

## SUPPORTING INFORMATION

# A One-Pot Domino C-H, C-C Activation in Coumarins: A fast track to 2,3-diaryl substituted benzo[b]furans

Mehdi Khoobi,<sup>a</sup> Fatemeh Molaverdi,<sup>a</sup> Farnaz Jafarpour,<sup>b</sup> Masoumeh Abbasnia,<sup>b</sup> Maciej Kubicki<sup>c</sup>  
and Abbas Shafiee<sup>a\*</sup>

<sup>a</sup> Department of Medicinal Chemistry, Faculty of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences  
Research Center, Tehran University of Medical Sciences, 14176, Tehran, Iran

<sup>b</sup> School of Chemistry, College of Science, University of Tehran, P.O. Box 14155-6455, Tehran,  
Iran

<sup>c</sup> Faculty of Chemistry, Adam Mickiewicz University, Umultowska 89b, 61-614 Poznań, Poland

## Contents

|   |     |
|---|-----|
| 1. General Methods and Materials                                  | S1  |
| 2. Experimental Procedures  | S2  |
| 3. Further Experiments  | S2  |
| 4. Monitoring Reaction Condition                                  | S4  |
| 5. Characterization Data  | S5  |
| 6. Crystal Data   | S10 |
| 7. Copies of <sup>1</sup> H, <sup>13</sup> C NMR and Mass Spectra | S12 |

### 1. General Methods and Materials

All commercially available reagents were used without further purification. Coumarins, catalysts and other reagents were purchased from Acros Organics. Column chromatography was carried out on silica gel. TLC was conducted on silica gel 250 micron, F254 plates. <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectra were recorded at room temperature on a Bruker 500 MHz spectrometer, using CDCl<sub>3</sub> as solvent. Chemical shifts are reported in ppm with TMS as an internal standard (TMS: δ 0.0 ppm). <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectra are referenced from the solvent central peak (77.23 ppm). Chemical shifts are given in ppm.

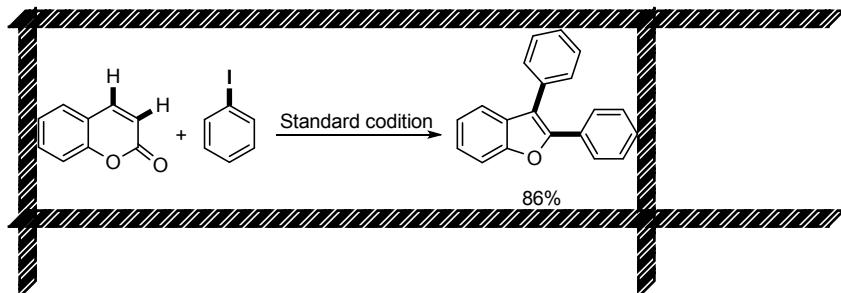
## 2. Experimental Procedures

A vial equipped with a stir bar was charged with coumarin (0.1 mmol, 1.0 equiv), arylbromide (2.5 equiv), Pd(OAc)<sub>2</sub> (20 mol%), Cs<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub> (2.5 equiv.), 1,10-Phenanthroline (20 mol %), Mesitylene (0.5 mL), and capped. The resulting mixture was heated in an oil bath at 160 °C for 18 h. Removal of the solvent gave a crude mixture which was purified by flash column chromatography (hexane/EtOAc gradient).

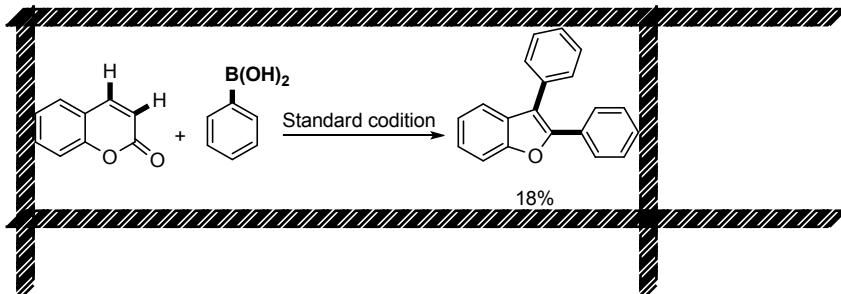
## 3. Further Experiments

Other experiments being tested are as follows: iodobenzene was allowed to react with coumarin under standard reaction condition generating higher yield than did bromobenzene (**Scheme S1**). In another attempt, phenylboronic acid (**Scheme S2**) and phenyl tosylate (**Scheme S3**) were used in place of bromobenzene which both led to far lower yields (20%). In this context, neither phenyl triflate nor chlorobenzene furnished the product (**Scheme S4**). Besides, using coumarin-3-carboxylic acid as model substrate diminished the yield to a good deal (20%) (**Scheme S5**). It was also observed that use of 4A° molecular sieve had a negligible effect on the reaction yield.

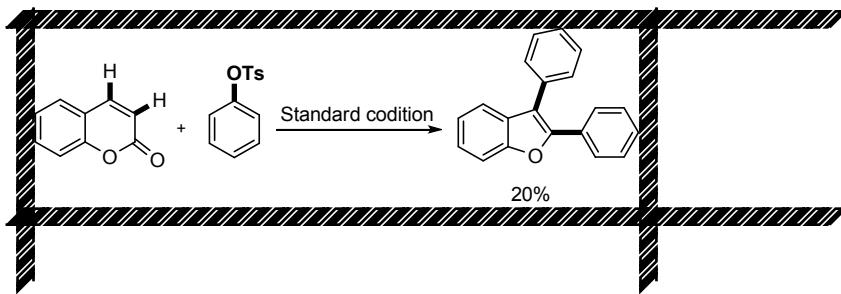
**Scheme S1: Reaction of Coumarin with Iodobenzene**



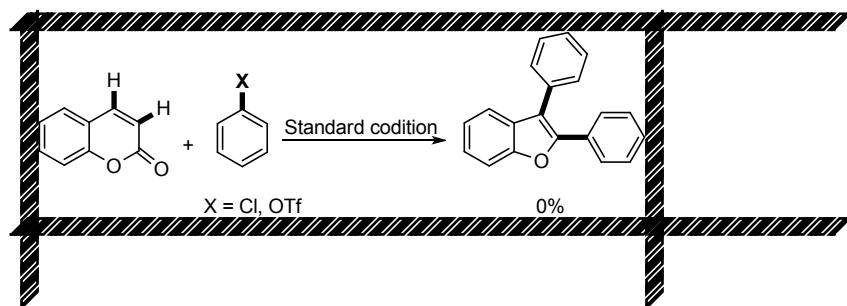
**Scheme S2: Reaction of Coumarin with Phenylboronic acid**



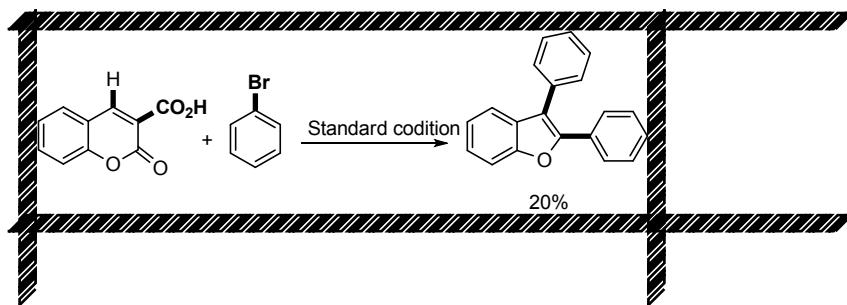
**Scheme S3: Reaction of Coumarin with Phenyltosylate**



**Scheme S4: Reaction of Coumarin with Chlorobenzene and Phenyltriflate**

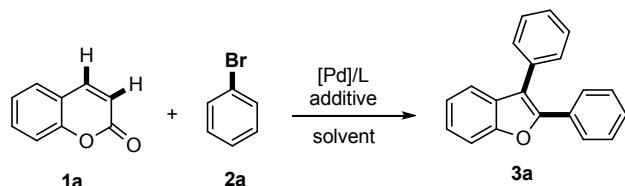


**Scheme S5: Reaction of Coumarin-3-carboxylic acid with Bromobenzene**



#### 4. Monitoring Reaction Condition:

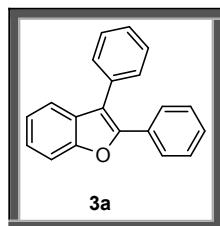
**Table S1: Optimization of Reaction of Coumarin (1a) and Bromobenzene (2a)<sup>a</sup>**



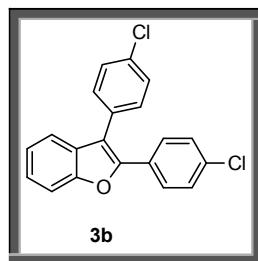
| entry    | catalyst                           | ligand                      | base                                | solvent            | temp.<br>(°C) | yield (%) <sup>b</sup> |
|----------|------------------------------------|-----------------------------|-------------------------------------|--------------------|---------------|------------------------|
| 1        | Pd(OAc) <sub>2</sub>               | PPh <sub>3</sub>            | Cs <sub>2</sub> CO <sub>3</sub>     | Mesitylene         | 160           | 30                     |
| 2        | Pd(OAc) <sub>2</sub>               | PCy <sub>3</sub>            | Cs <sub>2</sub> CO <sub>3</sub>     | Mesitylene         | 160           | 28                     |
| 3        | Pd(OAc) <sub>2</sub>               | Neocuproine                 | Cs <sub>2</sub> CO <sub>3</sub>     | Mesitylene         | 160           | 25                     |
| 4        | Pd(OAc) <sub>2</sub>               | Bipy.                       | Cs <sub>2</sub> CO <sub>3</sub>     | Mesitylene         | 160           | 25                     |
| <b>5</b> | <b>Pd(OAc)<sub>2</sub></b>         | <b>Phen.</b>                | <b>Cs<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub></b> | <b>Mesitylene</b>  | <b>160</b>    | <b>76</b>              |
| 6        | Pd(OAc) <sub>2</sub>               | DMAP                        | Cs <sub>2</sub> CO <sub>3</sub>     | Mesitylene         | 160           | 30                     |
| 7        | Pd(OAc) <sub>2</sub>               | 2,3-Lutidine                | Cs <sub>2</sub> CO <sub>3</sub>     | Mesitylene         | 160           | 0                      |
| 8        | Pd(OAc) <sub>2</sub>               | 4-Methylbenzene-1,2-diamine | Cs <sub>2</sub> CO <sub>3</sub>     | Mesitylene         | 160           | 0                      |
| 9        | Pd(OAc) <sub>2</sub>               | 1,3-Dimethyl thiourea       | Cs <sub>2</sub> CO <sub>3</sub>     | Mesitylene         | 160           | 0                      |
| 10       | Pd(OAc) <sub>2</sub>               | Phen.                       | K <sub>2</sub> CO <sub>3</sub>      | Mesitylene         | 160           | 20                     |
| 11       | Pd(OAc) <sub>2</sub>               | Phen.                       | KO'Bu                               | Mesitylene         | 160           | 5                      |
| 12       | Pd(OAc) <sub>2</sub>               | Phen.                       | KF                                  | Mesitylene         | 160           | 0                      |
| 13       | Pd(OAc) <sub>2</sub>               | Phen.                       | Cs <sub>2</sub> CO <sub>3</sub>     | 1,4-Dioxane        | 160           | 15                     |
| 14       | Pd(OAc) <sub>2</sub>               | Phen.                       | Cs <sub>2</sub> CO <sub>3</sub>     | Dimethylether      | 160           | 10                     |
| 15       | Pd(OAc) <sub>2</sub>               | Phen.                       | Cs <sub>2</sub> CO <sub>3</sub>     | CH <sub>3</sub> CN | 160           | 25                     |
| 16       | Pd(OAc) <sub>2</sub>               | Phen.                       | Cs <sub>2</sub> CO <sub>3</sub>     | DMF                | 160           | 69                     |
| 17       | PdCl <sub>2</sub>                  | Phen.                       | Cs <sub>2</sub> CO <sub>3</sub>     | DMF                | 160           | 30                     |
| 18       | Pd(dba) <sub>2</sub>               | Phen.                       | Cs <sub>2</sub> CO <sub>3</sub>     | DMF                | 160           | 40                     |
| 19       | Pd(acac) <sub>2</sub>              | Phen.                       | Cs <sub>2</sub> CO <sub>3</sub>     | DMF                | 160           | 14                     |
| 20       | Pd(PPh <sub>3</sub> ) <sub>4</sub> | Phen.                       | Cs <sub>2</sub> CO <sub>3</sub>     | DMF                | 160           | 58                     |
| 21       | Pd(OAc) <sub>2</sub>               | -                           | Cs <sub>2</sub> CO <sub>3</sub>     | Mesitylene         | 160           | 20                     |
| 22       | Pd(OAc) <sub>2</sub>               | Phen.                       | -                                   | Mesitylene         | 160           | 0                      |
| 23       | Pd(OAc) <sub>2</sub>               | Phen.                       | Cs <sub>2</sub> CO <sub>3</sub>     | Mesitylene         | 120           | 0                      |
| 24       | Pd(OAc) <sub>2</sub>               | Phen.                       | Cs <sub>2</sub> CO <sub>3</sub>     | Mesitylene         | 180           | 70                     |

<sup>a</sup> Reaction conditions: Coumarin (0.1 mmol, 1.0 equiv), bromobenzene (2.5 equiv), palladium catalyst (20 mol%), Phen. (20 mol%), base (2.5 equiv), solvent (0.2 M), 160 °C, 18 h. <sup>b</sup>Isolated yields.

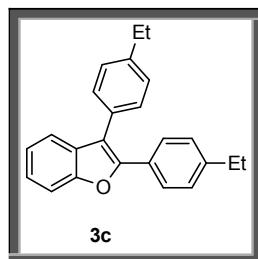
## 5. Characterization Data



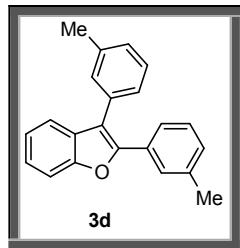
**2,3-Diphenylbenzofuran (3a).** White crystal, 21 mg, Yield 76%, mp 111-114 °C; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 7.68 (d, *J* = 7.0 Hz, 2H), 7.58 (d, *J* = 8.2 Hz, 1H), 7.52 – 7.41 (m, 7H), 7.37 – 7.24 (m, 4H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 153.5, 150.0, 132.4, 130.2, 129.8, 129.3, 128.5, 128.3, 127.9, 127.8, 127.1, 126.5, 124.2, 122.4, 119.5, 117.0, 110.6; Anal. Calcd for C<sub>20</sub>H<sub>14</sub>O (270.10): C, 88.86; H, 5.22. Found: C, 88.61; H, 5.43.



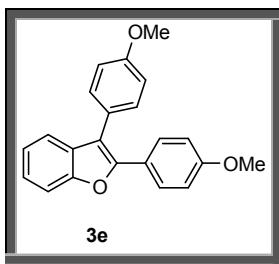
**2,3-Bis(4-chlorophenyl)benzofuran (3b).** White crystal, 27 mg, Yield 79%, mp 109-113 °C; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 7.59 – 7.56 (m, 3H), 7.48 – 7.43 (m, 5H), 7.37 (t, *J* = 7.21 Hz, 1H), 7.33 – 7.25 (m, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 153.5, 149.1, 133.9, 133.3, 130.5, 129.2, 128.9, 128.3, 127.7, 124.6, 122.7, 119.3, 116.3, 110.7; MS *m/z* (%) 338 (M<sup>+</sup>, 100), 302 (19), 268 (55), 239 (56), 134 (29); Anal. Calcd for C<sub>20</sub>H<sub>12</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>O (338.02): C, 70.81; H, 3.57. Found: C, 70.99; H, 3.75.



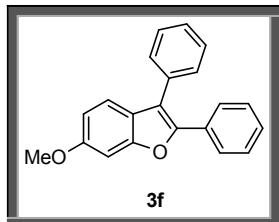
**2,3-Bis(4-ethylphenyl)benzofuran (3c).** White crystal, 25 mg, Yield 78%, mp 76 – 79 °C; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 7.64 (d, *J* = 7.9 Hz, 2H), 7.57 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.53 (d, *J* = 7.7 Hz, 1H), 7.46 (d, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 7.35 – 7.32 (m, 3H), 7.26 (t, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 7.19 (d, *J* = 7.9 Hz, 2H), 2.76 (q, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 2H), 2.67 (q, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 2H), 1.35 (t, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 3H), 1.27 (t, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 153.4, 150.1, 144.0, 143.0, 130.0, 129.6, 129.1, 127.9, 127.7, 127.4, 126.5, 123.8, 122.2, 119.5, 116.3, 110.5, 28.2, 14.9; MS *m/z* (%) 326 (M<sup>+</sup>, 100), 296 (14), 268 (25), 252 (17), 148 (29), 57 (10); Anal. Calcd for C<sub>24</sub>H<sub>22</sub>O (326.16): C, 88.31; H, 6.79. Found: C, 88.61; H, 6.97.



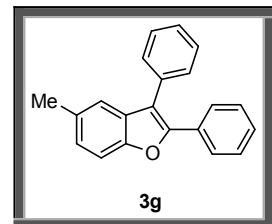
**2,3-Di-*m*-tolylbenzofuran (3d).** White crystal, 23 mg, Yield 76%, mp 112-116 °C; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 7.60 – 7.57 (m, 2H), 7.53 (d, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 7.44 (d, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.38 – 7.31 (m, 4H), 7.28 – 7.19 (m, 3H), 7.13 (d, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 1H), 2.42 (s, 3H), 2.35 (s, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 153.4, 150.1, 138.0, 137.5, 132.2, 130.1, 129.8, 128.6, 128.2, 127.8, 127.7, 127.0, 126.3, 124.0, 123.7, 122.3, 119.5, 117.0, 110.5, 20.9; MS *m/z* (%) 298 (M<sup>+</sup>, 100), 281 (15), 255 (23), 238 (16); Anal. Calcd for C<sub>22</sub>H<sub>18</sub>O (298.13): C, 88.56; H, 6.08. Found: C, 88.71; H, 6.33.



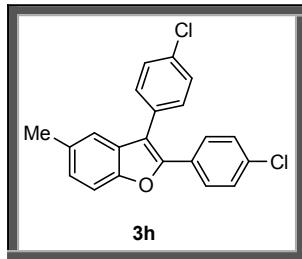
**2,3-Bis(4-methoxyphenyl)benzofuran (3e).** White crystal, 26 mg, Yield 79%, mp 146-148 °C; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 7.62 (d, *J* = 8.2 Hz, 2H), 7.53 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.48 (d, *J* = 7.4 Hz, 1H), 7.43 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 7.31 (t, *J* = 7.3 Hz, 1H), 7.23 (t, *J* = 7.3 Hz, 1H), 7.02 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 6.87 (d, *J* = 8.2 Hz, 2H), 3.90 (s, 3H), 3.83 (s, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 159.6, 159.0, 153.8, 150.49, 130.9, 130.6, 128.4, 124.2, 123.5, 122.7, 119.7, 115.7, 114.5, 113.9, 110.9, 55.3; MS *m/z* (%) 330 (M<sup>+</sup>, 100), 315 (61), 255 (30), 215 (15), 149 (16); Anal. Calcd for C<sub>22</sub>H<sub>18</sub>O<sub>3</sub> (330.12): C, 79.98; H, 5.49. Found: C, 79.61; H, 5.23.



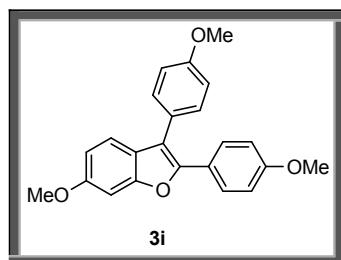
**6-Methoxy-2,3-diphenylbenzofuran (3f).** White crystal, 25 mg, Yield 83%, mp 117-120 °C; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 7.64 (d, *J* = 6.6 Hz, 2H), 7.51 – 7.48 (m, 4H), 7.42 – 7.38 (m, 2H), 7.32 – 7.28 (m, 3H), 7.12 (s, 1H), 6.89 (d, *J* = 7.7 Hz, 1H), 3.91 (s, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 157.9, 154.4, 149.1, 132.4, 130.3, 129.1, 128.4, 127.8, 127.4, 127.0, 126.0, 123.2, 119.7, 116.9, 111.4, 95.1, 55.3; Anal. Calcd for C<sub>21</sub>H<sub>16</sub>O<sub>2</sub> (300.11): C, 83.98; H, 5.37. Found: C, 83.64; H, 5.03.



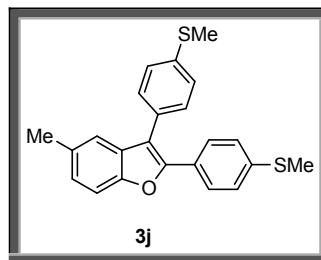
**5-Methyl-2,3-diphenylbenzofuran (3g).** White crystal, 22 mg, Yield 77%, mp 105-107 °C; <sup>1</sup>HNMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 7.66 (d, *J* = 6.7 Hz, 2H), 7.51 – 7.43 (m, 6H), 7.32 – 7.27 (m, 4H), 7.16 (d, *J* = 7.9 Hz, 1H), 2.44 (s, 3H); <sup>13</sup>CNMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 151.9, 150.1, 132.5, 131.9, 130.2, 129.8, 129.2, 128.4, 127.8, 127.7, 127.0, 126.4, 125.4, 119.2, 110.1, 20.8; MS *m/z* (%) 284 (M<sup>+</sup>, 100), 255 (42), 239 (42), 178 (20), 134 (24), 77 (14); Anal. Calcd for C<sub>21</sub>H<sub>16</sub>O (284.35): C, 88.70; H, 5.67. Found: C, 88.91; H, 5.93.



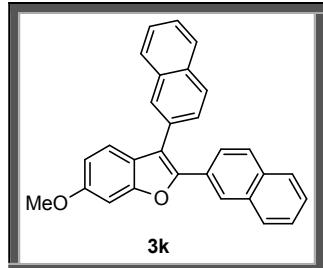
**2,3-Bis(4-chlorophenyl)-5-methylbenzofuran (3h).** White crystal, 26 mg, Yield 74%, mp 151-153 °C; <sup>1</sup>HNMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 7.56 (d, *J* = 8.5 Hz, 2H), 7.47 – 7.42 (m, 5H), 7.31 (d, *J* = 8.5 Hz, 2H), 7.24 (s, 1H), 7.17 (d, *J* = 8.1Hz, 1H), 2.44 (s, 3H); <sup>13</sup>CNMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 151.9, 149.2, 133.8, 133.2, 132.3, 130.7, 130.5, 129.3, 128.9, 128.4, 128.2, 127.6, 125.9, 119.0, 116.0, 110.2, 20.8; MS *m/z* (%) 352 (M<sup>+</sup>, 100), 282 (24), 252 (18), 141 (7); Anal. Calcd for C<sub>21</sub>H<sub>14</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>O (354.24): C, 71.40; H, 3.99. Found: C, 71.68; H, 4.23.



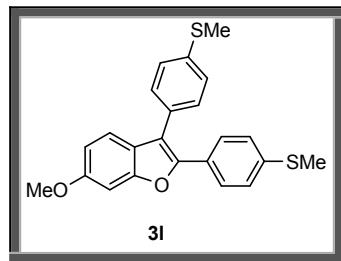
**6-Methoxy-2,3-bis(4-methoxyphenyl)benzofuran (3i).** White crystal, 33 mg, Yield 91%, mp 263 °C; <sup>1</sup>HNMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 7.57 (d, *J* = 8.7 Hz, 2H), 7.42 (d, *J* = 8.5 Hz, 2H), 7.34 (d, *J* = 8.5 Hz, 1H), 7.09 (d, *J* = 1.7 Hz, 1H), 7.01 (d, *J* = 8.5 Hz, 2H), 6.88 – 6.86 (m, 3H), 3.89 (s, 6H), 3.82 (s, 3H); <sup>13</sup>CNMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 158.7, 158.4, 157.5, 154.2, 149.0, 130.2, 127.4, 124.7, 123.5, 123.2, 119.3, 115.0, 113.8, 113.3, 111.0, 95.2, 55.3, 54.7; MS *m/z* (%) 360 (M<sup>+</sup>, 100), 345 (81), 326 (68), 311 (27), 202 (12), 180 (19); Anal. Calcd for C<sub>23</sub>H<sub>20</sub>O<sub>4</sub> (360.40): C, 76.65; H, 5.59. Found: C, 76.98; H, 5.88.



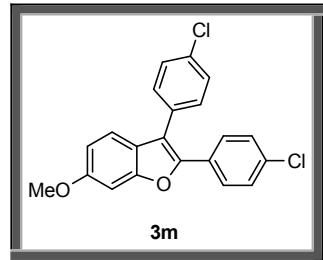
**5-Methyl-2,3-bis(4-(methylthio)phenyl)benzofuran (3j).** White crystal, 33 mg, Yield 89%, mp 137-139 °C; <sup>1</sup>HNMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 7.58 (d, *J* = 8.3 Hz, 2H), 7.51 (d, *J* = 8.2 Hz, 1H), 7.42 (d, *J* = 8.1 Hz, 2H), 7.37 – 7.32 (m, 3H), 7.19 (d, *J* = 8.3 Hz, 2H), 7.14 (d, *J* = 8.2 Hz, 1H), 2.57 (s, 3H), 2.50 (s, 3H), 2.43 (s, 3H); <sup>13</sup>CNMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 151.8, 149.8, 138.5, 137.3, 131.9, 129.6, 129.1, 126.8, 126.6, 126.5, 126.3, 125.4, 125.3, 119.0, 115.8, 110.0, 20.8, 15.1, 14.8; MS *m/z* (%) 376 (M<sup>+</sup>, 100), 326 (88), 311 (29), 282 (21), 69 (25); Anal. Calcd for C<sub>23</sub>H<sub>20</sub>OS<sub>2</sub> (376.53): C, 73.37; H, 5.35. Found: C, 73.68; H, 5.63.



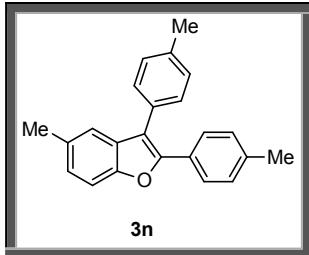
**6-Methoxy-2,3-di(naphthalen-2-yl)benzofuran (3k).** White crystal, 34 mg, Yield 85%, mp 161-164 °C; <sup>1</sup>HNMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 8.25 (s, 1H), 8.09 (s, 1H), 7.94 – 7.87 (m, 3H), 7.80 – 7.76 (m, 2H), 7.69 – 7.56 (m, 5H), 7.49 – 7.47 (m, 3H), 7.19 (s, 1H), 6.94 (d, *J* = 6.8 Hz, 1H), 3.94 (s, 3H); <sup>13</sup>CNMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 158.1, 154.7, 149.5, 133.3, 132.8, 132.3, 132.3, 129.9, 128.1, 128.0, 127.9, 127.8, 127.6, 127.4, 127.3, 127.2, 125.9, 125.7, 125.3, 123.9, 123.4, 119.8, 117.3, 111.6, 95.3, 55.3; MS *m/z* (%) 400 (M<sup>•+</sup>, 71), 274 (27), 155 (27), 83 (66), 57 (100); Anal. Calcd for C<sub>29</sub>H<sub>20</sub>O<sub>2</sub> (400.46): C, 86.98; H, 5.03. Found: C, 86.63; H, 4.78.



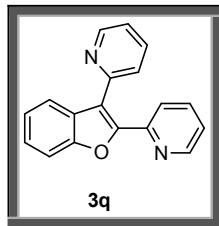
**6-Methoxy-2,3-bis(4-(methylthio)phenyl)benzofuran (3l).** White crystal, 30 mg, Yield 88%, mp 115-118 °C; <sup>1</sup>HNMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 7.55 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 7.42 (d, *J* = 8.2 Hz, 2H), 7.35 – 7.34 (m, 3H), 7.19 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 7.08 (d, *J* = 2.0 Hz, 1H), 6.88 (dd, *J* = 2.0, 8.4 Hz, 1H), 3.89 (s, 3H), 2.56 (s, 3H), 2.50 (s, 3H); <sup>13</sup>CNMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 157.8, 154.4, 148.8, 138.0, 137.3, 129.5, 129.0, 126.9, 126.5, 126.3, 126.2, 125.5, 123.1, 119.5, 115.9, 111.4, 95.2, 55.3, 15.1, 14.9; MS *m/z* (%) 392 (M<sup>•+</sup>, 100), 317 (9), 226 (18), 196 (30), 149 (34), 57 (16); Anal. Calcd for C<sub>23</sub>H<sub>20</sub>O<sub>2</sub>S<sub>2</sub> (392.53): C, 70.38; H, 5.14. Found: C, 70.68; H, 5.40.



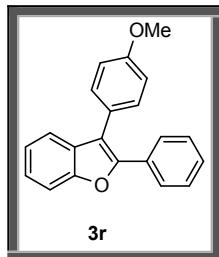
**2,3-Bis(4-chlorophenyl)-6-methoxybenzofuran (3m).** White crystal, 28 mg, Yield 78%, mp 93-95 °C; <sup>1</sup>HNMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 7.53 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 7.45 – 7.42 (m, 4H), 7.33 – 7.29 (m, 3H), 7.09 (d, *J* = 2.0 Hz, 1H), 6.88 (dd, *J* = 2.0, 8.4 Hz, 1H), 3.90 (s, 3H); <sup>13</sup>CNMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 158.2, 154.5, 148.2, 133.4, 133.2, 130.6, 130.4, 128.8, 128.5, 128.2, 127.2, 122.6, 119.5, 116.2, 111.8, 95.2, 55.3; MS *m/z* (%) 368 (M<sup>•+</sup>, 100), 262 (23), 226 (33), 139 (33), 113 (30); Anal. Calcd for C<sub>21</sub>H<sub>14</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub> (369.24): C, 68.31; H, 3.82. Found: C, 68.72; H, 3.97.



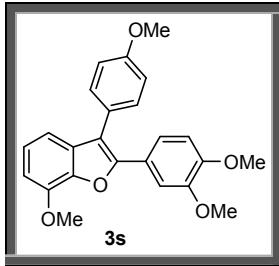
**5-Methyl-2,3-di-p-tolylbenzofuran (3n).** White crystal, 24 mg, Yield 76%, mp 84-87 °C; <sup>1</sup>HNMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 7.56 (d, *J* = 7.9 Hz, 2H), 7.44 – 7.39 (m, 3H), 7.30 – 7.28 (m, 3H), 7.14 – 7.13 (m, 3H), 2.46 (s, 3H), 2.43 (s, 3H), 2.36 (s, 3H); <sup>13</sup>CNMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 151.8, 150.2, 137.6, 136.6, 131.7, 130.0, 129.5, 129.1, 128.6, 127.6, 126.3, 125.1, 119.1, 116.0, 110.0, 20.8; MS *m/z* (%) 312 (M<sup>+</sup>, 100), 269 (18), 252 (11), 141 (8); Anal. Calcd for C<sub>23</sub>H<sub>20</sub>O (312.40): C, 88.43; H, 6.45. Found: C, 88.72; H, 6.23.



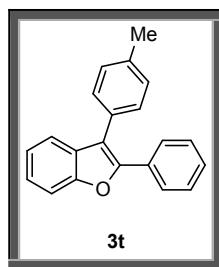
**2,2'-(Benzofuran-2,3-diyl)dipyridine (3q).** Pale yellow solid, 19 mg, Yield 72%, mp 120-122 °C; <sup>1</sup>HNMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 8.56 (d, *J* = 3.7 Hz, 1H), 8.21 (d, *J* = 3.4 Hz, 1H), 7.81 – 7.76 (m, 1H), 7.70 (t, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 1H), 7.63 (t, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 1H), 7.40 – 7.33 (m, 2H), 7.28 – 7.26 (m, 1H), 7.14 – 7.10 (m, 2H), 7.00 – 6.96 (m, 2H); <sup>13</sup>CNMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 163.2, 154.9, 151.6, 148.2, 147.4, 139.0, 136.4, 135.8, 129.0, 126.9, 124.7, 121.7, 121.6, 121.2, 118.0, 110.9; MS *m/z* (%) 271 (M<sup>+</sup>, 29), 196 (26), 180 (100), 152 (29), 78 (75), 51 (60); Anal. Calcd for C<sub>18</sub>H<sub>12</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O (272.09): C, 79.39; H, 4.44; N, 10.29. Found: C, 79.61; H, 4.63; N, 10.51.



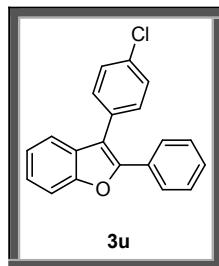
**2-phenyl-3-(p-tolyl)benzofuran (3r).** White crystals, 21mg, Yield 70%, <sup>1</sup>HNMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 7.69 – 7.67 (m, 2H), 7.55 (d, *J* = 8 Hz, 1H), 7.49 (d, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 7.44 – 7.42 (m, 2H), 7.35 – 7.22 (m, 5H), 7.03 – 7.00 (m, 2H), 3.89 (s, 3H); <sup>13</sup>CNMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 159.1, 153.9, 150.2, 130.9, 130.5, 128.4, 128.2, 126.9, 124.9, 124.6, 122.8, 120.0, 117.1, 114.4, 111.0, 55.3; MS *m/z* (%) 300 (M<sup>+</sup>, 100), 278 (15), 255 (13), 228 (13), 149 (14), 125 (23); Anal. Calcd for C<sub>21</sub>H<sub>16</sub>O (300.12): C, 83.98; H, 5.3. Found: C, 84.03; H, 5.33.



**2-(3,4-dimethoxyphenyl)-7-methoxy-3-(4-methoxyphenyl)benzofuran (3s).** oil, 26mg, Yield 68%,  $^1\text{H}$ NMR (500 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  7.43 – 7.42 (m, 2H), 7.17 – 7.13 (m, 4H), 7.07 – 7.00 (m, 3H), 6.83 – 6.81 (m, 2H), 4.07 (s, 3H), 3.89 (s, 3H), 3.87 (s, 3H), 3.71 (s, 3H); MS  $m/z$  (%) 390 ( $M^{+}$ , 86), 369 (7), 316 (5), 195 (9), 172 (13), 151 (15), 125 (22); Anal. Calcd for  $C_{24}\text{H}_{22}\text{O}_5$  (390.43): C, 73.83; H, 5.68. Found: C, 73.97; H, 5.73.



**2-phenyl-3-(p-tolyl)benzofuran (3t).** White crystals, 19mg, Yield 68%,  $^1\text{H}$ NMR (500 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  7.69 – 7.67 (m, 2H), 7.55 (d,  $J$  = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.50 (d,  $J$  = 7.1 Hz, 1H), 7.70 (t,  $J$  = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 7.39 (d,  $J$  = 8 Hz, 2H), 7.34 – 7.22 (m, 7H), 2.44 (s, 3H);  $^{13}\text{C}$ NMR (125 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  154.0, 137.4, 129.7, 129.6, 128.4, 128.2, 127.0, 124.6, 122.8, 120.1, 111.1, 29.7; MS  $m/z$  (%) 284 ( $M^{+}$ , 100), 239 (19), 134 (13), 85 (20), 57 (40); Anal. Calcd for  $C_{21}\text{H}_{16}\text{O}$  (390.43): C, 73.83; H, 5.68. Found: C, 73.87; H, 5.77.



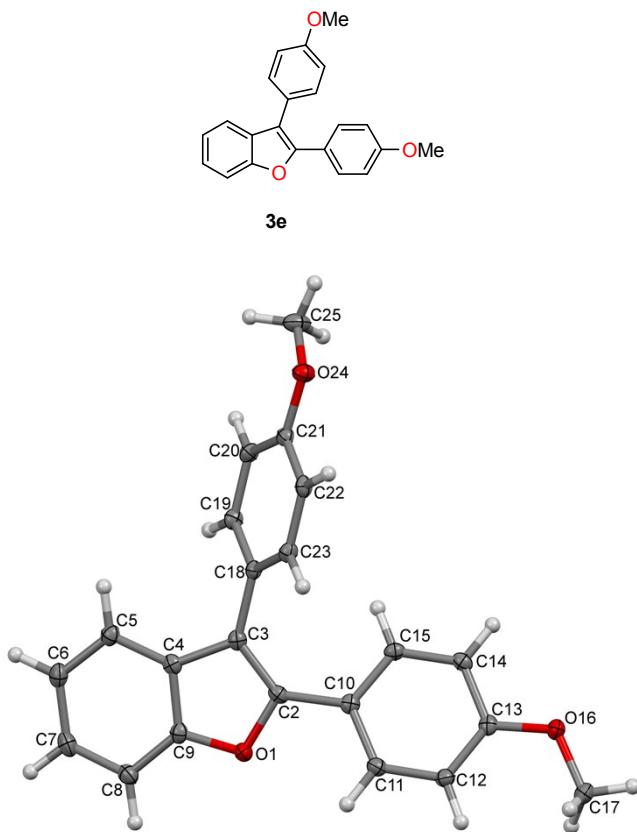
**3-(4-chlorophenyl)-2-phenylbenzofuran (3u).** White crystals, 20mg, Yield 66%,  $^1\text{H}$ NMR (500 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  7.65 – 7.63 (m, 2H), 7.57 – 7.56 (m, 1H), 7.48 – 7.44 (m, 5H), 7.36 – 7.32 (m, 4H), 7.27 – 7.26 (m, 1H); MS  $m/z$  (%) 306 ( $M^{+}+2$ , 33), 305 ( $M^{+}+1$ , 22), 304 ( $M^{+}$ , 100), 268 (28), 239 (32), 194 (11), 149 (22), 119 (17), 85 (10), 57 (19); Anal. Calcd for  $C_{20}\text{H}_{13}\text{ClO}$  (304.07): C, 78.82; H, 4.30. Found: C, 78.91; H, 4.43.

## 6. X-ray crystallography

Diffraction data were collected at 100(1)K by the  $\omega$ -scan technique on Agilent Technologies four-circle XCalibur diffractometer with Eos CCD detector, equipped with graphite-monochromated MoK $\alpha$  radiation source ( $\lambda = 0.71073 \text{ \AA}$ ). The data were corrected for Lorentz-polarization as well as for absorption effects <sup>1</sup>. Precise unit-cell parameters were determined by a least-squares fit of 15846 reflections of the highest intensity, chosen from the whole experiment. The structure was solved with SIR92 <sup>2</sup> and refined with the full-matrix least-squares procedure on F<sup>2</sup> by SHELXL-2013 <sup>3</sup>. The scattering factors incorporated in SHELXL97 were used. All non-hydrogen atoms were refined anisotropically, hydrogen atoms were found in difference Fourier maps, and freely refined with isotropic displacement parameters.

### 6.1. Crystal Data and ORTEP diagram of compound 3e

Figure S1: ORTEP diagram of 3e (CCDC-1035494).



**Crystal data for 3e:** C<sub>22</sub>H<sub>18</sub>O<sub>3</sub>, M<sub>r</sub>=330.36, monoclinic, P2<sub>1</sub>/c, a=8.6642(2) $\text{\AA}$ , b=20.3575(3) $\text{\AA}$ , c=10.1977(2) $\text{\AA}$ ,  $\beta=115.123(3)^\circ$ , V=1628.53(7) $\text{\AA}^3$ , Z=4, d<sub>x</sub>=1.35g·cm<sup>-3</sup>,  $\mu=0.089\text{mm}^{-1}$ , F(000)=696, MoK $\alpha$ ,  $\lambda=0.71073\text{\AA}$ , T=100(1)K, 37859 reflections measured of which 3818 symmetry-independent, R<sub>int</sub>=2.36%. Final R(all reflections)=3.88%, wR2(all reflections)=8.98%, S=1.036,  $\Delta\rho_{\max}/\Delta\rho_{\min}=0.29/-0.22 \text{ e \AA}^{-3}$ . CCDC-1035494.

**CheckCIF/PLATON report**

Structure factors have been supplied for datablock(s) 1

No syntax errors found.

**Table S2: Crystal data for 3e**

Bond precision: C-C = 0.0015 Å Wavelength = 0.71070

|              |                |                   |                 |
|--------------|----------------|-------------------|-----------------|
| Cell:        | a = 8.6642 (2) | b = 20.3575 (3)   | c = 10.1977 (2) |
|              | alpha = 90     | beta = 115.123(3) | gamma = 90      |
| Temperature: | 100 K          |                   |                 |

|                                   | Calculated                                     | Reported                                       |
|-----------------------------------|--|--|
| Volume                            | 1628.53 (7)                                    | 1628.53 (7)                                    |
| Space group                       | P 21/c   | P 21/c   |
| Hall group                        | -P 2ybc  | -P 2ybc  |
| Moiety formula                    | C <sub>22</sub> H <sub>18</sub> O <sub>3</sub> | C <sub>22</sub> H <sub>18</sub> O <sub>3</sub> |
| Sum formula                       | C <sub>22</sub> H <sub>18</sub> O <sub>3</sub> | C <sub>22</sub> H <sub>18</sub> O <sub>3</sub> |
| Mr                                | 330.36   | 330.36   |
| D <sub>x,g</sub> cm <sup>-3</sup> | 1.347  | 1.347  |
| Z                                 | 4  | 4  |
| μ (mm <sup>-1</sup> )             | 0.089  | 0.089  |
| F <sub>000</sub>                  | 696.0  | 696.0  |
| F <sub>000'</sub>                 | 696.34   |  |
| h,k,lmax                          | 11,27,13                                       | 11,27,13                                       |
| Nref                              | 4111   | 3818   |
| Tmin,Tmax                         | 0.968,0.991                                    | 0.925,1.000                                    |
| Tmin'                             | 0.965  |  |

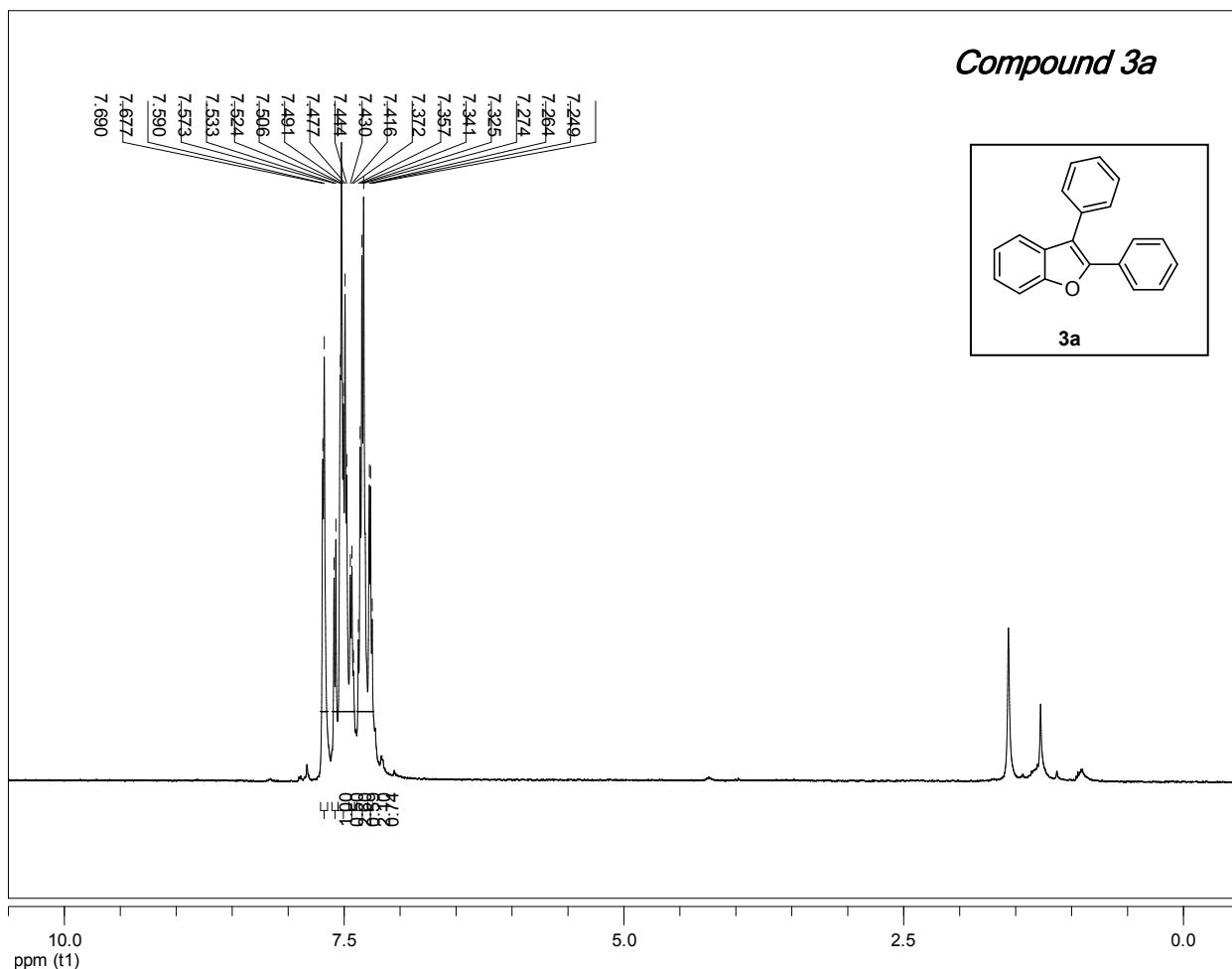
Correction method = MULTI-SCAN

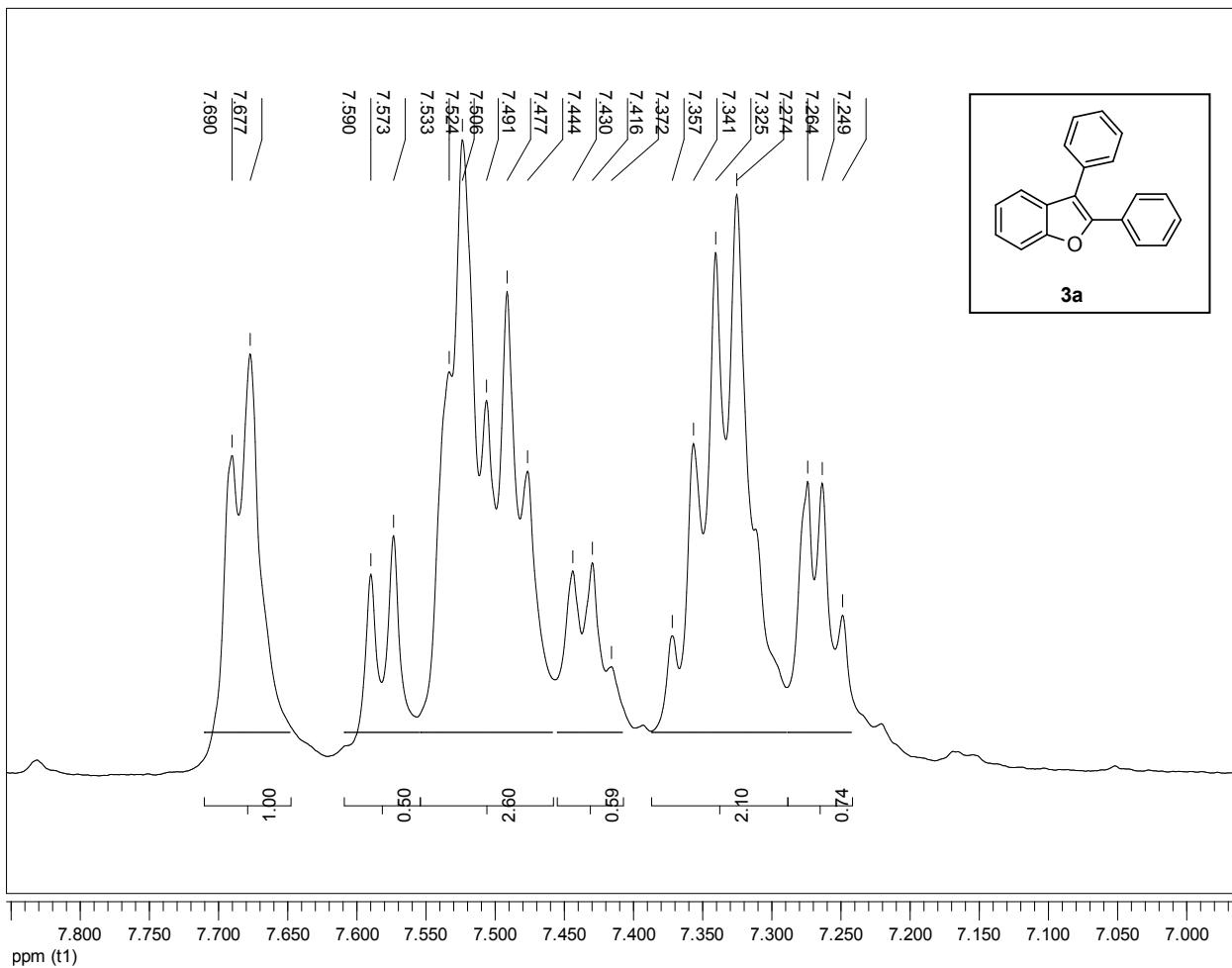
Data completeness = 0.929 Theta (max) = 28.411

R(reflections) = 0.0353 ( 3500) wR2(reflections) = 0.0898 (3818)

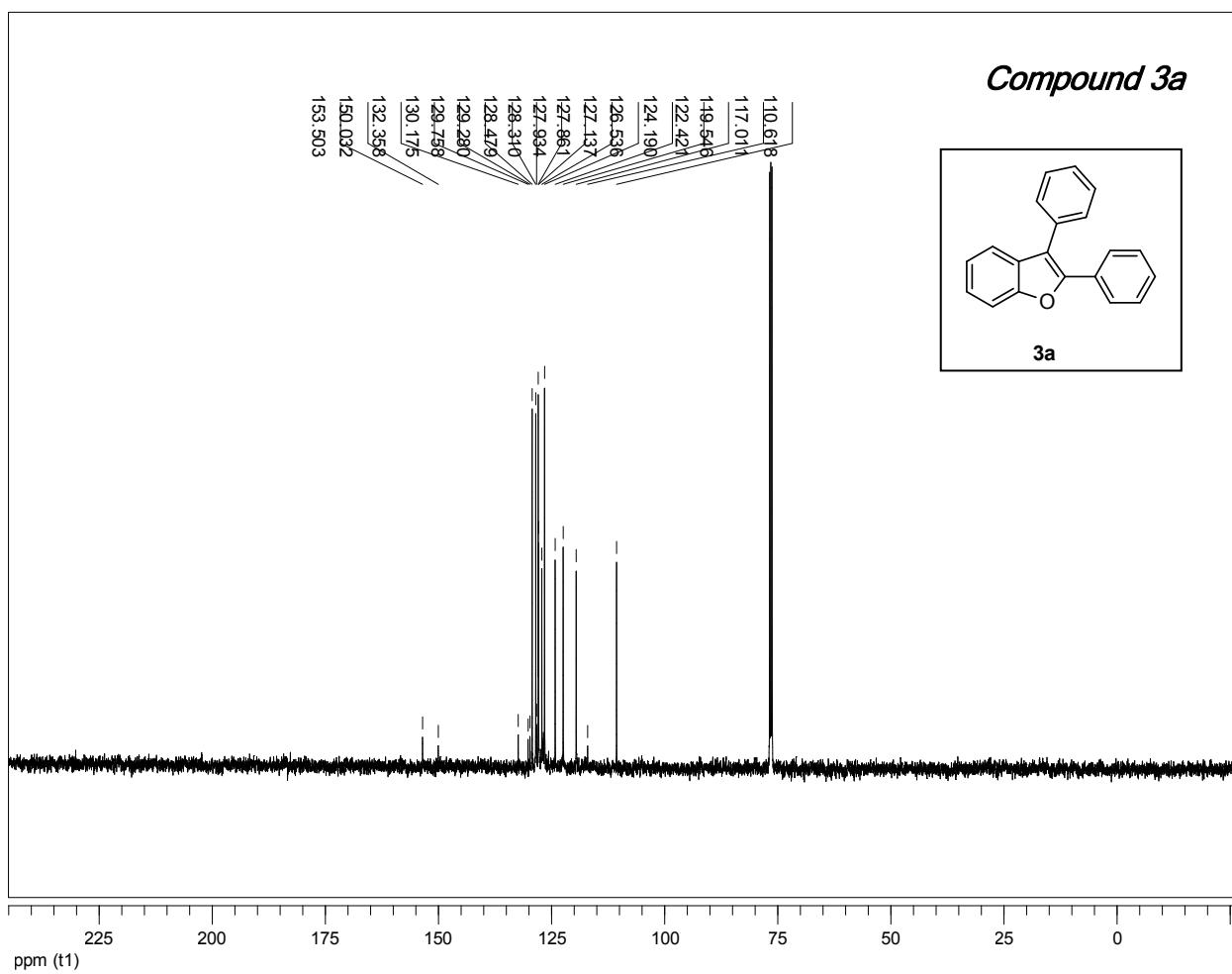
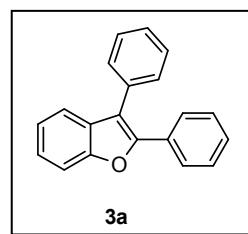
S = 1.036 Npar = 298

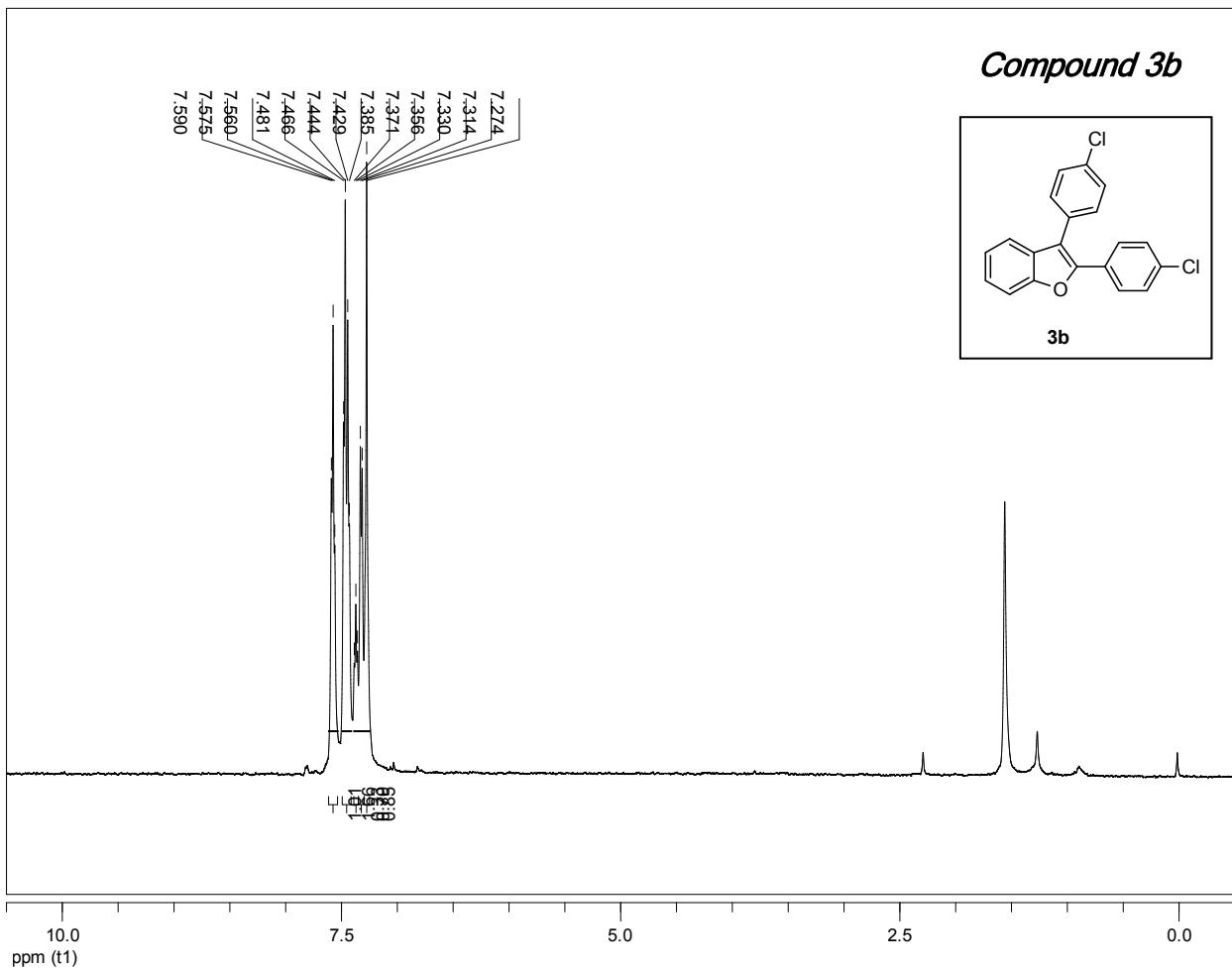
**7. Copies of  $^1\text{H}$ ,  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR and Mass Spectra**

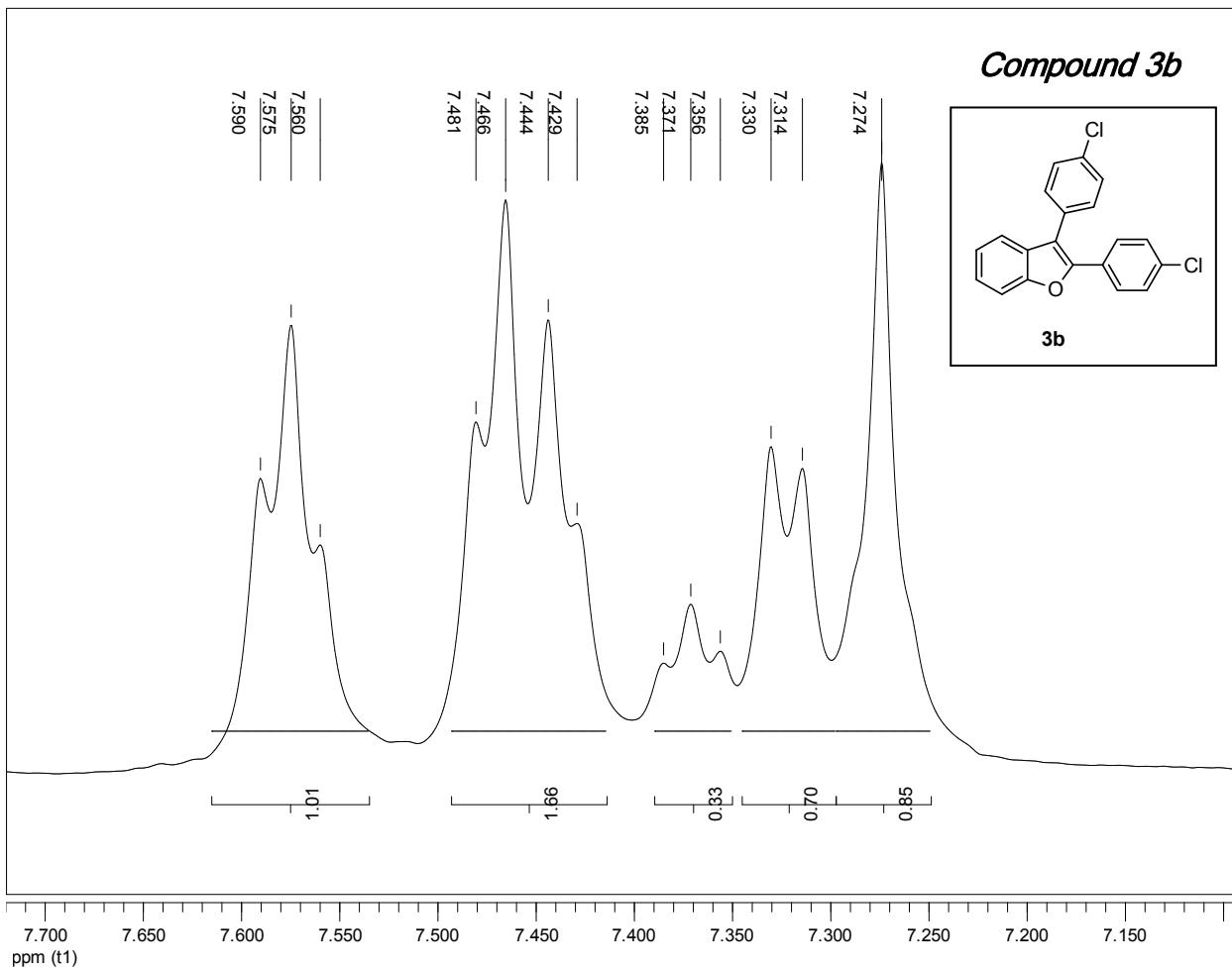


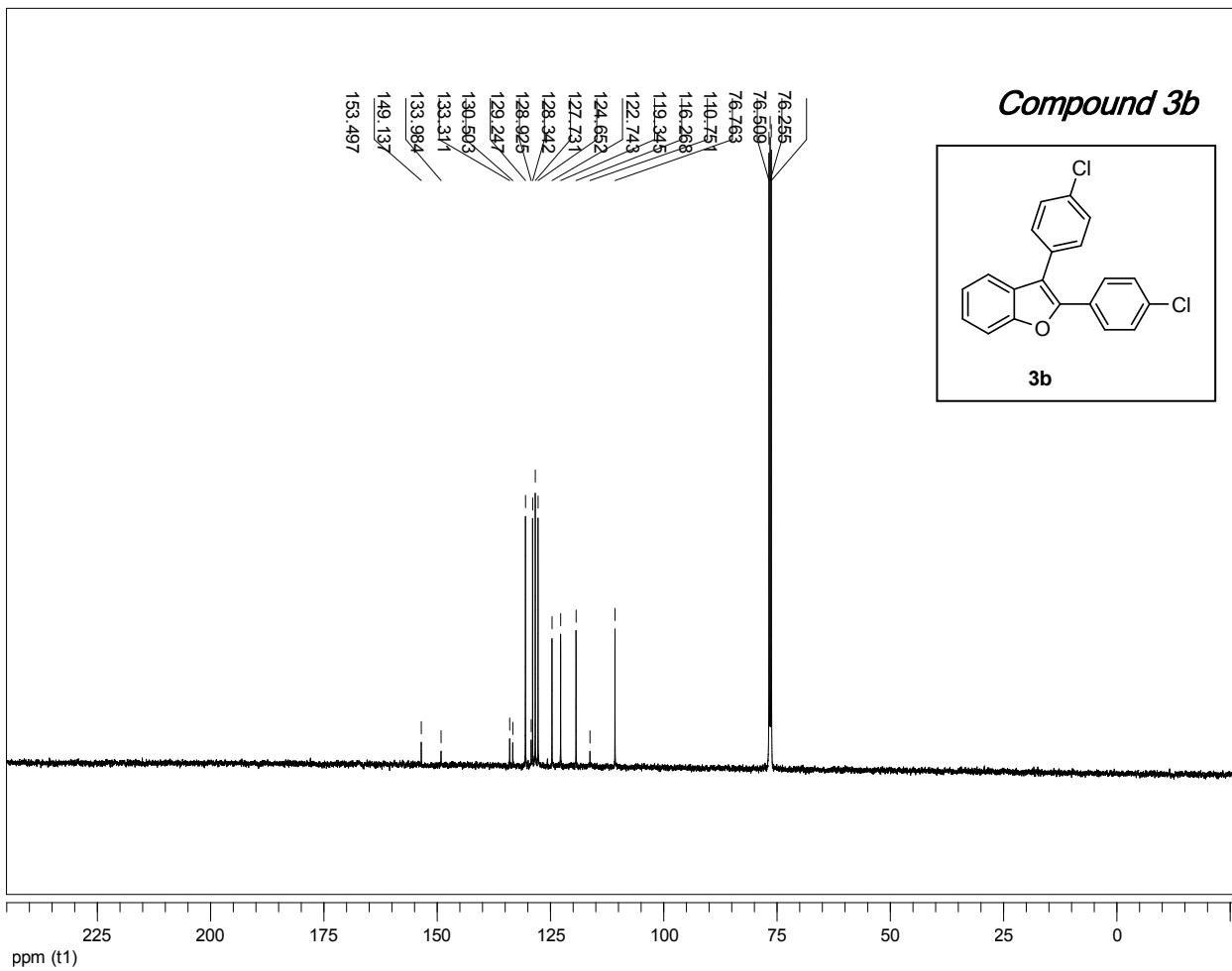


*Compound 3a*

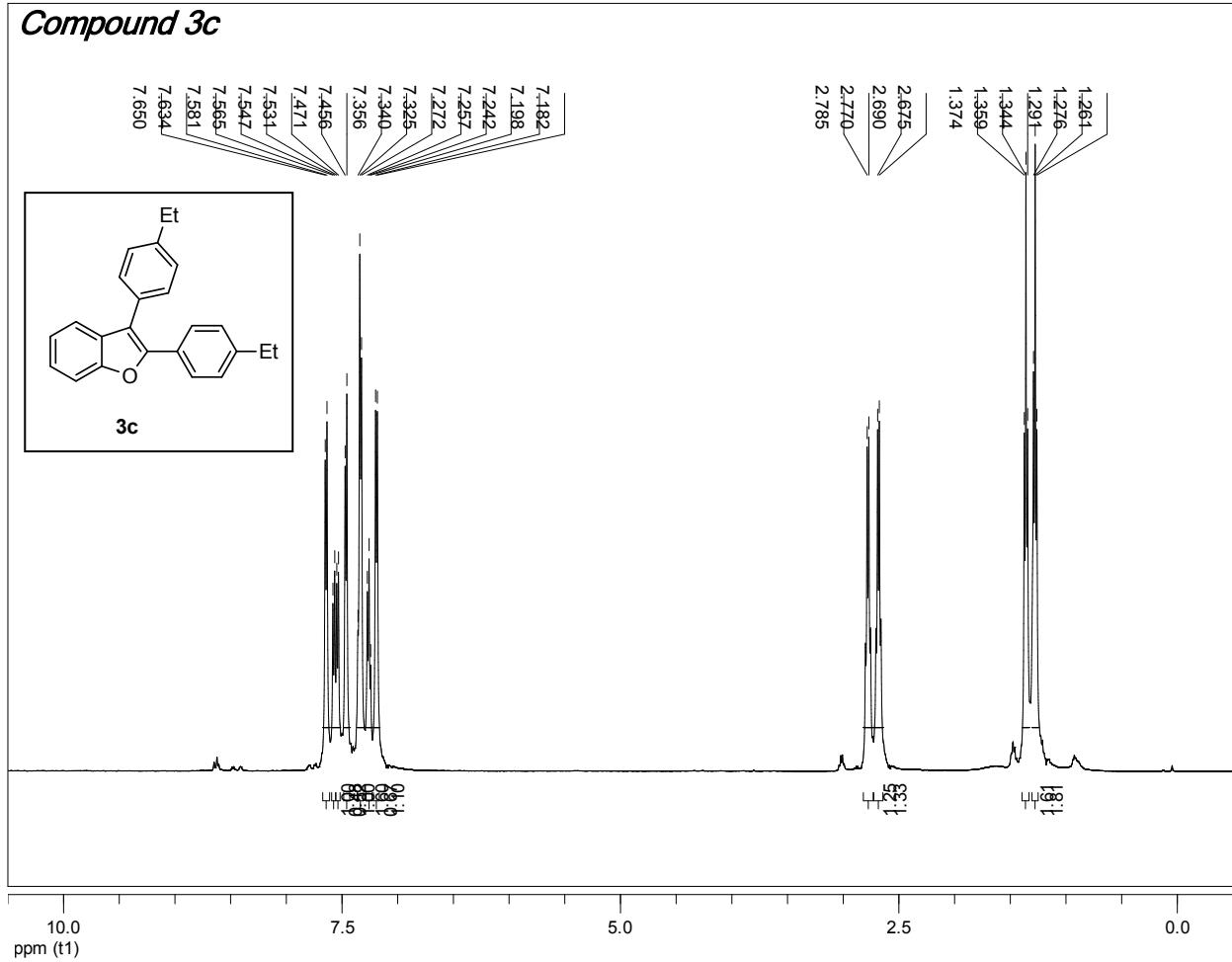


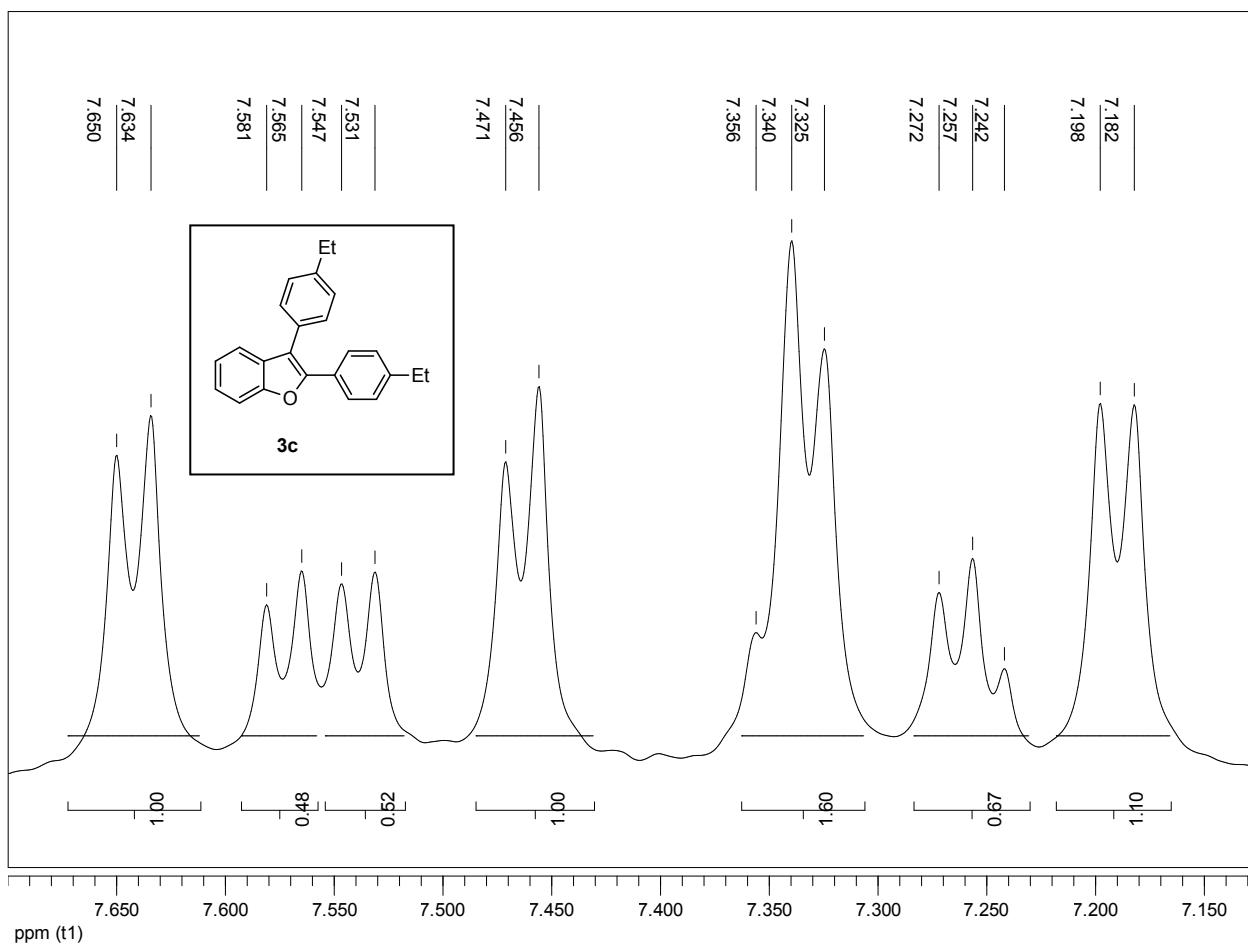


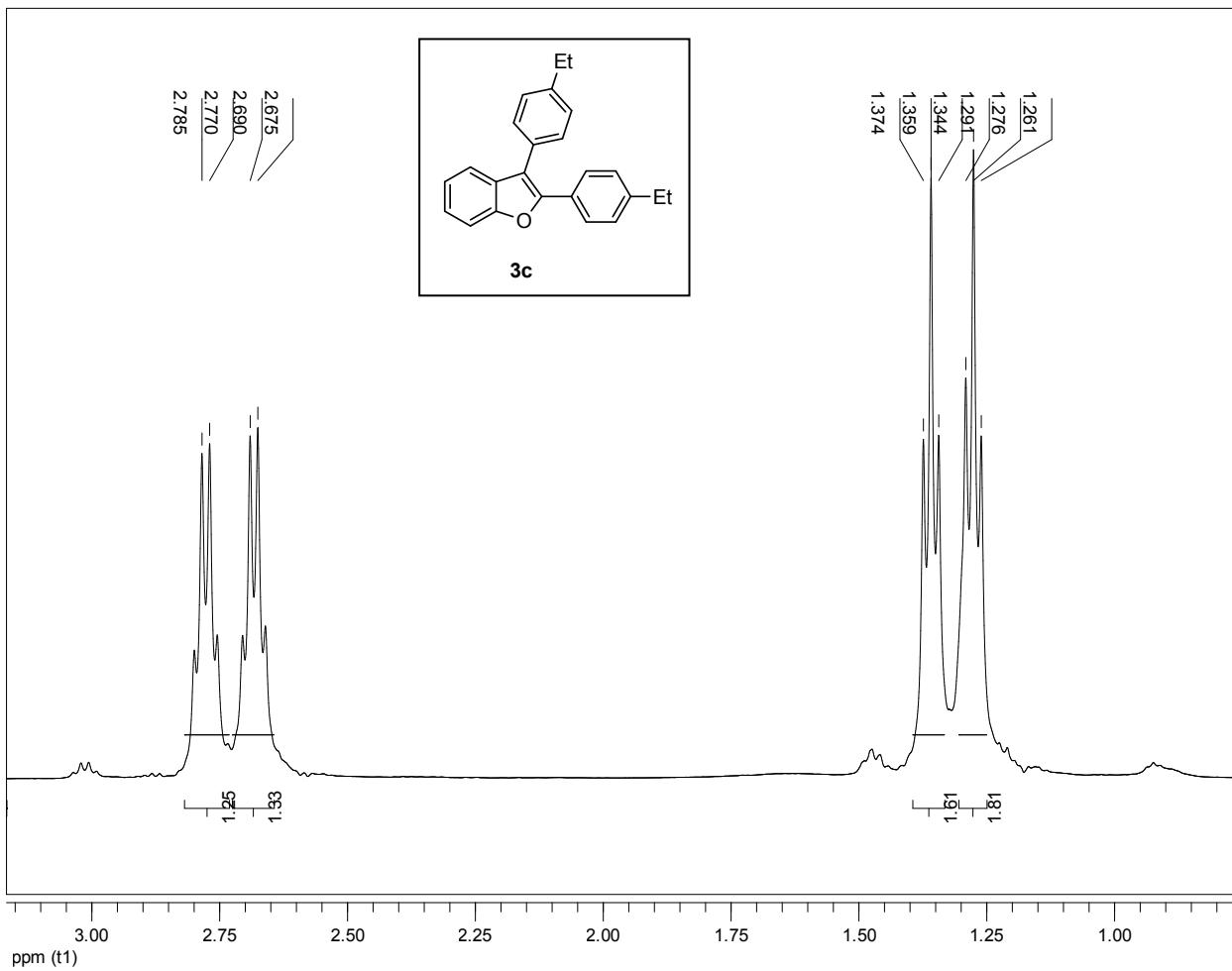




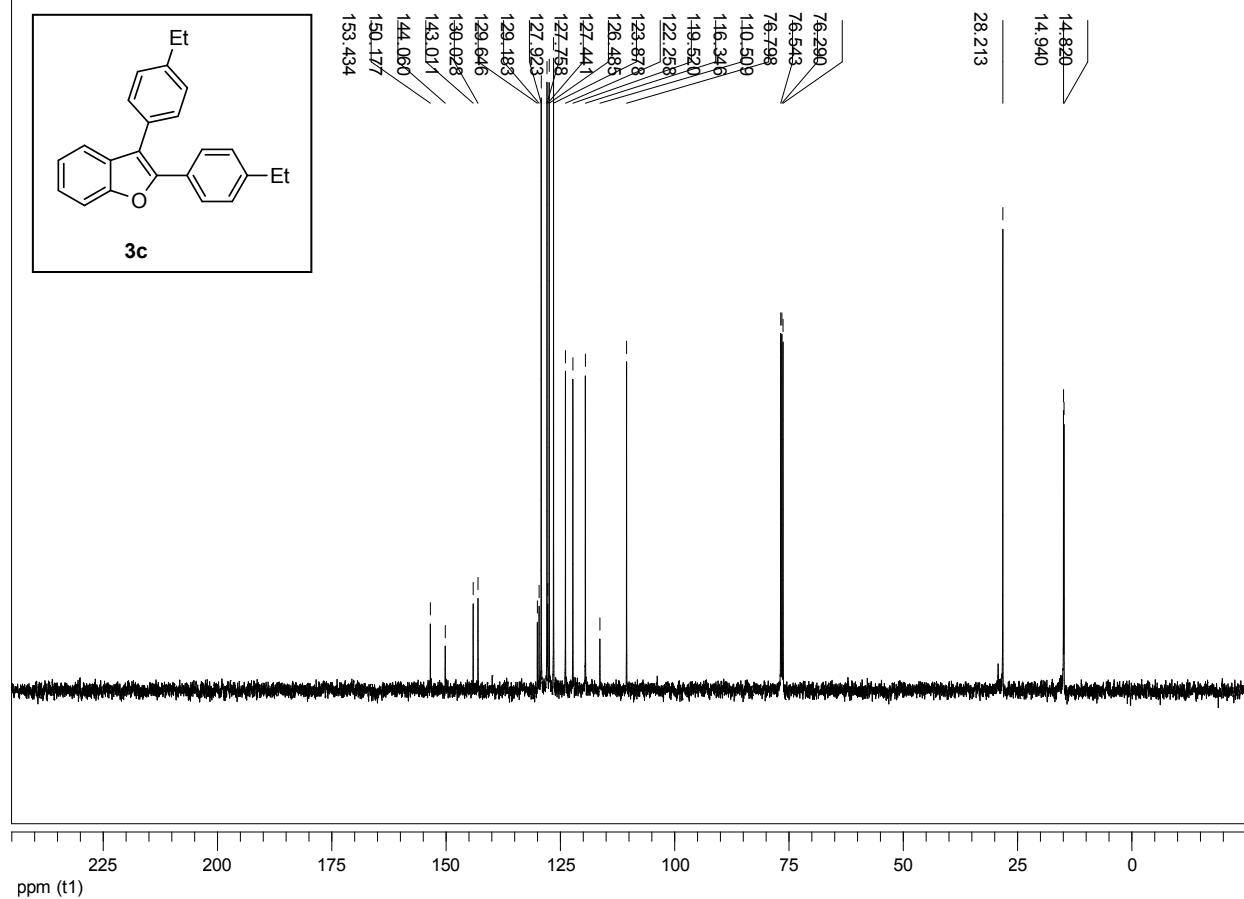
*Compound 3c*

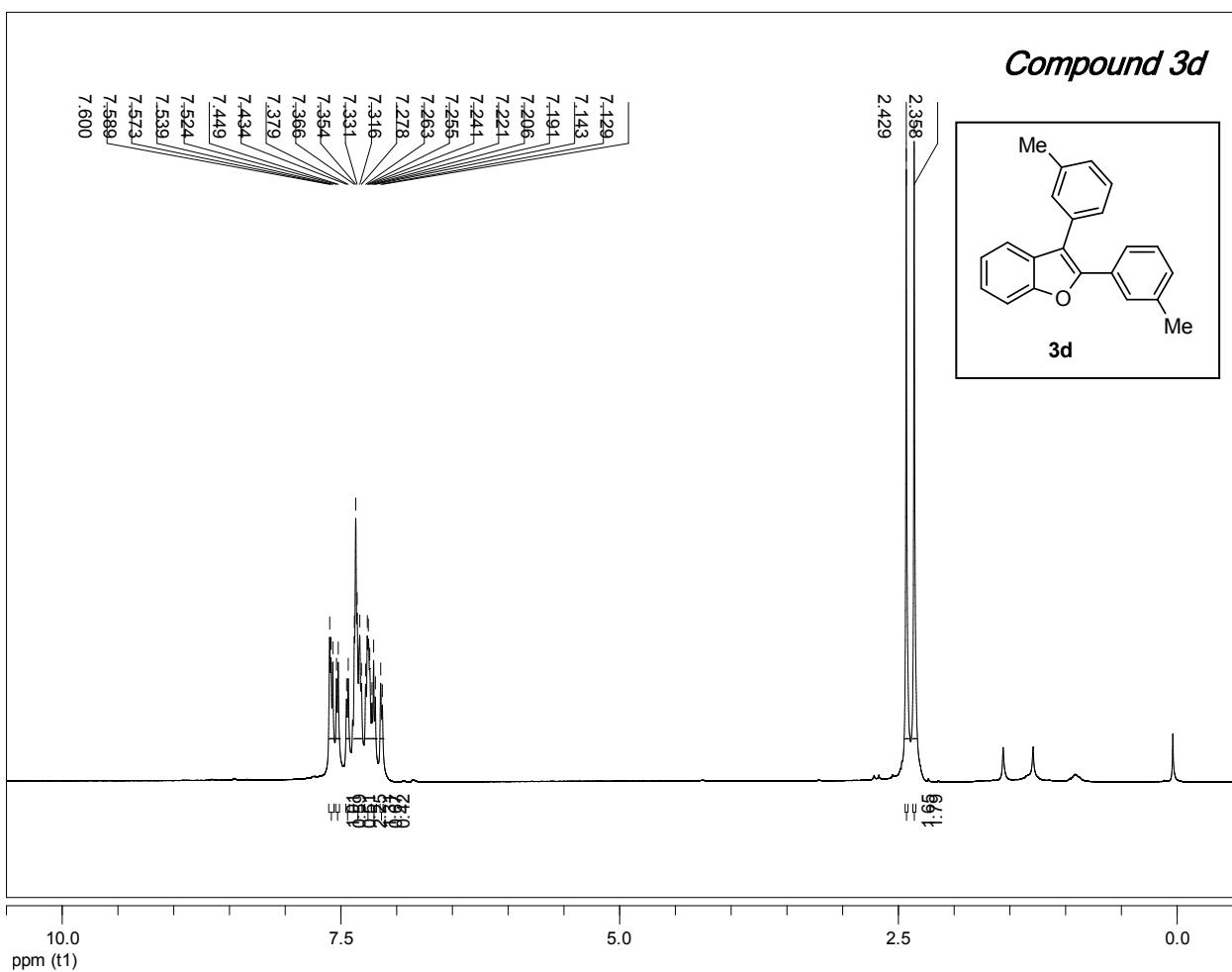


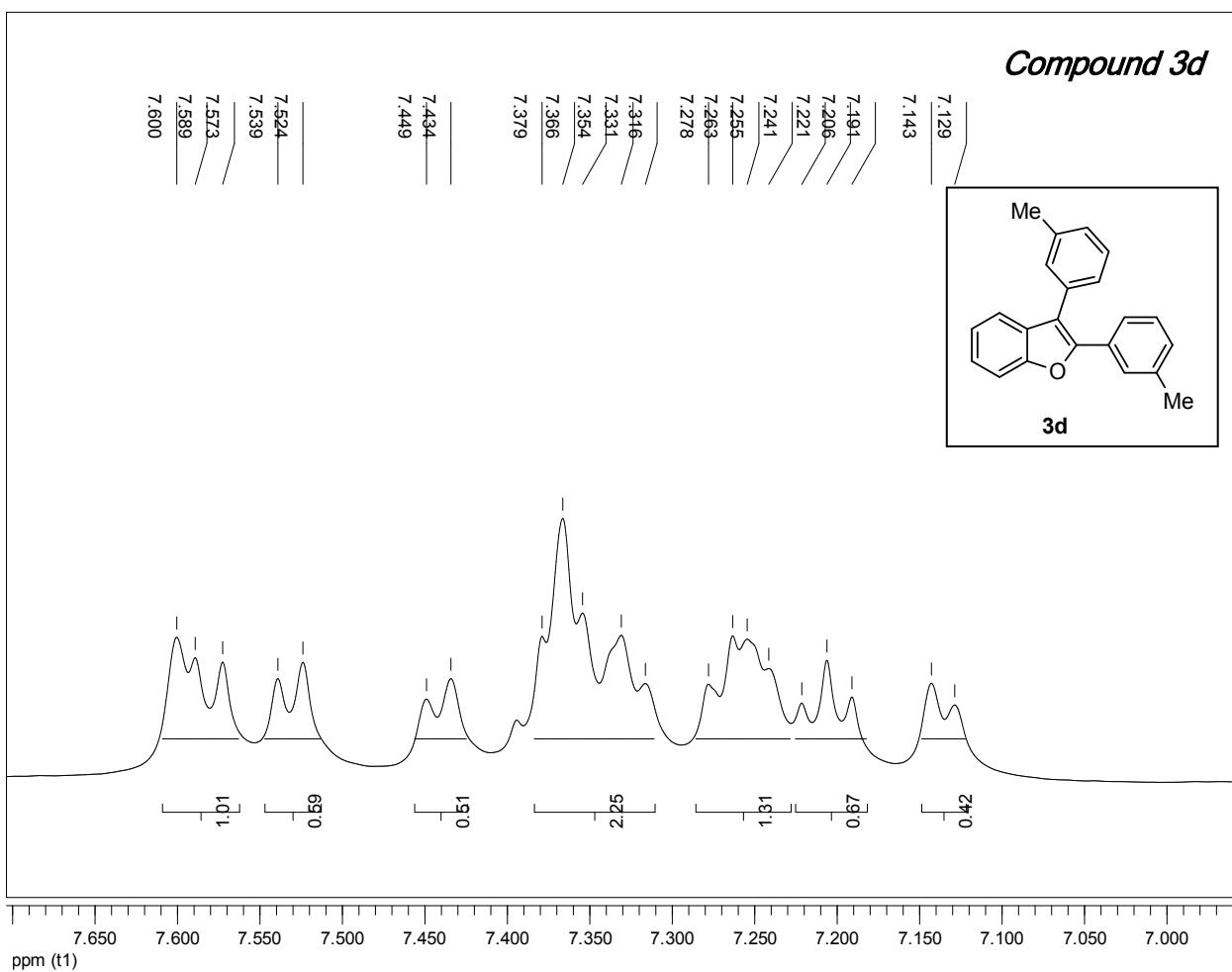




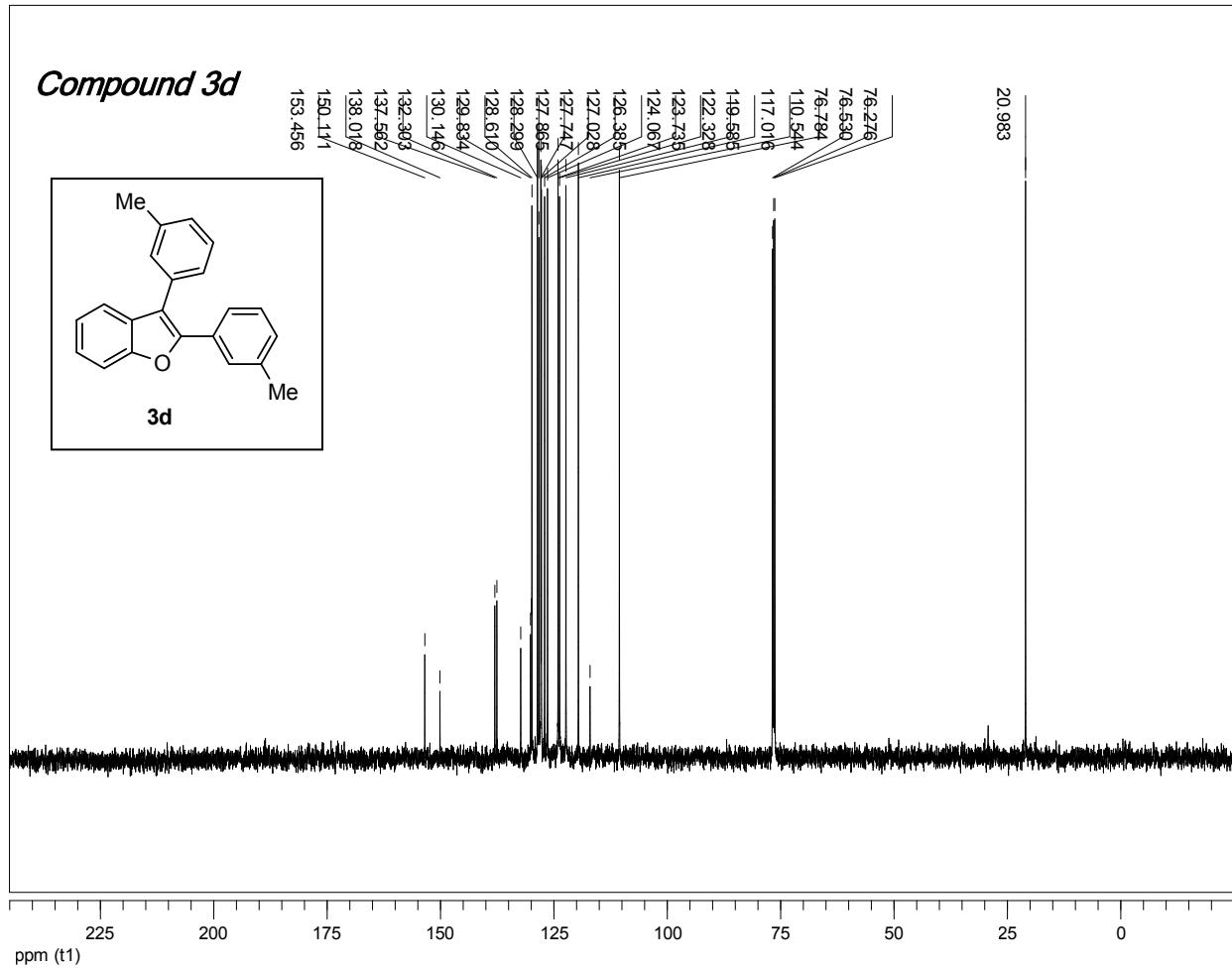
*Compound 3c*

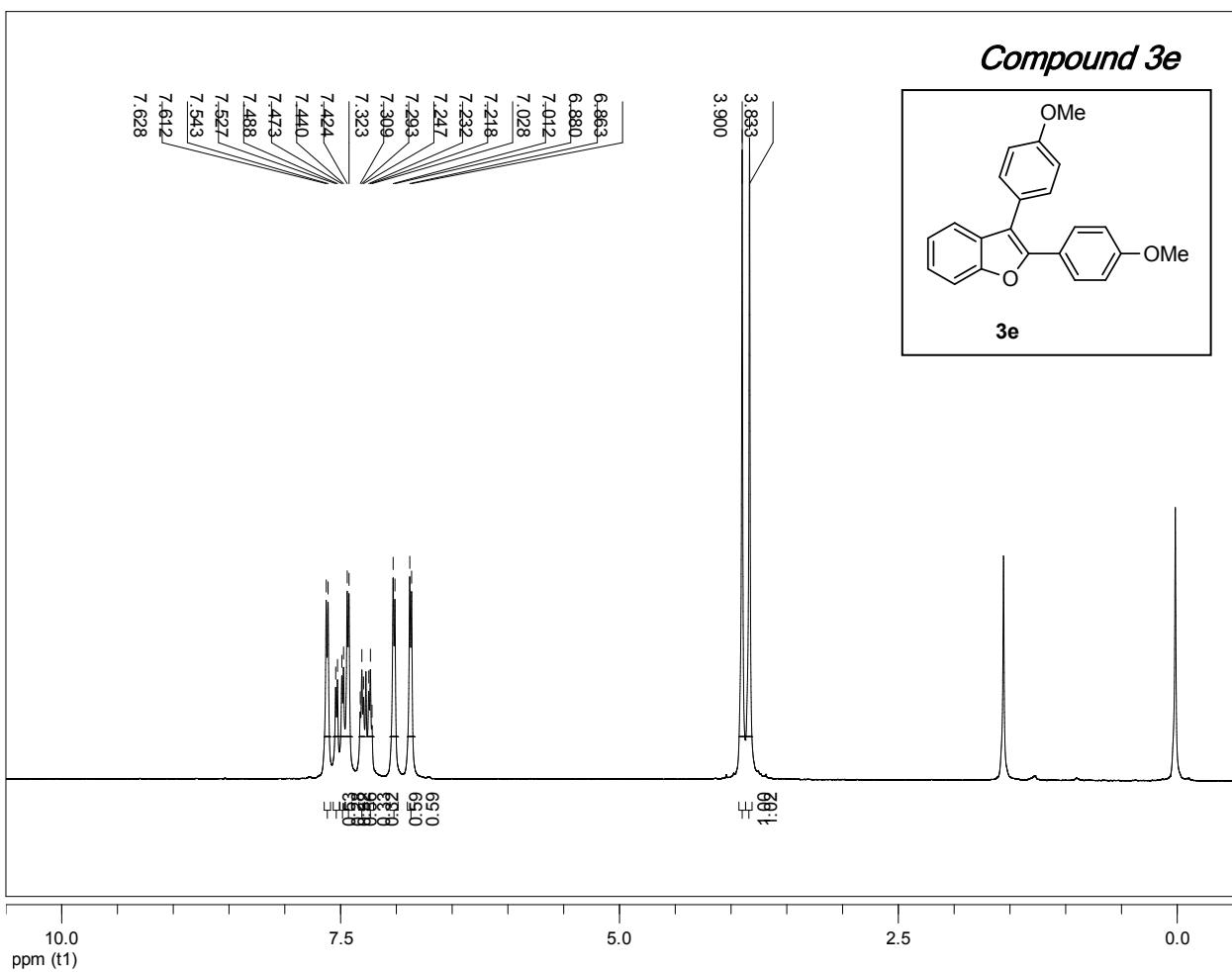


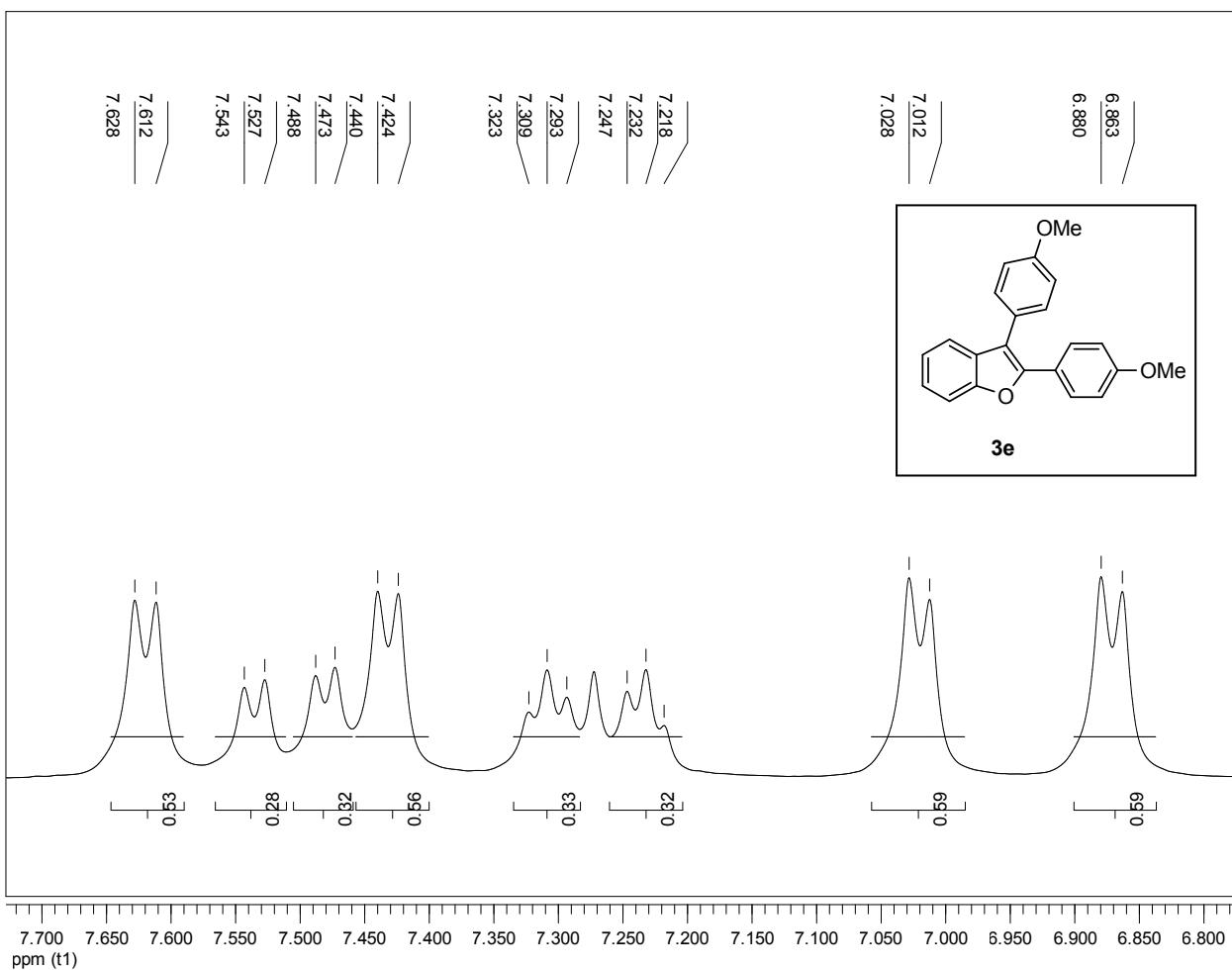




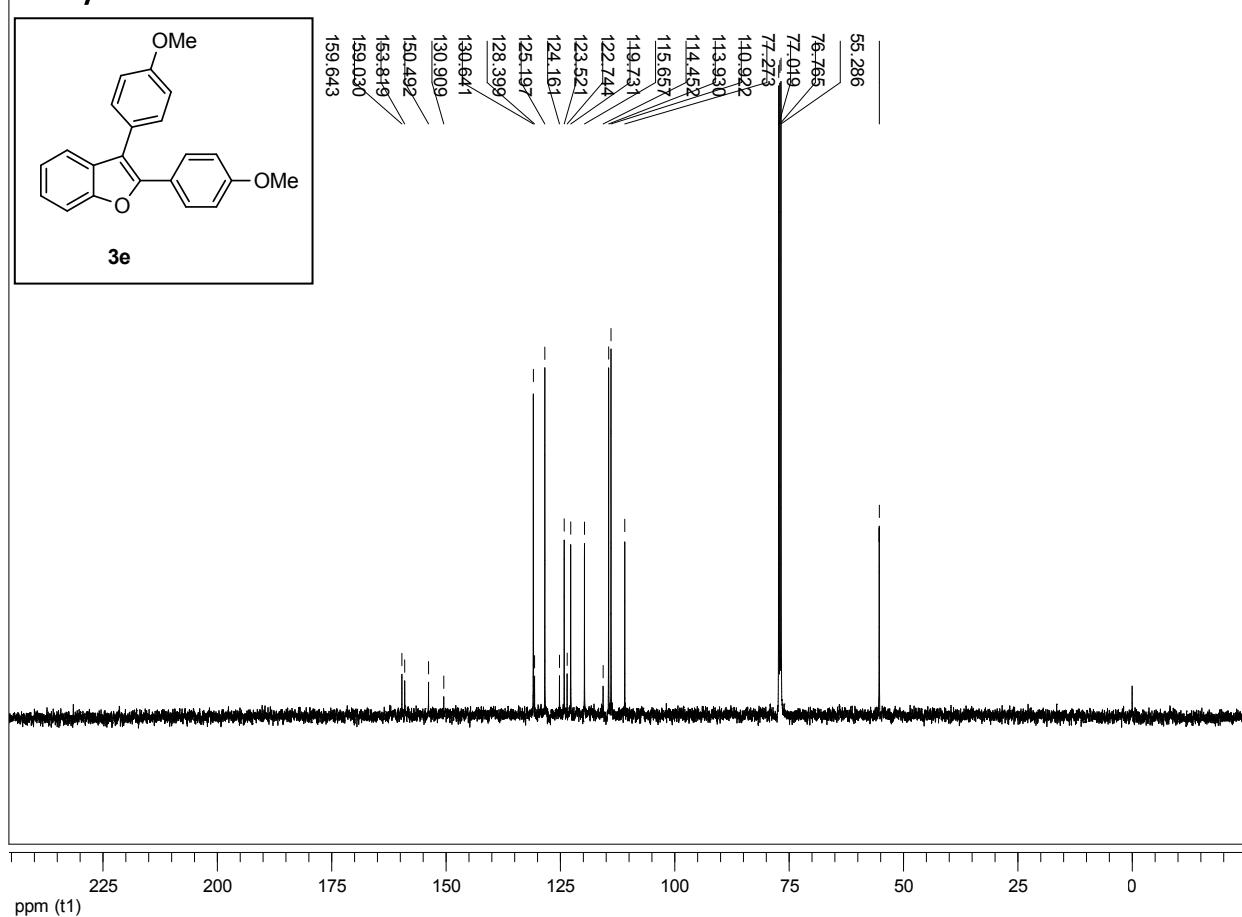
*Compound 3d*

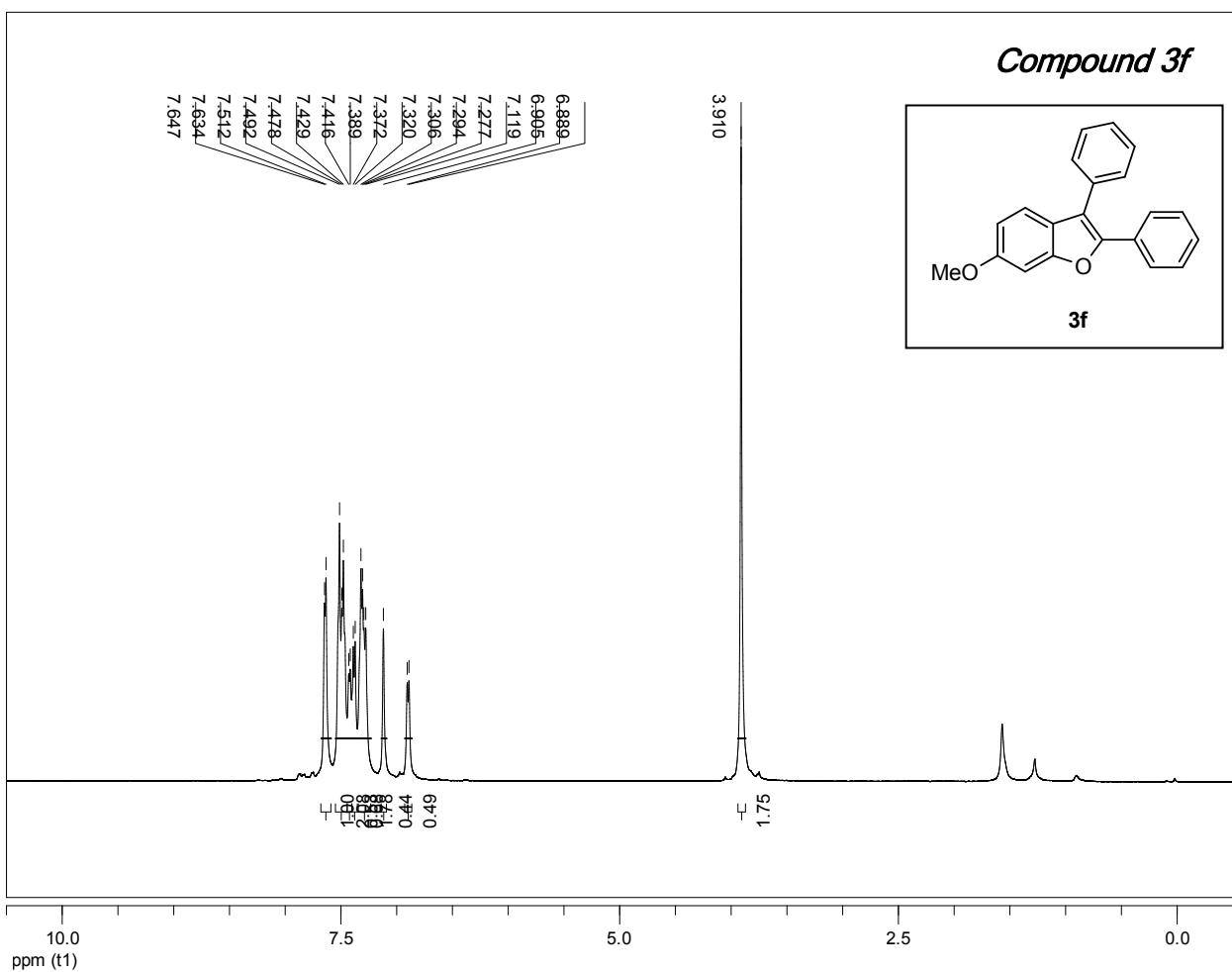


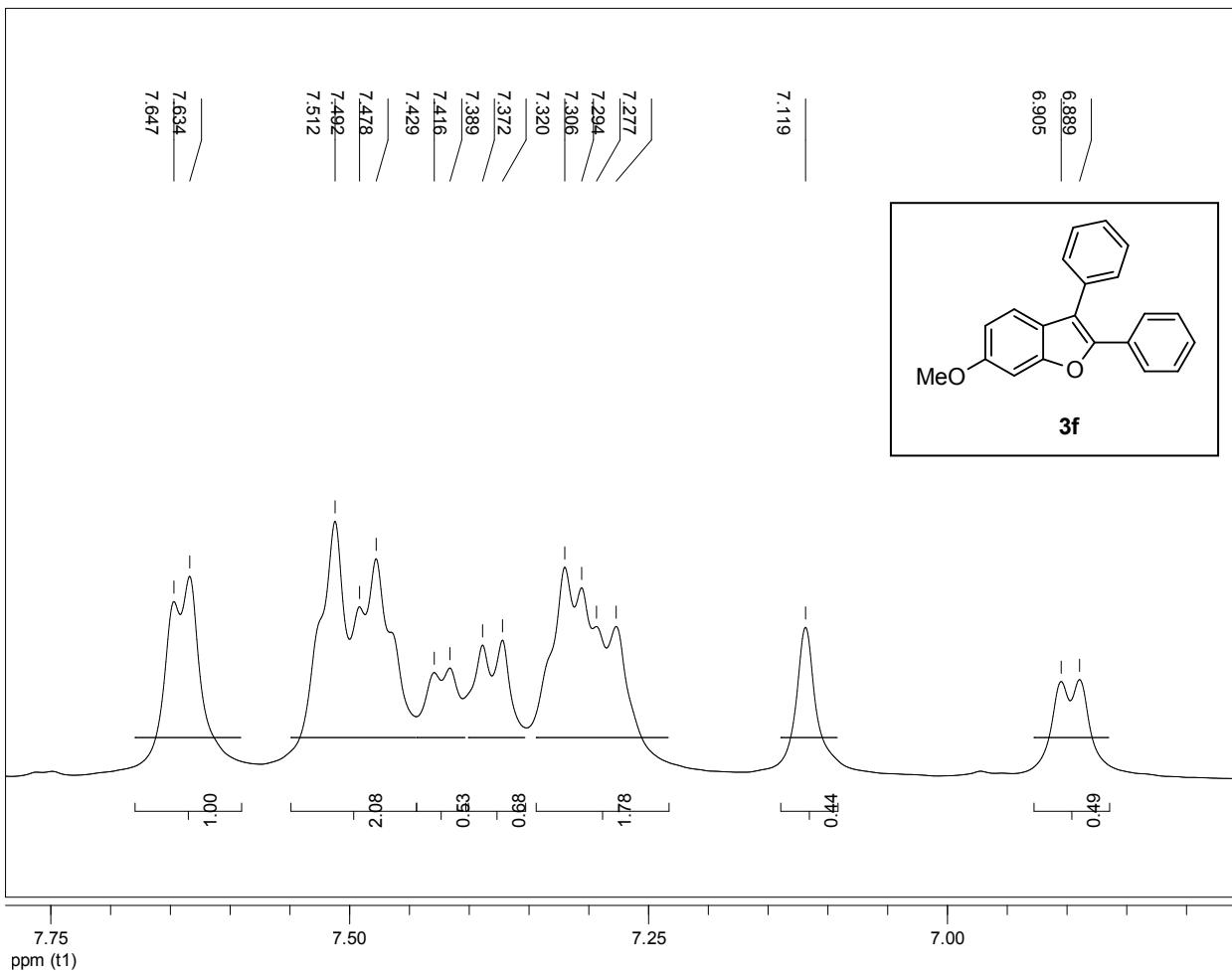




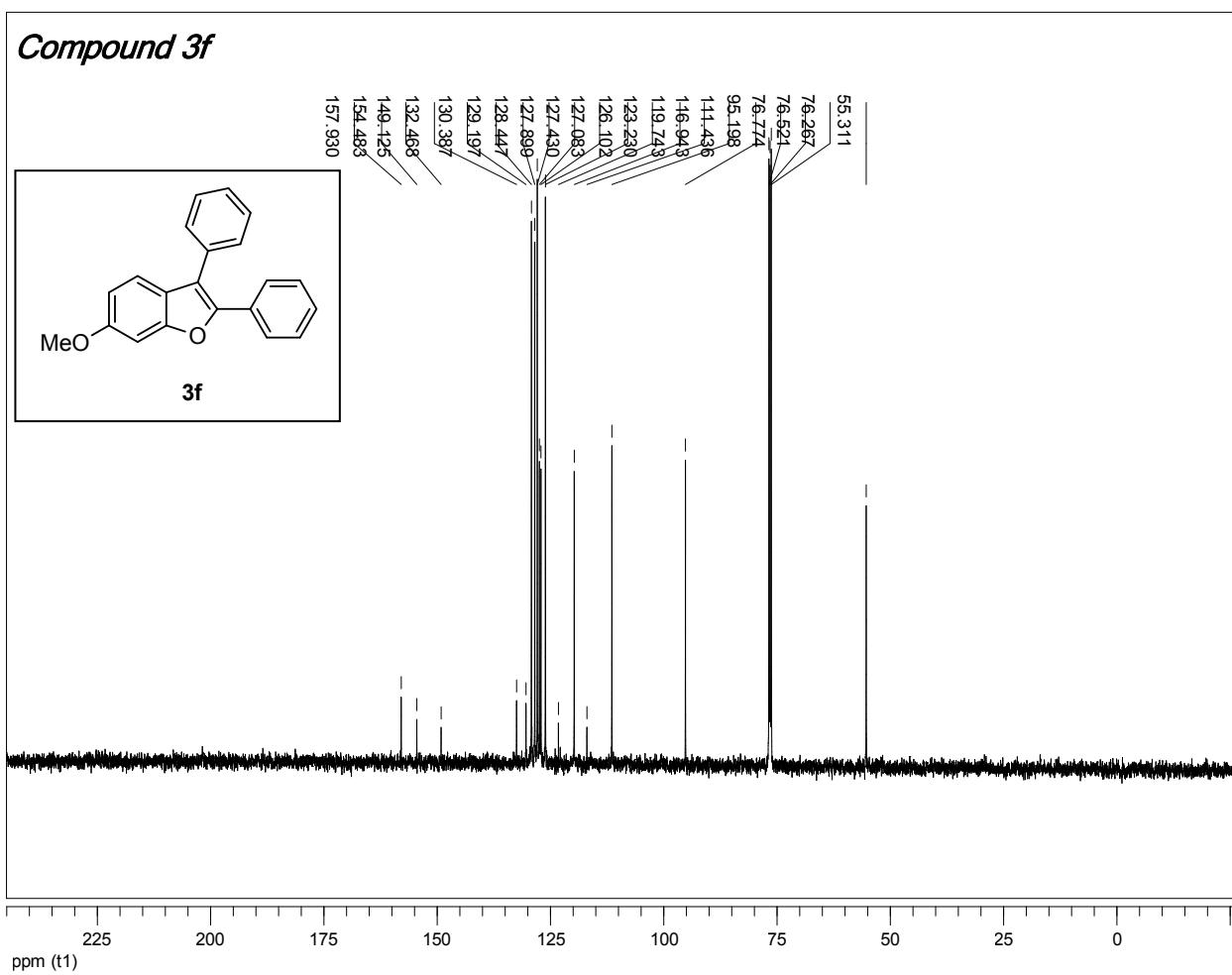
*Compound 3e*



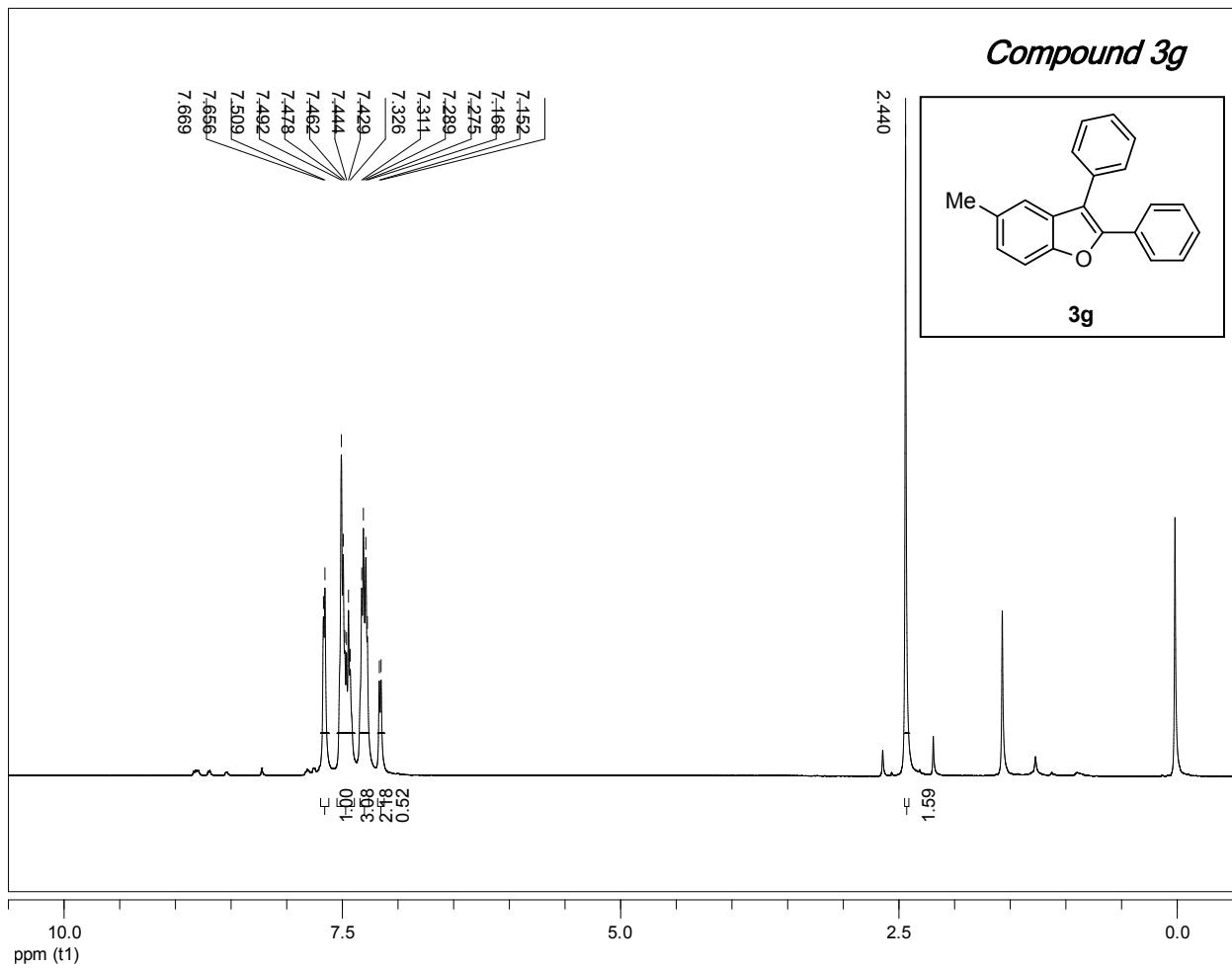


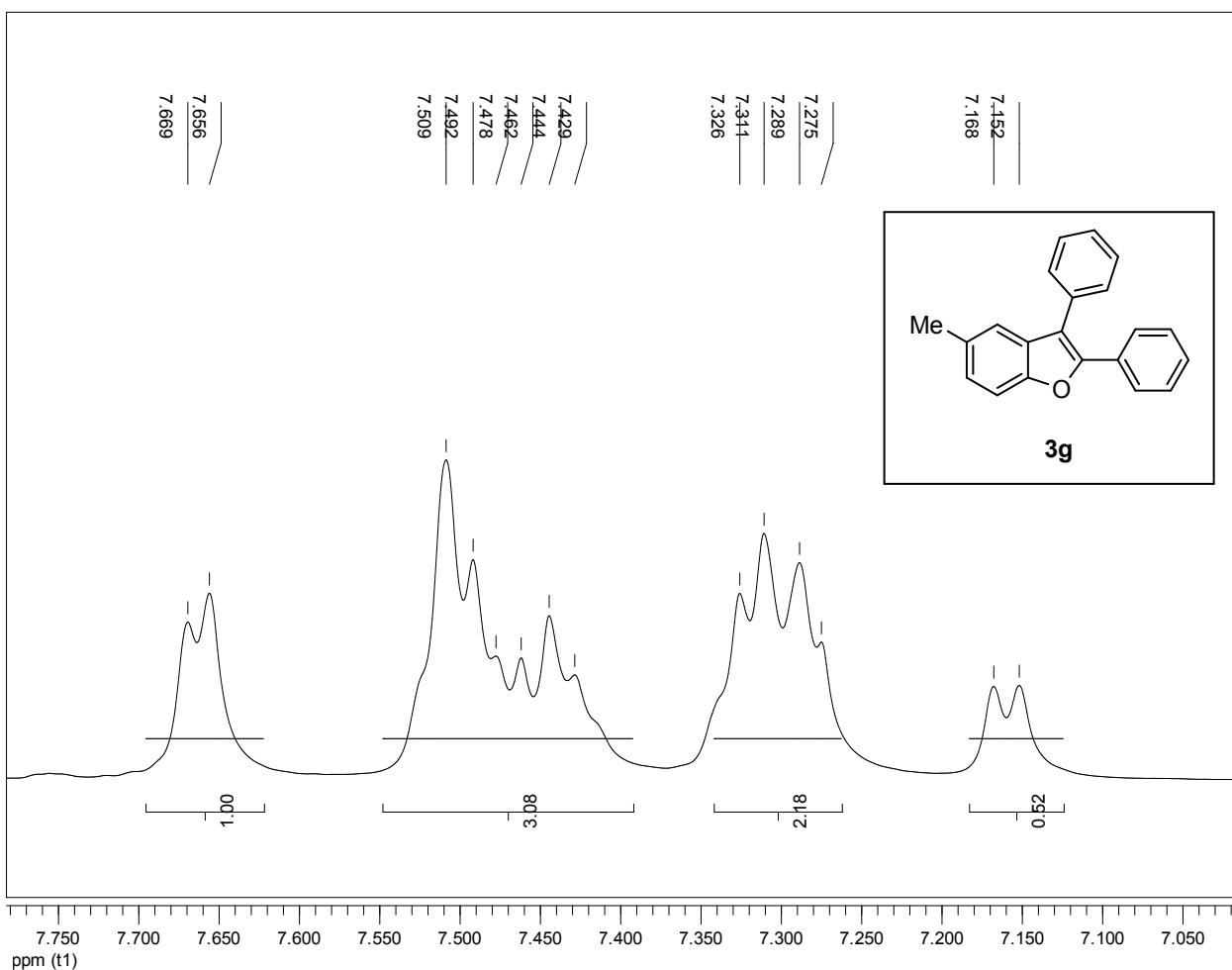


*Compound 3f*

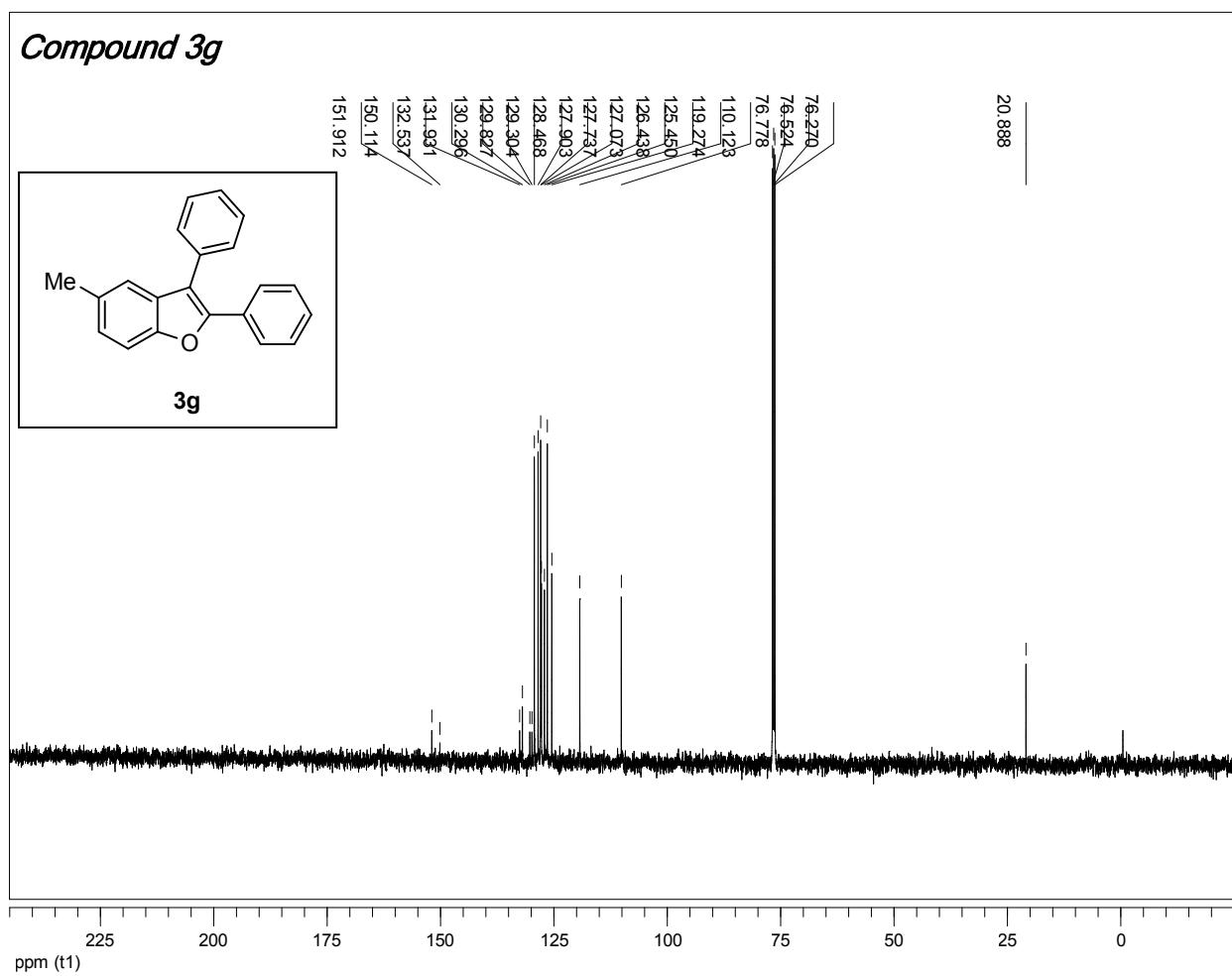


*Compound 3g*

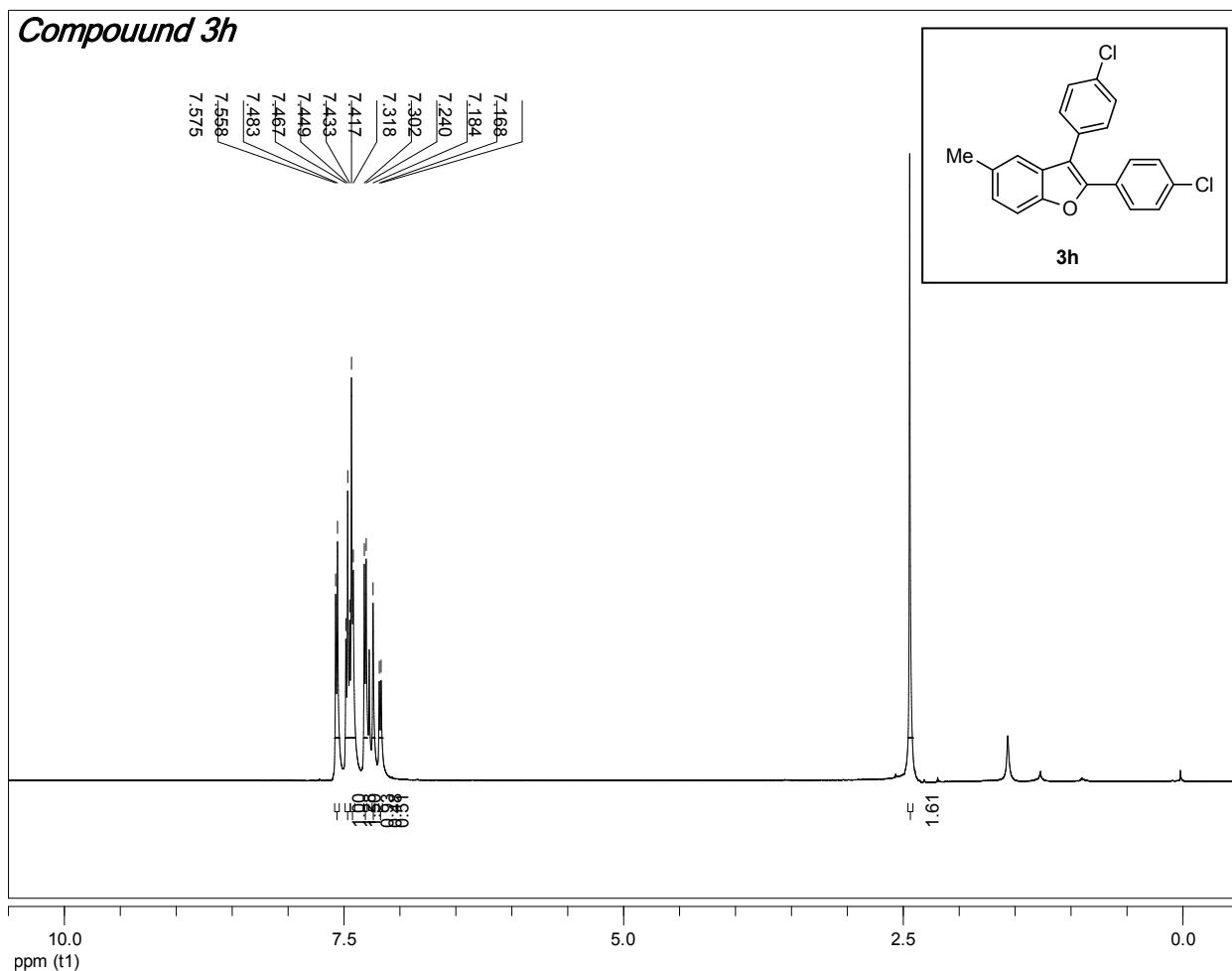


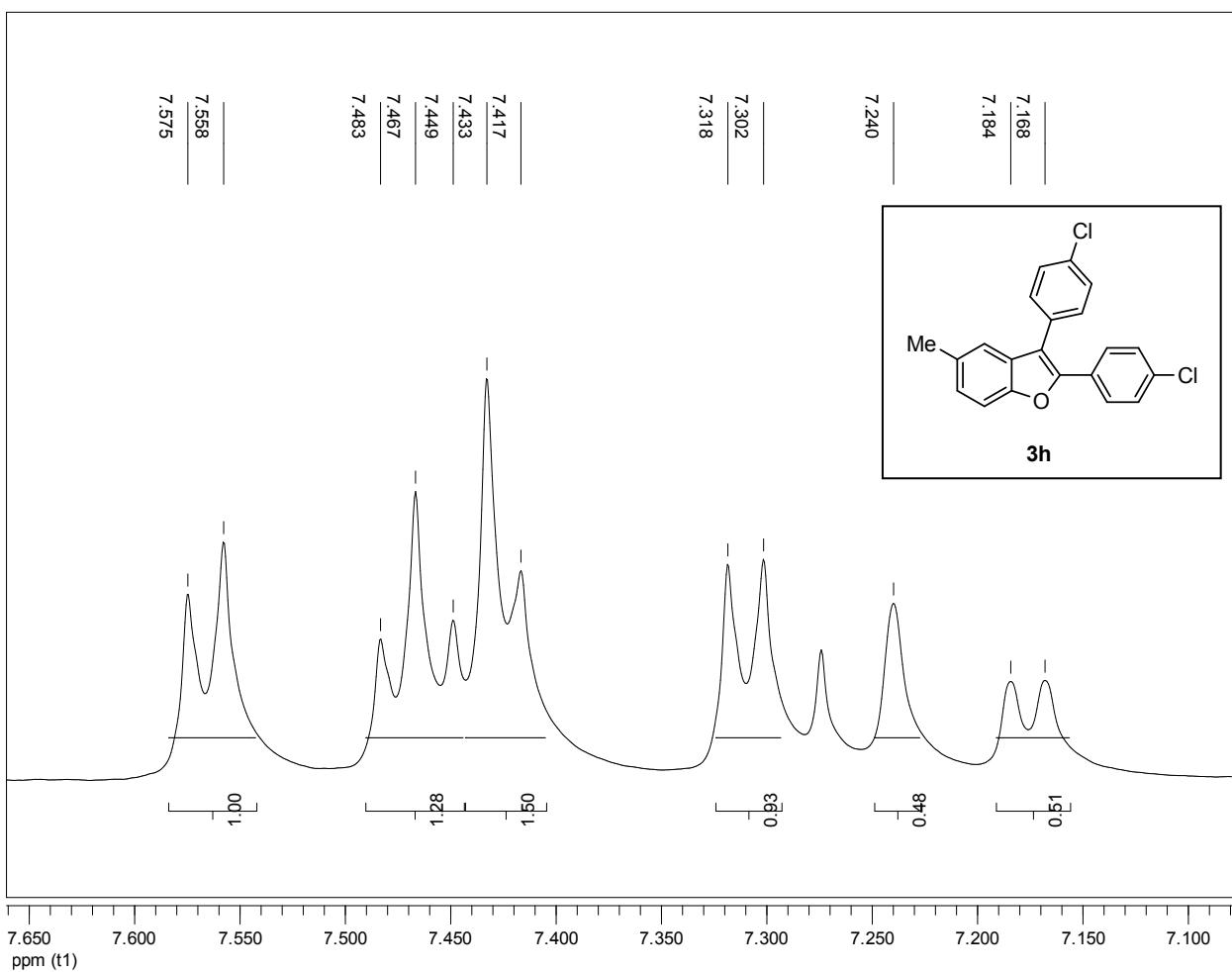


*Compound 3g*

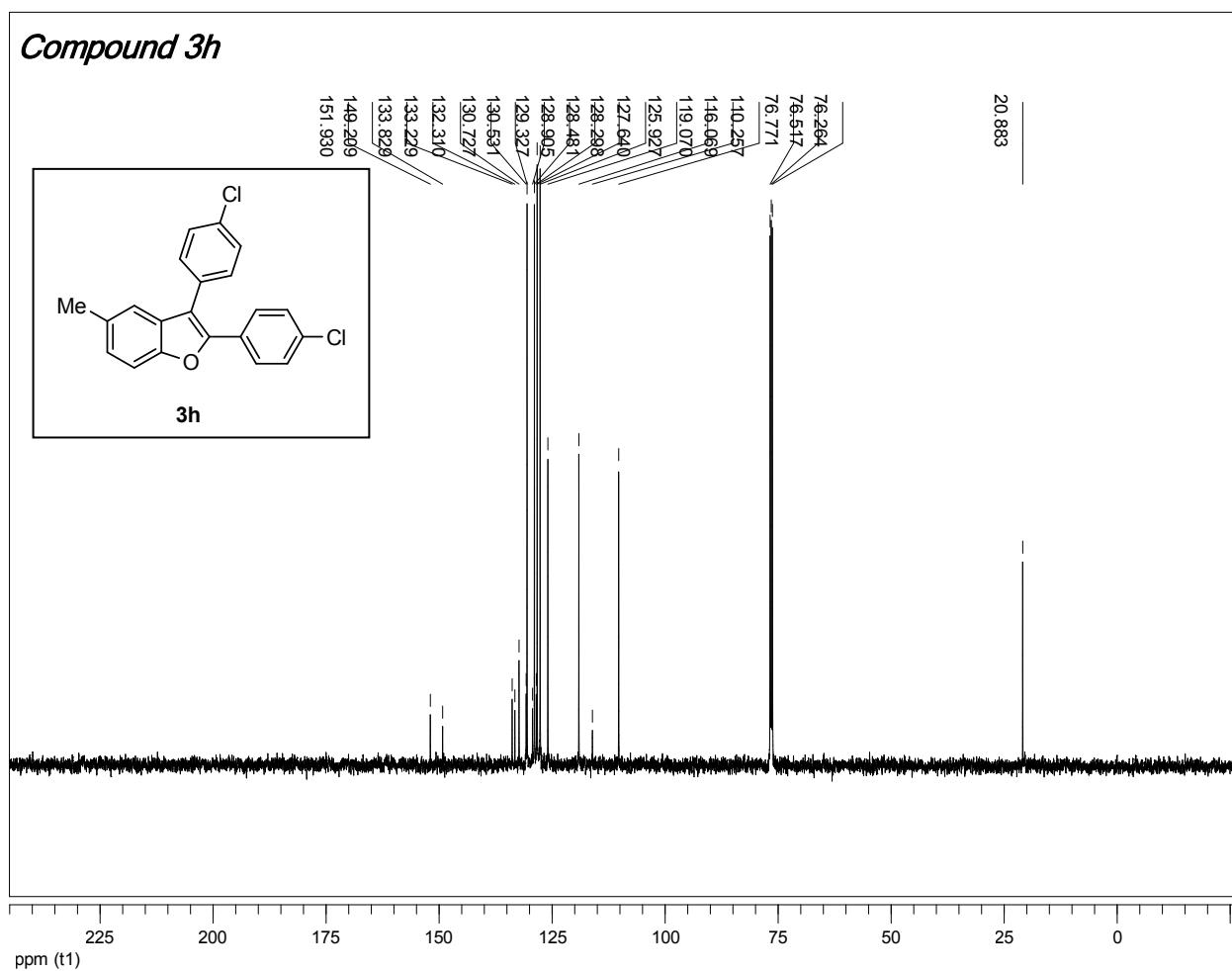


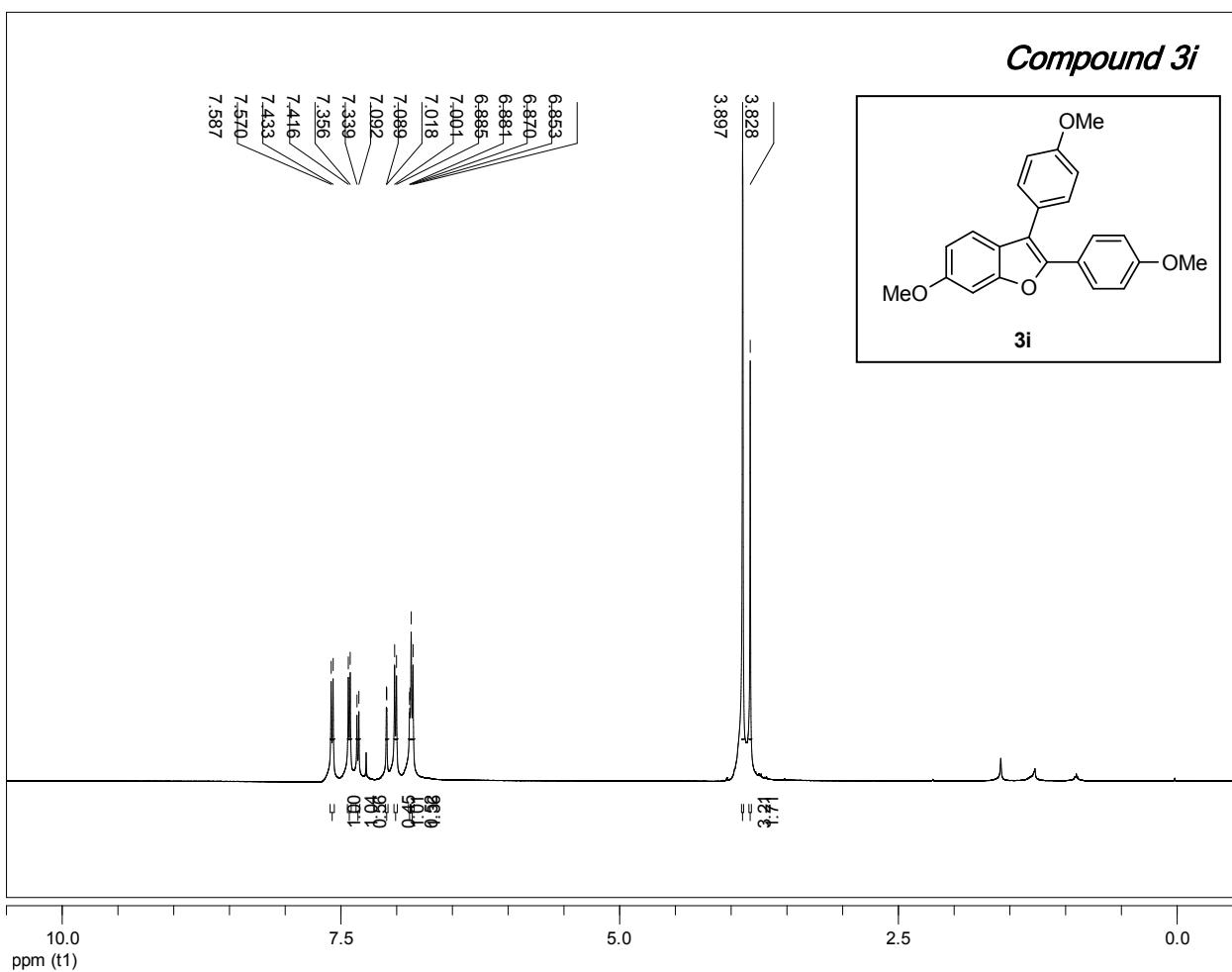
*Compound 3h*

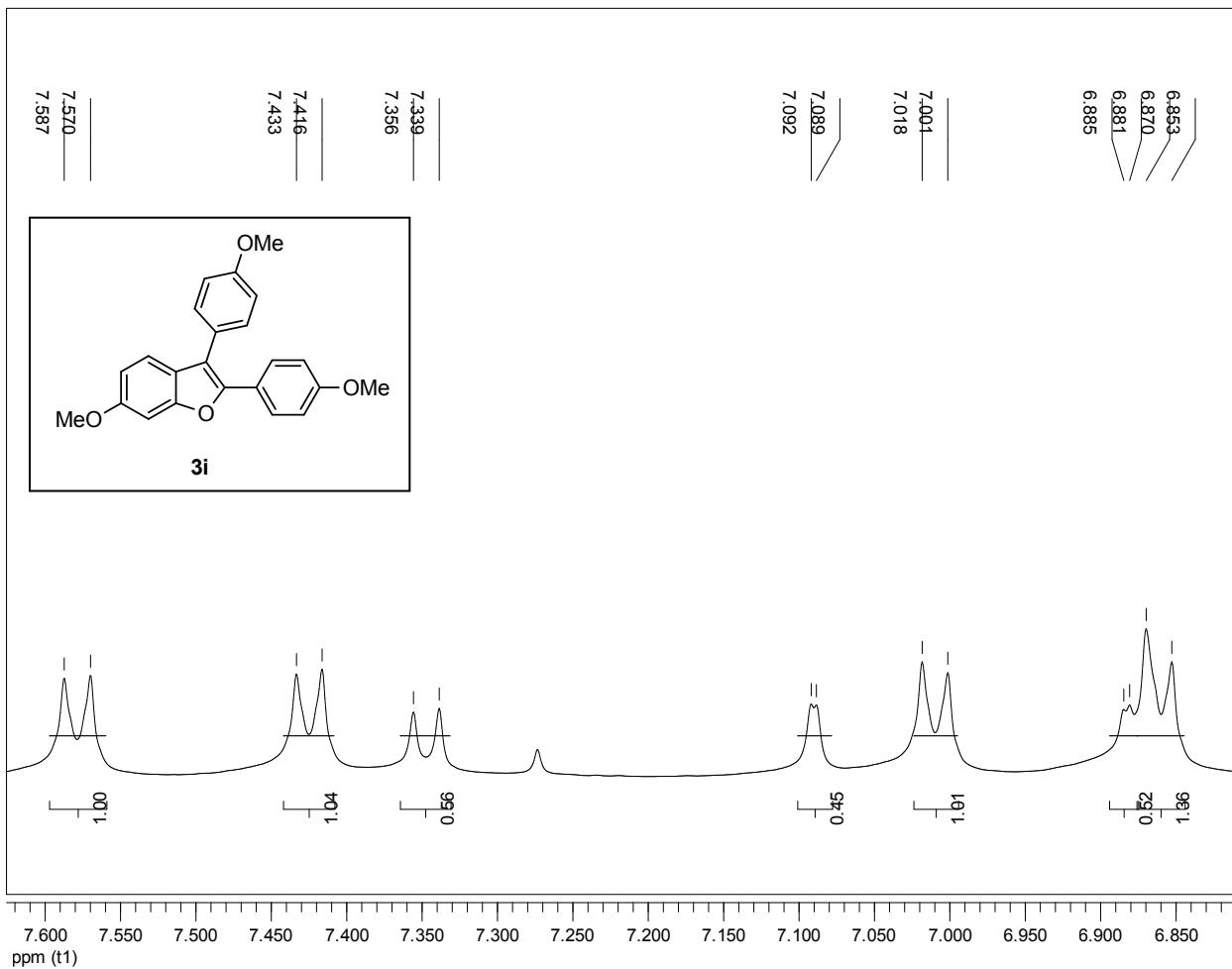




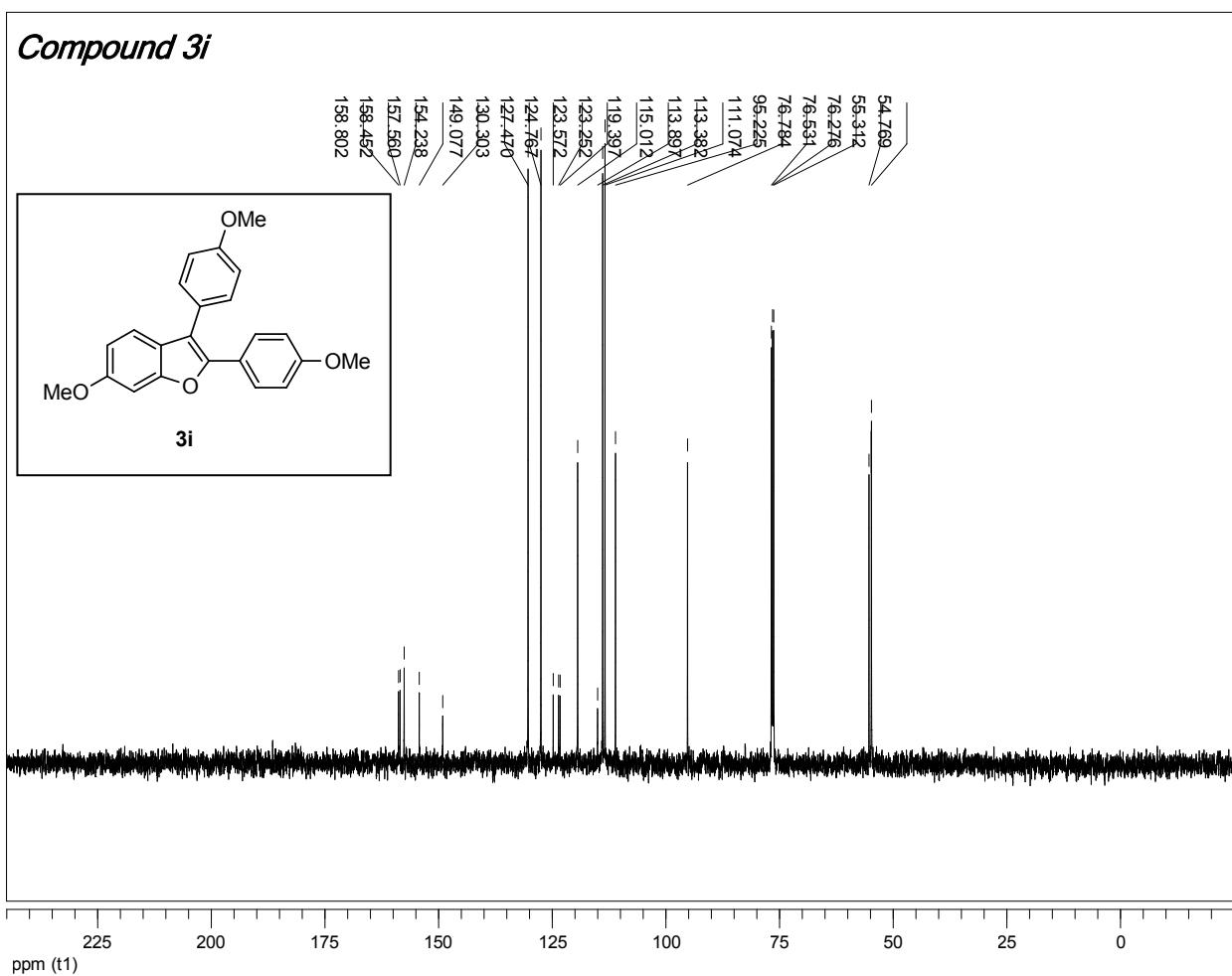
*Compound 3h*



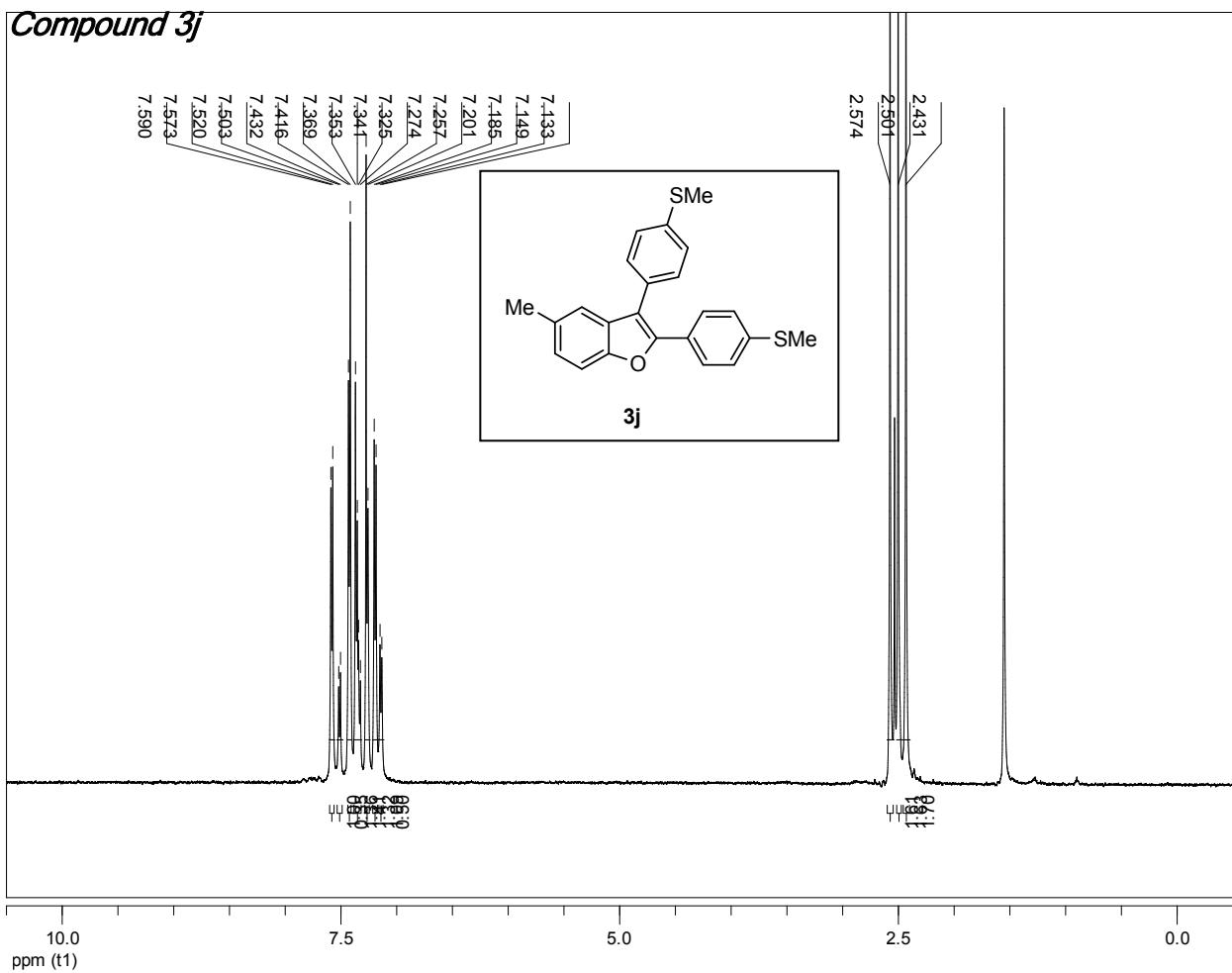


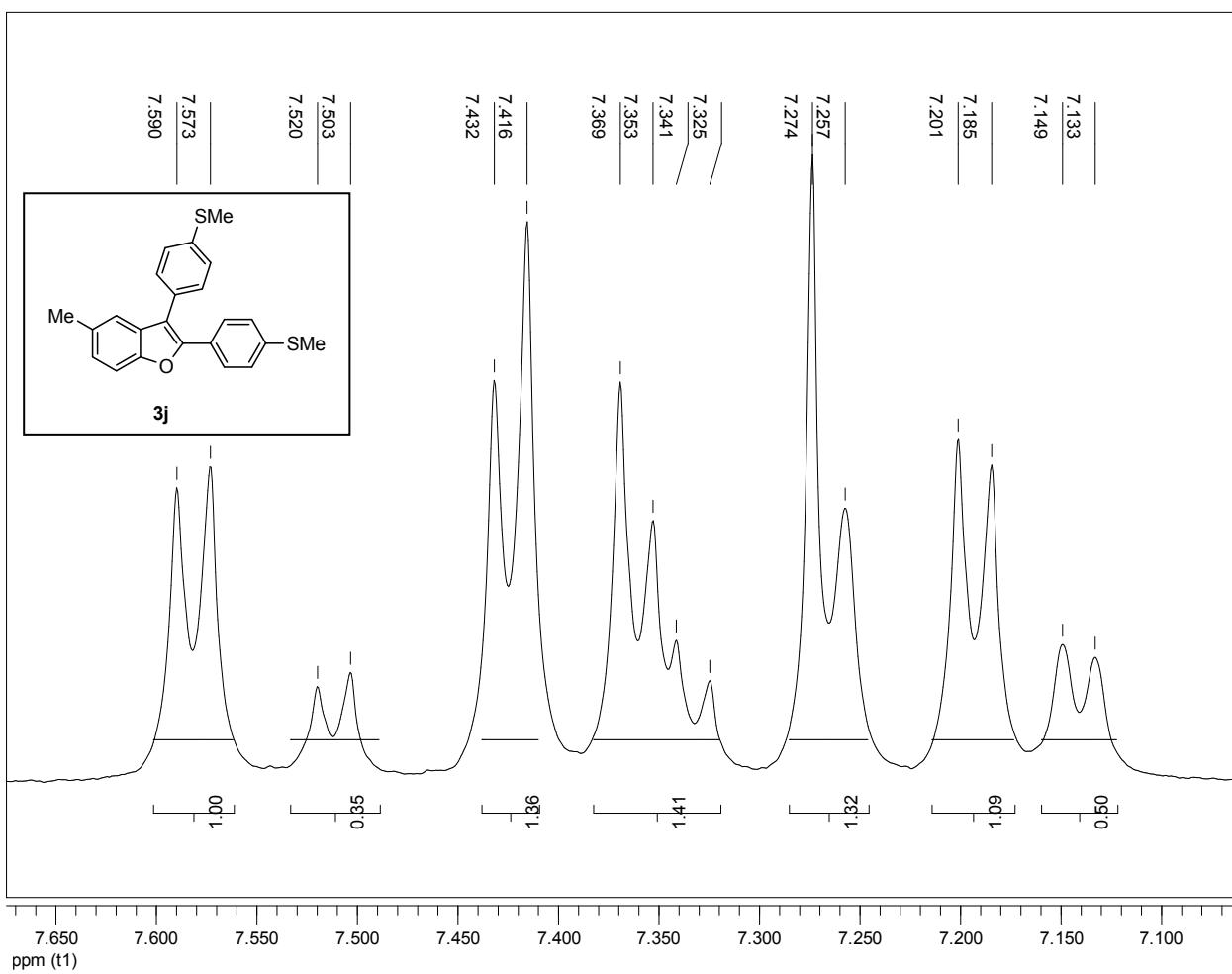


*Compound 3i*

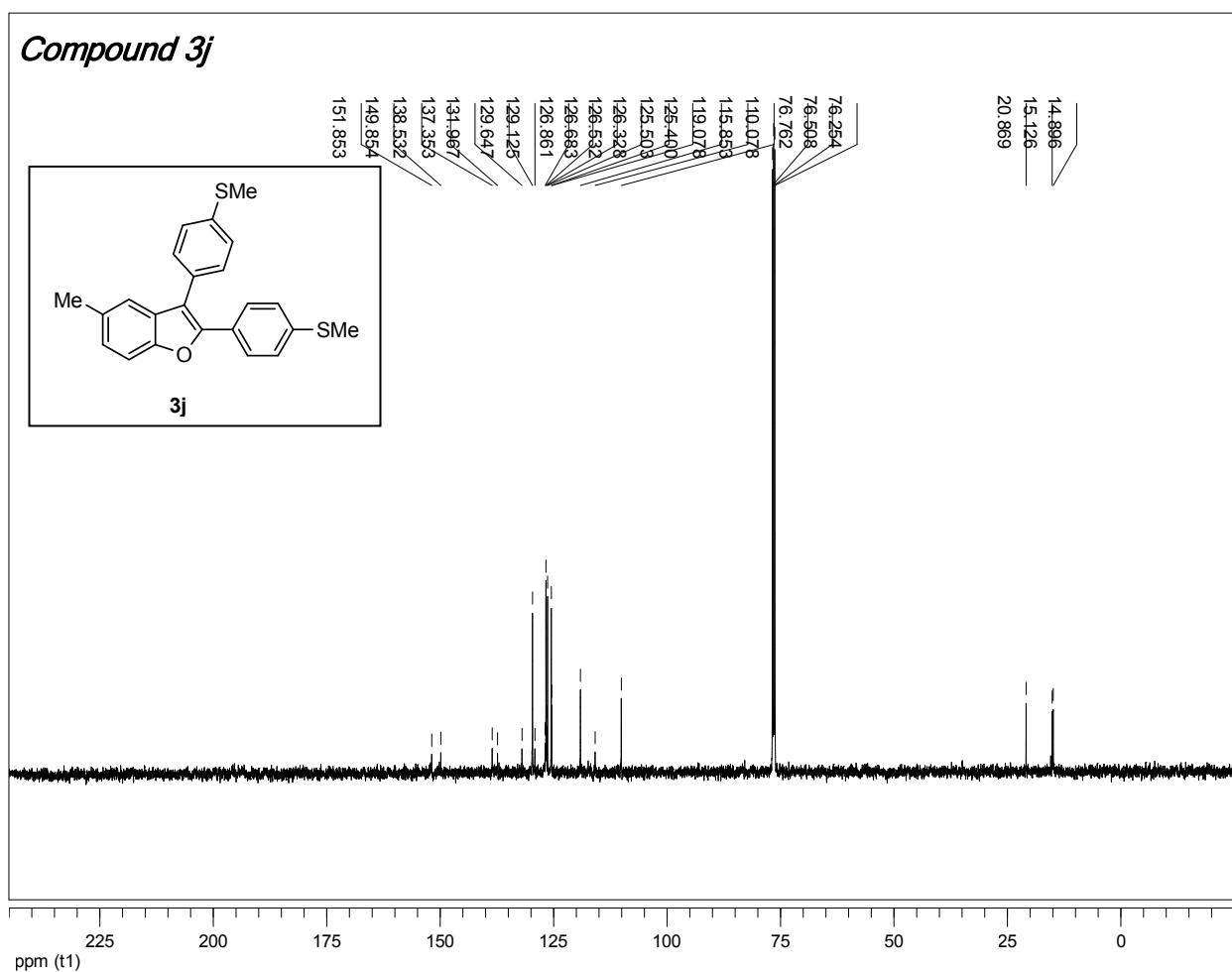


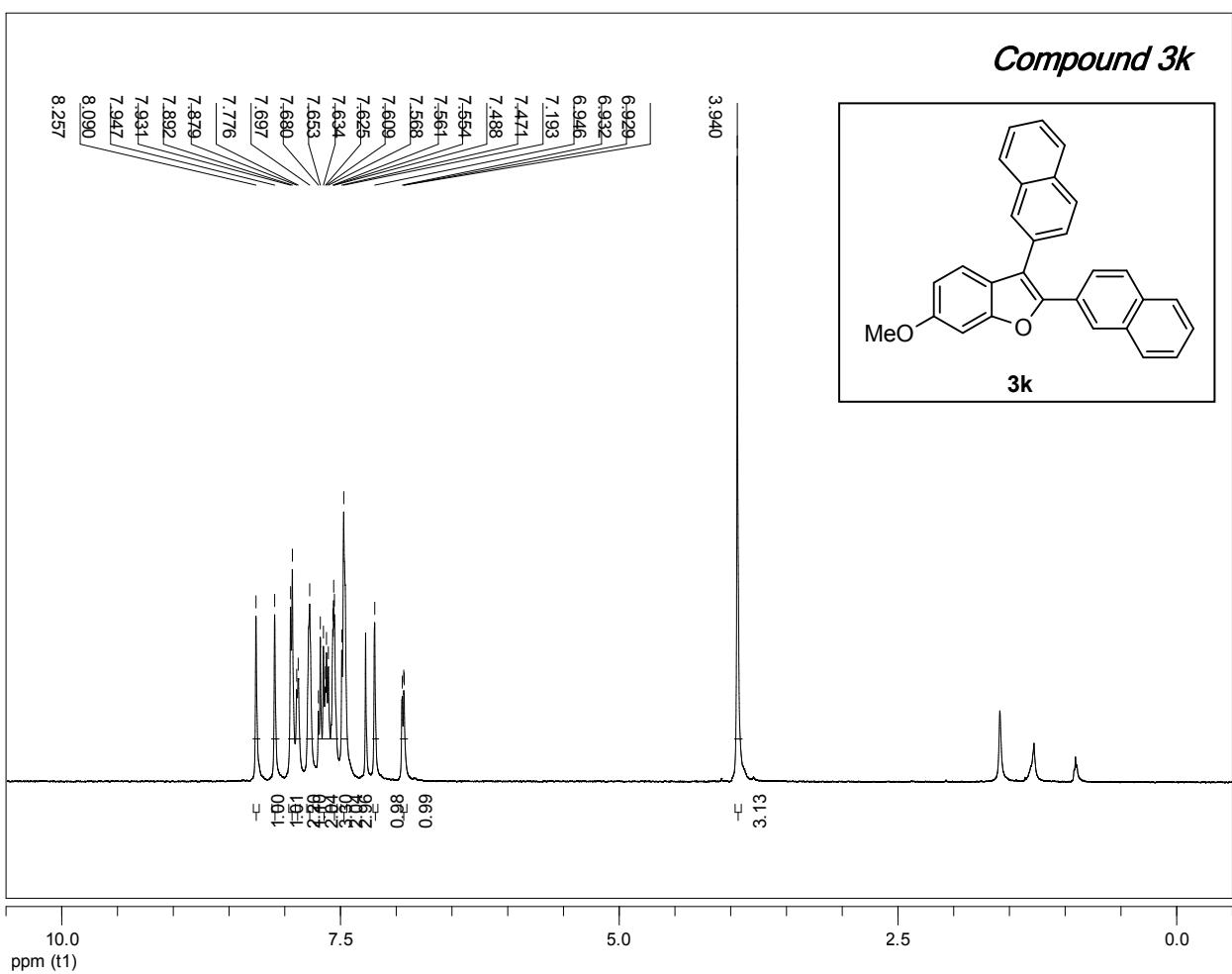
**Compound 3j**

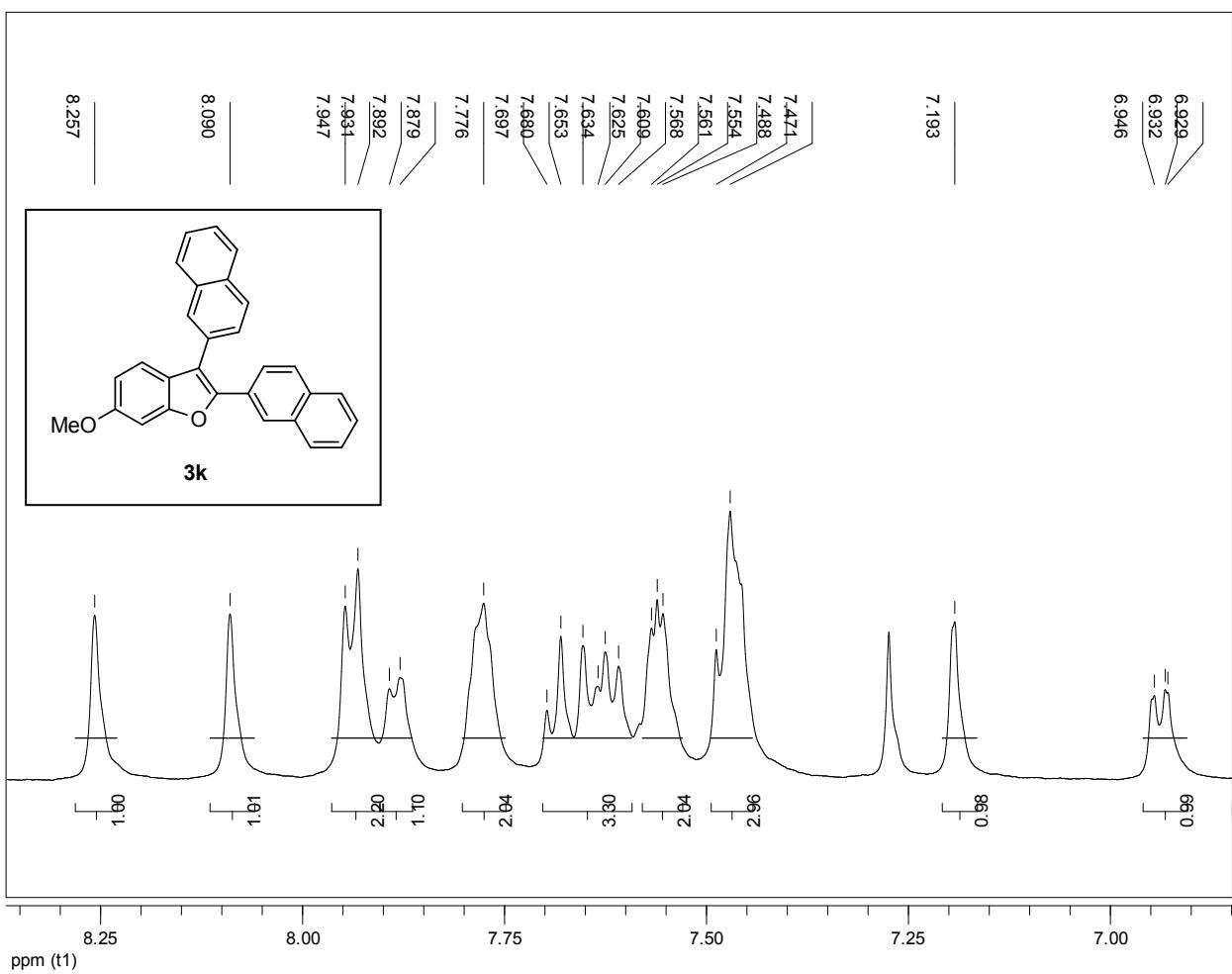




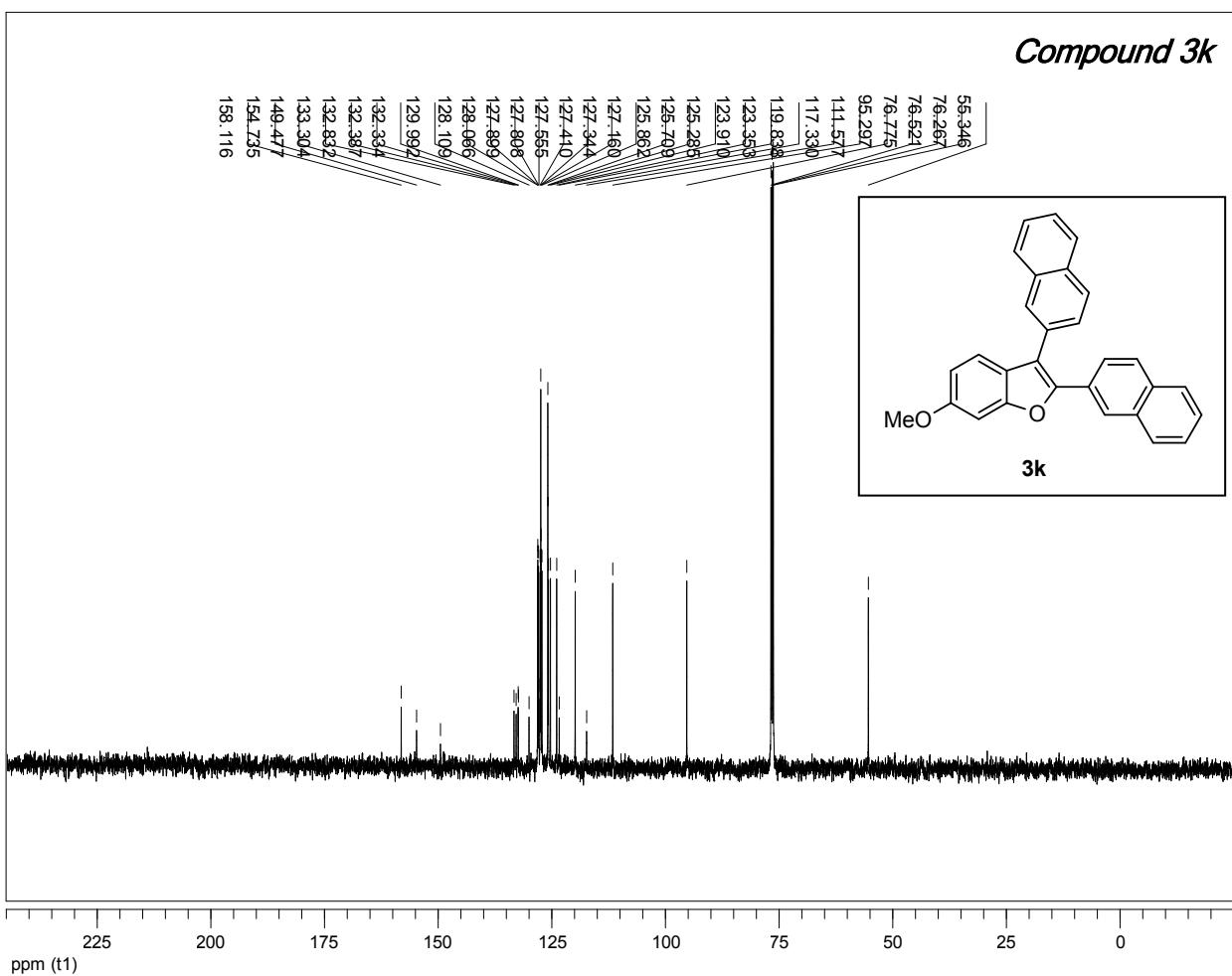
*Compound 3j*



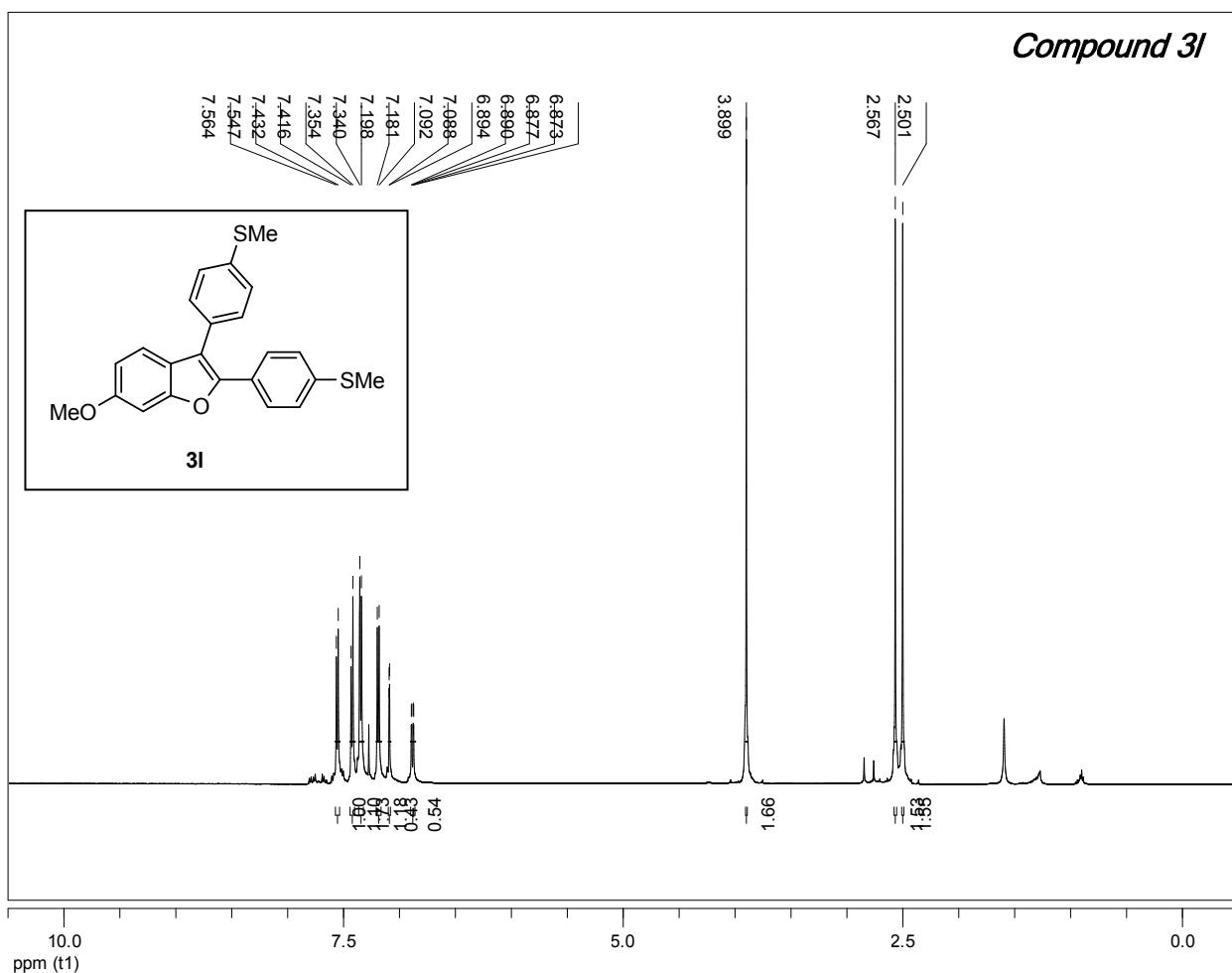


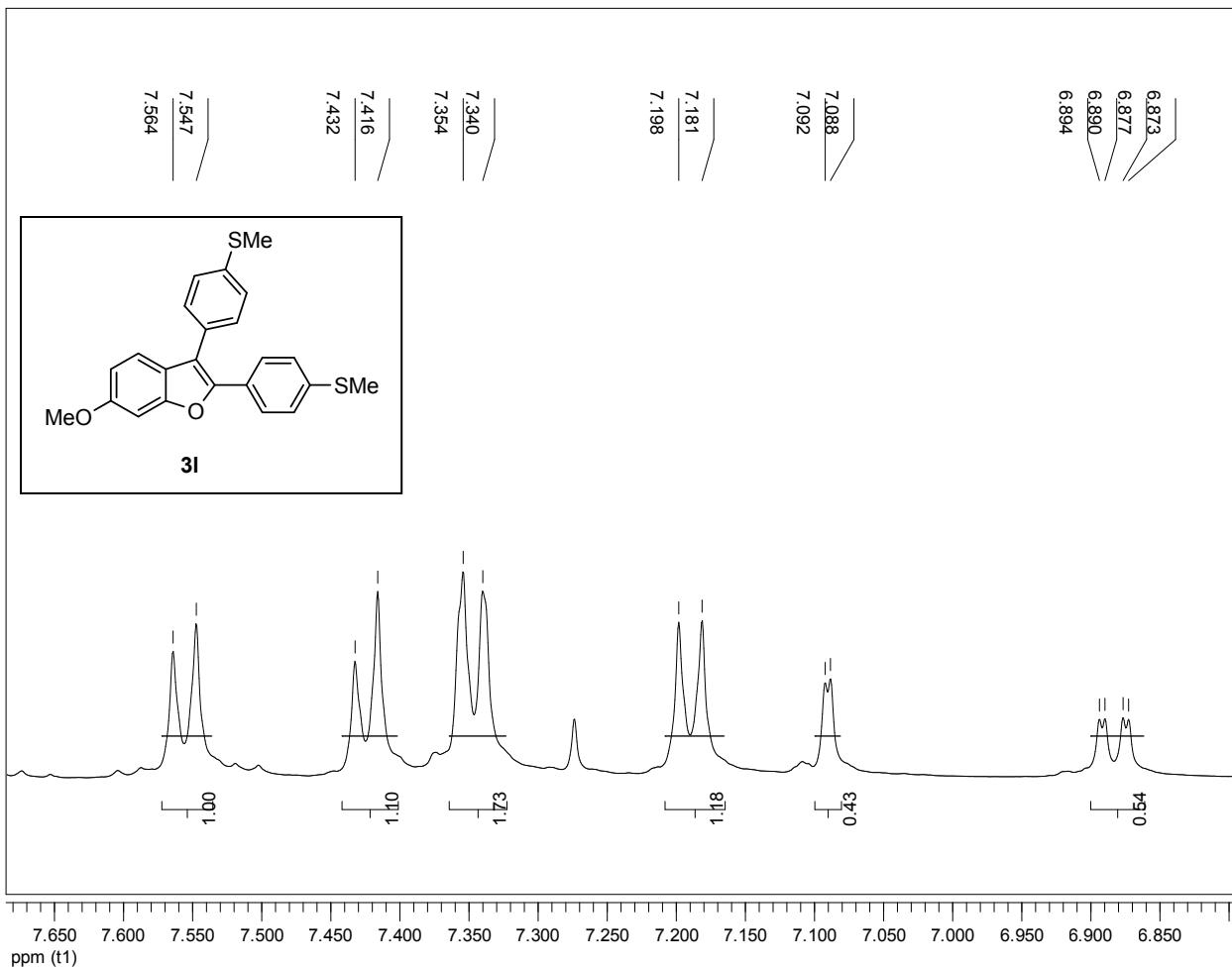


*Compound 3k*

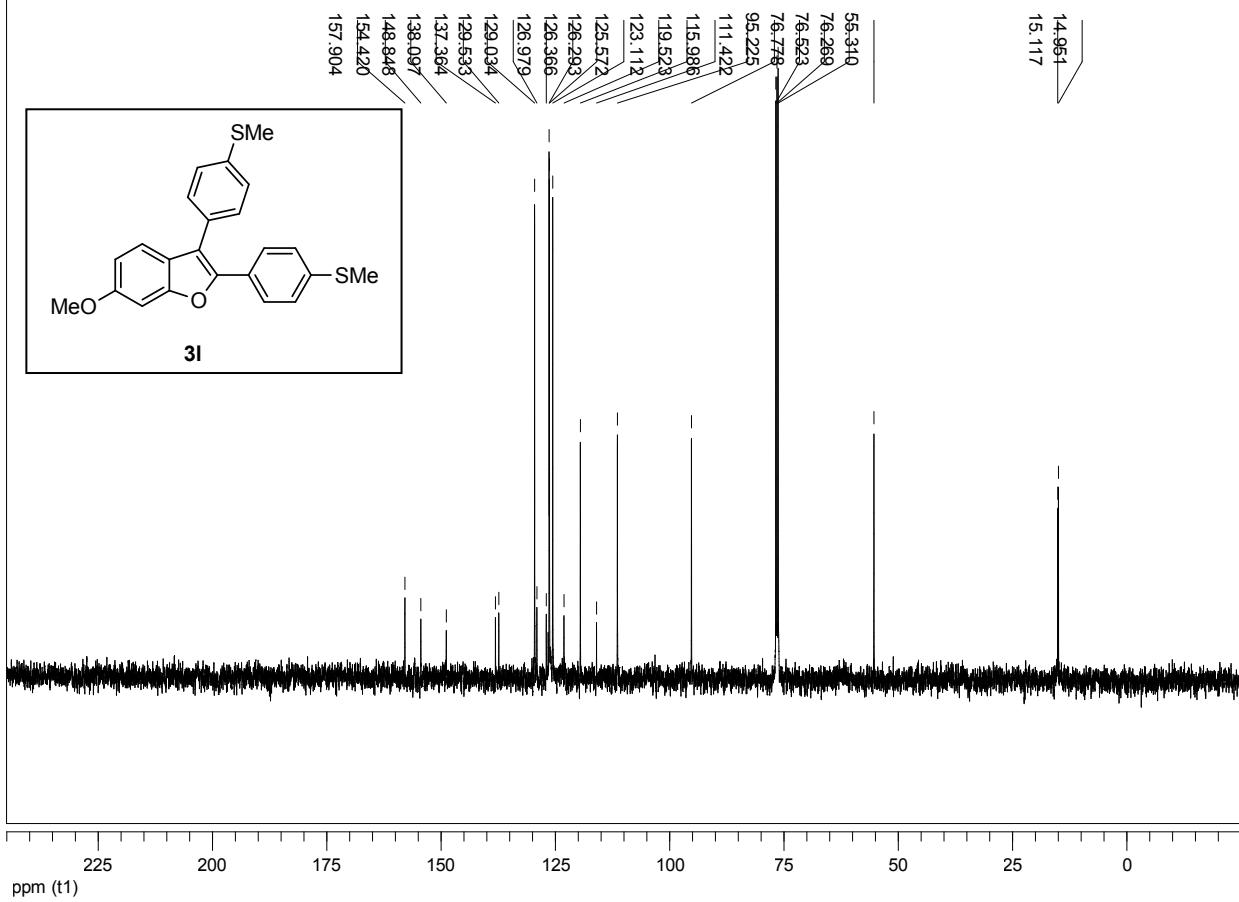


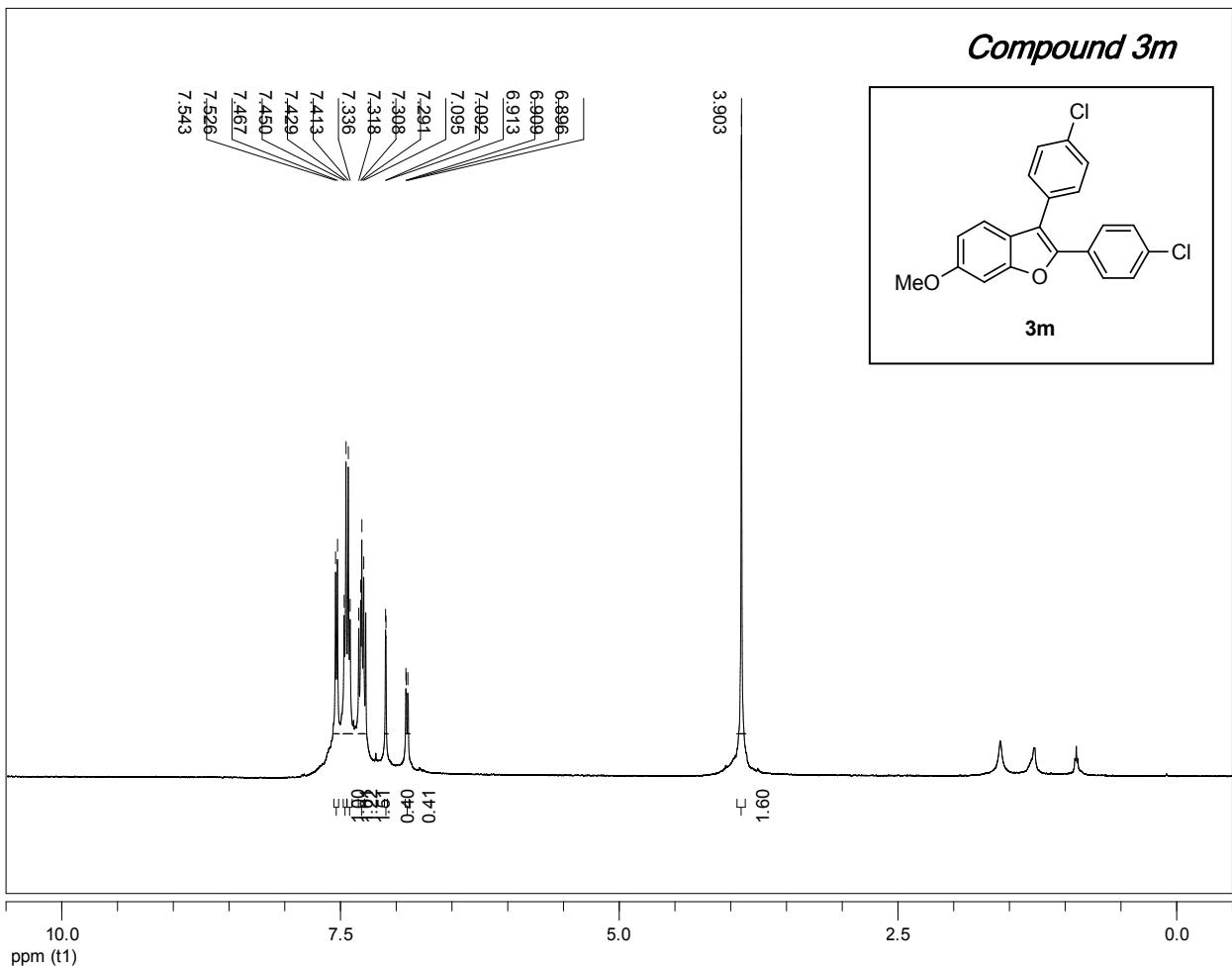
*Compound 3l*

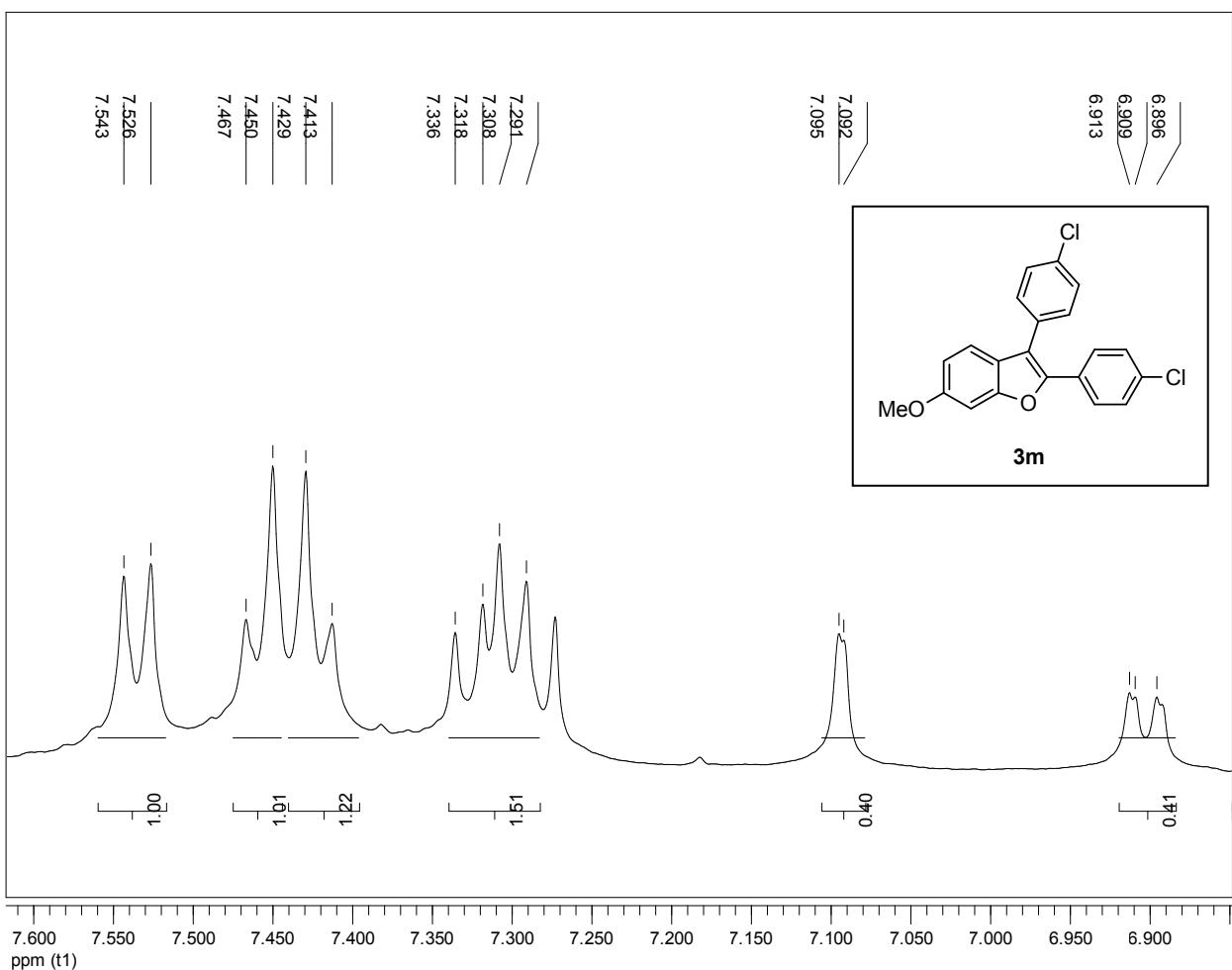




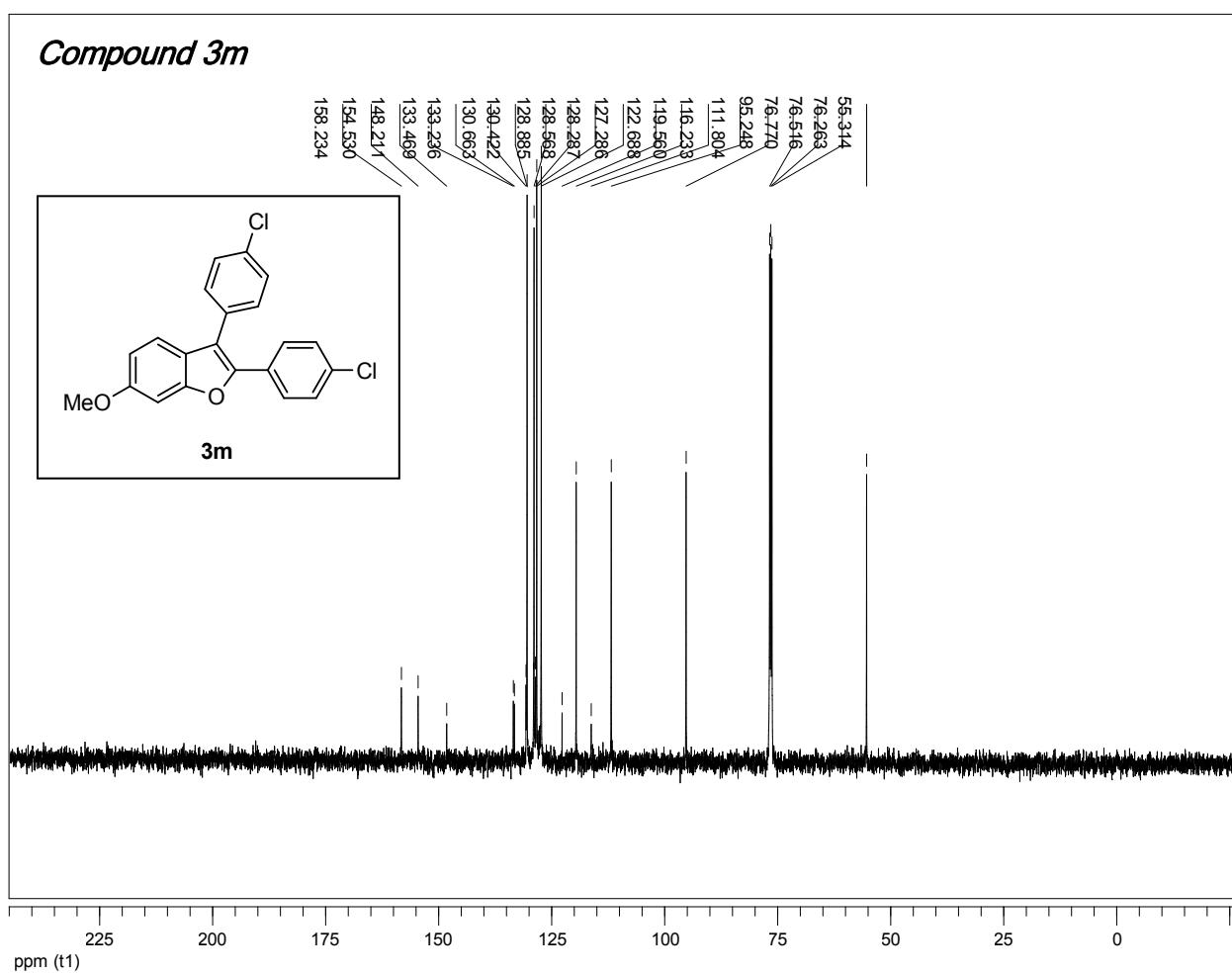
*Compound 3l*



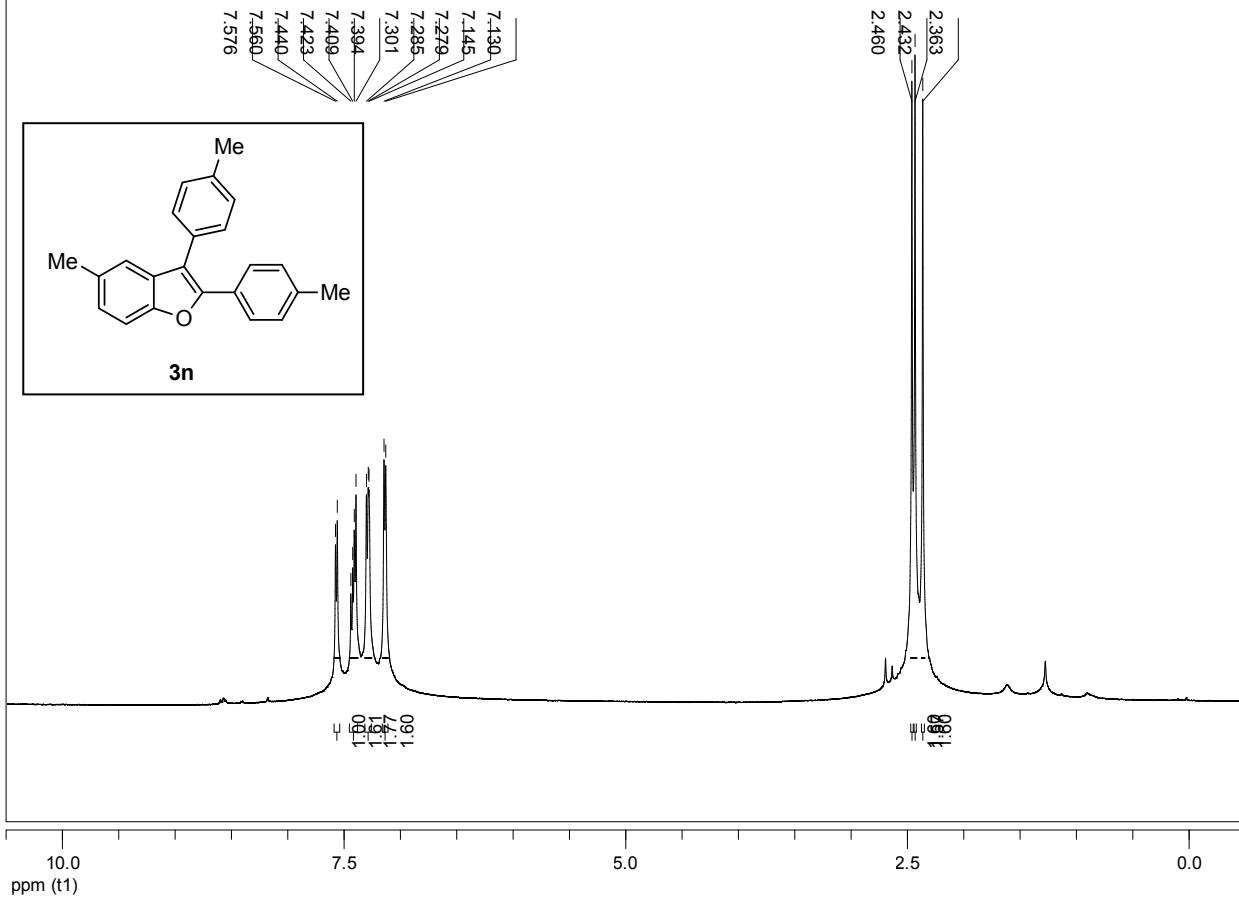


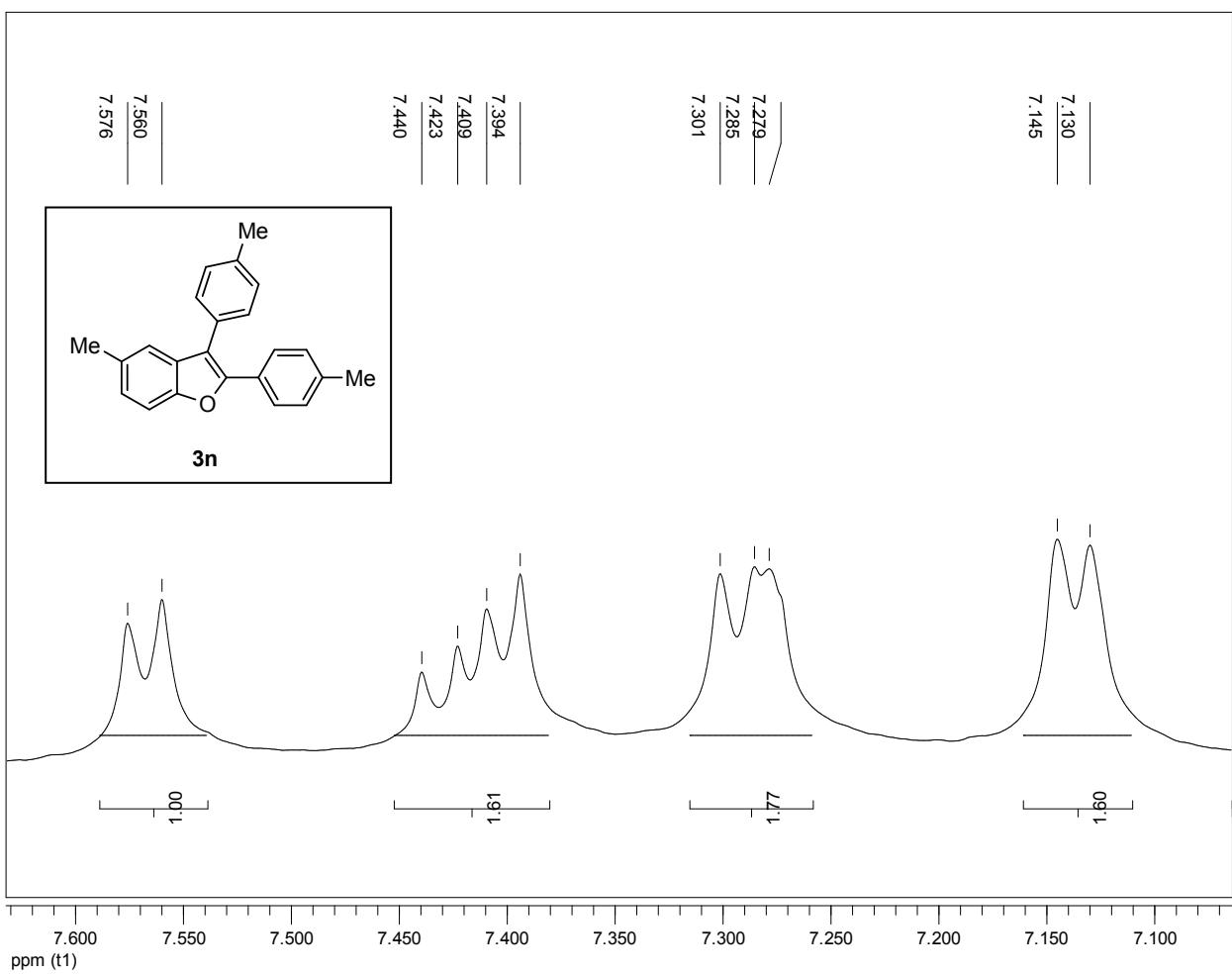


*Compound 3m*

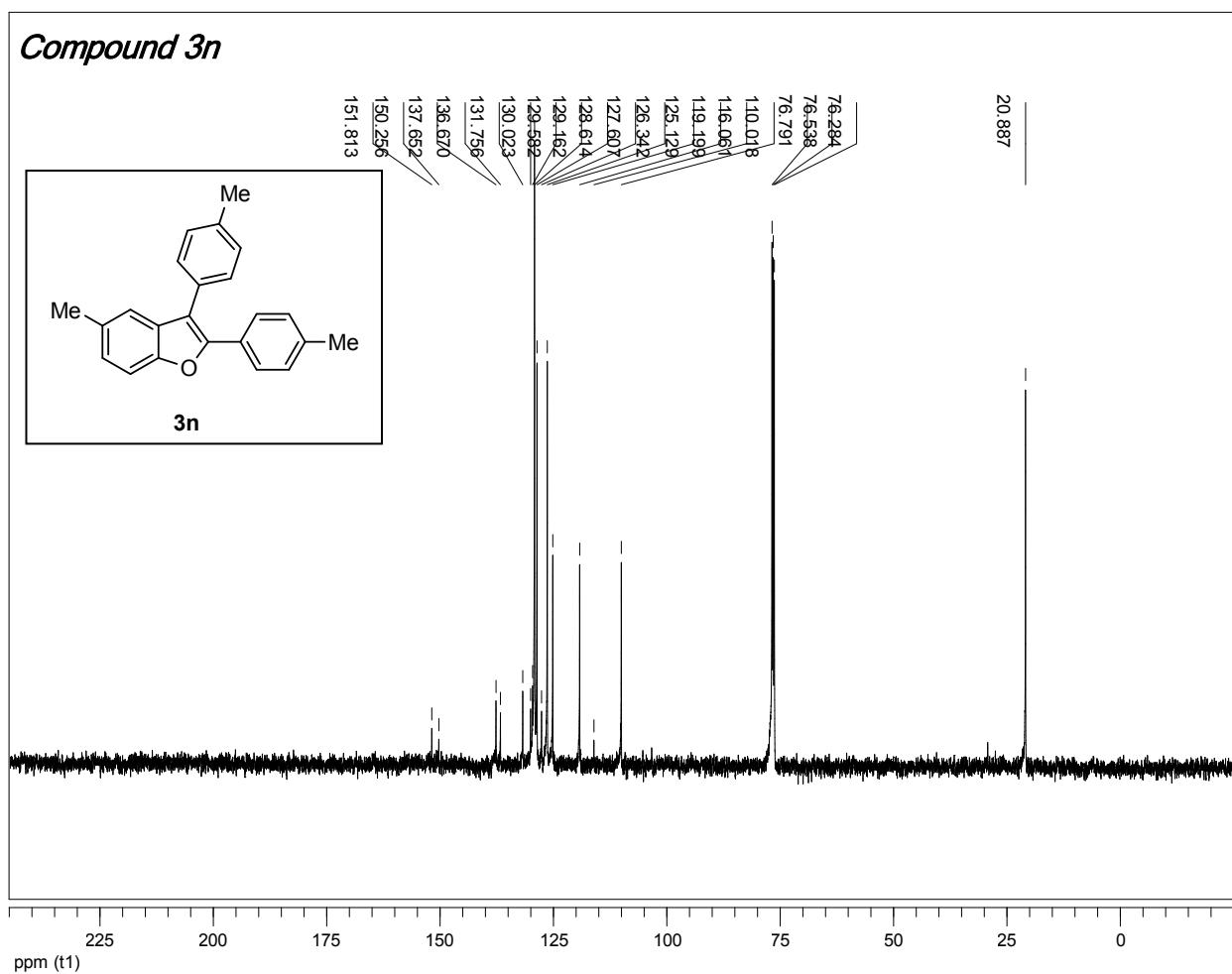


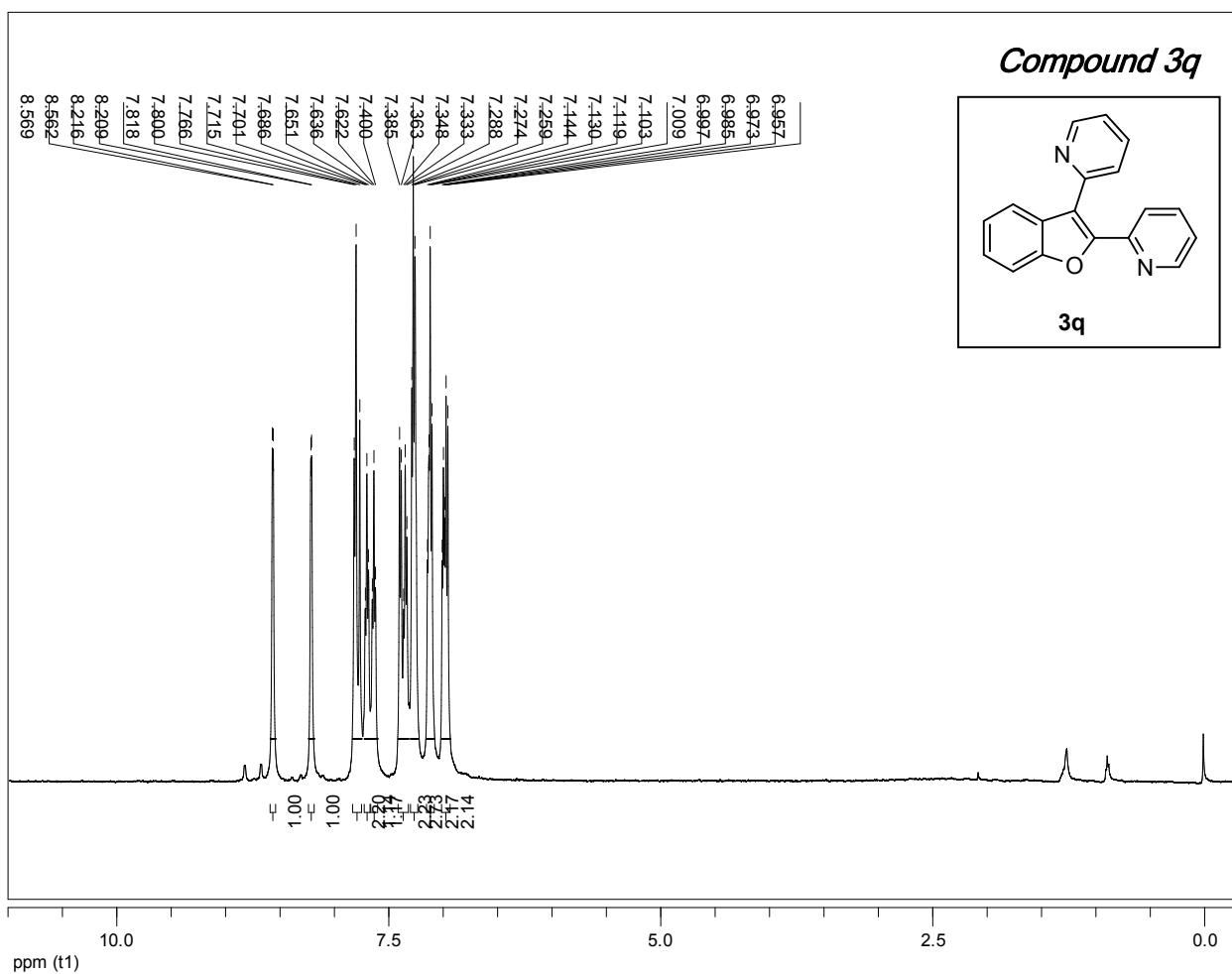
**Compound 3n**

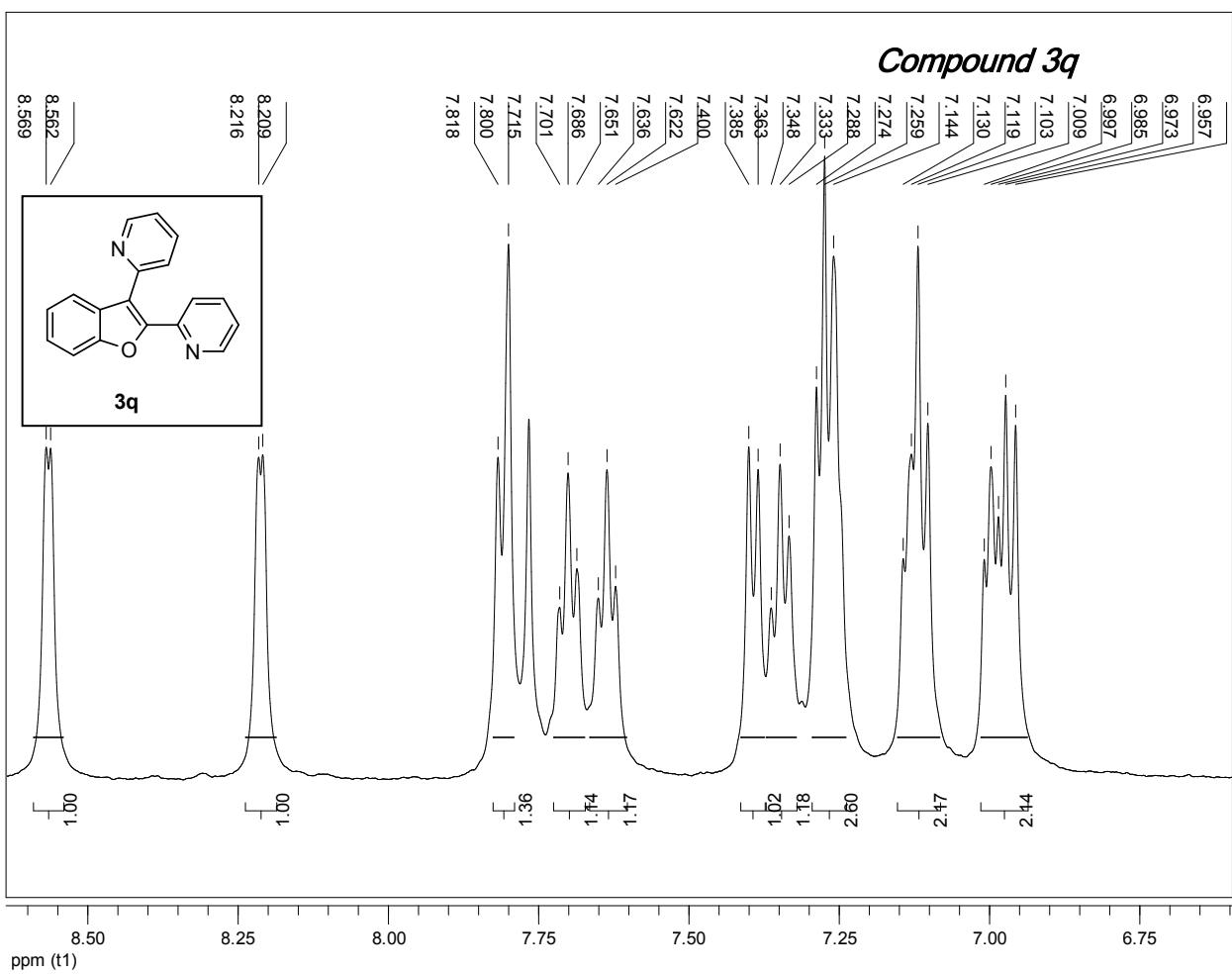




*Compound 3n*







*Compound 3q*

