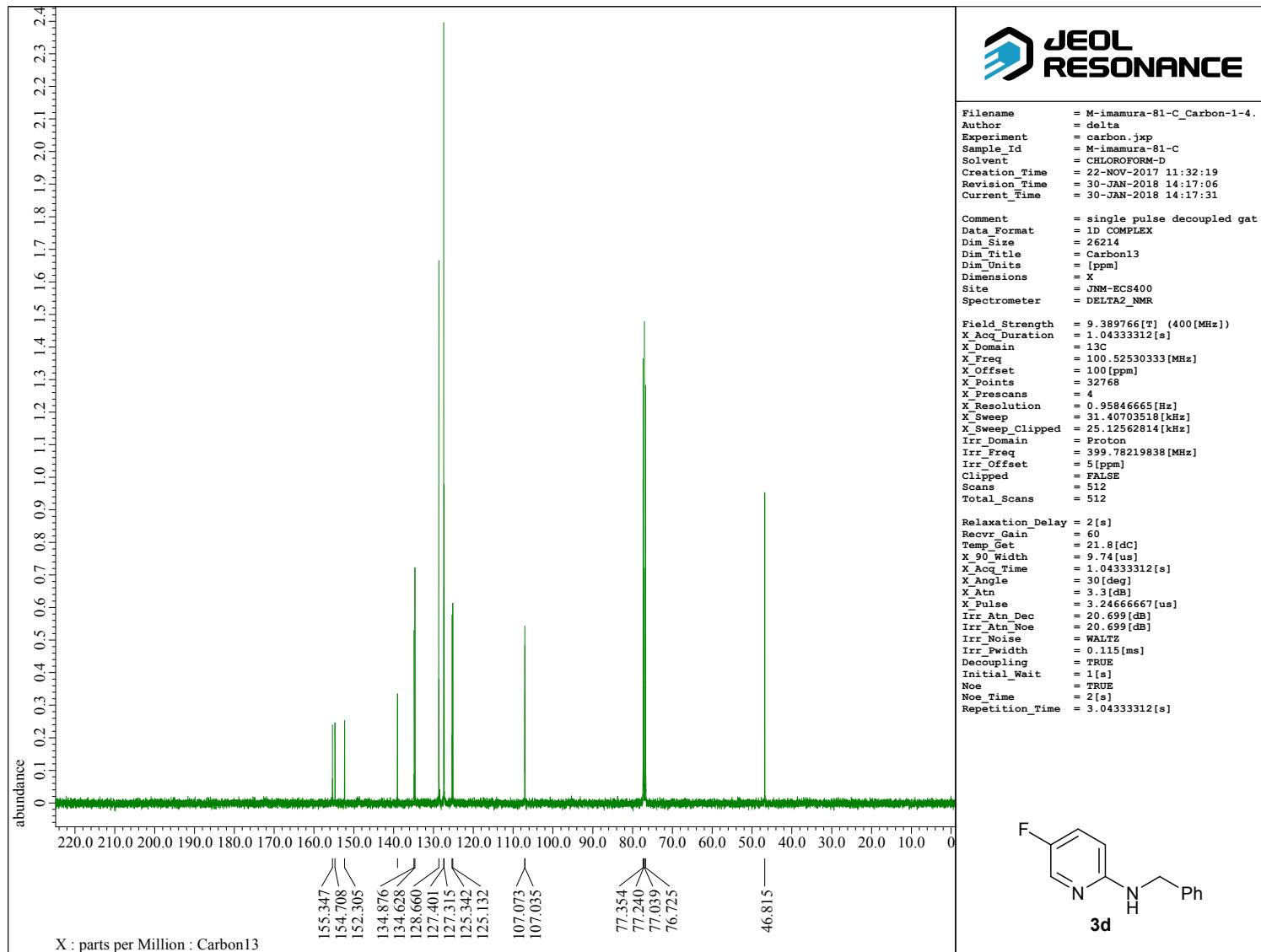


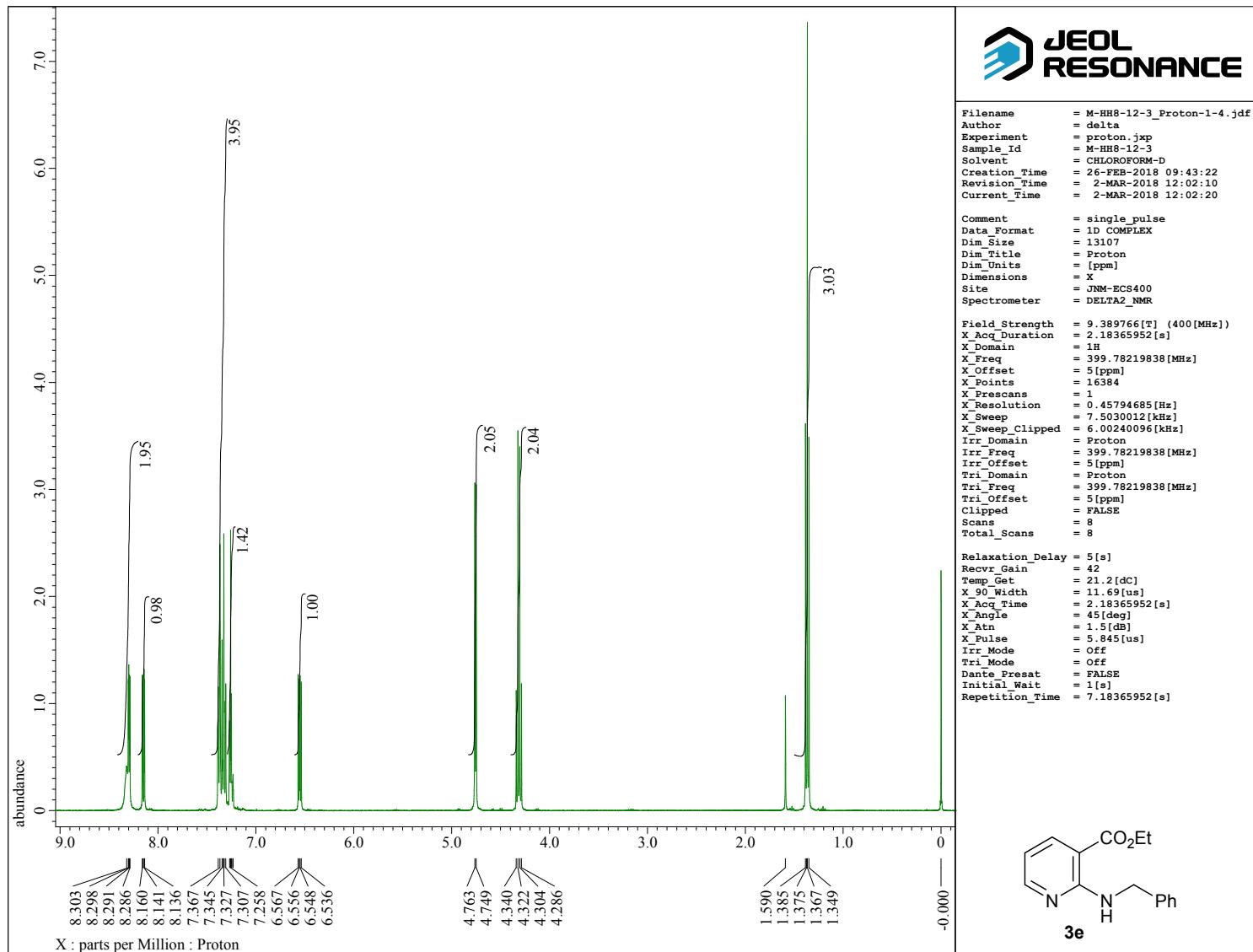


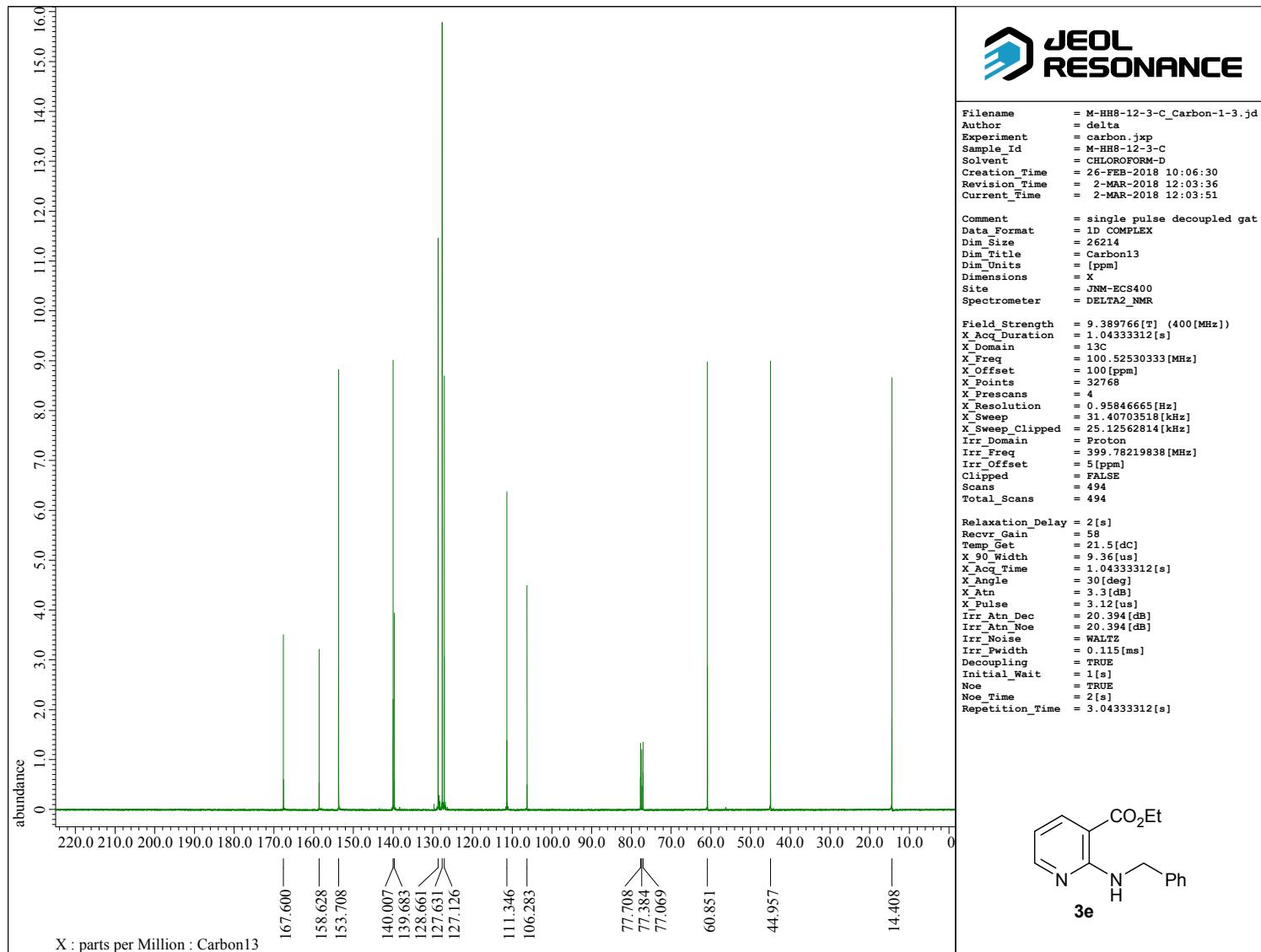


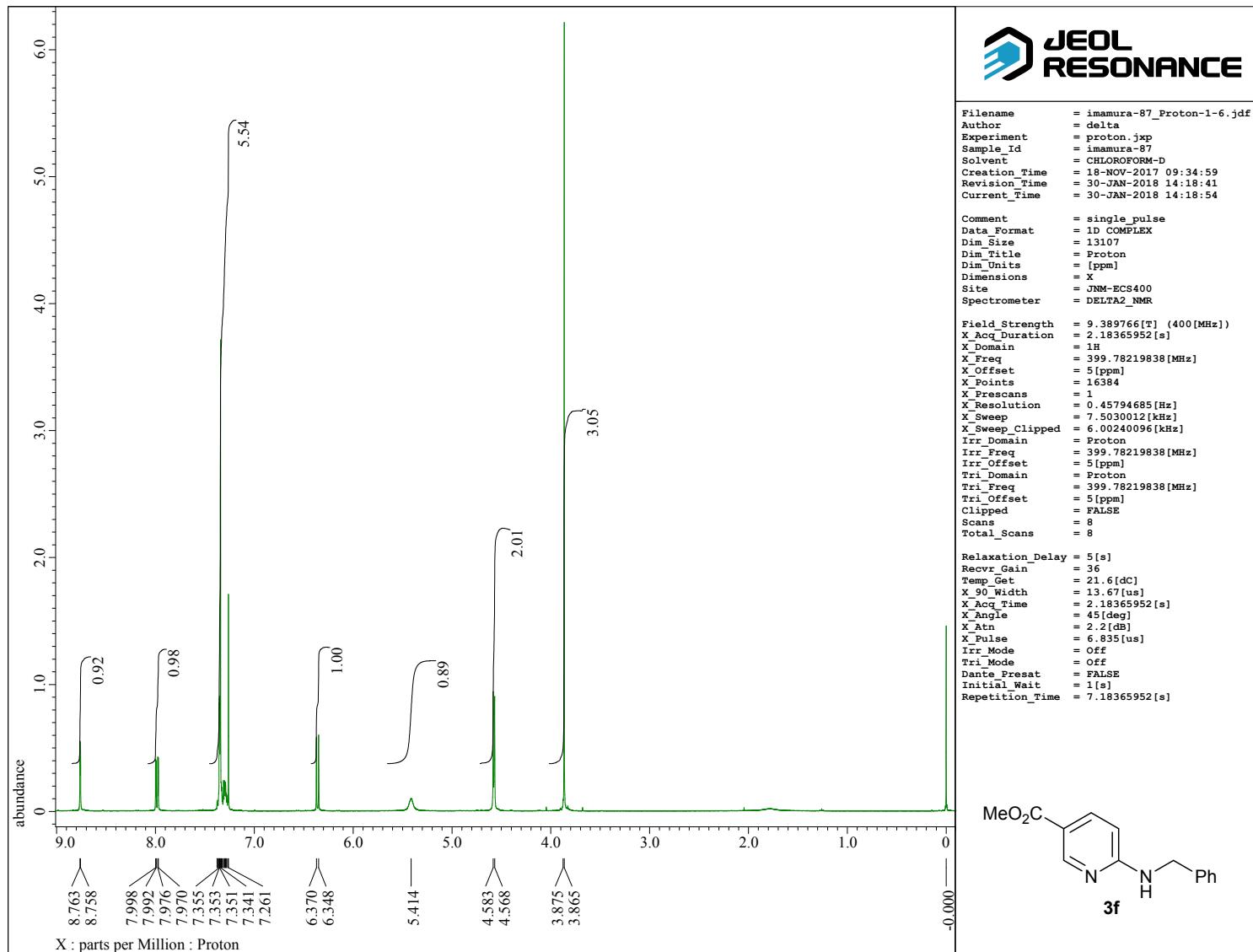


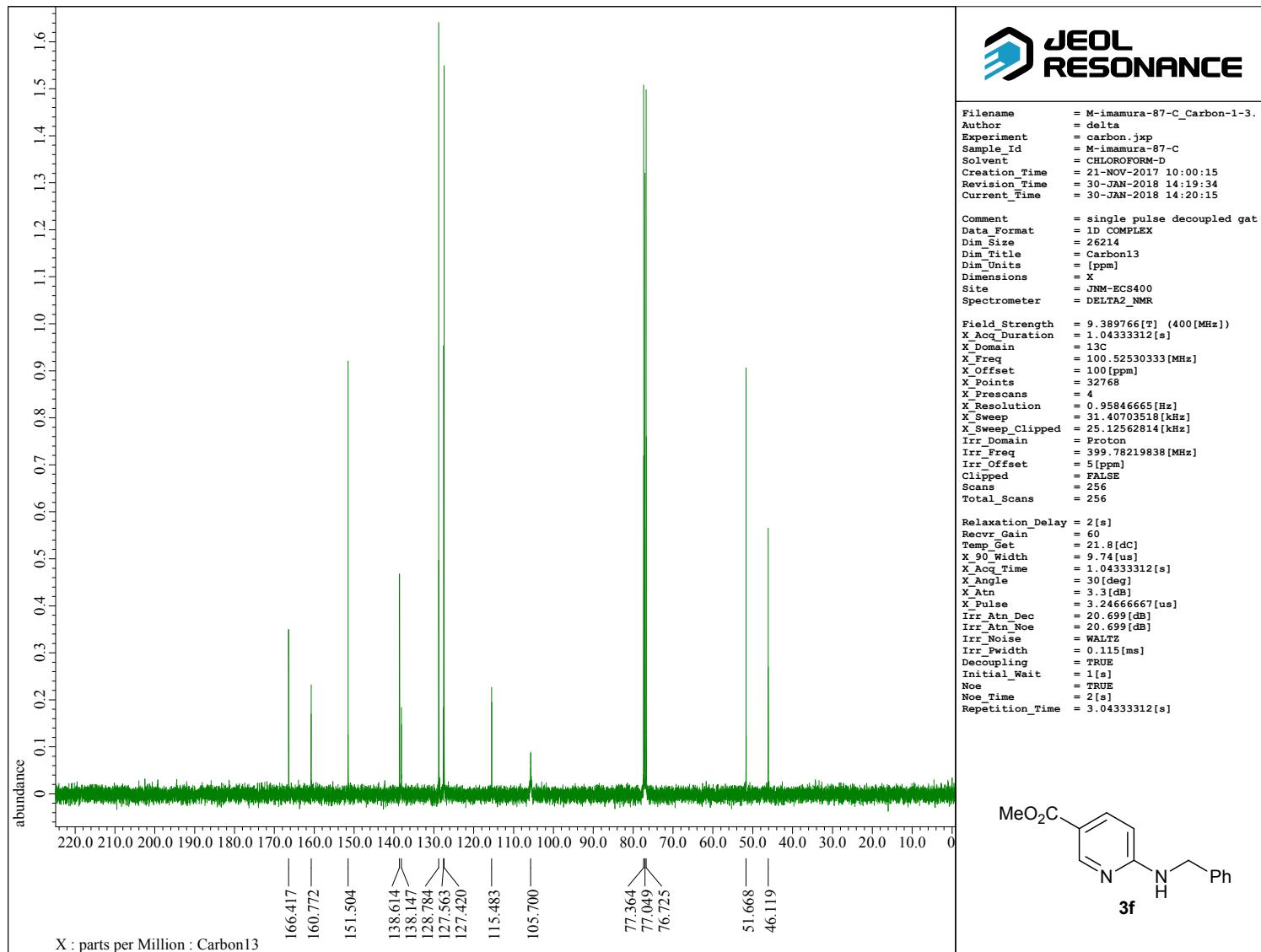


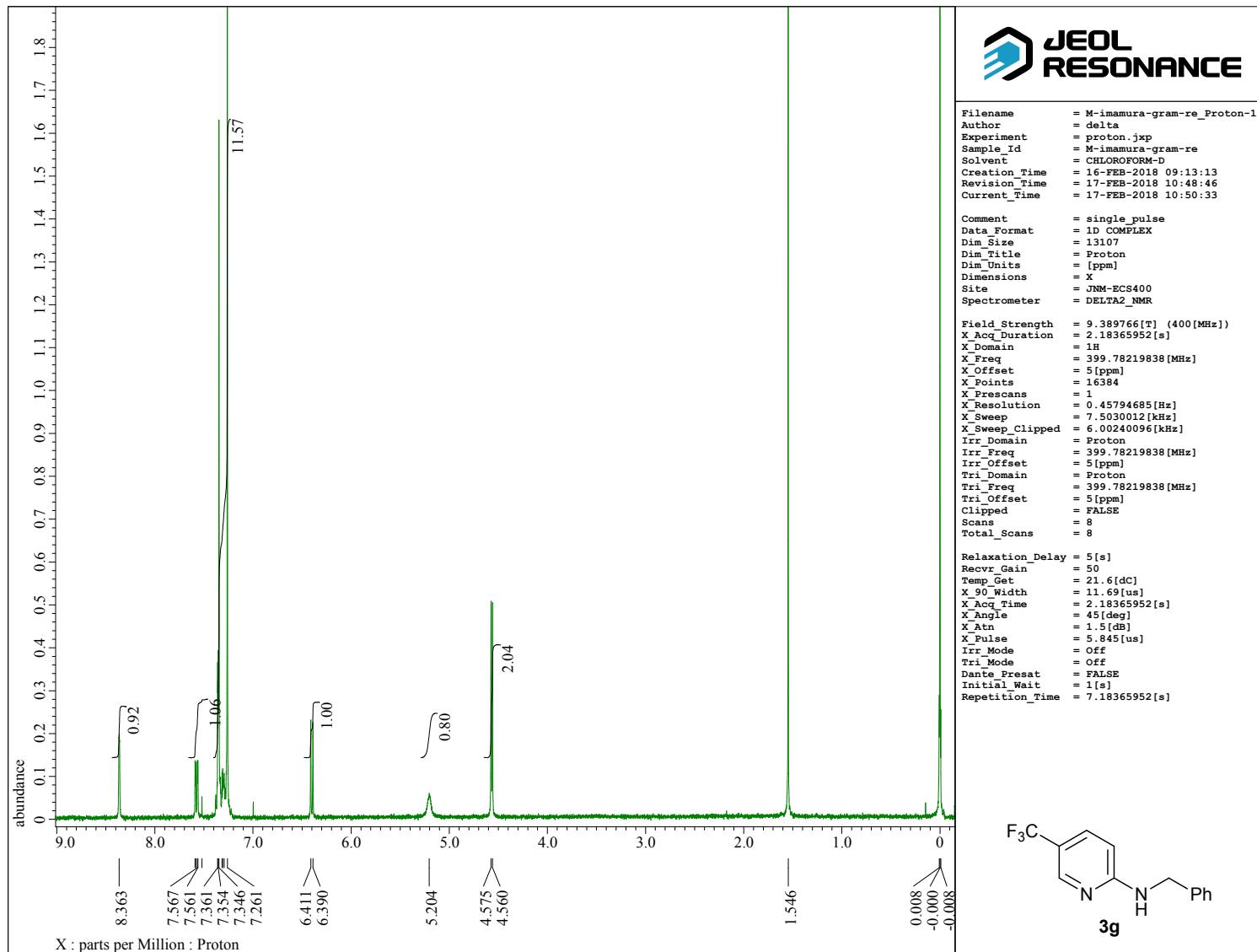


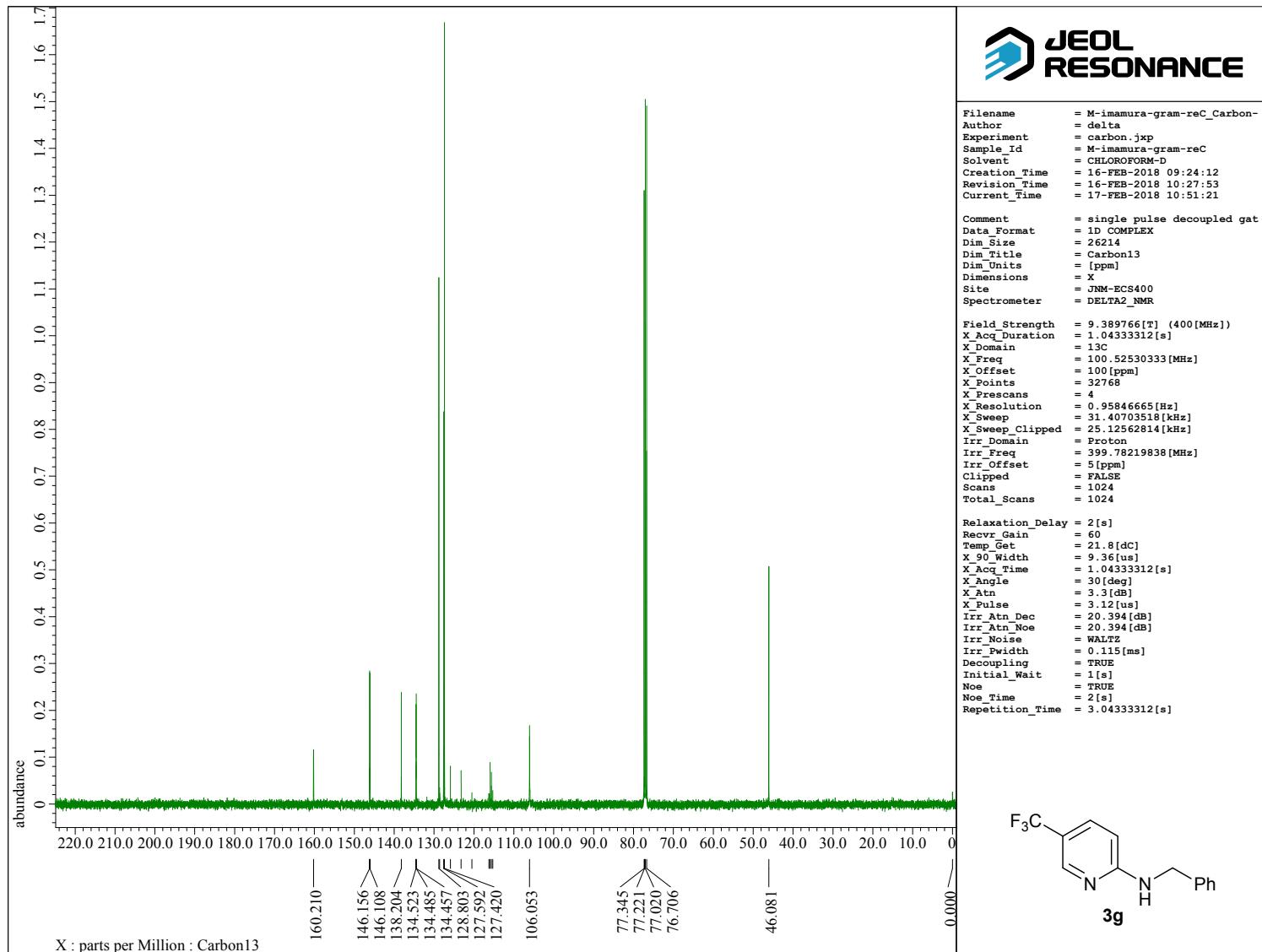


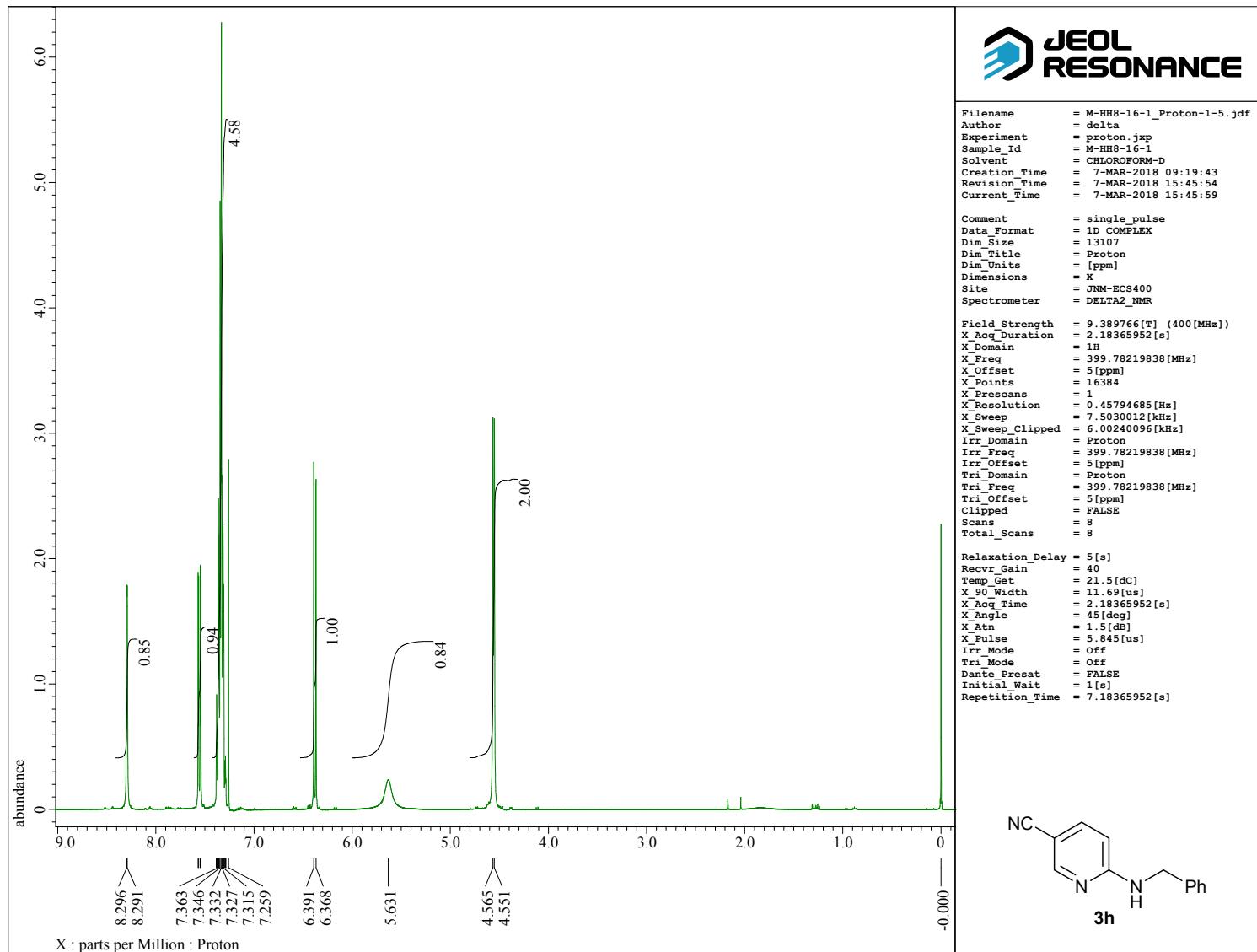


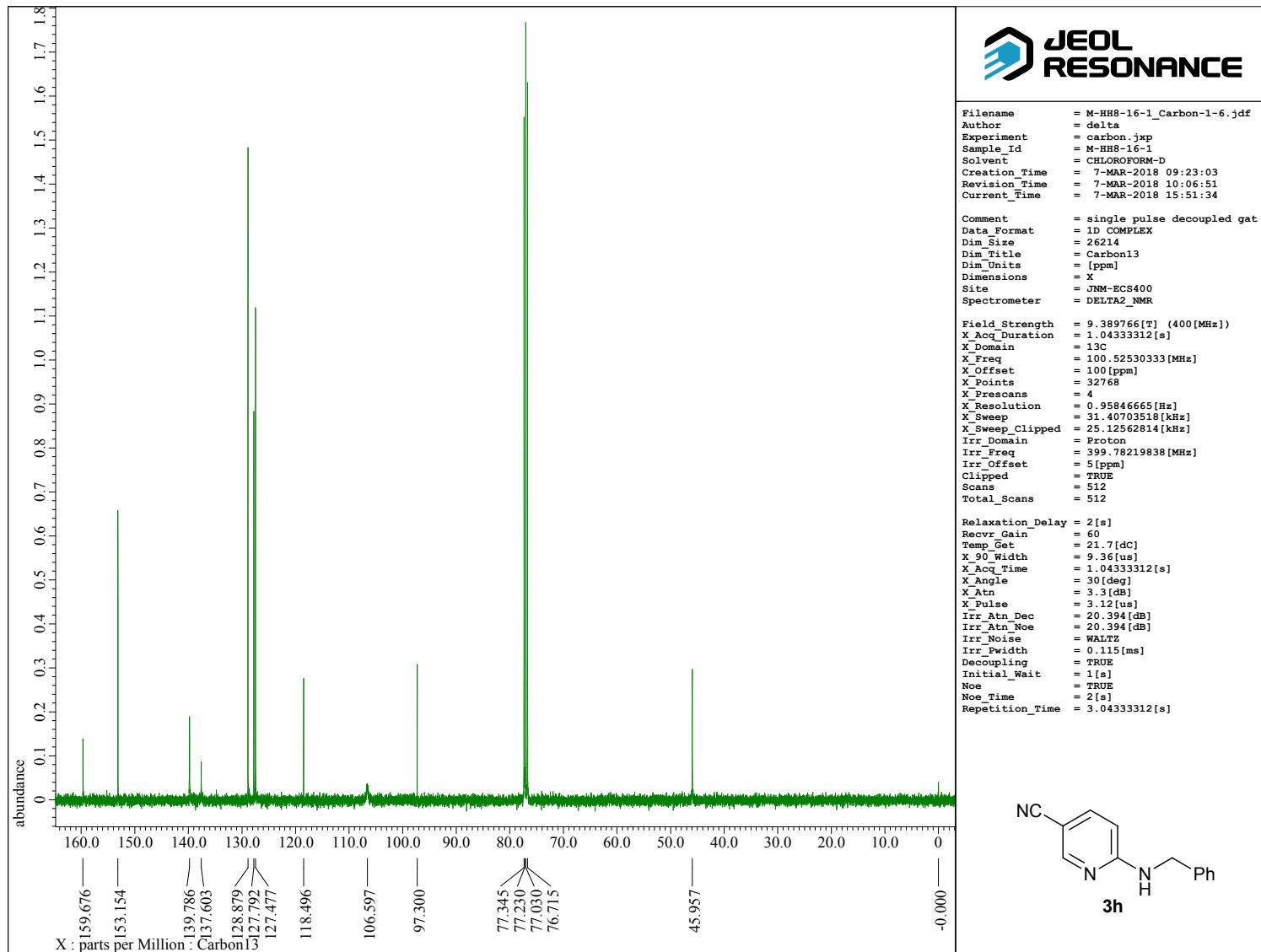


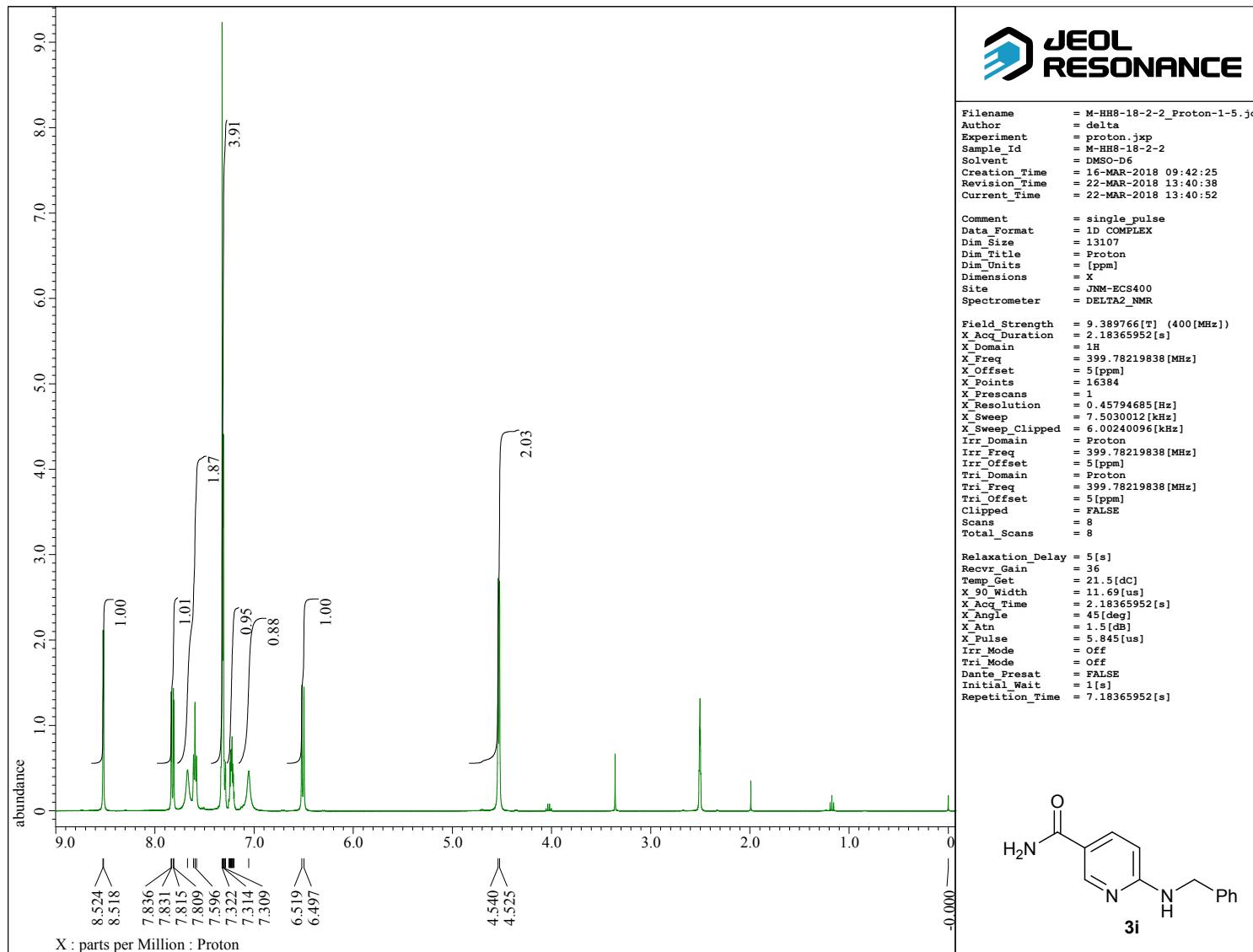




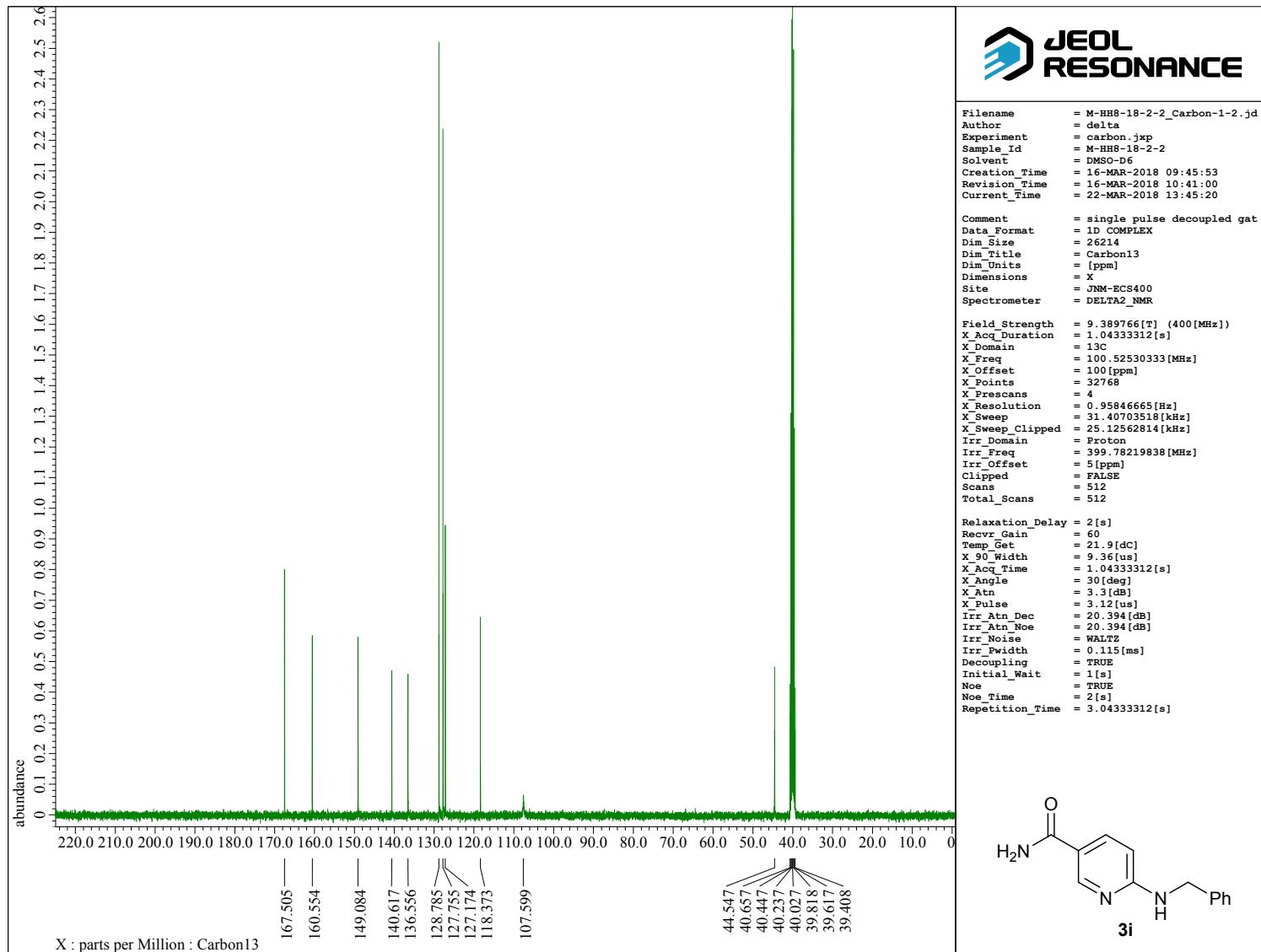








X : parts per Million : Proton



S30

