

## Supporting Information

### Synthesis of chiral cyclobutanes via rhodium/diene-catalyzed asymmetric 1,4-addition: dramatic ligand effect on the diastereoselectivity

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## 1. General.

All reagents were obtained commercially unless otherwise noted. All reactions and manipulations were performed using standard schlenk techniques under predried argon. Air- and moisture-sensitive solvents were distilled from Na immediately before use and were transferred via syringe. Organic solutions were concentrated under reduced pressure (ca. 20 mm Hg) by rotary evaporation. Chromatographic purification of products was accomplished using forced flow chromatography on silica gel 60 (40-63  $\mu$ m). Thin layer chromatography was performed on silica gel 60 F<sub>254</sub> plates (250  $\mu$ m). Visualization of the developed chromatogram was accomplished by fluorescence quenching and by staining with ethanolic anisaldehyde, aqueous potassium permanganate or aqueous ceric ammonium molybdate (CAM) solution. All chiral ligands were purchased from commercial sources or prepared according to the literature procedures<sup>1</sup>. All aryl boronic acid were purchased from commercial sources. Nuclear Magnetic Resonance (NMR) spectras were acquired on a Varian Mercury 400 operating at 400, 100 and 376 MHz for <sup>1</sup>H, <sup>13</sup>C, and <sup>19</sup>F, respectively. Chemical shifts are reported in  $\delta$  ppm referenced to an internal SiMe<sub>4</sub> standard for <sup>1</sup>H NMR, chloroform-d ( $\delta$  77.16) for <sup>13</sup>C NMR. <sup>19</sup>F NMR spectras are referenced internally using  $\alpha,\alpha,\alpha$ -trifluorotoluene as a standard (-63.72 ppm). Datas for <sup>1</sup>H NMR are recorded as follows: chemical shift ( $\delta$ , ppm), multiplicity (s, singlet; d, doublet; t, triplet; q, quartet; m, multiplet; br s, broad), integration and coupling constant (Hz). Datas for <sup>13</sup>C NMR and <sup>19</sup>F NMR are reported in terms of chemical shift ( $\delta$ , ppm). Optical rotations were measured on a JASCOP-1030 polarimeter.

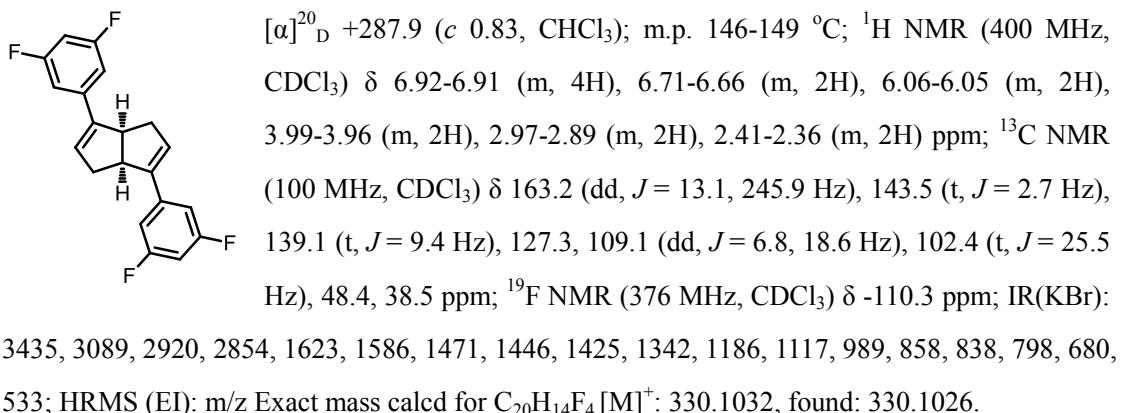
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1 a) Wang, Z.-Q.; Feng, C.-G.; Xu, M.-H.; Lin, G.-Q. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **2007**, *129*, 5336-5337. b) Feng, C.-G.; Wang, Z.-Q.; Tian, P.; Xu, M.-H.; Lin, G.-Q. *Chem. Asian J.* **2008**, *3*, 1511-1516. c) Zhang, S.-S.; Wang, Z.-Q.; Xu, M.-H.; Lin, G.-Q. *Org. Lett.* **2010**, *12*, 5546-5549.

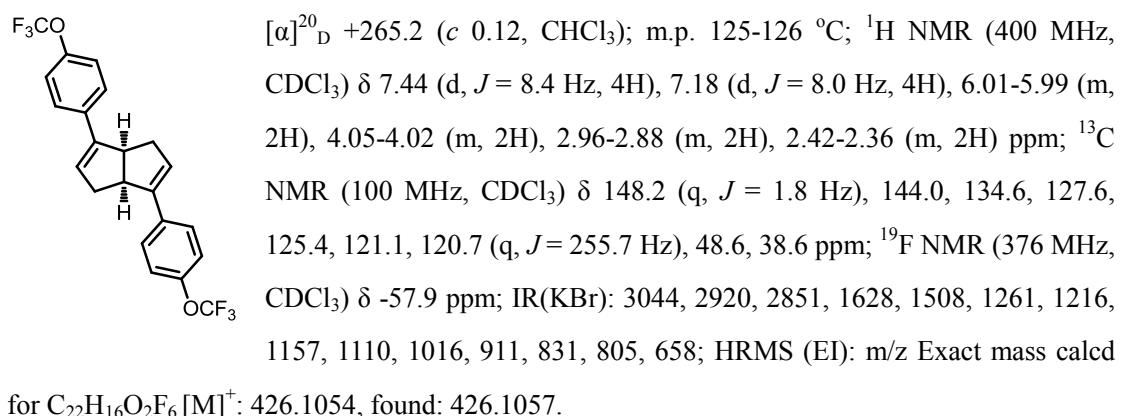
## 2. Preparation of diene ligands

All diene-ligands were prepared according to the literature procedures<sup>1</sup>

### (3a*S*,6a*S*)-3,6-bis(3,5-difluorophenyl)-1,3a,4,6a-tetrahydropentalene L7

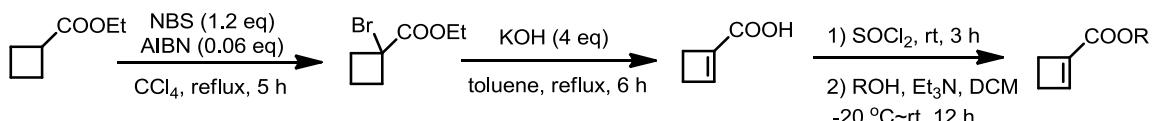


### (3a*S*,6a*S*)-3,6-bis(4-(trifluoromethoxy)phenyl)-1,3a,4,6a-tetrahydropentalene L8



## 3. Preparation of cyclobut-1-enecarboxylic esters 1a-1h

Cyclobut-1-enecarboxylate esters were prepared from corresponding alcohols or phenols and cyclobut-1-enecarboxylic acid according to the procedures reported in the literatures.<sup>2</sup>



### Ethyl 1-bromocyclobutanecarboxylate<sup>2</sup>

93% yield. Purified by chromatography on silica gel using 40/1 hexanes/ethyl acetate as eluent (colorless liquid): TLC R<sub>f</sub> = 0.35 (40% DCM/petroleum ether); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 4.19 (q, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 2.88-2.81 (m, 2H), 2.59-2.52 (m, 2H),

2 a) Patent: US5849757 A1, 1998. b) Song, A.; Parker, K. A.; Sampson, N. S. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **2009**, 131, 3444-3445.

2.20-2.10 (m, 1H), 1.86-1.76 (m, 1H), 1.25 (t,  $J = 7.2$  Hz, 3H) ppm; LRMS (EI): m/z 207.

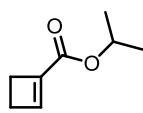
**Cyclobut-1-enecarboxylic acid<sup>2</sup>**

 71% yield. Purified by chromatography on silica gel using 20/1 DCM/MeOH as eluent (colorless liquid): TLC  $R_f = 0.30$  (5% DCM/MeOH).  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 10.26 (br s, 1H), 6.87 (s, 1H), 2.69 (t,  $J = 2.8$  Hz, 2H), 2.44 (t,  $J = 2.8$  Hz, 2H) ppm; LRMS (ESI): m/z 97.1 [M-H]<sup>+</sup>.

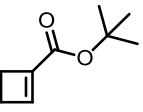
**Ethyl cyclobut-1-enecarboxylate 1a<sup>2a</sup>**

 65% yield. Purified by chromatography on silica gel using 10% DCM/petroleum ether as eluent (colorless liquid): TLC  $R_f = 0.35$  (40% DCM/petroleum ether);  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 6.76-6.75 (m, 1H), 4.18 (q,  $J = 6.8$  Hz, 2H), 2.73-2.72 (m, 2H), 2.47-2.46 (m, 2H), 1.29 (t,  $J = 6.8$  Hz, 3H) ppm; IR (film) ν 2963, 2922, 2850, 1412, 1261, 1093, 1020, 865, 800, 702; HRMS (EI): m/z Exact mass calcd for C<sub>7</sub>H<sub>10</sub>O<sub>2</sub> [M]<sup>+</sup>: 126.0681, found: 126.0682.

**Isopropyl cyclobut-1-enecarboxylate 1b**

 68% yield. Purified by chromatography on silica gel using 10% DCM/petroleum ether as eluent (colorless liquid): TLC  $R_f = 0.35$  (40% DCM/petroleum ether);  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 6.74-6.73 (m, 1H), 5.10-5.01 (m, 1H), 2.72-2.71 (m, 2H), 2.46-2.44 (m, 2H), 1.26 (d,  $J = 6.4$  Hz, 6H) ppm;  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 162.2, 146.0, 139.4, 67.5, 29.2, 27.0, 22.0 ppm; IR (film) ν 3459, 2983, 2941, 1725, 1456, 1376, 1262, 1215, 1183, 1164, 1105, 914, 804; HRMS (EI): m/z Exact mass calcd for C<sub>8</sub>H<sub>12</sub>O<sub>2</sub> [M]<sup>+</sup>: 140.0837, found: 140.0840.

**Tert-butyl cyclobut-1-enecarboxylate 1c**

 70% yield. Purified by chromatography on silica gel using 10% DCM/petroleum ether as eluent (colorless liquid): TLC  $R_f = 0.35$  (40% DCM/petroleum ether);  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 6.58-6.57 (m, 1H), 2.60 (t,  $J = 3.2$  Hz, 2H), 2.34-2.33 (m, 2H), 1.41 (s, 9H) ppm;  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 162.0, 145.0, 140.5, 80.2, 29.2, 28.2, 26.5 ppm; IR (film) ν 3454, 2979, 1724, 1478, 1458, 1394, 1370, 1258, 1159, 844, 803, 738, 702, 473; HRMS (EI): m/z Exact mass calcd for C<sub>9</sub>H<sub>14</sub>O<sub>2</sub> [M]<sup>+</sup>: 154.0994, found: 154.0998.

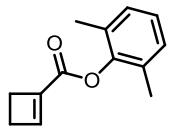
**Benzyl cyclobut-1-enecarboxylate 1d<sup>3</sup>**

 72% yield. Purified by chromatography on silica gel using 10% DCM/petroleum ether as eluent (colorless liquid): TLC  $R_f = 0.35$  (40% DCM/petroleum ether);  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  7.30-7.23 (m, 5H), 6.74-6.73 (m, 1H), 5.11 (s, 2H), 2.68 (t,  $J = 3.2$  Hz, 2H), 2.41-2.39 (m, 2H) ppm;  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  162.2 (1C), 147.2 (1C), 138.6 (1C), 136.2 (1C), 128.7 (2C), 128.3 (3C), 65.9 (1C), 29.9 (1C), 27.3 (1C) ppm; IR (film)  $\nu$  3439, 3090, 3033, 2952, 1721, 1498, 1455, 1378, 1272, 1217, 1116, 750, 714, 698, 587; HRMS (EI): m/z Exact mass calcd for  $\text{C}_{12}\text{H}_{12}\text{O}_2$  [M] $^+$ : 188.0837, found: 188.0840.

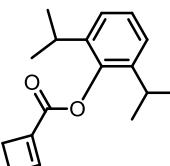
**Phenyl cyclobut-1-enecarboxylate 1e<sup>2b</sup>**

 76% yield. Purified by chromatography on silica gel using 10% DCM/petroleum ether as eluent (colorless liquid): TLC  $R_f = 0.35$  (40% DCM/petroleum ether);  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  7.33-7.27 (m, 2H), 7.17-7.12 (m, 1H), 7.06-7.04 (m, 2H), 6.91 (t,  $J = 0.8$  Hz, 1H), 2.77 (t,  $J = 3.2$  Hz, 2H), 2.49-2.47 (m, 2H) ppm; IR (film)  $\nu$  3066, 2954, 1736, 1627, 1591, 1492, 1457, 1314, 1280, 1244, 1192, 1163, 1103, 1077, 1025, 1003, 906, 834, 742, 688, 501; HRMS (EI): m/z Exact mass calcd for  $\text{C}_{11}\text{H}_{10}\text{O}_2$  [M] $^+$ : 174.0681, found: 174.0685.

**2,6-Dimethylphenyl cyclobut-1-enecarboxylate 1f**

 68% yield. Purified by chromatography on silica gel using 10% DCM/petroleum ether as eluent (colorless liquid): TLC  $R_f = 0.35$  (40% DCM/petroleum ether);  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  7.08-7.05 (m, 3H), 7.01-7.00 (m, 1H), 2.89-2.87 (m, 2H), 2.58-2.57 (m, 2H), 2.16 (s, 6H) ppm;  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  159.8, 149.0, 147.9, 137.9, 130.4, 128.6, 125.9, 29.5, 27.6, 16.4 ppm; IR (film)  $\nu$  3027, 2968, 2931, 1750, 1732, 1606, 1476, 1442, 1415, 1382, 1315, 1275, 1266, 1166, 1106, 922, 844, 790, 771, 762, 685, 534; HRMS (EI): m/z Exact mass calcd for  $\text{C}_{13}\text{H}_{14}\text{O}_2$  [M] $^+$ : 202.0994, found: 202.0997.

**2,6-Diisopropylphenyl cyclobut-1-enecarboxylate 1g**

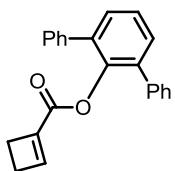
 72% yield. Purified by chromatography on silica gel using 10% DCM/petroleum ether as eluent (colorless liquid): TLC  $R_f = 0.35$  (40% DCM/petroleum ether);  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  7.22-7.15 (m, 3H), 7.01-7.00 (m, 1H), 2.95-2.88 (m, 4H), 2.58-2.57 (m, 2H), 1.20 (d,  $J = 6.4$  Hz,

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3 a) Collon, S.; Kouklovsky, C.; Langlois, Y. *Eur. J. Org. Chem.* **2002**, 3566-3572; b) Xu, H.-D.; Zhang, W.; Shu, D.-X.; Werness, J. B.; Tang, W.-P. *Angew. Chem. Int. Ed.* **2008**, 47, 8933-8936.

12H) ppm;  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  160.6, 149.0, 145.4, 140.6, 138.1, 126.6, 124.0, 29.6, 27.7, 27.6, 27.0 ppm; IR (film)  $\nu$  3065, 2964, 2930, 2870, 1735, 1602, 1466, 1442, 1384, 1362, 1310, 1240, 1185, 1167, 1098, 1081, 941, 907, 791, 734, 689; HRMS (EI): m/z Exact mass calcd for  $\text{C}_{17}\text{H}_{22}\text{O}_2 [\text{M}]^+$ : 258.1620, found: 258.1617.

### **2,6-Diphenylphenyl cyclobut-1-enecarboxylate 1h**

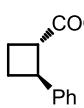


65% yield. Purified by chromatography on silica gel using 10% DCM/petroleum ether as eluent (white solid): TLC  $R_f = 0.35$  (40% DCM/petroleum ether); m.p. 92-94 °C;  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  7.47-7.46 (m, 4H), 7.39-7.35 (m, 7H), 7.32-7.30 (m, 2H), 6.63-6.62 (m, 1H), 2.50 (t,  $J = 2.8$  Hz, 2H), 2.32-2.28 (m, 2H) ppm;  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  159.7, 148.4, 144.9, 137.9, 137.6, 136.0, 130.2, 129.2, 128.3, 127.5, 126.6, 29.1, 27.4 ppm; IR(KBr): 3053, 3031, 2971, 2931, 1729, 1603, 1496, 1455, 1418, 1309, 1245, 1178, 1093, 1082, 1062, 973, 906, 758, 702, 682, 604, 517; LRMS (ESI): m/z 327.2  $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$ ; HRMS (ESI): m/z Exact mass calcd for  $\text{C}_{23}\text{H}_{18}\text{NaO}_2 [\text{M}+\text{Na}]^+$ : 349.1199, found: 349.1200.

### **4. General procedure for the rhodium-catalyzed arylation of cyclobut-1-enecarboxylate esters**

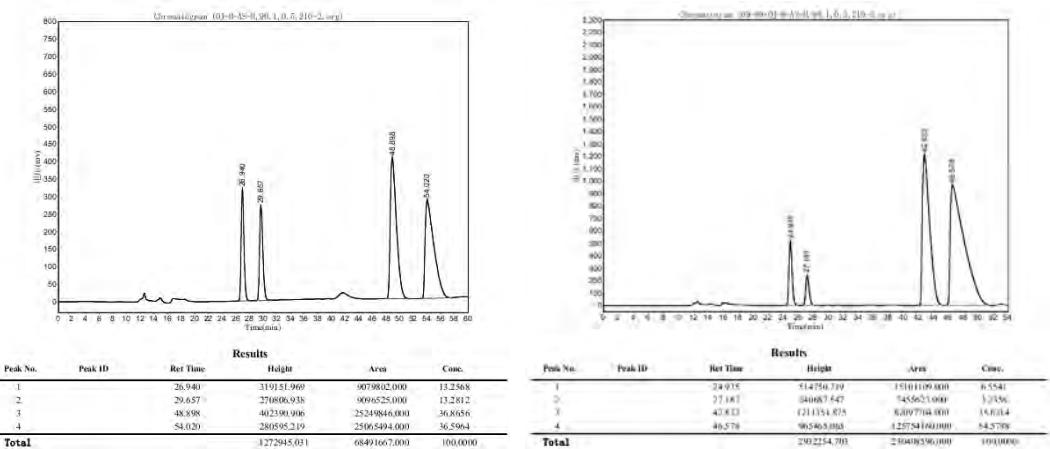
Under argon atmosphere, cyclobut-1-enecarboxylate esters (0.2 mmol), boron reagent (0.4 mmol, 2 equiv), and catalyst  $[\text{Rh}(\text{OH})(S,S)(\text{L})]_2$  (0.003 mmol, 0.015 equiv) or  $[\text{Rh}(\text{C}_2\text{H}_4)\text{Cl}]_2$  (0.003 mmol, 0.015 equiv) and diene ligand (0.0066 mmol, 0.033 equiv) were dissolved in 2 mL toluene in a schlenk tube. To this yellow solution was added 2M aqueous KOH (0.2 mL, 0.4 mmol, 2 equiv). The mixture was stirred at 30 °C or 50 °C for 1 d. Solvent was concentrated under reduced pressure. Purification of this residue by chromatography on silica gel furnished the desired product. The enantiomeric excess (ee) was determined by chiral HPLC analysis.

### **(1*S*, 2*S*)-Ethyl-2-phenylcyclobutanecarboxylate 3aa**

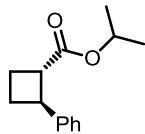


61% yield. Purified by chromatography on silica gel using 15% DCM/petroleum ether as eluent (colorless liquid): TLC  $R_f = 0.35$  (40% DCM/petroleum ether);  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  7.33-7.18 (m, 5H), 4.16 (q,  $J = 7.2$  Hz, 2H), 3.82-3.76 (m, 1H), 3.21-3.14 (m, 1H), 2.33-2.25 (m, 2H), 2.19-2.11 (m, 2H), 1.26 (t,  $J = 7.2$  Hz, 3H) ppm;  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  174.6, 143.8, 128.5, 126.5, 126.4, 60.6, 45.6, 43.2, 25.4, 21.8, 14.4 ppm; IR (film)  $\nu$  3085, 3061, 3028, 2963, 2871, 1729, 1603, 1496, 1446, 1375, 1261, 1242, 1163, 1095, 1040, 861, 800, 753, 698, 536; HRMS (EI): m/z Exact mass calcd for  $\text{C}_{13}\text{H}_{16}\text{O}_2 [\text{M}]^+$ :

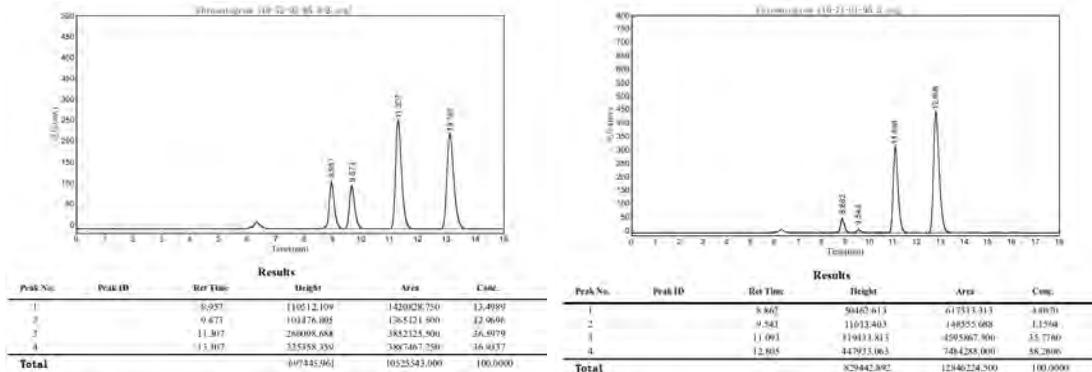
204.1150, found: 204.1148; enantiomeric excess was determined by HPLC with a Chiralcel OJ-H-AS-H column (*n*-hexane/*i*-propanol = 99/1, 0.5 mL/min, 210 nm, 25 °C);  $t_r(R, S) = 24.935$  min,  $t_r(S, R) = 27.187$  min,  $t_r(R, R) = 42.832$  min,  $t_r(S, S) = 46.578$  min; ee (trans) = 21%, ee (cis) = 34%.



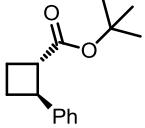
### (1*S*, 2*S*)-Isopropyl 2-phenylcyclobutanecarboxylate 3ba



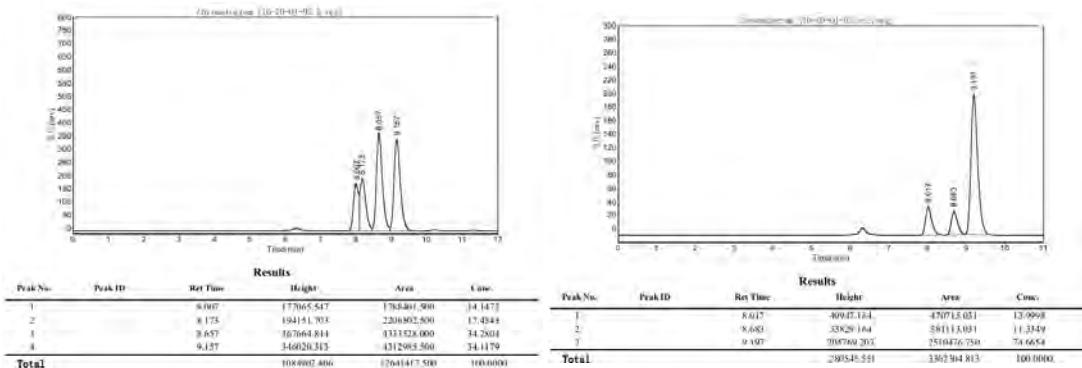
50% yield. Purified by chromatography on silica gel using 15% DCM/petroleum ether as eluent (colorless liquid): TLC  $R_f = 0.35$  (40% DCM/petroleum ether);  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  7.26-7.22 (m, 2H), 7.19-7.11 (m, 3H), 5.01-4.92 (m, 1H), 3.74-3.67 (m, 1H), 3.09-3.03 (m, 1H), 2.25-2.15 (m, 2H), 2.11-2.04 (m, 2H), 1.17 (d,  $J = 6.0$  Hz, 6H) ppm;  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  174.1, 143.9, 128.4, 126.5, 126.4, 67.8, 45.9, 43.2, 25.2, 22.0, 21.99, 21.8 ppm; IR (film)  $\nu$  2963, 2917, 2849, 1732, 1413, 1261, 1020, 865, 800, 700; HRMS (EI): m/z Exact mass calcd for  $\text{C}_{14}\text{H}_{18}\text{O}_2$  [M] $^+$ : 218.1307, found: 218.1306; enantiomeric excess was determined by HPLC with a Chiralcel OJ-H column (*n*-hexane/*i*-propanol = 95/5, 0.5 mL/min, 214 nm, 25 °C);  $t_r(R, S) = 8.862$  min,  $t_r(S, R) = 9.543$  min,  $t_r(R, R) = 11.093$  min,  $t_r(S, S) = 12.805$  min; ee (trans) = 24%, ee (cis) = 62%.



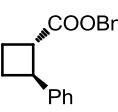
**(1S, 2S)-Tert-butyl 2-phenylcyclobutanecarboxylate 3ca**



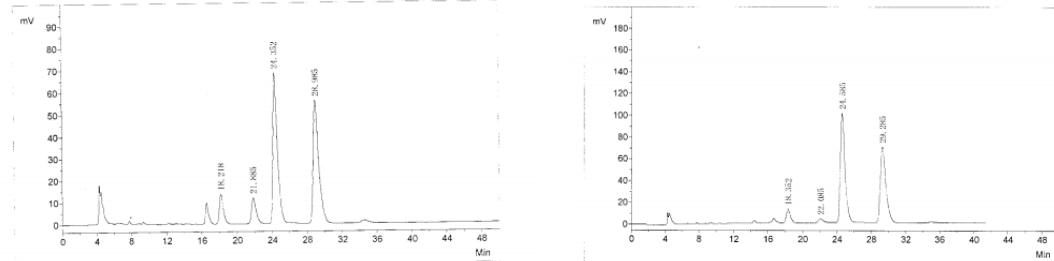
50% yield. Purified by chromatography on silica gel using 15% DCM/petroleum ether as eluent (colorless liquid): TLC  $R_f = 0.35$  (40% DCM/petroleum ether); the trans diastereomer and cis diastereomer can't be separated by chromatography on silica gel.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  peaks attributed to the trans diastereomer: 7.26-7.09 (m, 5H), 3.69-3.62 (m, 1H), 3.04-2.98 (m, 1H), 2.20-2.00 (m, 4H), 1.38 (s, 9H) ppm; peaks attributed to the cis diastereomer: 7.26-7.09 (m, 5H), 3.90-3.83 (m, 1H), 3.38-3.33 (m, 1H), 2.54-2.00 (m, 4H), 0.96 (s, 9H) ppm;  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  peaks attributed to the trans diastereomer: 174.0, 144.1, 128.4, 127.8, 126.5, 80.3, 46.8, 43.3, 28.3, 25.0, 21.7 ppm; peaks attributed to the cis diastereomer: 172.8, 141.4, 128.1, 126.4, 126.3, 79.9, 45.5, 42.6, 27.8, 24.2, 20.5 ppm; IR (film)  $\nu$  2962, 2920, 2851, 1261, 1093, 1020, 864, 800, 425, 418; LRMS (ESI): m/z 255.2 [ $\text{M}+\text{Na}]^+$ ; HRMS (ESI): m/z Exact mass calcd for  $\text{C}_{15}\text{H}_{20}\text{NaO}_2$  [ $\text{M}+\text{Na}]^+$ : 255.1356, found: 255.1360; enantiomeric excess was determined by HPLC with a Chiralcel OJ-H column (*n*-hexane/*i*-propanol = 95/5, 0.5 mL/min, 214 nm, 25 °C);  $t_r(R, S) = 8.007$  min,  $t_r(S, R) = 8.173$  min,  $t_r(R, R) = 8.657$  min,  $t_r(S, S) = 9.157$  min; ee (trans) = 74%.



**(1S, 2S)-Benzyl 2-phenylcyclobutanecarboxylate 3da**

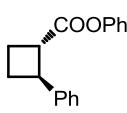
 21% yield. Purified by chromatography on silica gel using 15% DCM/petroleum ether as eluent (colorless liquid): TLC  $R_f = 0.35$  (40% DCM/petroleum ether);  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  7.29-7.27 (m, 2H), 7.24-7.20 (m, 4H), 7.17-7.10 (m, 4H), 5.074-5.067 (m, 2H), 3.78-3.70 (m, 1H), 3.20-3.13 (m, 1H), 2.25-2.18 (m, 2H), 2.13-2.06 (m, 2H) ppm;  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  174.3, 143.6, 136.2, 128.7, 128.5, 128.3, 128.2, 126.6, 126.5, 66.3, 45.6, 43.4, 25.4, 21.8 ppm; IR (film)  $\nu$  3063, 3030, 2962, 1731, 1603, 1497, 1455, 1261, 1242, 1162, 1093, 1028, 801, 752, 697; HRMS (EI): m/z Exact mass calcd for  $\text{C}_{18}\text{H}_{18}\text{O}_2$  [ $\text{M}]^+$ :

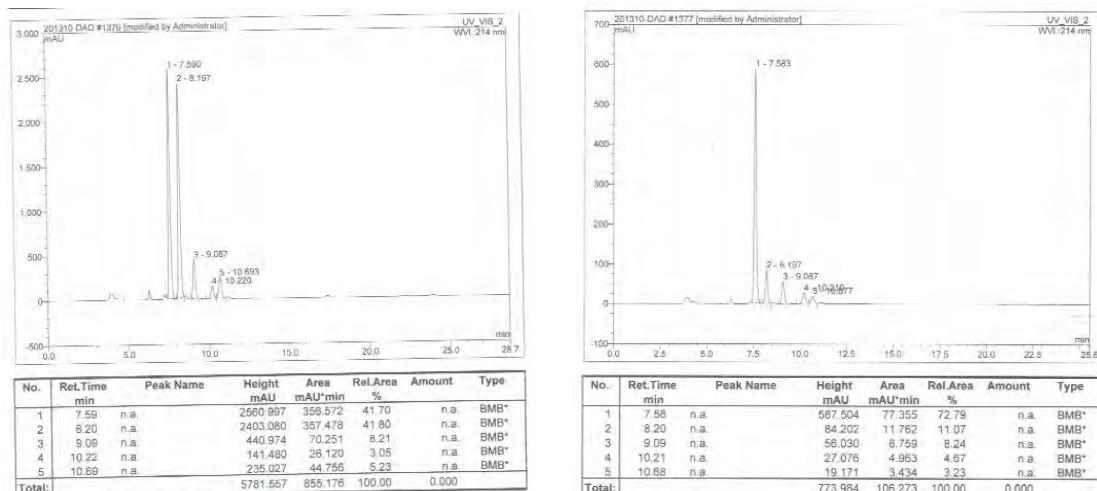
266.1307, found: 266.1309; enantiomeric excess was determined by HPLC with a Chiralcel OJ-H column (*n*-hexane/*i*-propanol = 95/5, 0.7 mL/min, 214 nm, 25 °C);  $t_r(R, S) = 18.352$  min,  $t_r(S, R) = 22.085$  min,  $t_r(S, S) = 24.585$  min,  $t_r(R, R) = 29.285$  min, ee (trans) = 9.2%, ee (cis) = 46.7%.



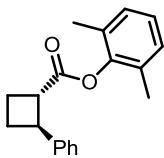
No.	PeakNo	ID. Name	R. Time	PeakHeight	PeakArea	Percent	No.	PeakNo	ID. Name	R. Time	PeakHeight	PeakArea	Percent
1	1		18.218	13357.0	426900.3	7.4166	1	1		18.352	12597.9	405794.3	5.4511
2	2		21.085	11747.2	427027.5	7.4188	2	2		22.085	3799.1	147462.7	1.9809
3	3		24.352	68288.3	2441916.9	42.4239	3	3		24.585	99928.7	3762300.9	50.5394
4	4		28.985	55776.1	2460150.4	12.7407	4	4		29.285	69330.2	3128735.1	12.0286
Total				119148.5	5755995.1	100.0000	Total				185656.3	7444293.1	100.0000

### (1*S*, 2*S*)-Phenyl 2-phenylcyclobutanecarboxylate 3ea

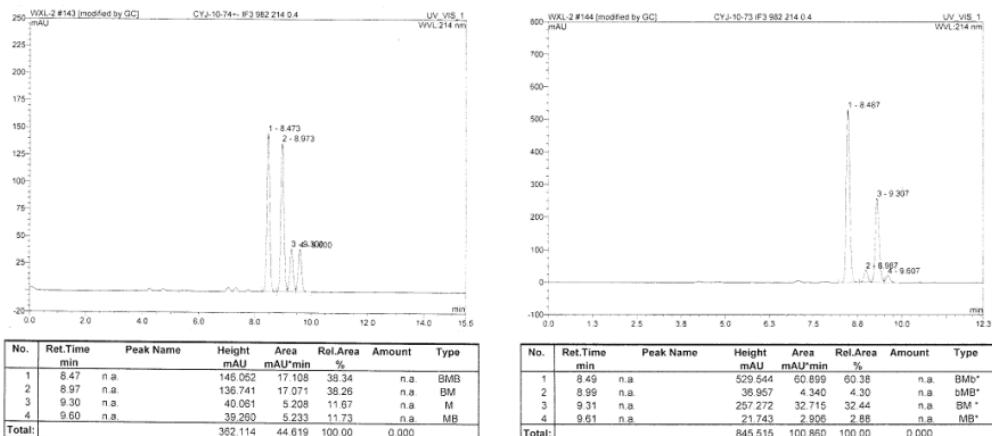
 25% yield. Purified by chromatography on silica gel using 15% DCM/petroleum ether as eluent (colorless liquid): TLC  $R_f = 0.35$  (40% DCM/petroleum ether);  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  7.30-7.19 (m, 5H), 7.11-7.08 (m, 2H), 7.02-6.97 (m, 1H), 6.24-6.22 (m, 2H), 4.10-4.03 (m, 1H), 3.74-3.69 (m, 1H), 2.68-2.58 (m, 1H), 2.47-2.40 (m, 1H), 2.34-2.19 (m, 2H) ppm;  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  172.3, 150.6, 140.9, 129.2, 128.5, 127.8, 126.9, 125.6, 121.6, 45.1, 43.0, 24.4, 20.3 ppm; IR (film)  $\nu$  3061, 3028, 2962, 2850, 1749, 1493, 1456, 1360, 1344, 1261, 1195, 1162, 1131, 1025, 917, 865, 800, 756, 732, 698, 690, 498; HRMS (EI): m/z Exact mass calcd for  $\text{C}_{17}\text{H}_{16}\text{O}_2$  [M] $^+$ : 252.1150, found: 252.1149; enantiomeric excess was determined by HPLC with a Chiralcel AD-H column (*n*-hexane/*i*-propanol = 95/5, 0.7 mL/min, 214 nm, 25 °C);  $t_r(S, S) = 7.58$  min,  $t_r(R, R) = 8.20$  min,  $t_r(R, S) = 9.09$  min,  $t_r(S, R) = 10.68$  min, ee (trans) = 74%, ee (cis) = 44%.



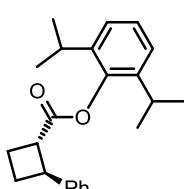
**(1S, 2S)-2,6-Dimethylphenyl 2-phenylcyclobutanecarboxylate 3fa**



80% yield. Purified by chromatography on silica gel using 15% DCM/petroleum ether as eluent (colorless liquid): TLC  $R_f = 0.35$  (40% DCM/petroleum ether); the trans diastereomer and cis diastereomer can't be separated by chromatography on silica gel.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  peaks attributed to the trans diastereomer: 7.27-7.11 (m, 5H), 7.00-6.94 (m, 3H), 3.95-3.88 (m, 1H), 3.47-3.41 (m, 1H), 2.43-2.15 (m, 4H), 2.05 (s, 6H) ppm; peaks attributed to the cis diastereomer: 7.27-7.11 (m, 5H), 6.87-6.81 (m, 3H), 4.08-4.01 (m, 1H), 3.81-3.75 (m, 1H), 2.76-2.15 (m, 4H), 1.57 (s, 6H) ppm;  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  peaks attributed to the trans diastereomer: 172.1, 148.2, 143.5, 130.2, 128.7, 128.60, 127.8, 126.5, 125.9, 45.4, 43.5, 25.8, 22.0, 16.5 ppm; peaks attributed to the cis diastereomer: 171.6, 148.3, 141.1, 130.4, 128.61, 128.5, 126.9, 126.6, 125.6, 44.9, 42.8, 25.0, 21.8, 16.0 ppm; IR (film)  $\nu$  3027, 2963, 2924, 2850, 1748, 1604, 1495, 1476, 1445, 1314, 1261, 1136, 1093, 1019, 943, 866, 800, 699; HRMS (EI): m/z Exact mass calcd for  $\text{C}_{19}\text{H}_{20}\text{O}_2$  [M] $^+$ : 280.1463, found: 280.1462; enantiomeric excess was determined by HPLC with a Chiralcel IF-3 column (*n*-hexane/*i*-propanol = 98/2, 0.4 mL/min, 214 nm, 25 °C);  $t_r(S, S) = 8.49$  min,  $t_r(R, R) = 8.99$  min,  $t_r(R, S) = 9.31$  min,  $t_r(S, R) = 9.61$  min, ee (trans) = 87%, ee (cis) = 84%.

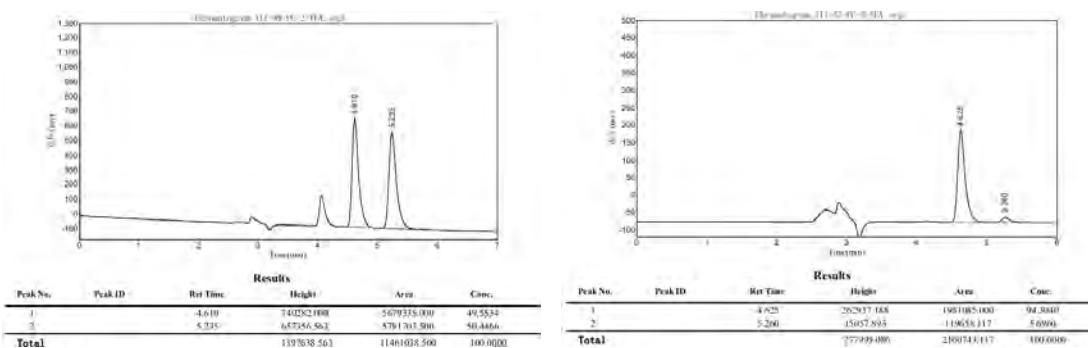


**(1S, 2S)-2,6-Diisopropylphenyl 2-phenylcyclobutanecarboxylate 3ga**

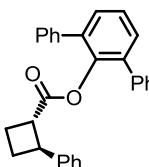


99% yield. Purified by chromatography on silica gel using 15% DCM/petroleum ether as eluent (colorless liquid): TLC  $R_f = 0.35$  (40% DCM/petroleum ether); the trans diastereomer and cis diastereomer can't be separated by chromatography on silica gel.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  peaks attributed to the trans diastereomer: 7.27-6.93 (m, 8H), 3.93-3.87 (m, 1H), 3.48-3.42 (m, 1H), 2.42-2.16 (m, 6H), 1.15-0.78 (m, 12H) ppm; peaks attributed to the cis diastereomer: 7.27-6.93 (m, 8H), 4.08-4.01 (m, 1H), 3.84-3.78 (m, 1H), 2.86-2.70 (m, 6H),

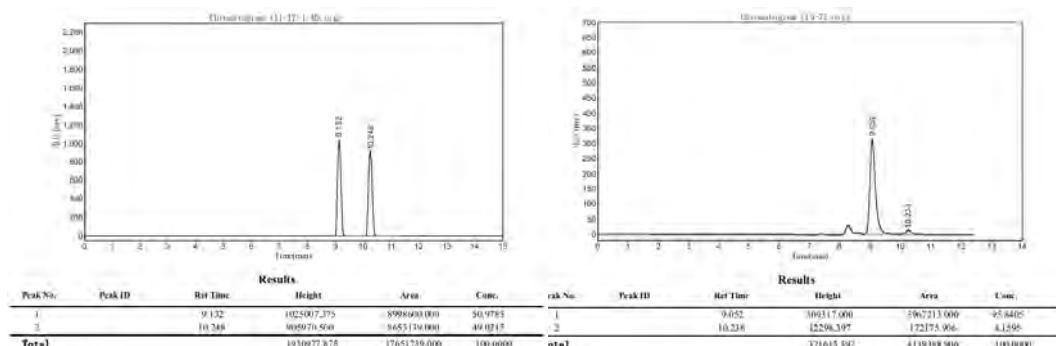
1.15-0.78 (m, 12H) ppm;  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  peaks attributed to the trans diastereomer: 172.9, 143.4, 140.4, 128.6, 127.6, 126.55, 126.54, 124.0, 123.9, 45.5, 43.8, 27.6, 25.9, 25.0, 22.8, 21.9 ppm; peaks attributed to the cis diastereomer: 172.4, 141.6, 141.0, 128.5, 126.9, 126.7, 126.3, 124.1, 123.8, 45.0, 42.9, 31.7, 27.0, 24.5, 23.7, 22.0 ppm; IR (film)  $\nu$  3028, 2964, 2869, 1750, 1459, 1443, 1363, 1237, 1164, 1138, 1096, 793, 698; LRMS (ESI): m/z 359.2 [M+Na] $^+$ ; HRMS (ESI): m/z Exact mass calcd for  $\text{C}_{23}\text{H}_{29}\text{O}_2$  [M+H] $^+$ : 337.2162, found: 337.2161; enantiomeric excess was determined through corresponding acid by HPLC with a Chiralcel PC-2 column (*n*-hexane/*i*-propanol/TFA = 90/10/0.1, 1.0 mL/min, 214 nm, 25 °C);  $t_r$  (major) = 4.625 min,  $t_r$  (minor) = 5.260 min, ee (trans) = 89% ee.



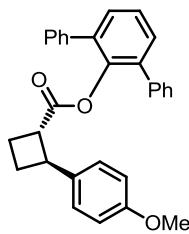
### (1*S*, 2*S*)-[1,1':3',1"-Terphenyl]-2'-yl 2-phenylcyclobutanecarboxylate 3ha



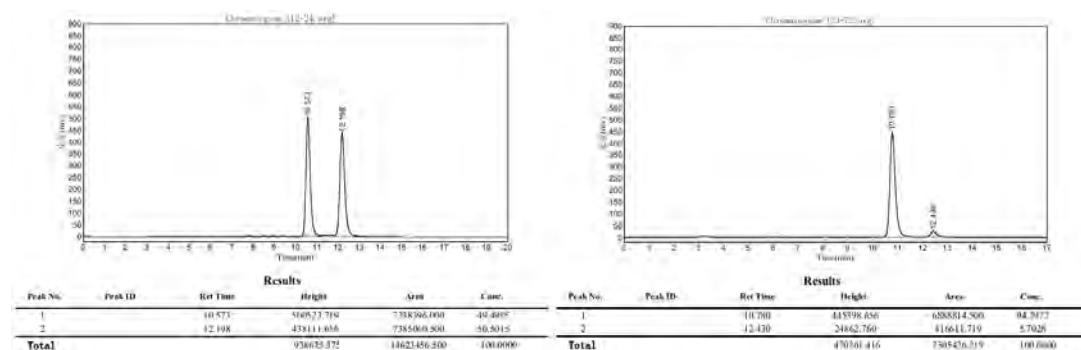
99% yield. Purified by chromatography on silica gel using 15% DCM/petroleum ether as eluent (colorless liquid): TLC  $R_f$  = 0.35 (40% DCM/petroleum ether);  $[\alpha]^{20}_D$  +61.0 (*c* 0.33,  $\text{CHCl}_3$ );  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  7.42-7.31 (m, 13H), 7.22-7.13 (m, 3H), 6.84-6.82 (m, 2H), 3.52-3.45 (m, 1H), 2.99-2.92 (m, 1H), 2.14-2.07 (m, 1H), 1.97-1.81 (m, 2H), 1.75-1.63 (m, 1H) ppm;  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  172.1, 145.2, 143.6, 137.9, 136.1, 130.2, 129.3, 128.30, 128.28, 127.5, 126.5, 126.14, 126.13, 44.6, 41.7, 25.1, 21.9 ppm; IR (film)  $\nu$  3058, 3028, 2987, 2948, 2869, 1752, 1597, 1576, 1496, 1463, 1443, 1421, 1372, 1338, 1315, 1239, 1185, 1134, 1073, 1030, 803, 756, 700, 612, 584, 516; HRMS (EI): m/z Exact mass calcd for  $\text{C}_{29}\text{H}_{24}\text{O}_2$  [M] $^+$ : 404.1776, found: 404.1780; Enantiomeric excess was determined by HPLC with a Chiralcel AD-H column (*n*-hexane/*i*-propanol = 90/10, 0.5 mL/min, 254 nm, 25 °C);  $t_r(S, S)$  = 9.052 min,  $t_r(R, R)$  = 10.238 min, ee (trans) = 92%.



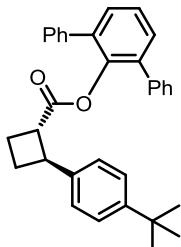
**(1S, 2S)-[1,1':3',1''-Terphenyl]-2'-yl 2-(4-methoxyphenyl)cyclobutanecarboxylate 3hb**



90% yield. Purified by chromatography on silica gel using 15% DCM/petroleum ether as eluent (colorless liquid): TLC  $R_f = 0.35$  (40% DCM/petroleum ether);  $[\alpha]^{20}_D +65.4$  ( $c$  0.98,  $\text{CHCl}_3$ );  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  7.42-7.31 (m, 13H), 6.77-6.72 (m, 4H), 3.77 (s, 3H), 3.44-3.37 (m, 1H), 2.92-2.86 (m, 1H), 2.09-2.01 (m, 1H), 1.92-1.79 (m, 2H), 1.73-1.62 (m, 1H) ppm;  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  172.1, 158.0, 145.1, 137.9, 136.1, 135.8, 130.1, 129.2, 128.3, 127.5, 127.2, 126.4, 113.7, 55.4, 45.0, 41.2, 25.3, 21.7 ppm; IR (film)  $\nu$  3057, 3031, 2989, 2950, 2870, 2834, 1751, 1612, 1582, 1514, 1463, 1442, 1421, 1372, 1304, 1247, 1177, 1132, 1073, 1035, 1009, 918, 830, 803, 757, 701, 612, 583, 543, 531, 515; LRMS (ESI): m/z 457.2 [M+Na] $^+$ ; HRMS (ESI): m/z Exact mass calcd for  $\text{C}_{30}\text{H}_{26}\text{NaO}_3$  [M+Na] $^+$ : 457.1774, found: 457.1770; enantiomeric excess was determined by HPLC with a Chiralcel AD-H column (*n*-hexane/*i*-propanol = 90/10, 0.5 mL/min, 254 nm, 25 °C);  $t_r(S, S) = 10.780$  min,  $t_r(R, R) = 12.430$  min, ee (trans) = 89%.

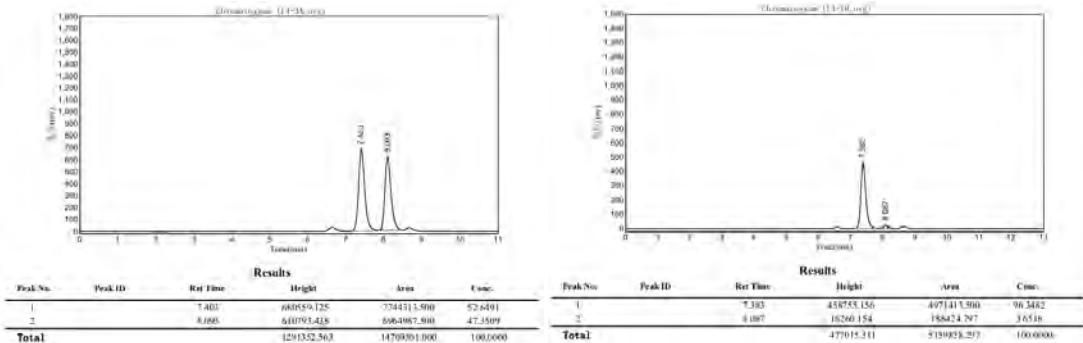


**(1S, 2S)-[1,1':3',1''-Terphenyl]-2'-yl 2-(4-(tert-butyl)phenyl)cyclobutanecarboxylate 3hc**

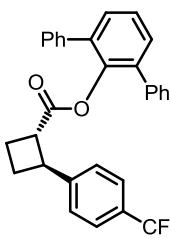


97% yield. Purified by chromatography on silica gel using 15% DCM/petroleum ether as eluent (colorless liquid): TLC  $R_f = 0.35$  (40% DCM/petroleum ether);  $[\alpha]^{20}_D +55.9$  ( $c$  1.02,  $\text{CHCl}_3$ );  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  7.41-7.39 (m, 4H), 7.37-7.34 (m, 3H), 7.33-7.29 (m, 6H), 7.22 (d,  $J = 8.0$  Hz, 2H), 6.79 (d,  $J = 8.0$  Hz, 2H), 3.49-3.42 (m, 1H), 2.97-2.91 (m, 1H), 2.10-2.03 (m, 1H), 1.96-1.79 (m, 2H), 1.71-1.61 (m, 1H), 1.31 (s, 9H) ppm;  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  172.1, 148.9, 145.2, 140.5, 137.9, 136.1, 130.1, 129.2, 128.3, 127.5, 126.4, 125.9, 125.1, 44.8, 41.4, 34.5, 31.6, 25.2, 21.9 ppm; IR (film)  $\nu$  3057, 3030, 2962, 2904, 2867, 1753, 1597, 1500, 1463, 1420, 1363, 1268, 1239, 1185, 1134, 1073, 1021, 919, 831, 802, 756, 701, 613, 584, 567, 515; HRMS (EI): m/z Exact mass calcd for  $\text{C}_{33}\text{H}_{32}\text{O}_2$  [M] $^+$ : 460.2402, found: 460.2398;

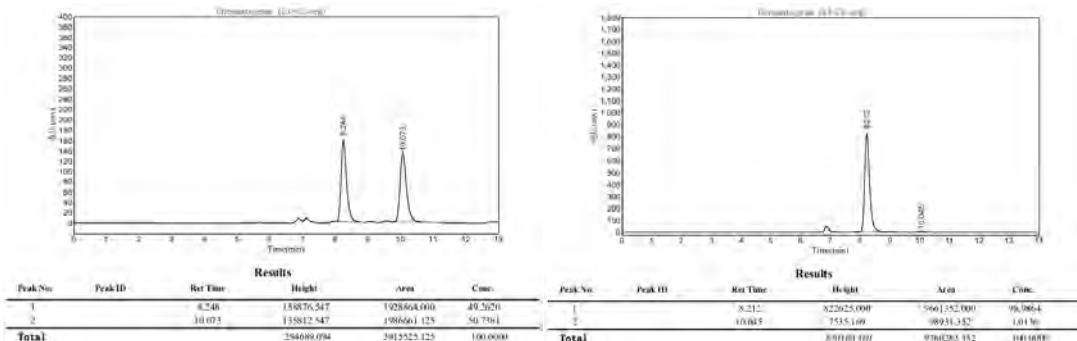
enantiomeric excess was determined by HPLC with a Chiralcel AD-H column (*n*-hexane/*i*-propanol = 90/10, 0.5 mL/min, 254 nm, 25 °C);  $t_r(S, S) = 7.383$  min,  $t_r(R, R) = 8.087$  min, ee (trans) = 93%.



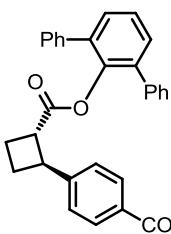
### (1S, 2S)-[1,1':3',1''-Terphenyl]-2'-yl 2-(4-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl)cyclobutanecarboxylate 3hd



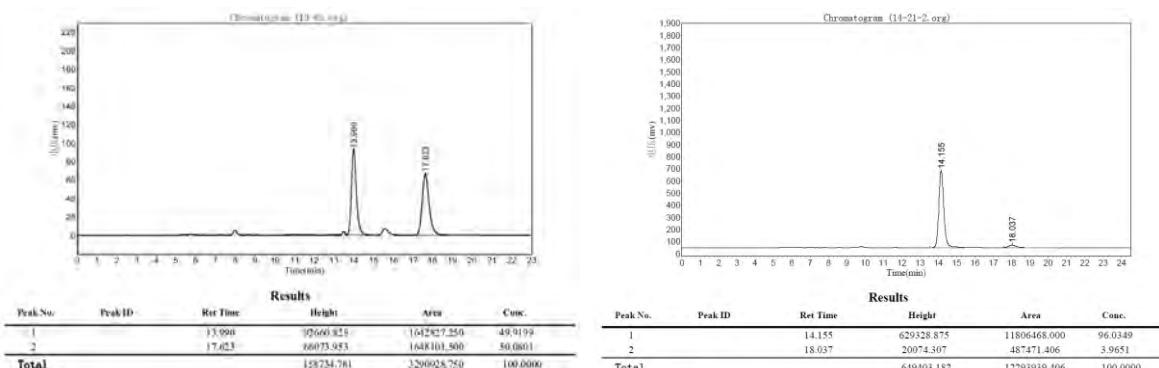
73% yield. Purified by chromatography on silica gel using 15% DCM/petroleum ether as eluent (colorless liquid): TLC  $R_f = 0.35$  (40% DCM/petroleum ether);  $[\alpha]^{20}_D +57.1$  (*c* 1.01, CHCl<sub>3</sub>); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 7.44-7.38 (m, 9H), 7.35-7.30 (m, 6H), 6.88 (d, *J* = 12.0 Hz, 2H), 3.54-3.47 (m, 1H), 2.97-2.91 (m, 1H), 2.16-2.08 (m, 1H), 1.98-1.84 (m, 2H), 1.77-1.67 (m, 1H) ppm; <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 171.7, 147.5, 145.1, 137.9, 136.1, 130.2, 129.3, 128.3, 127.9 (q, *J* = 74.3 Hz), 127.6, 126.6, 126.5, 125.2 (q, *J* = 3.8 Hz), 124.4 (q, *J* = 270.1 Hz), 44.6, 41.4, 24.9, 21.9 ppm; <sup>19</sup>F NMR (376 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ -62.4 ppm; IR (film) ν 3853, 3649, 3058, 3032, 2951, 2871, 1752, 1618, 1597, 1499, 1464, 1443, 1421, 1326, 1240, 1164, 1125, 1068, 1018, 920, 838, 802, 757, 701, 612, 602, 584, 515; LRMS (ESI): m/z 473.1 [M+H]<sup>+</sup>; HRMS (ESI): m/z Exact mass calcd for C<sub>30</sub>H<sub>24</sub>O<sub>2</sub>F<sub>3</sub> [M+H]<sup>+</sup>: 473.1723, found: 473.1714; enantiomeric excess was determined by HPLC with a Chiralcel AD-H column (*n*-hexane/*i*-propanol = 90/10, 0.5 mL/min, 254 nm, 25 °C);  $t_r(S, S) = 8.212$  min,  $t_r(R, R) = 10.045$  min, ee (trans) = 98%.



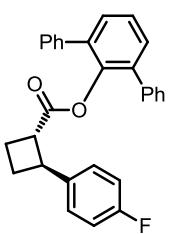
**Methyl 4-((1S, 2S)-2-(([1,1':3',1"-terphenyl]-2'-yloxy)carbonyl)cyclobutyl)benzoate 3he**



36% yield. Purified by chromatography on silica gel using 25% DCM/petroleum ether as eluent (colorless liquid): TLC  $R_f = 0.35$  (5% acetone/petroleum ether);  $[\alpha]^{20}_D +74.1$  (*c* 0.24,  $\text{CHCl}_3$ );  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  7.86 (d, *J* = 8.2 Hz, 2H), 7.42-7.33 (m, 13H), 6.85 (d, *J* = 8.1 Hz, 2H), 3.92 (s, 3H), 3.54-3.47 (m, 1H), 2.99-2.92 (m, 1H), 2.17-2.09 (m, 1H), 1.98-1.84 (m, 2H), 1.77-1.67 (m, 1H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  171.8, 167.2, 148.9, 145.1, 137.9, 136.1, 130.2, 129.7, 129.2, 128.3, 128.0, 127.6, 126.5, 126.1, 52.2, 44.4, 41.6, 25.0, 21.9 ppm; IR (film)  $\nu$  3853, 3675, 3057, 2950, 1752, 1720, 1609, 1492, 1435, 1420, 1279, 1184, 1136, 1110, 1019, 758, 701, 584; HRMS (EI): m/z Exact mass calcd for  $\text{C}_{31}\text{H}_{26}\text{O}_4$  [M] $^+$ : 462.1831, found: 462.1835; enantiomeric excess was determined by HPLC with a Chiralcel AD-H column (*n*-hexane/*i*-propanol = 90/10, 0.5 mL/min, 254 nm, 25 °C);  $t_r(S, S) = 14.155$  min,  $t_r(R, R) = 18.037$  min, ee (trans) = 92%.

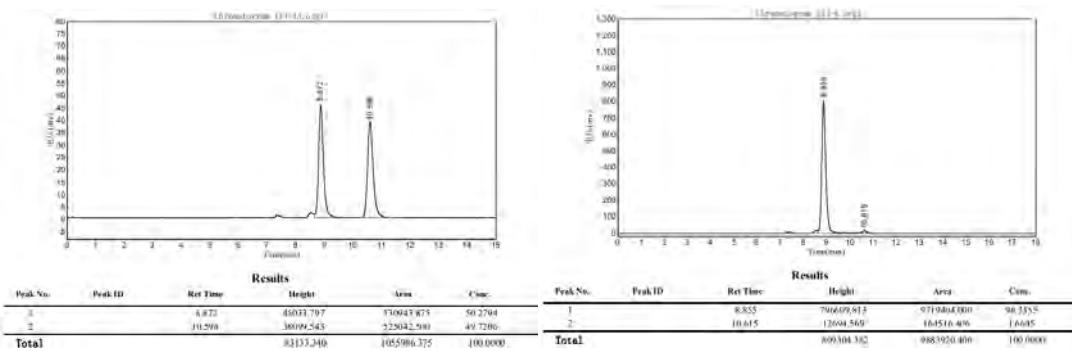


**(1S, 2S)-[1,1':3',1"-Terphenyl]-2'-yl 2-(4-fluorophenyl)cyclobutanecarboxylate 3hf**



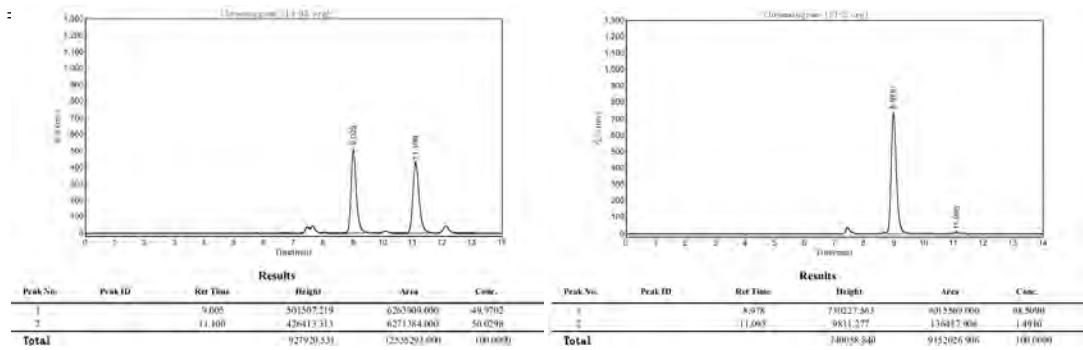
78% yield. Purified by chromatography on silica gel using 15% DCM/petroleum ether as eluent (colorless liquid): TLC  $R_f = 0.35$  (40% DCM/petroleum ether);  $[\alpha]^{20}_D +67.5$  (*c* 1.02,  $\text{CHCl}_3$ );  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  7.41-7.31 (m, 13H), 6.88-6.83 (m, 2H), 6.76-6.72 (m, 2H), 3.46-3.39 (m, 1H), 2.92-2.85 (m, 1H), 2.11-2.03 (m, 1H), 1.93-1.80 (m, 2H), 1.74-1.63 (m, 1H) ppm;  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  171.9, 161.4 (d, *J* = 242.7 Hz), 145.1, 139.2 (d, *J* = 3.1 Hz), 137.9, 136.1, 130.2, 129.2, 128.3, 127.6 (d, *J* = 7.9 Hz), 127.5, 126.5, 115.0 (d, *J* = 21.1 Hz), 44.9, 41.0, 25.2, 21.8 ppm;  $^{19}\text{F}$  NMR (376 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  -117.2 ppm; IR (film)  $\nu$  3057, 3033, 2988, 2949, 2871, 1752, 1604, 1509, 1463, 1443, 1421, 1373, 1317, 1224, 1185, 1157, 1135, 1073, 1017, 833, 803, 757, 701, 613, 584, 530; LRMS (ESI): m/z 445.0 [M+Na] $^+$ ; HRMS (ESI): m/z Exact mass calcd for  $\text{C}_{29}\text{H}_{23}\text{FNaO}_2$  [M+Na] $^+$ : 445.1574, found: 445.1586; enantiomeric excess was determined by

HPLC with a Chiralcel AD-H column (*n*-hexane/*i*-propanol = 90/10, 0.5 mL/min, 254 nm, 25 °C);  $t_r(S, S) = 8.855$  min,  $t_r(R, R) = 10.615$  min, ee (trans) = 97%.



### (1S, 2S)-[1,1':3',1"-Terphenyl]-2'-yl 2-(4-chlorophenyl)cyclobutanecarboxylate 3hg

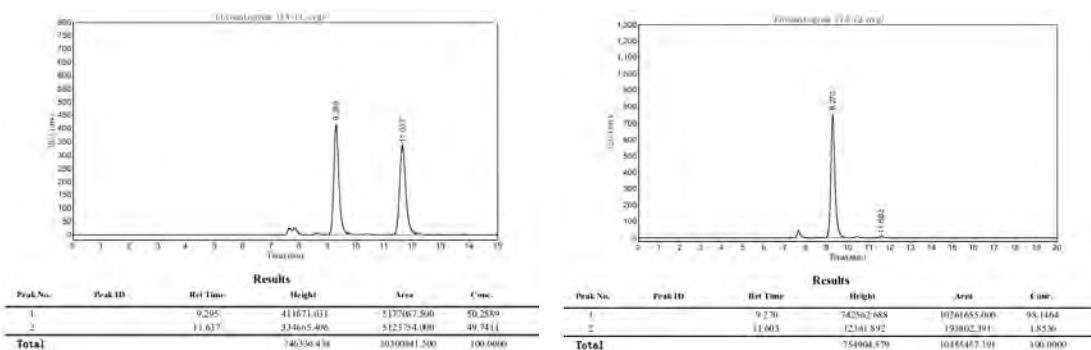
96% yield. Purified by chromatography on silica gel using 15% DCM/petroleum ether as eluent (colorless liquid): TLC  $R_f = 0.35$  (40% DCM/petroleum ether);  $[\alpha]^{20}_D +70.5$  (*c* 1.01, CHCl<sub>3</sub>); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 7.41-7.32 (m, 13H), 7.14 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 6.70 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 3.45-3.38 (m, 1H), 2.92-2.85 (m, 1H), 2.11-2.03 (m, 1H), 1.92-1.80 (m, 2H), 1.74-1.64 (m, 1H) ppm; <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 171.8, 145.1, 142.0, 137.9, 136.1, 131.8, 130.2, 129.2, 128.32, 128.27, 127.6, 127.5, 126.5, 44.7, 41.1, 25.0, 21.8 ppm; IR (film) ν 3058, 3030, 2988, 2949, 1751, 1597, 1492, 1463, 1421, 1372, 1317, 1239, 1185, 1135, 1091, 1073, 1014, 826, 802, 757, 701, 612, 584, 510; HRMS (EI): m/z Exact mass calcd for C<sub>29</sub>H<sub>23</sub>O<sub>2</sub>Cl [M]<sup>+</sup>: 438.1387, found: 438.1385; enantiomeric excess was determined by HPLC with a Chiralcel AD-H column (*n*-hexane/*i*-propanol = 90/10, 0.5 mL/min, 254 nm, 25 °C);  $t_r(S, S) = 8.978$  min,  $t_r(R, R) = 10.615$  min, ee (trans) = 97%.



### (1S, 2S)-[1,1':3',1"-Terphenyl]-2'-yl 2-(4-bromophenyl)cyclobutanecarboxylate 3hh

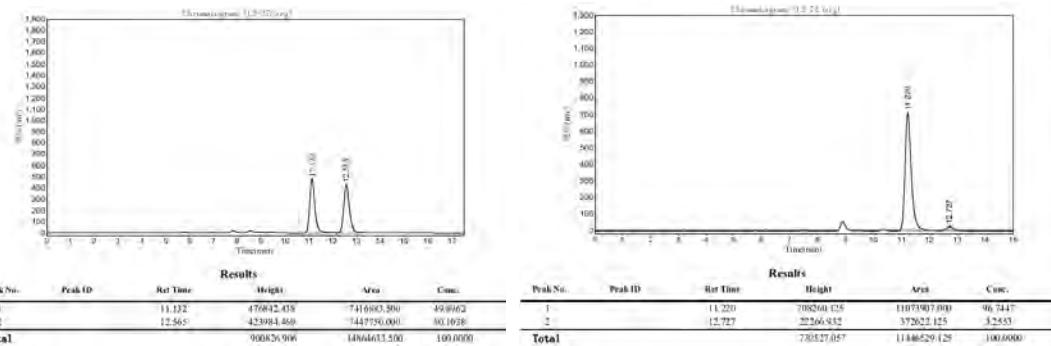
92% yield. Purified by chromatography on silica gel using 15% DCM/petroleum ether as eluent (colorless liquid): TLC  $R_f = 0.35$  (40% DCM/petroleum ether);

$[\alpha]^{20}_D +62.5$  (*c* 1.00, CHCl<sub>3</sub>); m.p. 102-105 °C; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 7.41-7.28 (m, 15H), 6.65 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 3.43-3.37 (m, 1H), 2.928-2.85 (m, 1H), 2.12-2.05 (m, 1H), 1.92-1.81 (m, 2H), 1.75-1.64 (m, 1H) ppm; <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 171.8, 145.1, 142.5, 137.9, 136.1, 131.3, 130.2, 129.2, 128.3, 127.9, 127.6, 126.5, 119.9, 44.7, 41.1, 25.0, 21.8 ppm; IR (film) ν 3057, 3030, 2987, 2947, 1752, 1596, 1489, 1463, 1442, 1421, 1396, 1371, 1315, 1239, 1185, 1135, 1072, 1010, 820, 802, 758, 737, 710, 612, 584, 516; LRMS (ESI): m/z 505.0 [M+Na]<sup>+</sup>; HRMS (ESI): m/z Exact mass calcd for C<sub>29</sub>H<sub>23</sub>BrNaO<sub>2</sub> [M+Na]<sup>+</sup>: 505.0774, found: 505.0785; enantiomeric excess was determined by HPLC with a Chiralcel AD-H column (*n*-hexane/*i*-propanol = 90/10, 0.5 mL/min, 254 nm, 25 °C); t<sub>r</sub>(S, S) = 9.270 min, t<sub>r</sub>(R, R) = 11.603 min, ee (trans) = 96%.

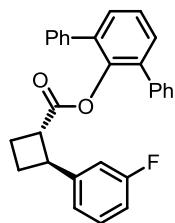


### (1*S*, 2*S*)-[1,1':3',1"-Terphenyl]-2'-yl 2-(3-methoxyphenyl)cyclobutanecarboxylate 3hi

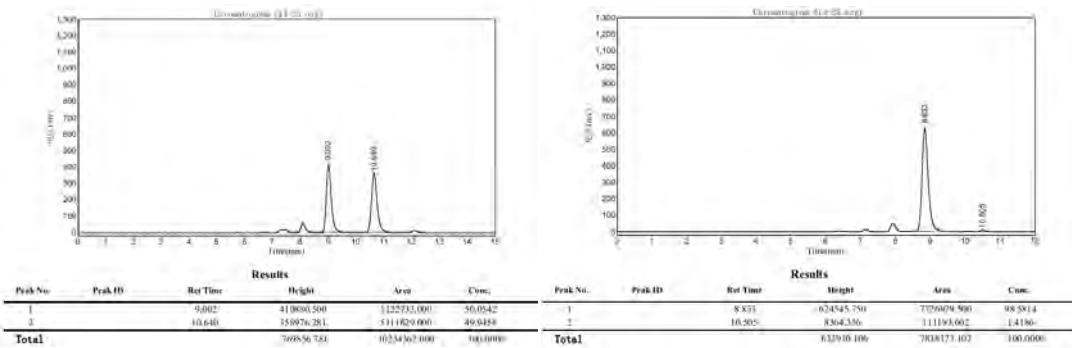
91% yield. Purified by chromatography on silica gel using 15% DCM/petroleum ether as eluent (colorless liquid): TLC R<sub>f</sub> = 0.35 (40% DCM/petroleum ether);  $[\alpha]^{20}_D +64.4$  (*c* 0.69, CHCl<sub>3</sub>); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 7.42-7.29 (m, 13H), 7.12 (t, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 6.71 (dd, *J* = 2.4, 8.0 Hz, 1H), 6.53 (s, 1H), 6.43 (d, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 3.74 (s, 3H), 3.46-3.39 (m, 1H), 2.99-2.93 (m, 1H), 2.12-2.03 (m, 1H), 1.96-1.81 (m, 2H), 1.74-1.63 (m, 1H) ppm; <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 172.0, 159.6, 145.2, 145.1, 137.9, 136.1, 130.1, 129.3, 129.2, 128.3, 127.5, 126.5, 118.6, 112.0, 111.5, 55.3, 44.6, 41.9, 25.3, 21.7 ppm; IR (film) ν 3056, 3030, 2949, 2869, 2834, 1752, 1601, 1582, 1490, 1463, 1421, 1370, 1317, 1289, 1260, 1239, 1183, 1158, 1134, 1073, 1045, 916, 861, 803, 756, 700, 612, 583, 516; HRMS (EI): m/z Exact mass calcd for C<sub>30</sub>H<sub>26</sub>O<sub>3</sub> [M]<sup>+</sup>: 434.1882, found: 434.1887; enantiomeric excess was determined by HPLC with a Chiralcel AD-H column (*n*-hexane/*i*-propanol = 90/10, 0.5 mL/min, 254 nm, 25 °C); t<sub>r</sub>(S, S) = 11.220 min, t<sub>r</sub>(R, R) = 12.727 min, ee (trans) = 93%.



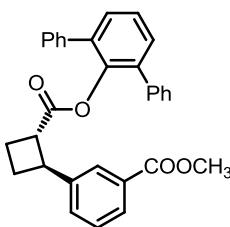
**(1S, 2S)-[1,1':3',1''-Terphenyl]-2'-yl 2-(3-fluorophenyl)cyclobutanecarboxylate 3hj**



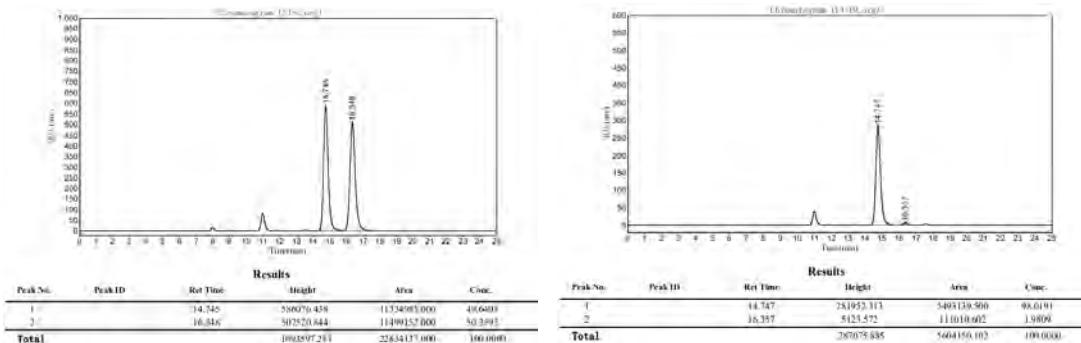
84% yield. Purified by chromatography on silica gel using 15% DCM/petroleum ether as eluent (colorless liquid): TLC  $R_f = 0.35$  (40% DCM/petroleum ether);  $[\alpha]^{20}_D +68.3$  (*c* 0.37, CHCl<sub>3</sub>); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.42-7.29 (m, 13H), 7.18-7.12 (m, 1H), 6.87-6.82 (m, 1H), 6.60-6.55 (m, 2H), 3.48-3.41 (m, 1H), 2.96-2.89 (m, 1H), 2.13-2.05 (m, 1H), 1.95-1.82 (m, 2H), 1.75-1.64 (m, 1H) ppm; <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  171.8, 162.9 (d, *J* = 244.3 Hz), 146.2 (d, *J* = 7.3 Hz), 145.1, 137.9, 136.1, 130.2, 129.7 (d, *J* = 8.2 Hz), 129.2, 128.3, 127.6, 126.5, 121.8 (d, *J* = 2.8 Hz), 113.2 (d, *J* = 21.1 Hz), 113.0 (d, *J* = 21.0 Hz), 44.6, 41.4, 25.1, 21.8 ppm; <sup>19</sup>F NMR (376 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  -113.5 ppm; IR (film)  $\nu$  3058, 3032, 2950, 2870, 1752, 1614, 1588, 1490, 1463, 1442, 1421, 1371, 1316, 1272, 1240, 1207, 1184, 1136, 1073, 1027, 967, 866, 843, 802, 786, 757, 701, 612, 584; LRMS (ESI): m/z 423.2 [M+H]<sup>+</sup>; HRMS (ESI): m/z Exact mass calcd for C<sub>29</sub>H<sub>24</sub>O<sub>2</sub>F [M+H]<sup>+</sup>: 423.1755, found: 423.1751; enantiomeric excess was determined by HPLC with a Chiralcel AD-H column (*n*-hexane/*i*-propanol = 90/10, 0.5 mL/min, 254 nm, 25 °C); t<sub>r</sub>(*S*, *S*) = 8.833 min, t<sub>r</sub>(*R*, *R*) = 10.505 min, ee (trans) = 97%.



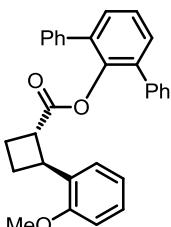
**Methyl 3-((1S,2S)-2-(([1,1':3',1"-terphenyl]-2'-yloxy)carbonyl)cyclobutyl)benzoate 3hk**



95% yield. Purified by chromatography on silica gel using 25% DCM/petroleum ether as eluent (colorless liquid): TLC  $R_f = 0.35$  (5% acetone/petroleum ether);  $[\alpha]^{20}_D +55.2$  (*c* 1.02, CHCl<sub>3</sub>); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 7.85 (d, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.74 (s, 1H), 7.40-7.36 (m, 7H), 7.30-7.22 (m, 7H), 6.94 (d, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 3.90 (s, 3H), 3.48-3.41 (m, 1H), 3.00-2.94 (m, 1H), 2.15-2.09 (m, 1H), 1.98-1.83 (m, 2H), 1.79-1.70 (m, 1H) ppm; <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 171.7, 167.2, 145.0, 143.8, 137.8, 136.0, 131.1, 130.11, 130.09, 129.2, 128.4, 128.2, 127.5, 127.2, 126.5, 52.2, 44.5, 41.7, 25.3, 21.6 ppm; IR (film) ν 3058, 3031, 2990, 2950, 1752, 1721, 1587, 1498, 1458, 1443, 1421, 1290, 1240, 1207, 1185, 1136, 1110, 1089, 1027, 914, 803, 755, 701, 612, 584, 514; HRMS (EI): m/z Exact mass calcd for C<sub>31</sub>H<sub>26</sub>O<sub>4</sub> [M]<sup>+</sup>: 462.1831, found: 462.1832; enantiomeric excess was determined by HPLC with a Chiralcel AD-H column (*n*-hexane/*i*-propanol = 90/10, 0.5 mL/min, 254 nm, 25 °C); t<sub>r</sub> (*S, S*) = 14.747 min, t<sub>r</sub> (*R, R*) = 16.357 min, ee (trans) = 96%.

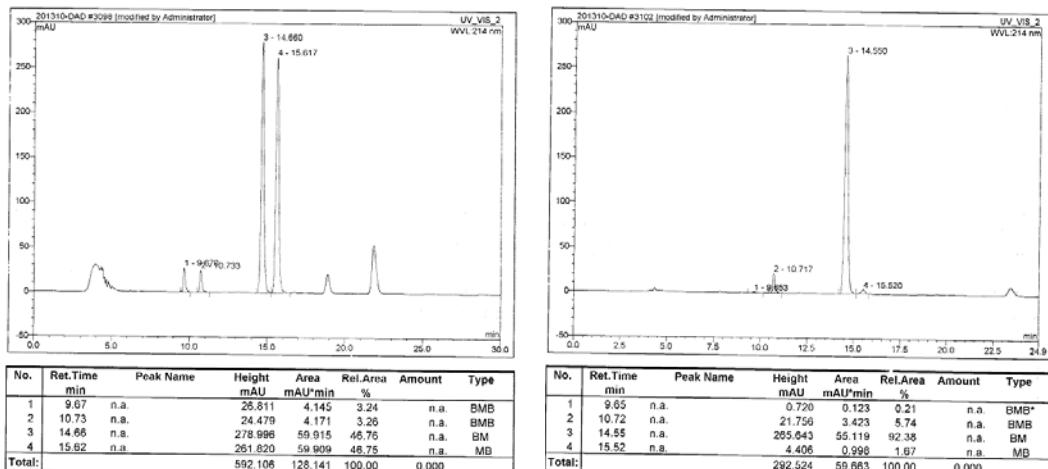


**(1S, 2S)-[1,1':3',1"-Terphenyl]-2'-yl 2-(2-methoxyphenyl)cyclobutanecarboxylate 3hl**



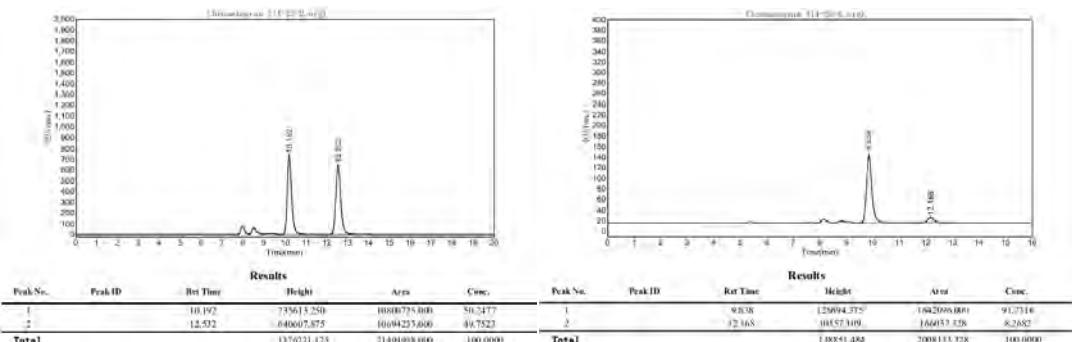
51% yield. Purified by chromatography on silica gel using 15% DCM/petroleum ether as eluent (colorless liquid): TLC  $R_f = 0.35$  (40% DCM/petroleum ether);  $[\alpha]^{20}_D +99.3$  (*c* 0.76, CHCl<sub>3</sub>); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 7.42-7.36 (m, 7H), 7.29-7.28 (m, 6H), 7.18-7.14 (m, 1H), 6.84-6.74 (m, 3H), 3.65-3.58 (m, 4H), 3.17-3.10 (m, 1H), 2.18-2.11 (m, 1H), 1.84-1.71 (m, 2H), 1.68-1.61 (m, 1H) ppm; <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 171.9, 157.4, 145.2, 137.9, 136.1, 131.5, 130.1, 129.3, 128.2, 127.4, 127.3, 126.8, 126.4, 120.3, 110.1, 55.1, 42.4, 38.4, 26.1, 22.3 ppm; IR (film) ν 3058, 3030, 2990, 2950, 1754, 1600, 1586, 1493, 1463, 1437, 1420, 1375, 1243, 1185, 1131, 1029, 801, 754, 735, 701, 612, 583; HRMS (EI): m/z Exact mass calcd for C<sub>30</sub>H<sub>26</sub>O<sub>3</sub> [M]<sup>+</sup>: 434.1882, found: 434.1879; enantiomeric excess was determined by HPLC with a Chiralcel IF-3 column

(*n*-hexane/*i*-propanol = 98/2, 0.7 mL/min, 214 nm, 25 °C);  $t_r(S, S) = 14.550$  min,  $t_r(R, R) = 15.520$  min, ee (trans) = 96%.

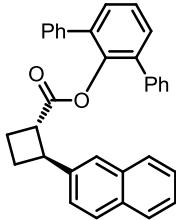


### (1*S*, 2*S*)-[1,1':3',1"-Terphenyl]-2'-yl 2-(naphthalen-1-yl)cyclobutanecarboxylate 3hm

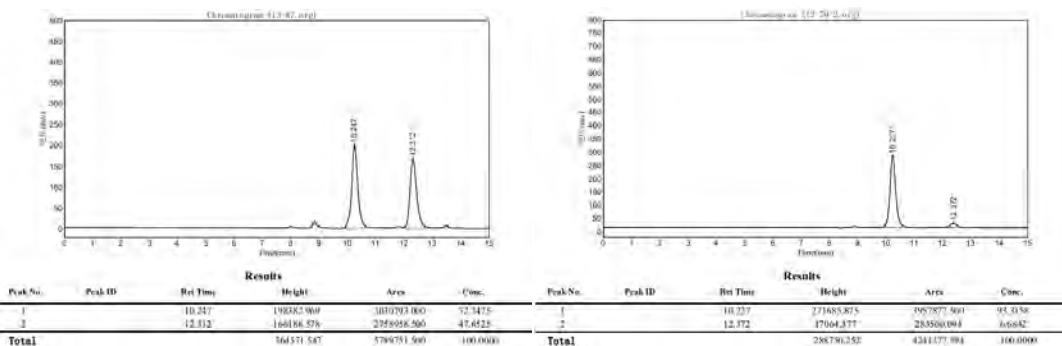
96% yield. Purified by chromatography on silica gel using 15% DCM/petroleum ether as eluent (colorless liquid): TLC  $R_f = 0.35$  (40% DCM/petroleum ether);  $[\alpha]^{20}_D +97.3$  (*c* 1.01, CHCl<sub>3</sub>); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.84-7.82 (m, 1H), 7.76-7.74 (m, 1H), 7.69 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 7.46-7.34 (m, 10H), 7.29-7.20 (m, 6H), 6.99 (d, *J* = 6.8 Hz, 1H), 4.05-3.98 (m, 1H), 3.41-3.40 (m, 1H), 2.44-2.35 (m, 1H), 1.93-1.78 (m, 3H) ppm; <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  171.9, 145.1, 139.0, 137.8, 136.1, 133.8, 131.3, 130.1, 129.2, 128.7, 128.2, 127.4, 126.9, 126.5, 125.8, 125.7, 125.5, 124.1, 122.6, 41.9, 40.2, 27.7, 22.1 ppm; IR (film)  $\nu$  3055, 2948, 2868, 1752, 1597, 1576, 1508, 1499, 1463, 1420, 1368, 1306, 1265, 1240, 1184, 1133, 1073, 798, 778, 756, 737, 701, 612, 584, 514, 448; LRMS (ESI): m/z 477.1 [M+Na]<sup>+</sup>; HRMS (EI): m/z Exact mass calcd for C<sub>33</sub>H<sub>26</sub>O<sub>2</sub> [M]<sup>+</sup>: 454.1927, found: 454.1922; enantiomeric excess was determined by HPLC with a Chiralcel AD-H column (*n*-hexane/*i*-propanol = 90/10, 0.5 mL/min, 254 nm, 25 °C);  $t_r(S, S) = 9.838$  min,  $t_r(R, R) = 12.168$  min, ee (trans) = 83%.



**(1S, 2S)-[1,1':3',1"-Terphenyl]-2'-yl 2-(naphthalen-2-yl)cyclobutanecarboxylate 3hn**



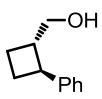
68% yield. Purified by chromatography on silica gel using 15% DCM/petroleum ether as eluent (colorless liquid): TLC  $R_f = 0.35$  (40% DCM/petroleum ether);  $[\alpha]^{20}_D +61.6$  (*c* 0.98, CHCl<sub>3</sub>); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.78 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.71-7.65 (m, 2H), 7.42-7.25 (m, 16H), 7.04 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 3.65-3.59 (m, 1H), 3.09-3.02 (m, 1H), 2.20-2.13 (m, 1H), 2.06-1.96 (m, 1H), 1.92-1.85 (m, 1H), 1.80-1.70 (m, 1H) ppm; <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  172.1, 145.1, 141.0, 137.9, 136.1, 133.4, 132.2, 130.1, 129.2, 128.3, 128.0, 127.8, 127.7, 127.5, 126.5, 126.0, 125.4, 125.0, 124.3, 44.6, 42.0, 25.2, 21.8 ppm; IR (film)  $\nu$  3055, 2948, 2869, 1751, 1632, 1600, 1499, 1463, 1442, 1420, 1363, 1309, 1266, 1239, 1184, 1133, 1986, 1073, 1018, 856, 818, 802, 756, 701, 612, 477; LRMS (ESI): m/z 472.3 [M+NH<sub>4</sub>]<sup>+</sup>; HRMS (ESI): m/z Exact mass calcd for C<sub>33</sub>H<sub>30</sub>O<sub>2</sub>N [M+NH<sub>4</sub>]<sup>+</sup>: 472.2271, found: 472.2262; enantiomeric excess was determined by HPLC with a Chiralcel AD-H column (*n*-hexane/*i*-propanol = 90/10, 0.5 mL/min, 254 nm, 25 °C); t<sub>r</sub>(S, S) = 10.227 min, t<sub>r</sub>(R, R) = 12.372 min, ee (trans) = 87%;



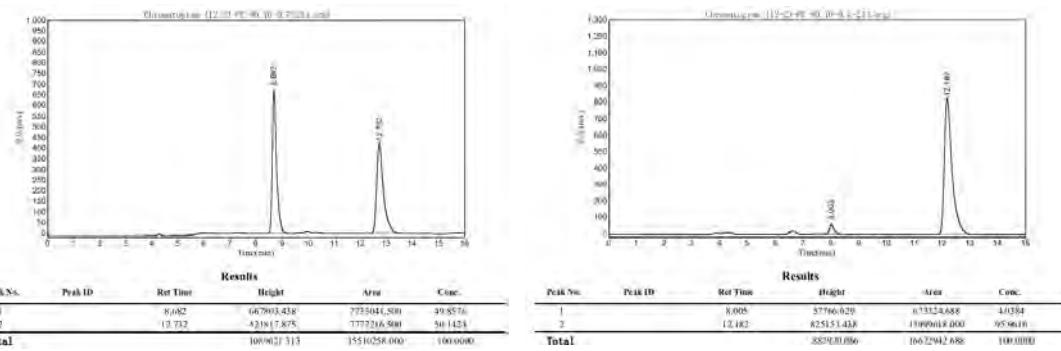
## 5. Reduction of compound 3ha

### ((1S, 2S)-2-Phenylcyclobutyl)methanol 5

To a suspension of lithium aluminum hydride (30 mg, 0.8 mmol) in THF (2 mL), a solution of (1S, 2S)-[1,1':3',1"-terphenyl]-2'-yl 2-phenylcyclobutanecarboxylate (80.8 mg, 0.2 mmol, 92% ee) in THF (2 mL) was added dropwise at 25 °C. The mixture was reacted at 25 °C for 4 h and quenched with water. The aqueous layer was extracted with EtOAc three times, and the combined organic layer was dried and concentrated to provide the crude product. Flash chromatography on silica gel using 10% DCM/ petroleum ether as eluent gave the product as colorless oil 31.4 mg, 97% yield. TLC  $R_f = 0.35$  (40% DCM/petroleum ether).  $[\alpha]^{20}_D +52.7$  (*c* 0.56, CHCl<sub>3</sub>); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.25-7.18 (m, 4H), 7.13-7.10 (m, 1H), 3.78-3.65 (m, 2H), 3.24-3.17 (m, 1H), 2.62-2.51 (m, 1H), 2.24-2.17 (m, 1H), 2.05-1.90 (m, 2H), 1.76-1.67 (m, 1H) ppm; <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  144.9, 128.5, 126.8, 126.2, 66.5, 45.6,



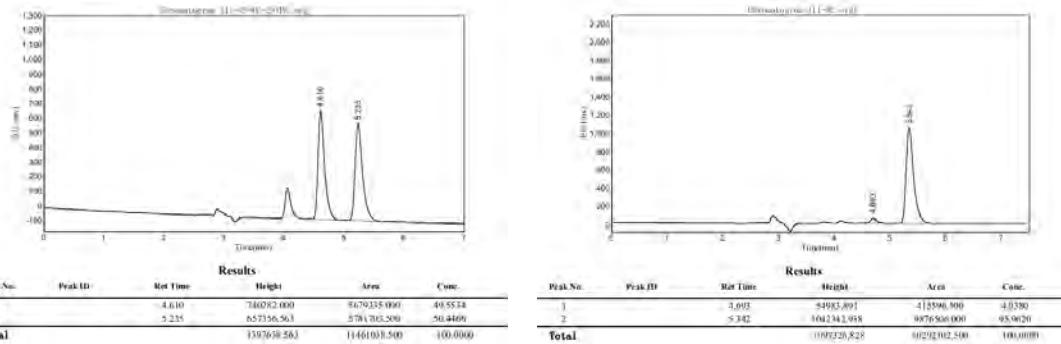
43.1, 26.0, 21.2 ppm; IR (film)  $\nu$  3336, 3026, 2970, 2938, 2865, 1063, 1495, 1448, 1260, 1086, 1021, 747, 698; HRMS (EI): m/z Exact mass calcd for  $C_{11}H_{14}O [M]^+$ : 162.1045, found: 162.1044; enantiomeric excess was determined by HPLC with a Chiralcel PC-2 column (*n*-hexane/*i*-propanol = 90/10, 0.7 mL/min, 214 nm, 25 °C);  $t_r(R, R) = 8.005$  min,  $t_r(S, S) = 12.182$  min, 92% ee.



## 6. Hydrolysis of compound 3ha

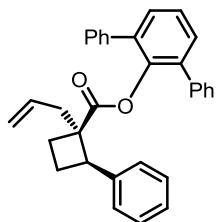
### (1*S*, 2*S*)-2-Phenylcyclobutanecarboxylic acid 6

The adduct (1*S*, 2*S*)-[1,1':3',1"-terphenyl]-2'-yl 2-phenylcyclobutanecarboxylate (120 mg, 0.3 mmol, 92% ee) and potassium hydroxide (73 mg, 1.3 mmol) was dissolved in toluene (5 mL), and then the solution was heated to reflux for 2 h. After the mixture was cooled to 25° C, water (10 mL) was added, and the mixture was extracted with ethyl acetate (2× 10 mL). The aqueous phase was acidified with 1.0 M aqueous HCl to pH = 1. The acidified aqueous layer was extracted with ethyl acetate (3 × 10 mL), and the combined organic phase was washed with water and brine and dried over anhydrous  $Na_2SO_4$ . The solvent was evaporated and the residue was purified by flash column chromatography on silica gel, eluting with 20/1 DCM/MeOH, TLC  $R_f = 0.30$  (5% DCM/MeOH); gave the product (1*S*, 2*S*)-2-phenylcyclobutane-carboxylic acid 42 mg (colorless liquid, 89% yield).  $[\alpha]^{20}_D +38.7$  (*c* 1.83,  $CHCl_3$ );  $^1H$  NMR (400 MHz,  $CDCl_3$ )  $\delta$  9.48 (br s, 1H), 7.18-7.03 (m, 5H), 3.70-3.63 (m, 1H), 3.11-3.04 (m, 1H), 2.21-2.10 (m, 2H), 2.07-1.95 (m, 2H) ppm;  $^{13}C$  NMR (100 MHz,  $CDCl_3$ )  $\delta$  179.5, 143.4, 128.5, 126.6, 126.5, 45.1, 43.2, 25.4, 21.7 ppm; IR (film)  $\nu$  2947, 1694, 1495, 1421, 1260, 948, 743, 699, 552; HRMS (EI): m/z Exact mass calcd for  $C_{11}H_{12}O_2 [M]^+$ : 176.0837, found: 176.0833; enantiomeric excess was determined by HPLC with a Chiralcel PC-2 column (*n*-hexane/*i*-propanol/TFA = 90/10/0.1, 1.0 mL/min, 214 nm, 25 °C);  $t_r(R, R) = 4.693$  min,  $t_r(S, S) = 5.342$  min, 92% ee.



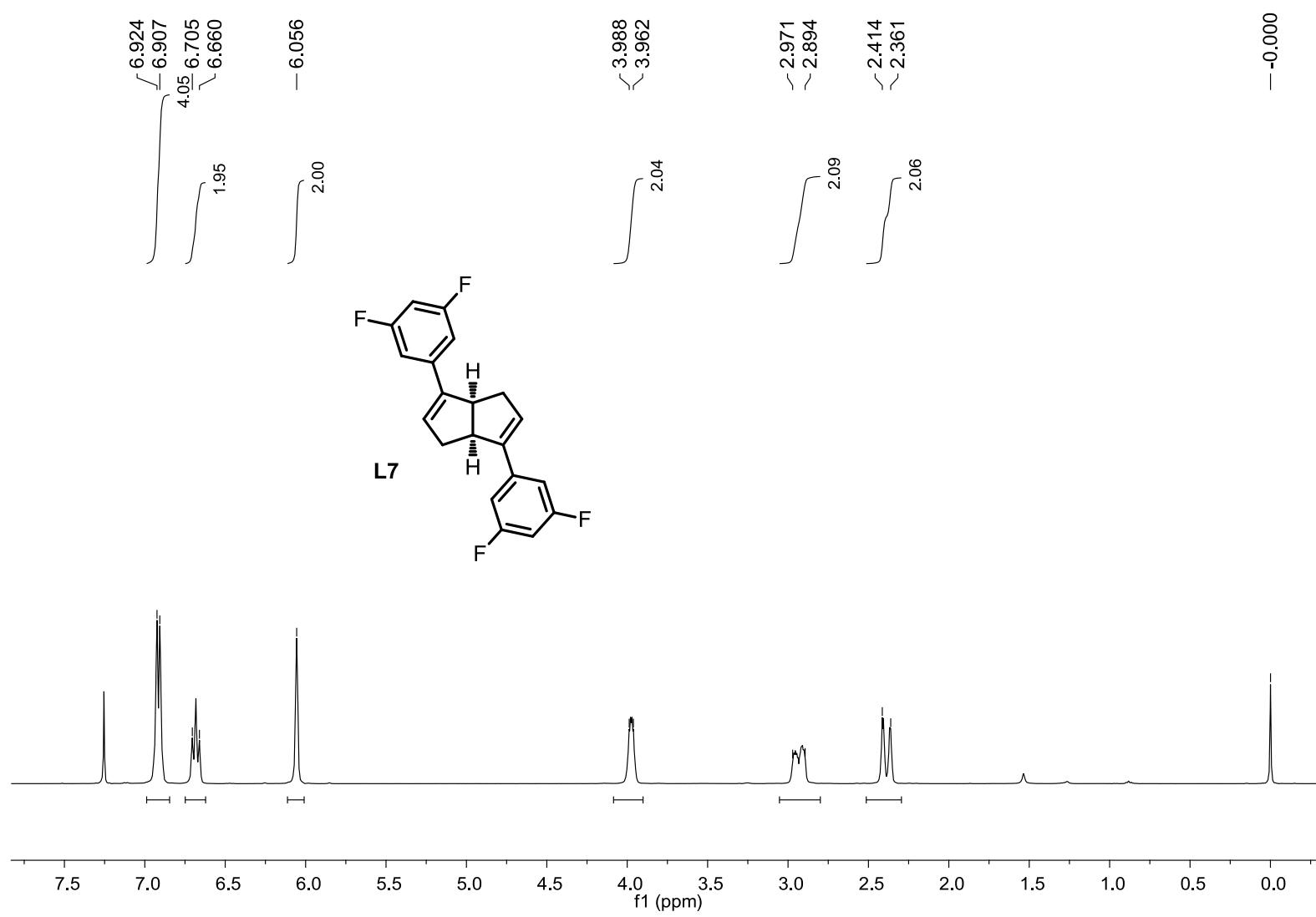
## 7. Allylation of compound 3ha

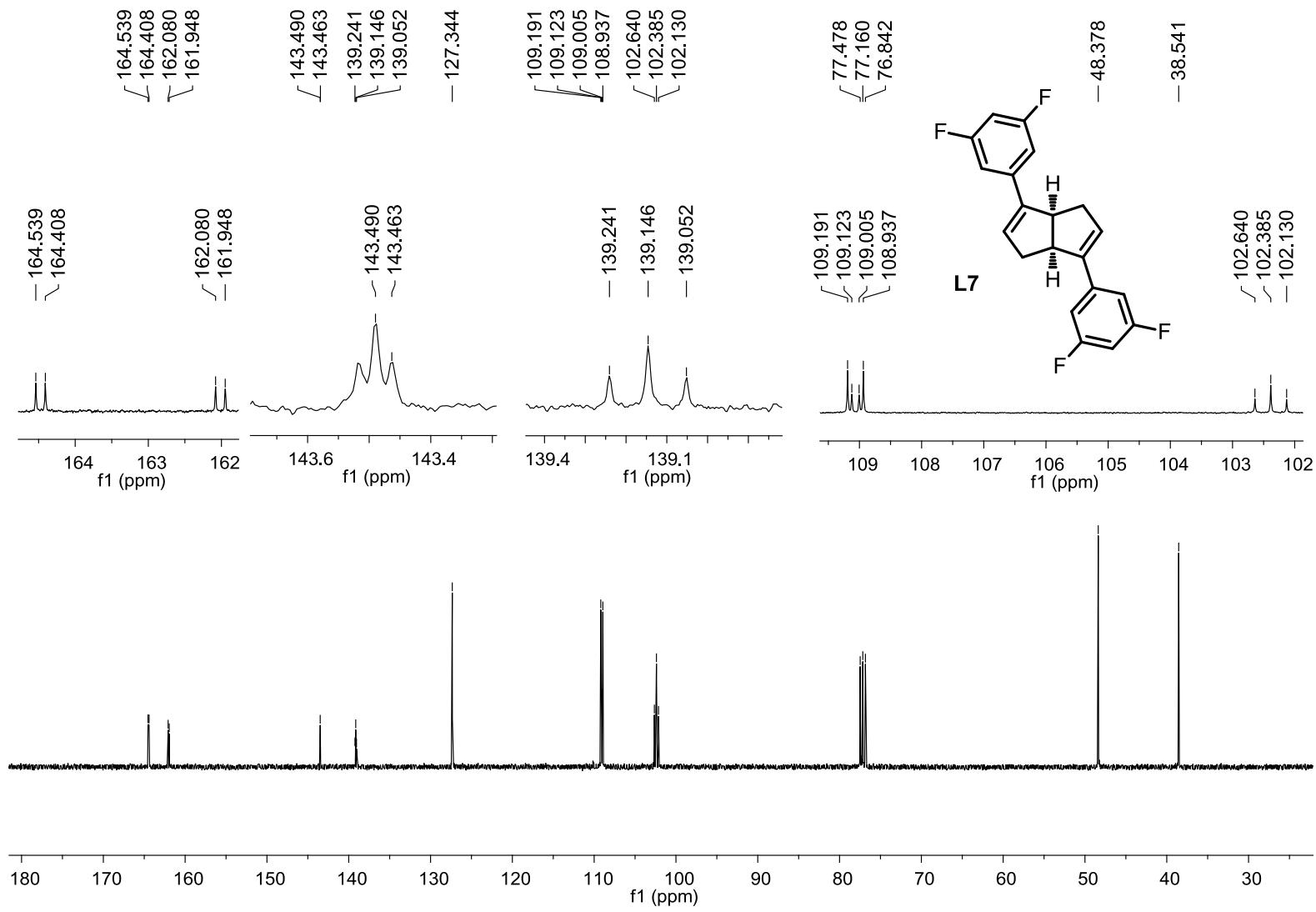
### (1*S*, 2*R*)-[1,1':3',1"-Terphenyl]-2'-yl 1-allyl-2-phenylcyclobutanecarboxylate 7

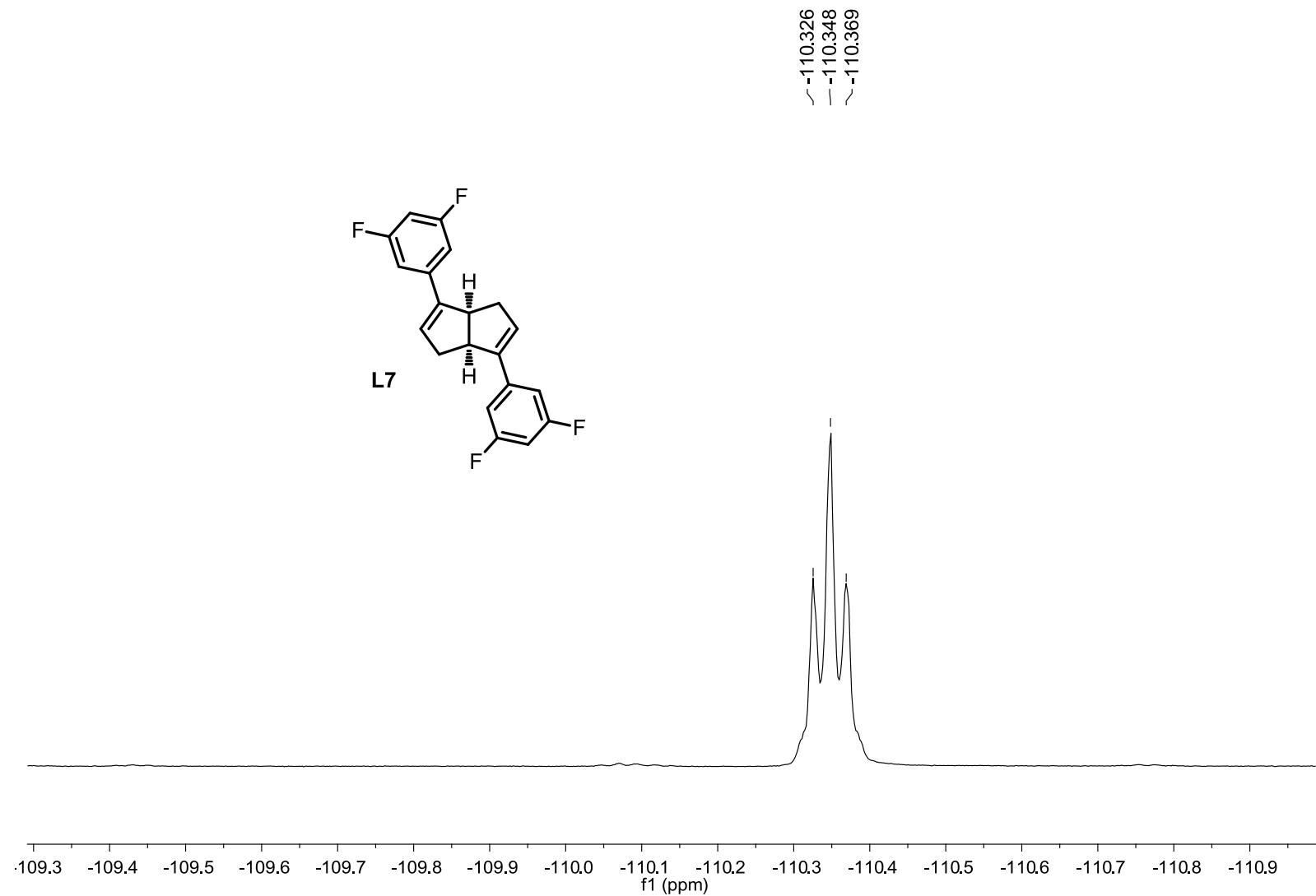


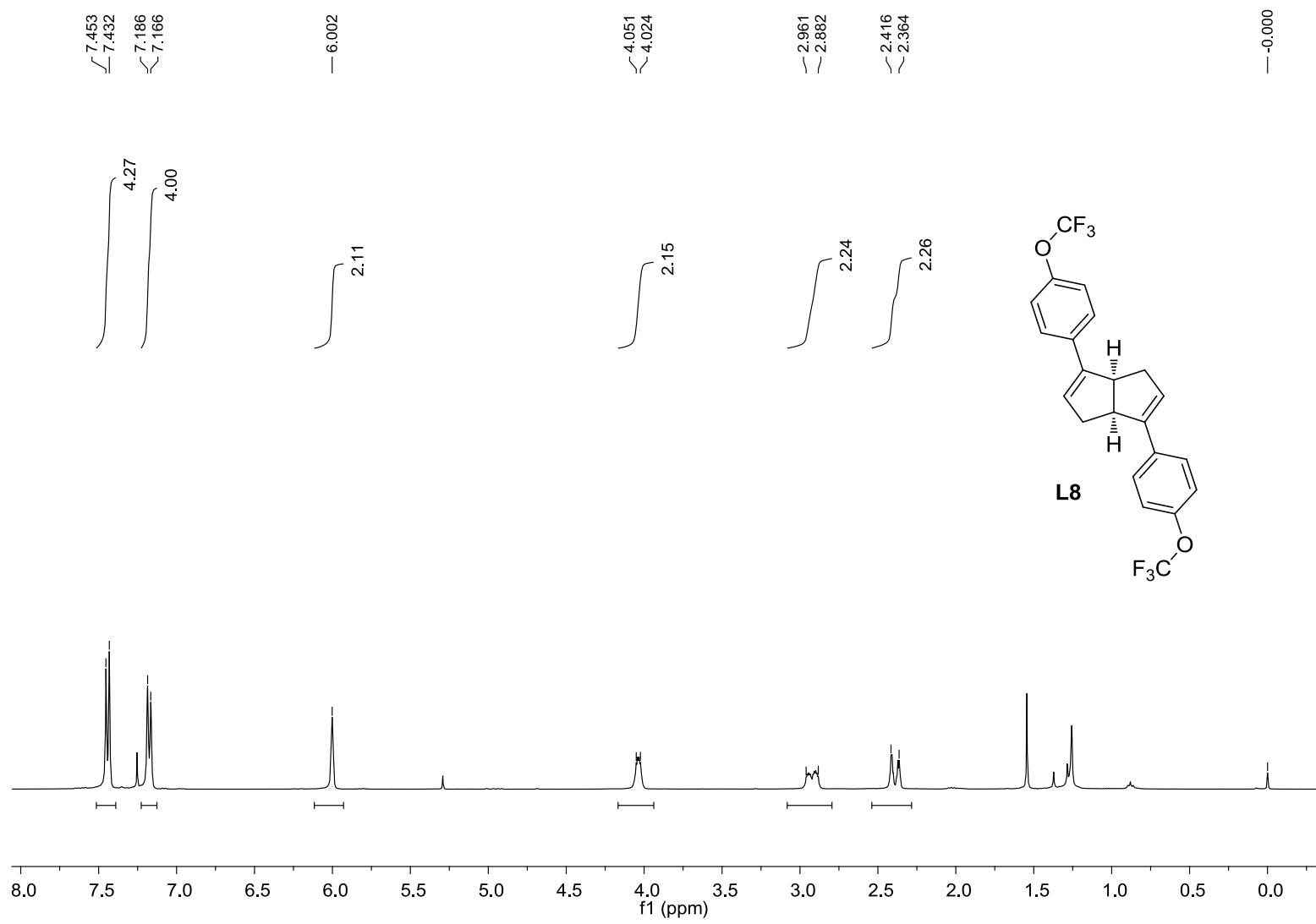
Under argon atmosphere, freshly distilled  $^i\text{Pr}_2\text{NH}$  (84  $\mu\text{L}$ , 0.598 mmol) was dissolved in 1 mL THF in a schlenk tube at -72  $^\circ\text{C}$ , *n*-BuLi (2.5 M in hexane, 0.24 mL, 0.598 mmol) was added dropwised and the mixture was reacted for 20 min at -72  $^\circ\text{C}$ . The solution of (1*S*, 2*S*)-[1,1':3',1"-terphenyl]-2'-yl 2-phenylcyclobutanecarboxylate (186 mg, 0.46 mmol) in 1 mL THF was added to the freshly prepared LDA-THF solution dropwised and then stirred for 1 h at -72  $^\circ\text{C}$ . Then allyl iodide (63  $\mu\text{L}$ , 0.69 mmol) was added to the mixture dropwised and was stirred for 1 h at -72  $^\circ\text{C}$ , then removed the dry ice-ethonal bath. When the mixture was heated to 25  $^\circ\text{C}$ , the mixture was stirred for additional 1 h to accomplish the reaction. The solvent was evaporated and the residue was purified by flash column chromatography on silica gel (eluting with 10% DCM/petroleum ether, TLC  $R_f = 0.30$  (25% DCM/ petroleum ether)) to get the product [1,1':3',1"-terphenyl]-2'-yl 1-allyl-2-phenylcyclo-butane-carboxylate (white solid, 202 mg, 99% yield).  $[\alpha]^{20}_D -0.5$  (*c* 0.70, CHCl<sub>3</sub>); m.p. 83-85  $^\circ\text{C}$ ; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.36-7.26 (m, 13H), 7.00-6.98 (m, 3H), 6.55-6.53 (m, 2H), 5.31-5.21 (m, 1H), 4.95 (d, *J* = 13.6 Hz, 2H), 3.34 (t, *J* = 9.2 Hz, 1H), 2.17-2.00 (m, 3H), 1.92-1.72 (m, 3H) ppm; <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  171.6, 145.0, 140.7, 138.2, 136.3, 134.2, 130.2, 129.7, 128.3, 127.8, 127.51, 127.47, 126.1, 125.8, 118.1, 54.4, 47.2, 42.5, 26.8, 21.9 ppm; IR(KBr): 3065, 3029, 2949, 1756, 1495, 1456, 1420, 1179, 1107, 1019, 918, 755, 700, 509; HRMS (EI): m/z Exact mass calcd for C<sub>32</sub>H<sub>28</sub>O<sub>2</sub> [M]<sup>+</sup>: 444.2089, found: 444.2082. enantiomeric excess was determined by HPLC with a Chiralcel PC-4 column (*n*-hexane/*i*-propanol = 98/2, 0.4 mL/min, 214 nm, 25  $^\circ\text{C}$ ); *t*<sub>r</sub>(*S*, *R*) = 12.671 min, *t*<sub>r</sub>(*R*, *S*) = 14.904 min, 91% ee. The absolute configuration was determined by <sup>1</sup>H NMR NOESY.

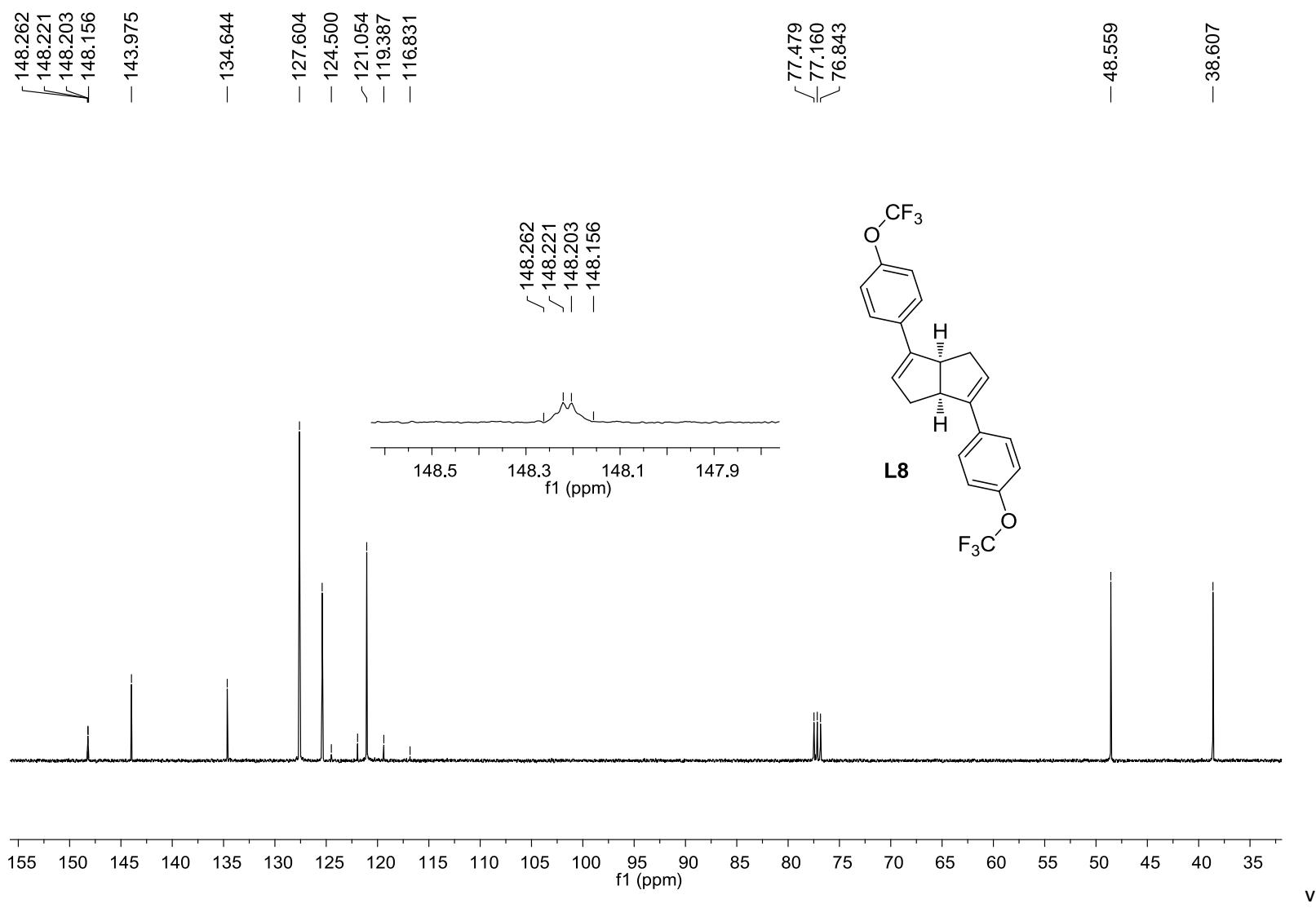




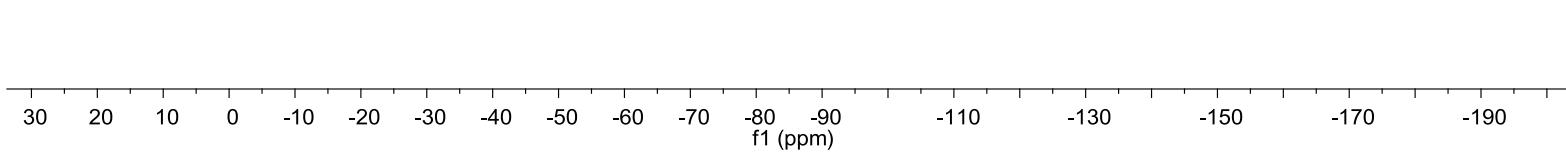
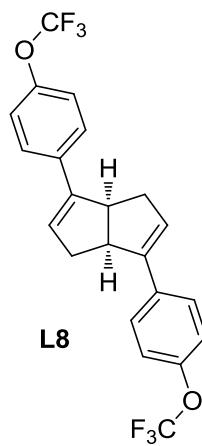


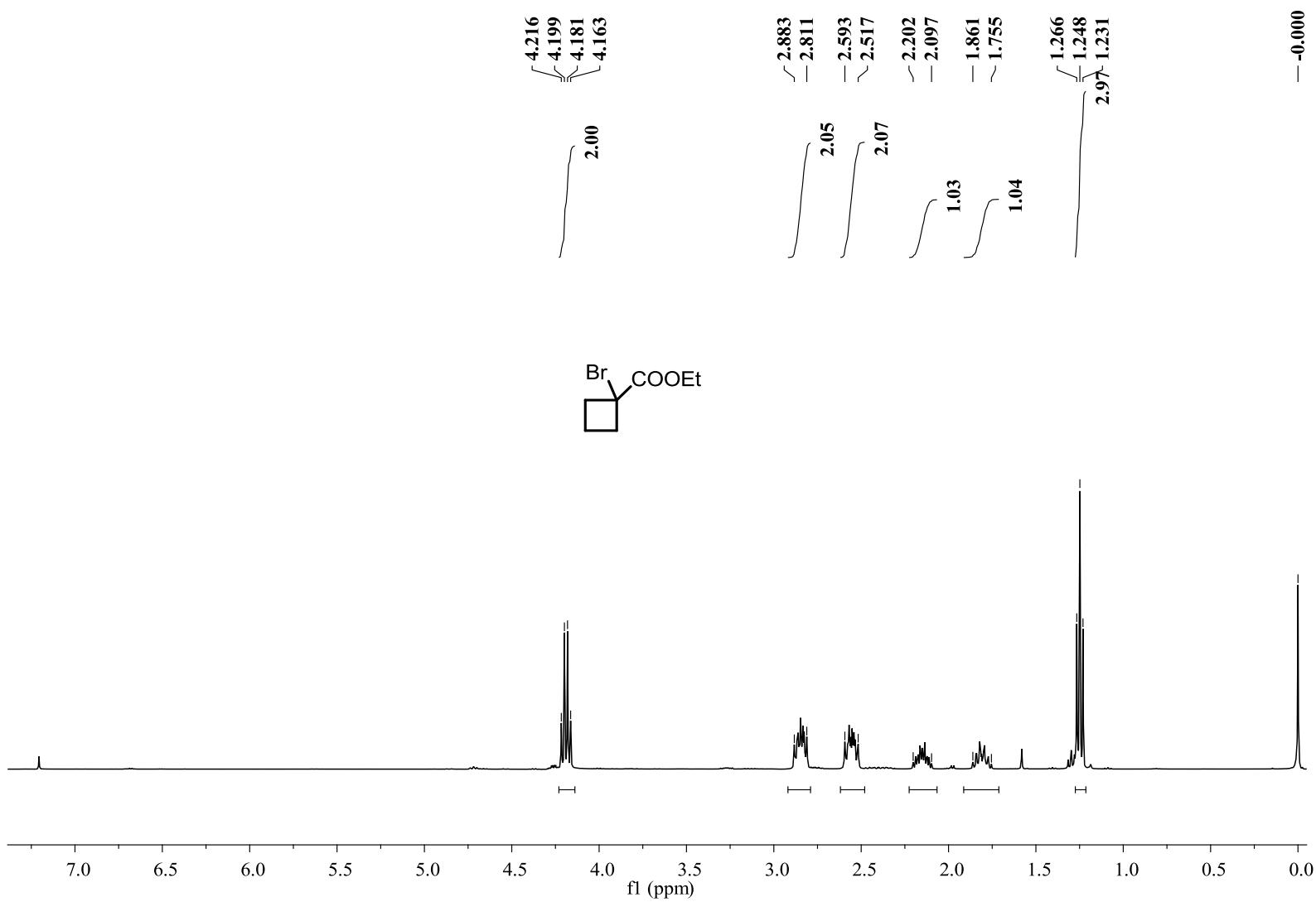


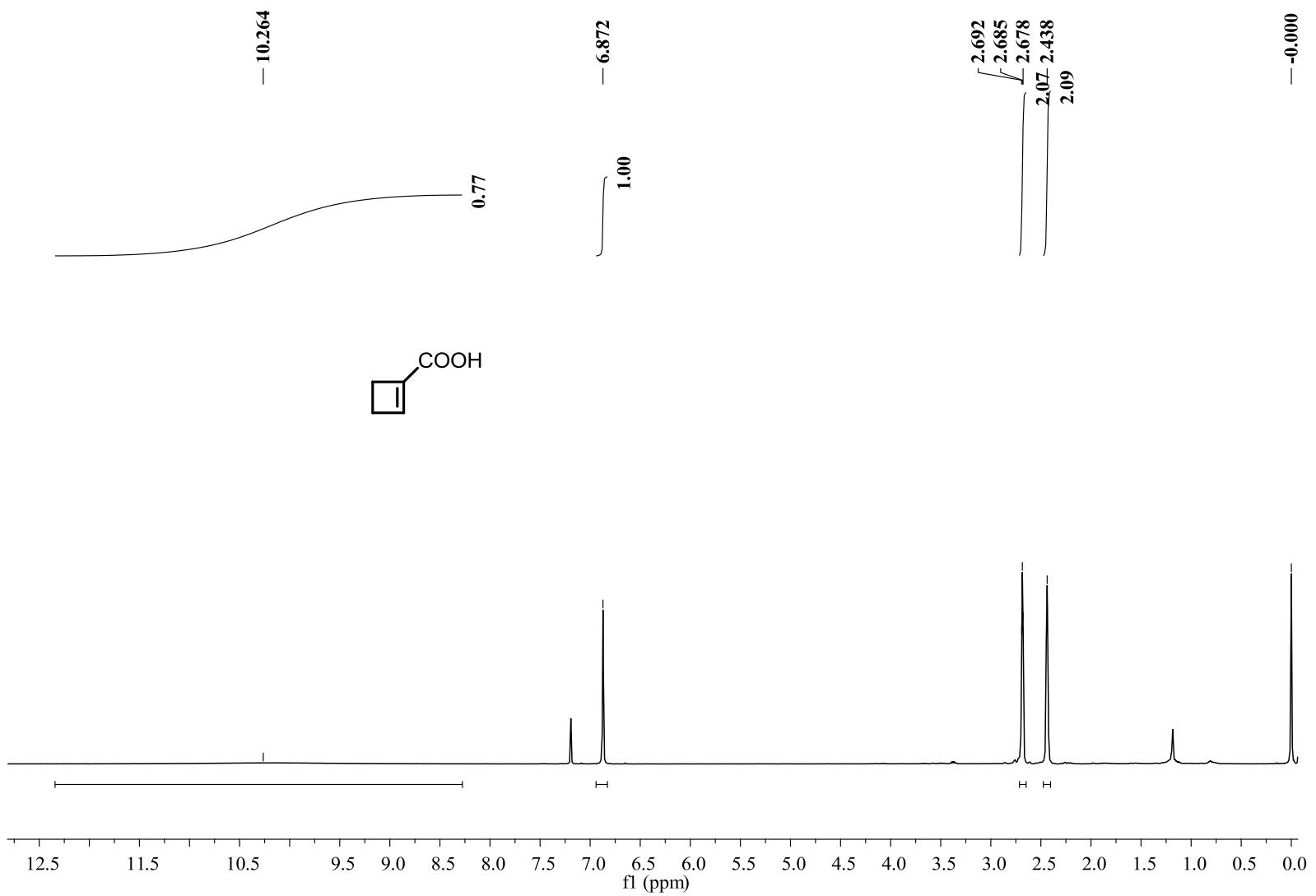


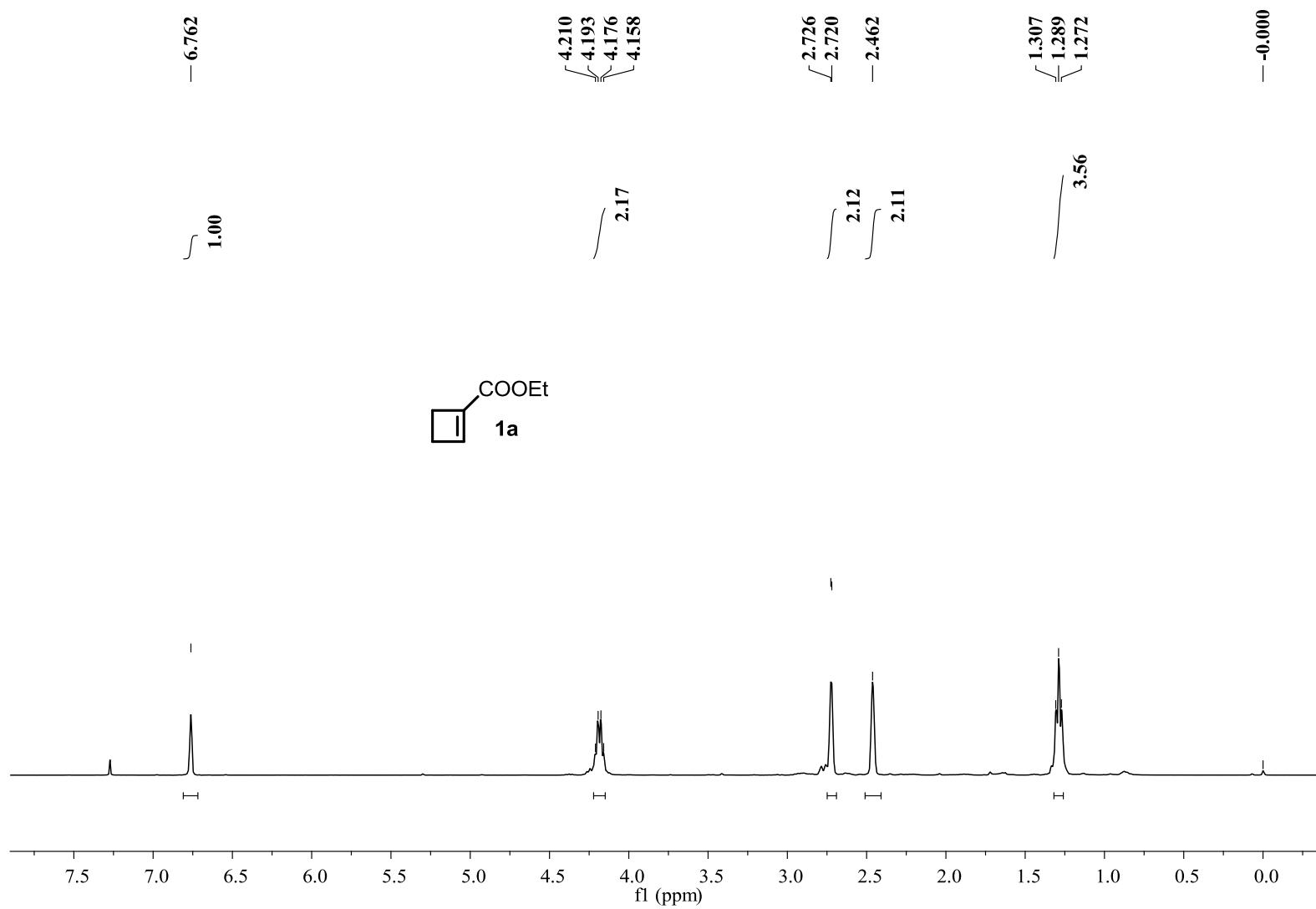


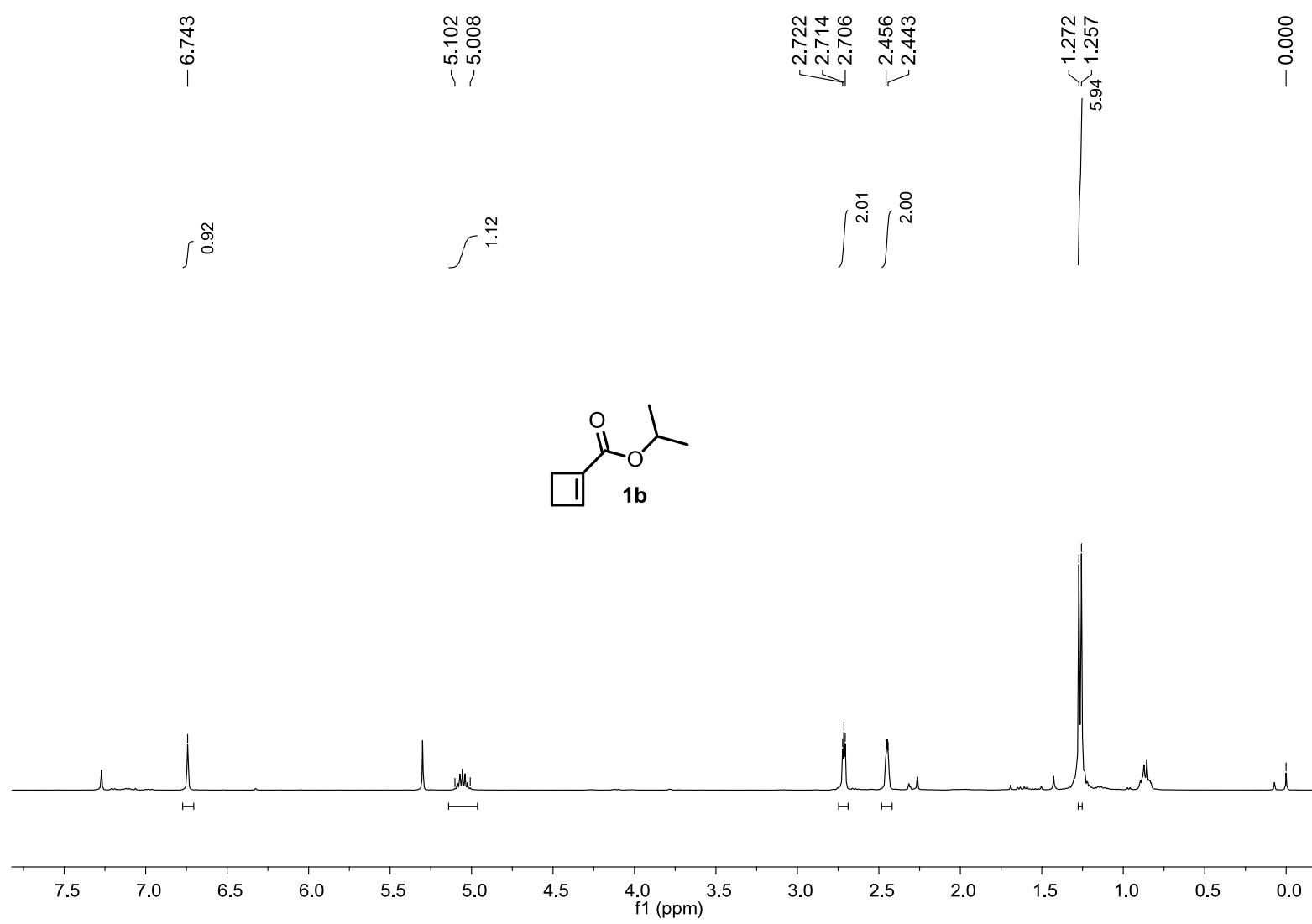
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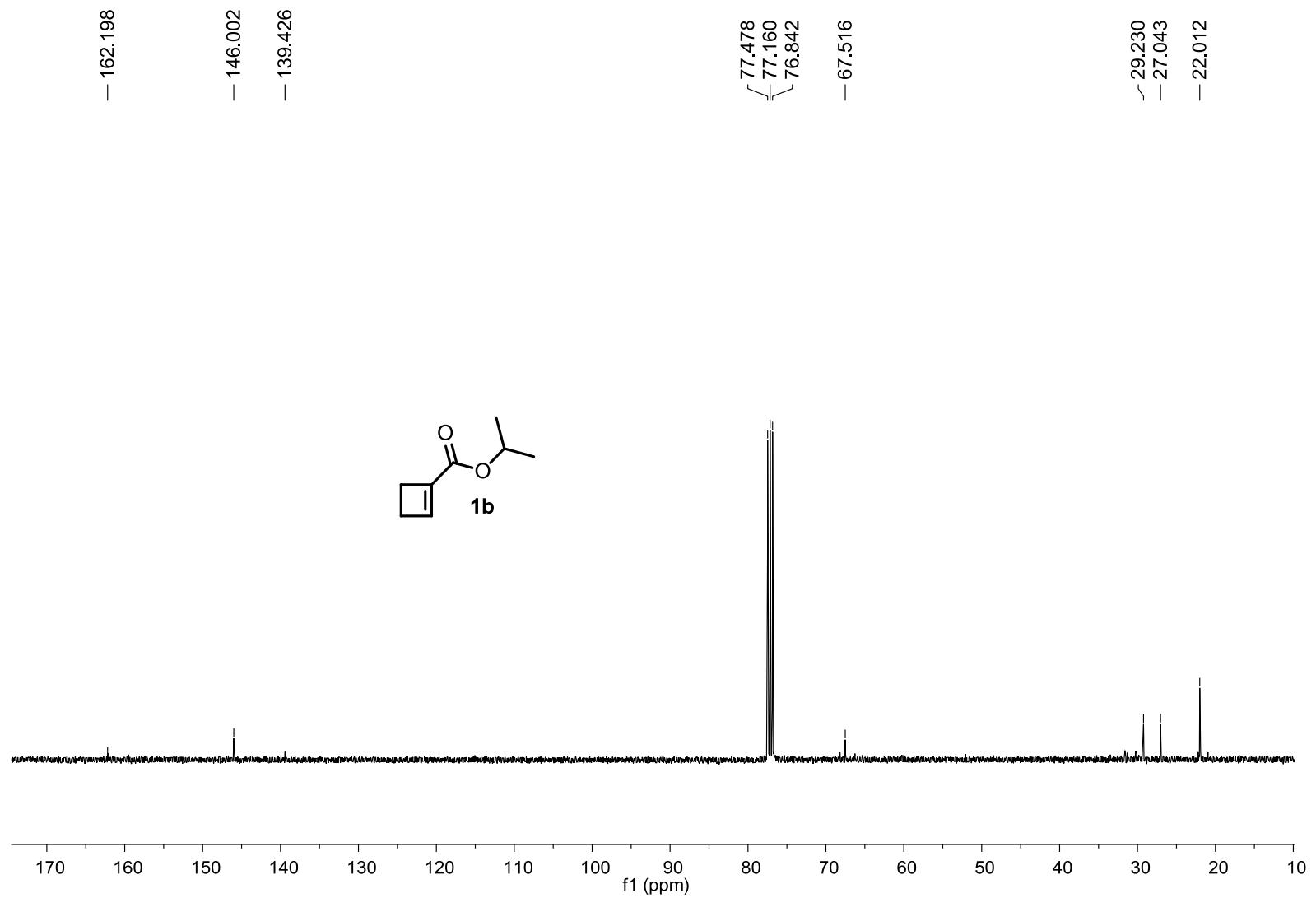


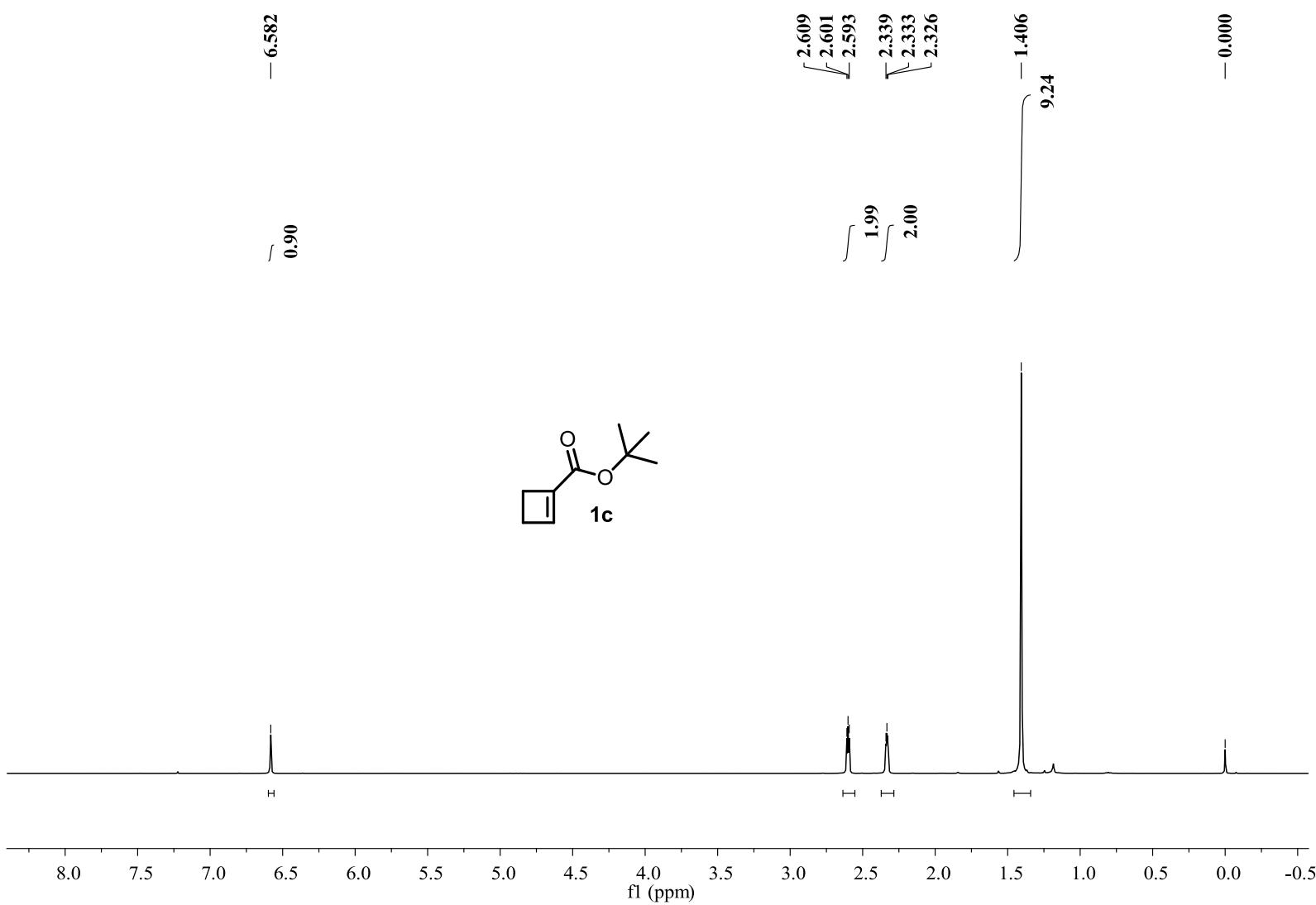


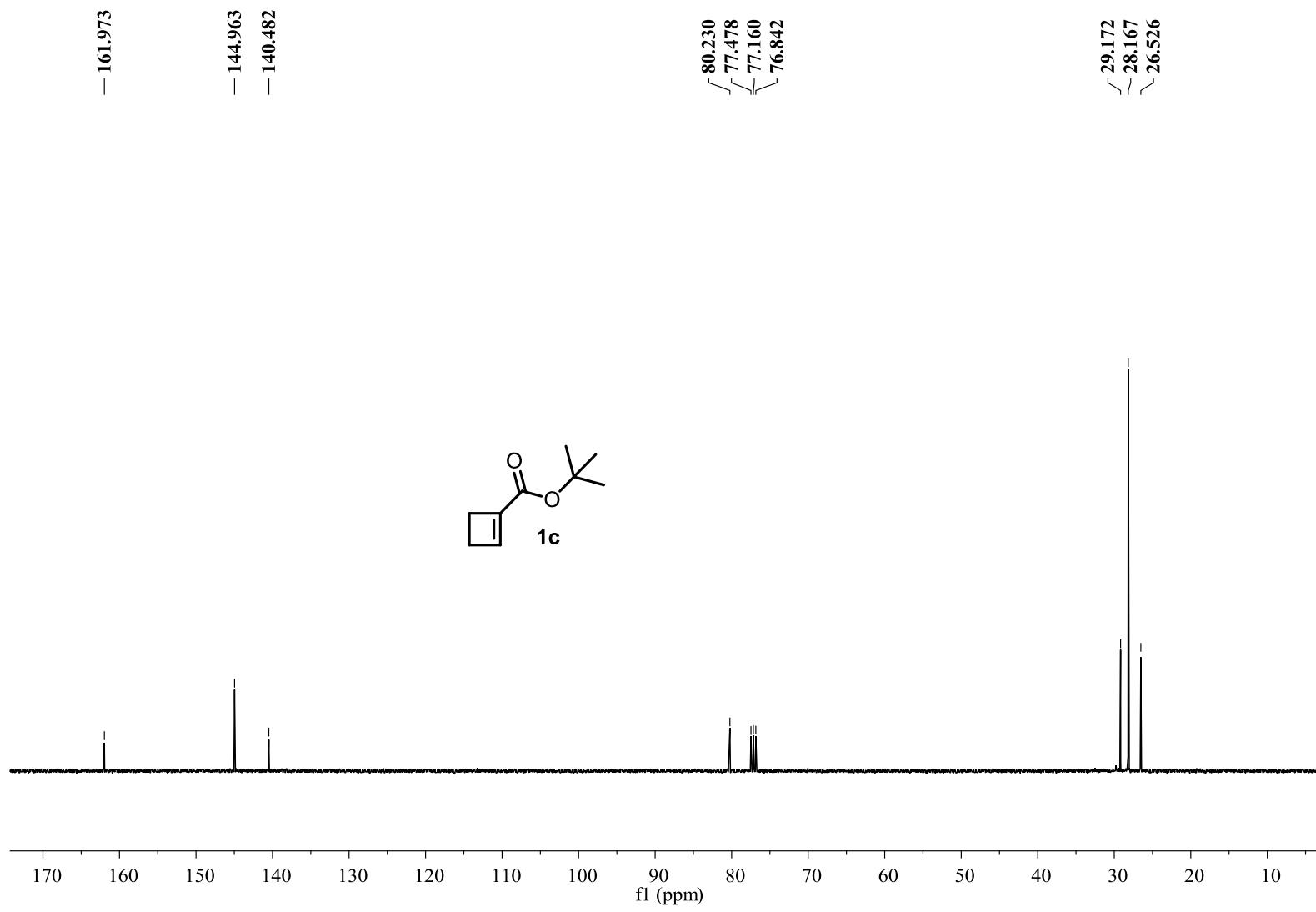


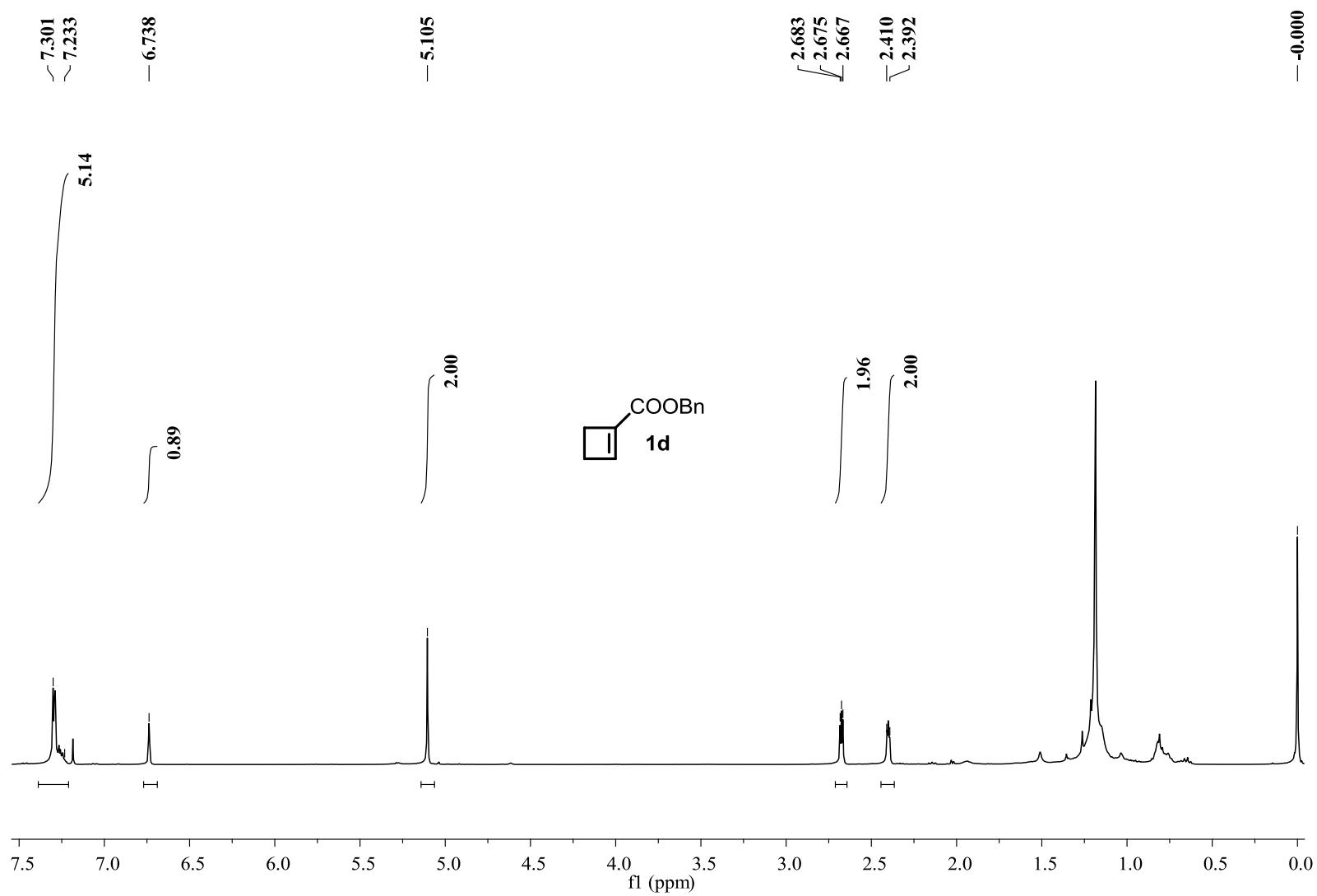


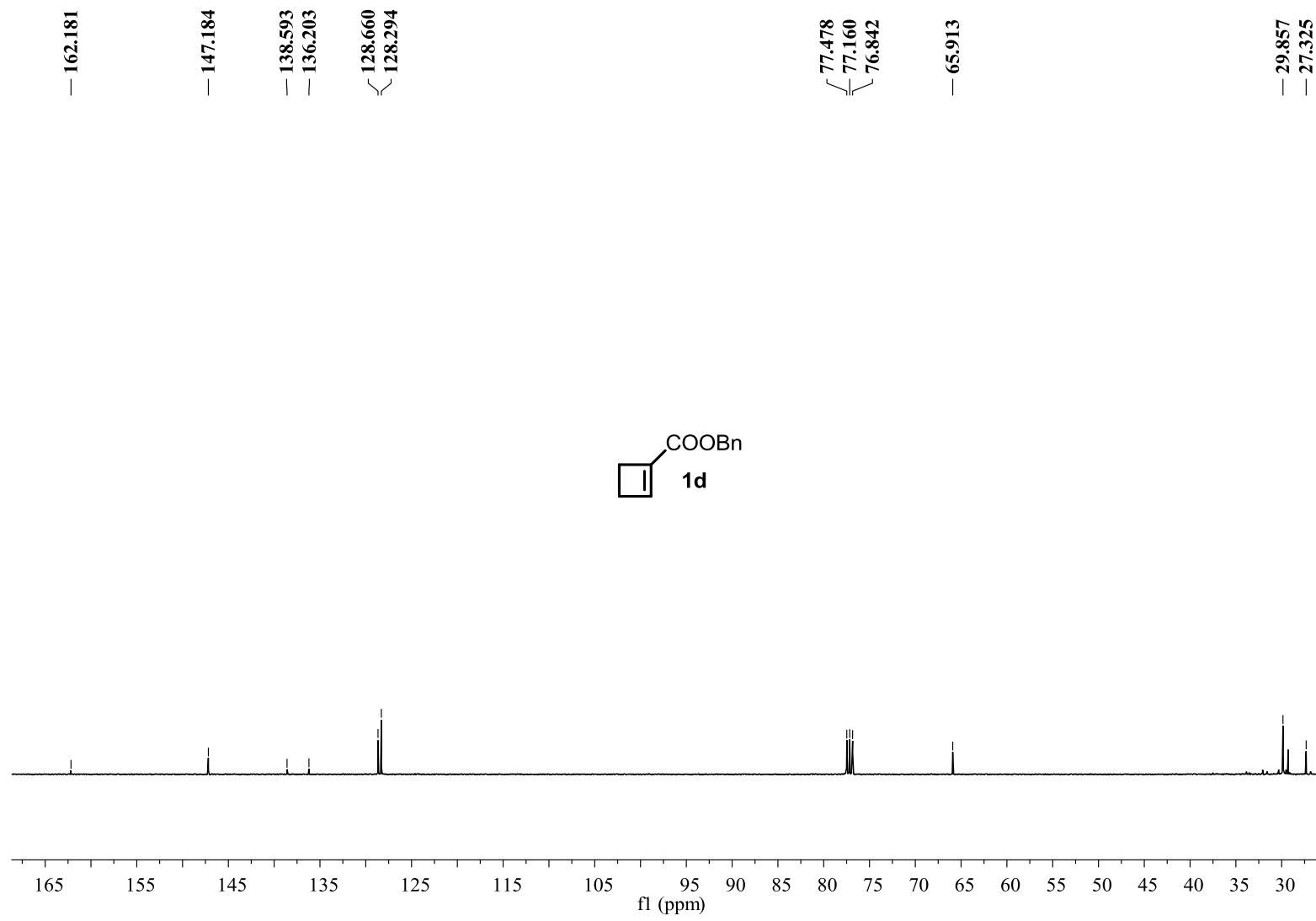


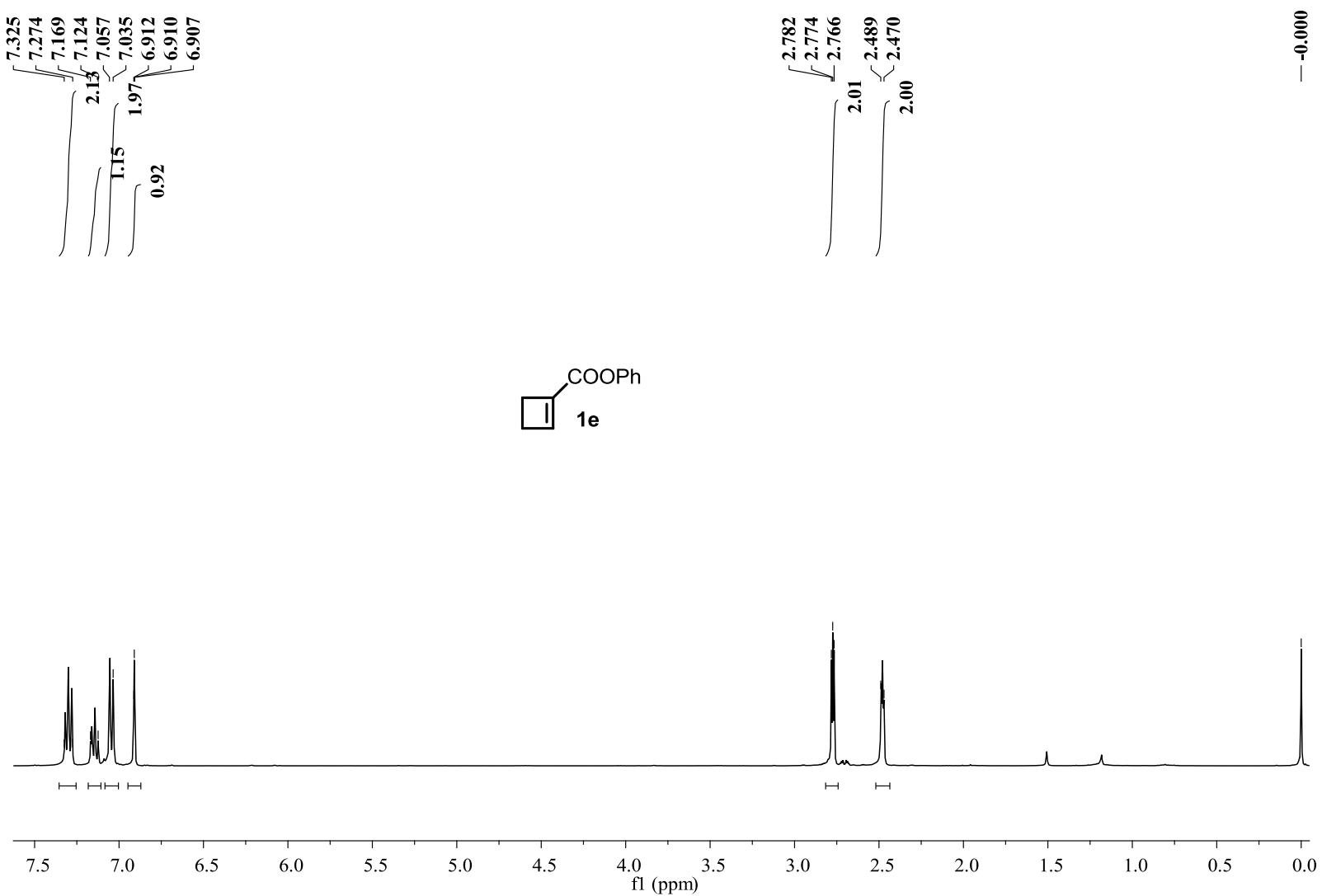


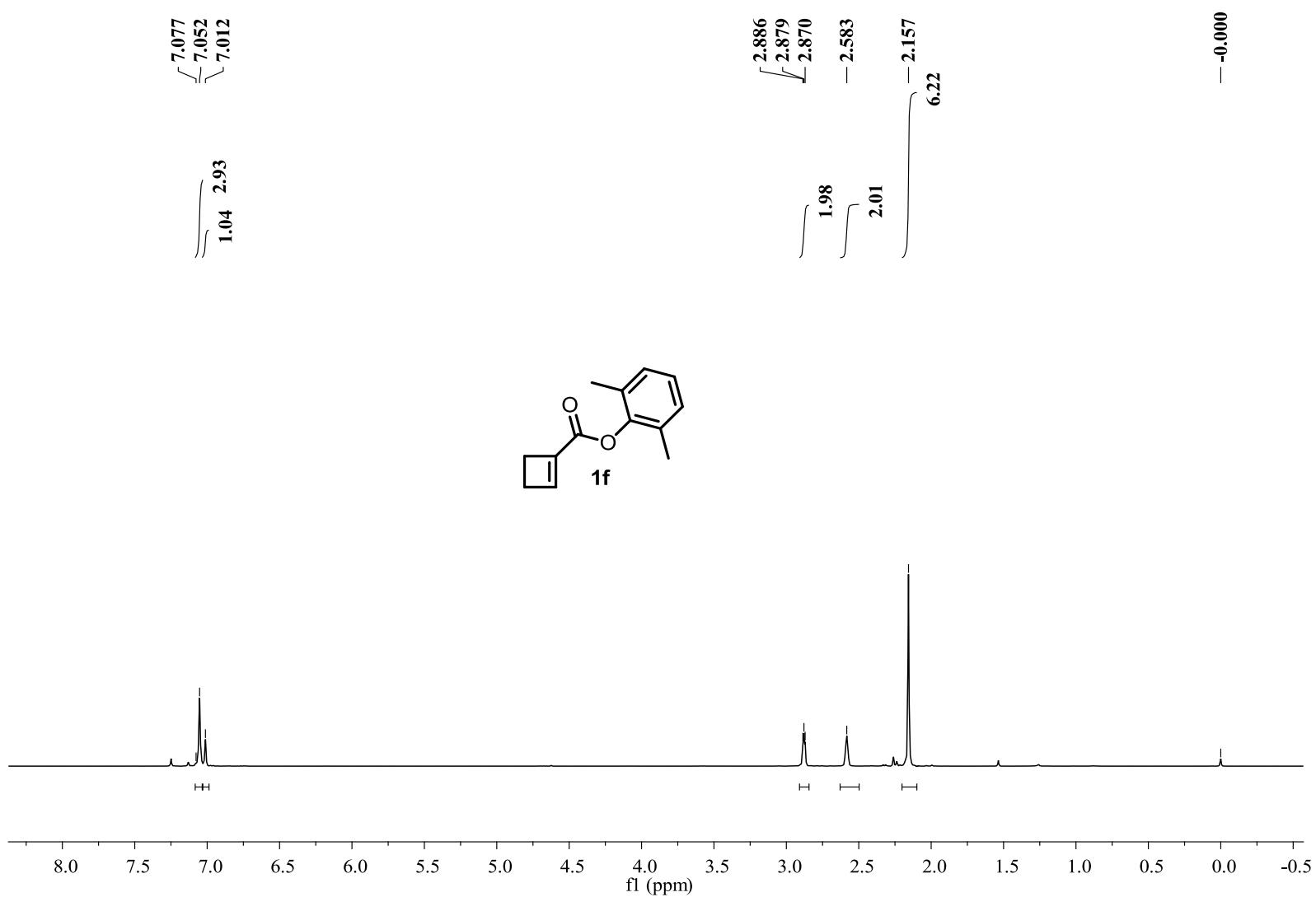


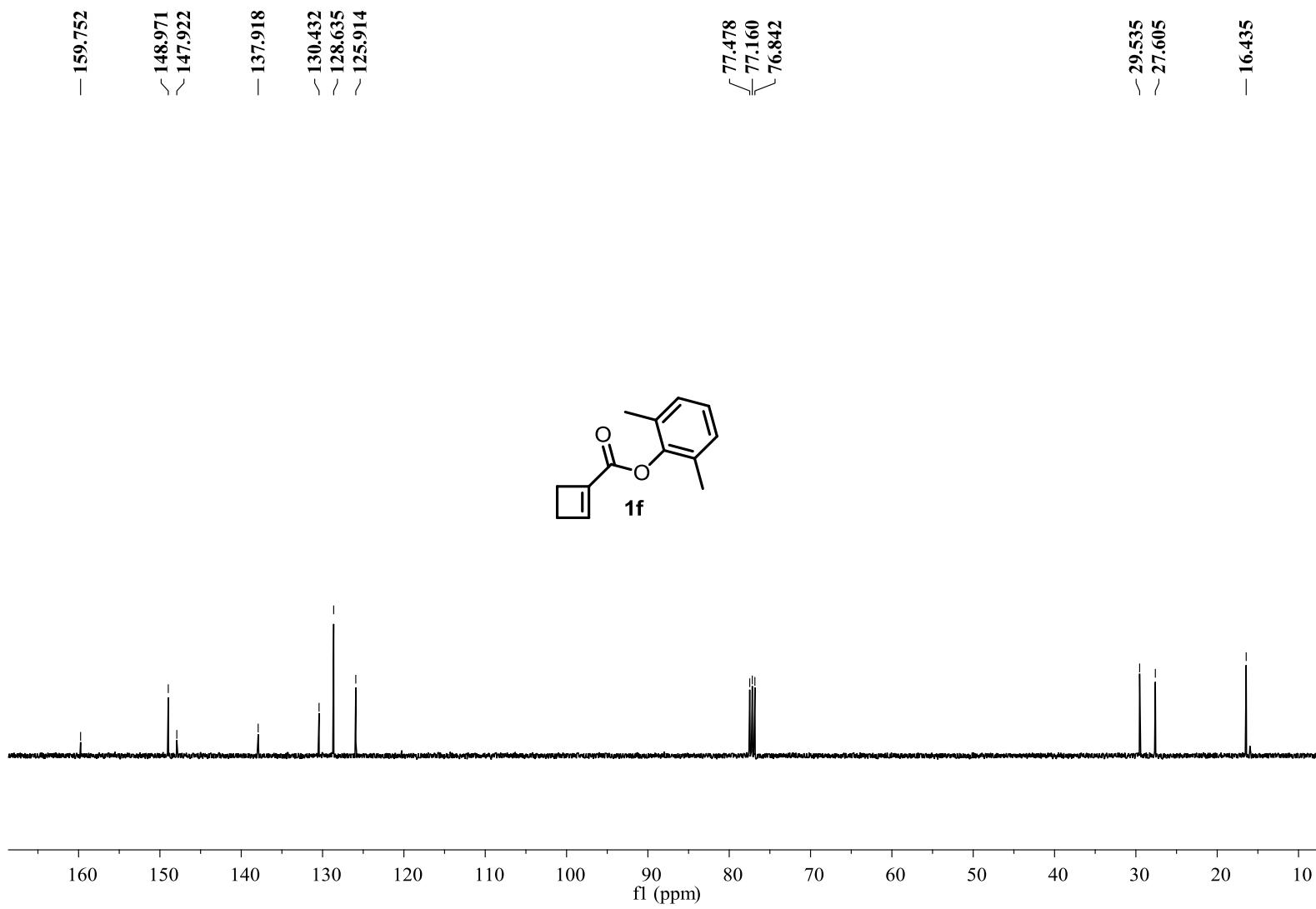


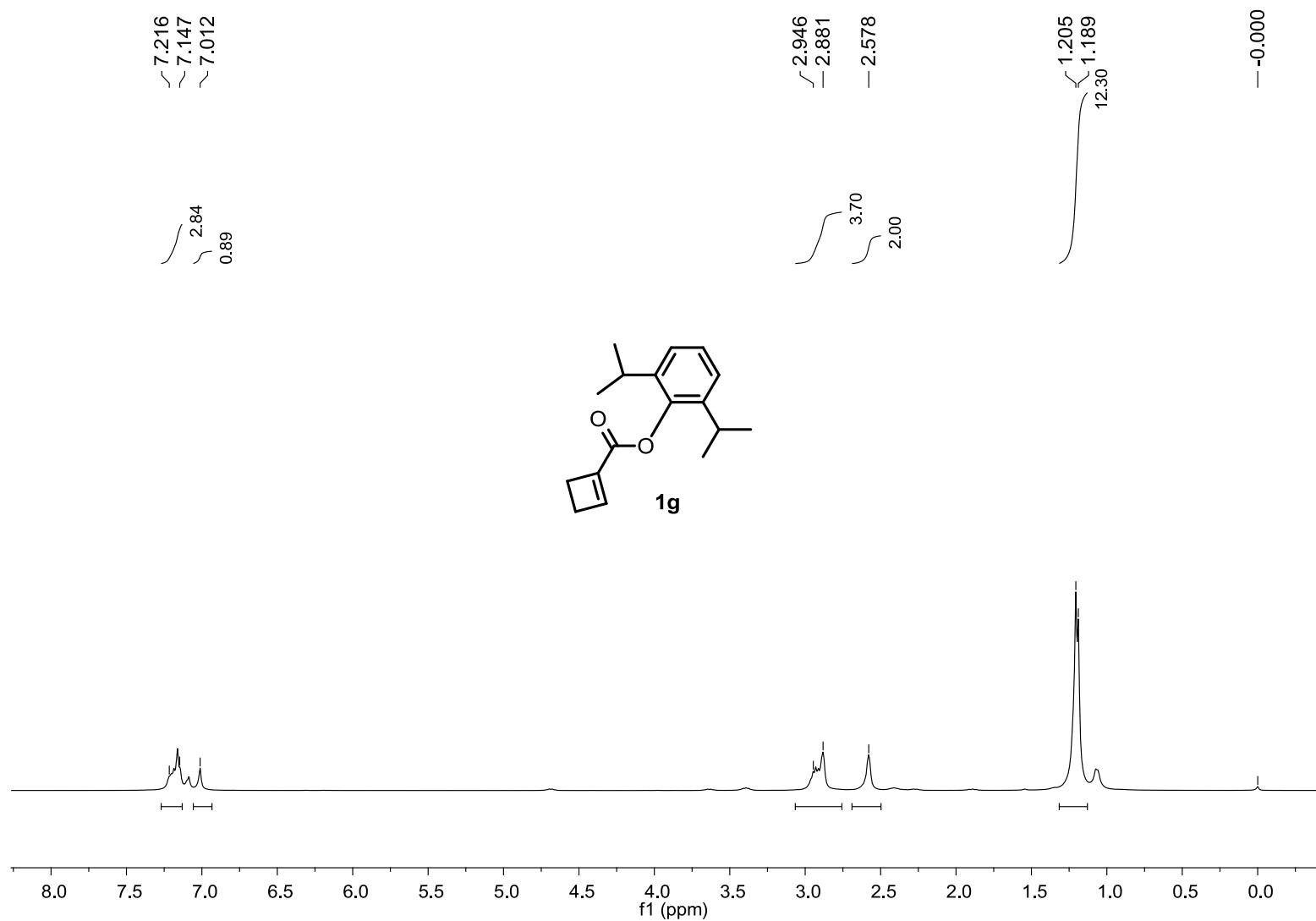


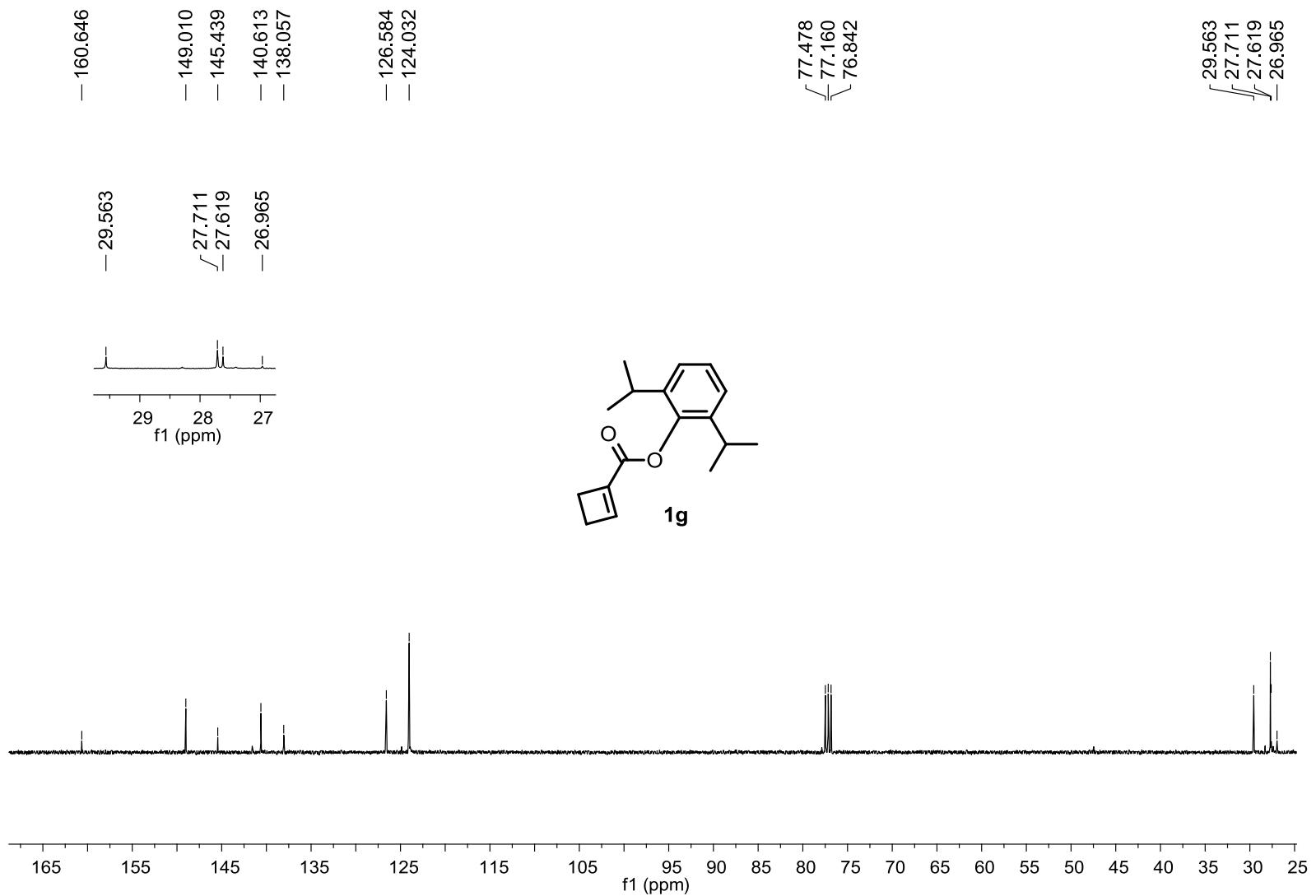


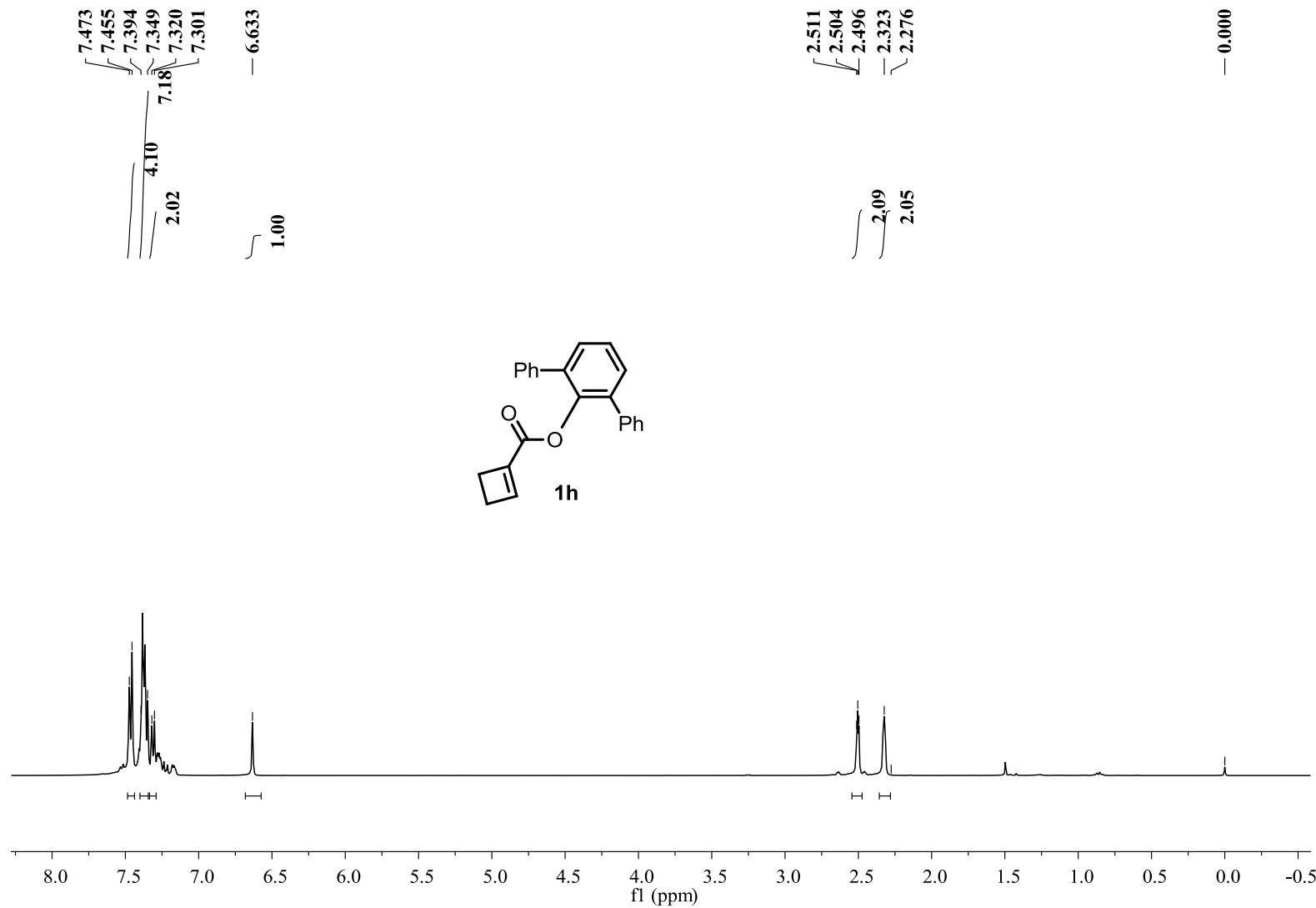


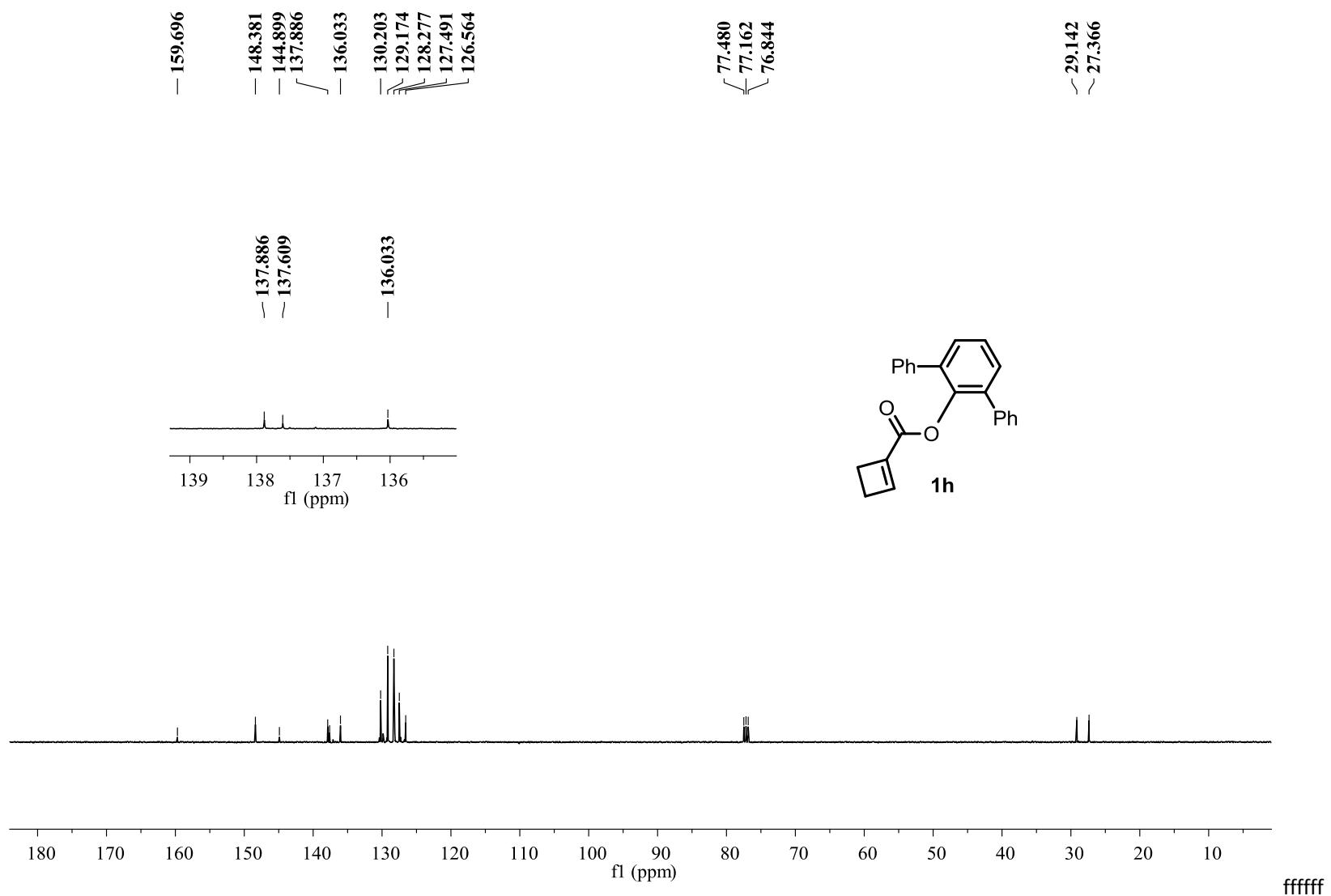


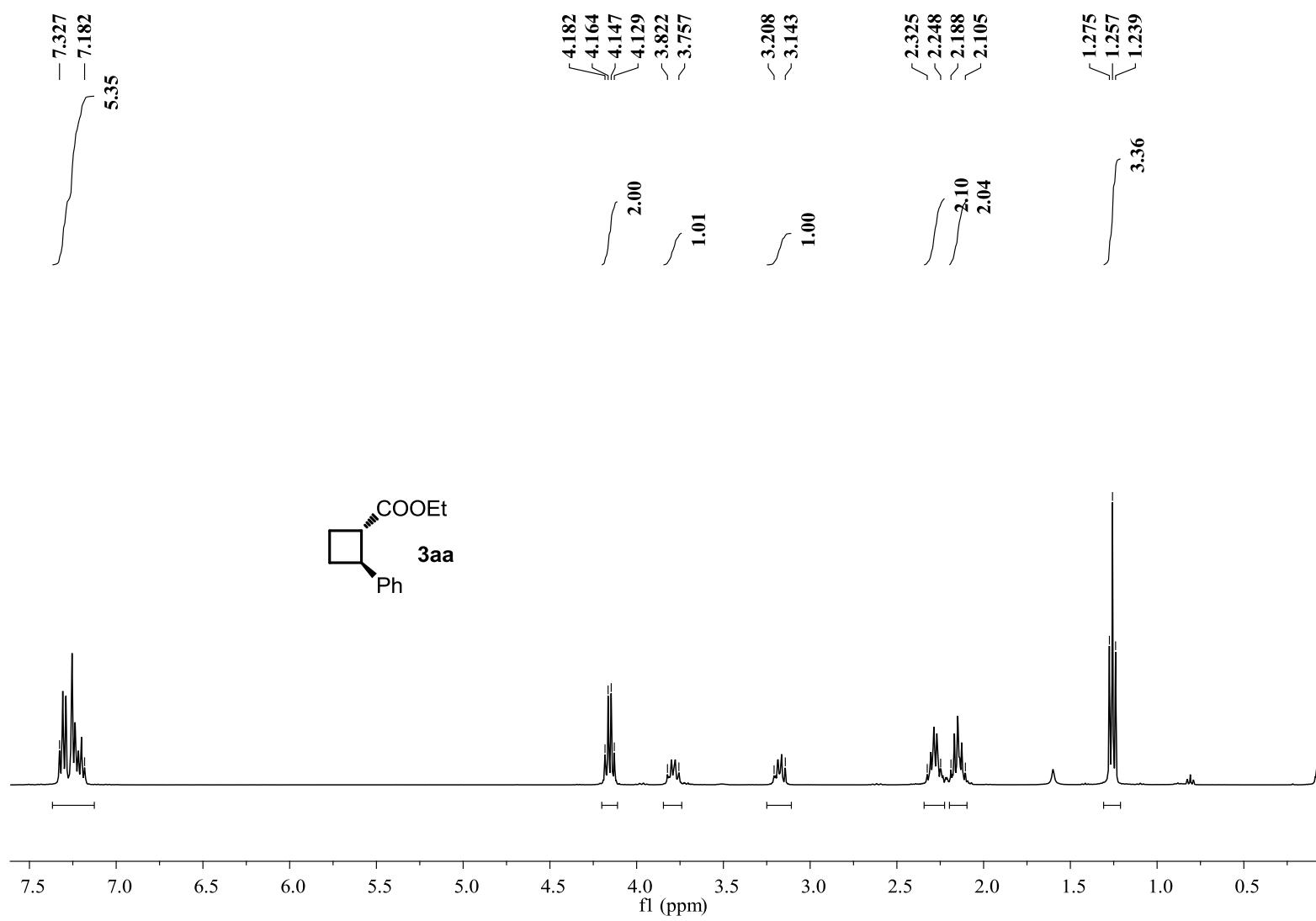


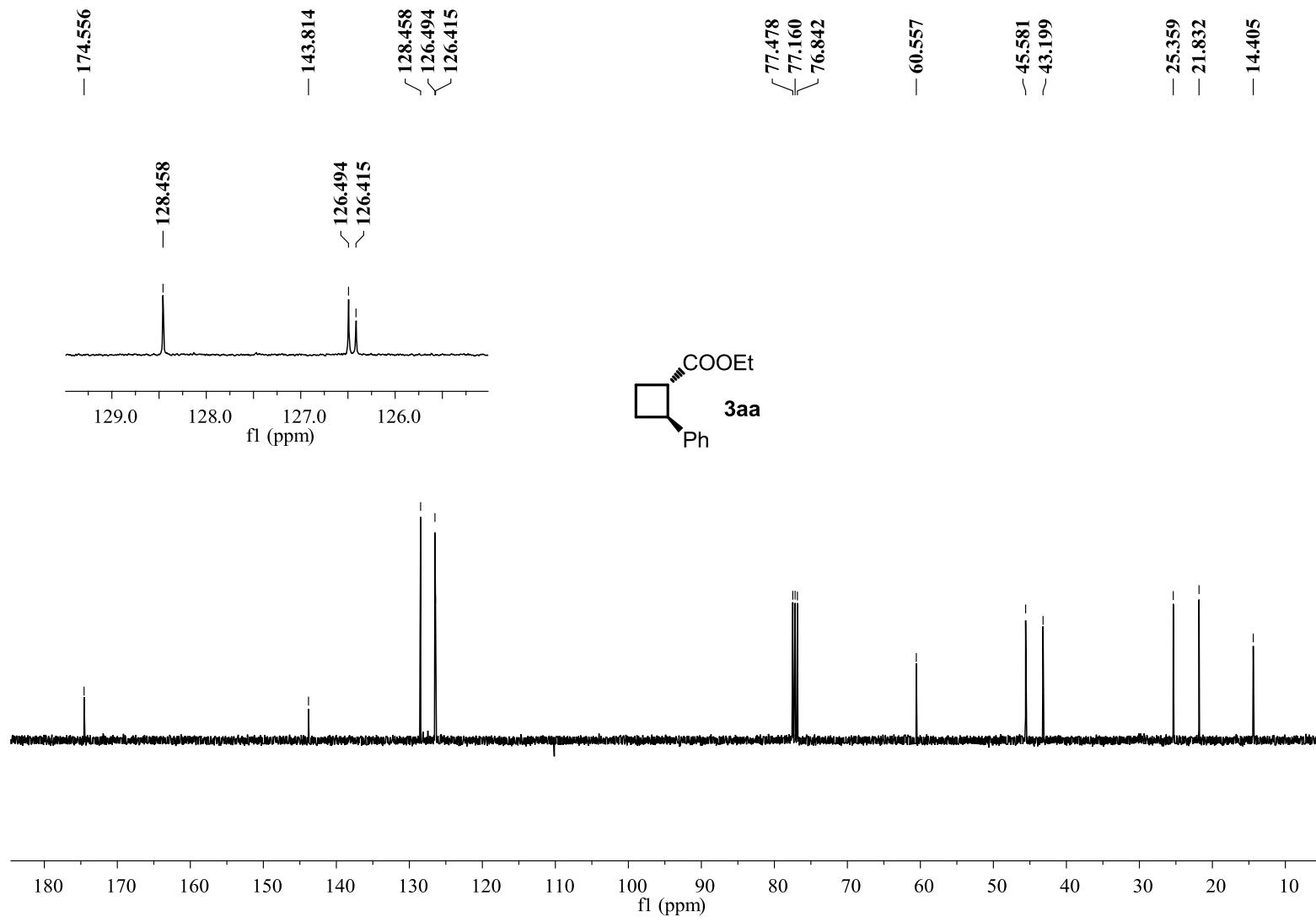


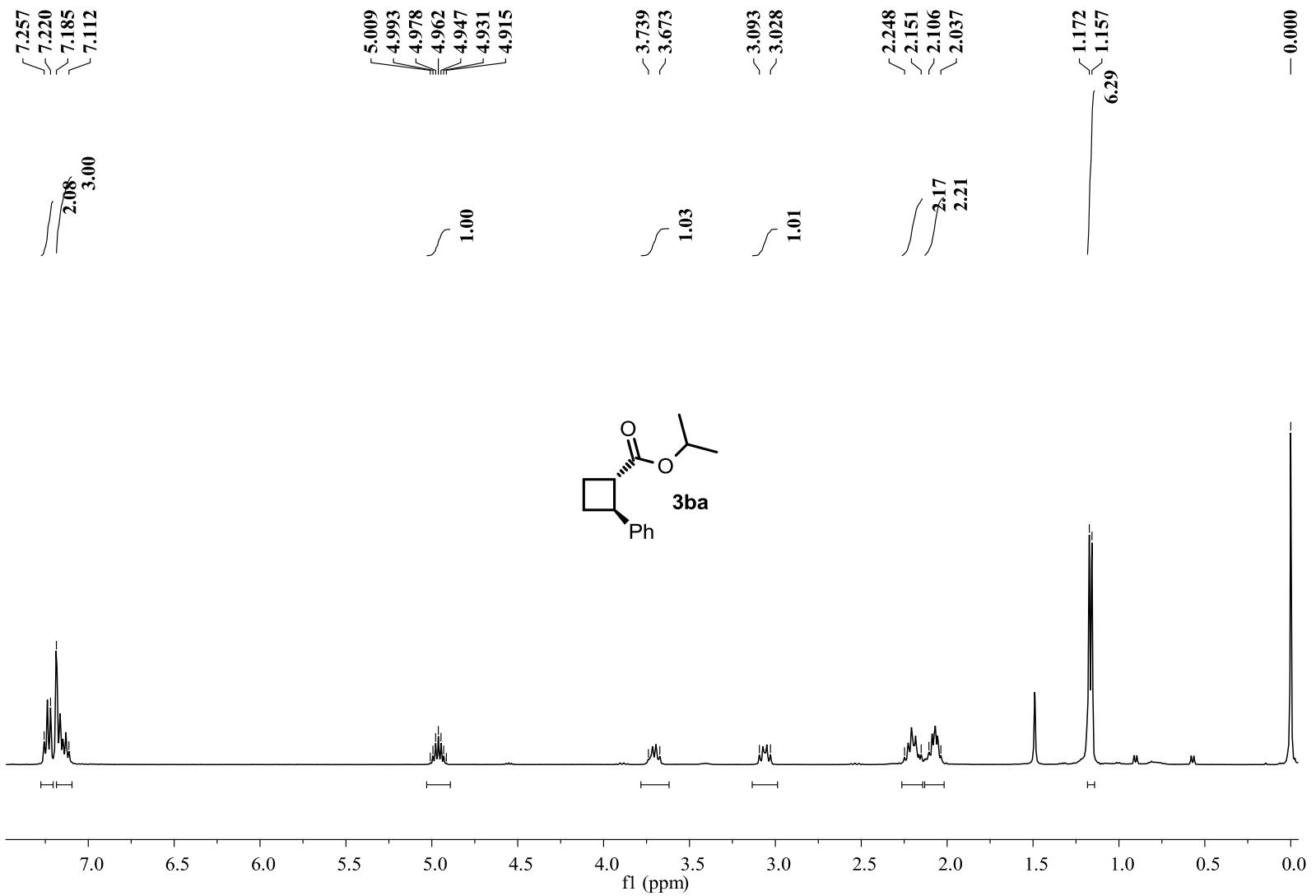


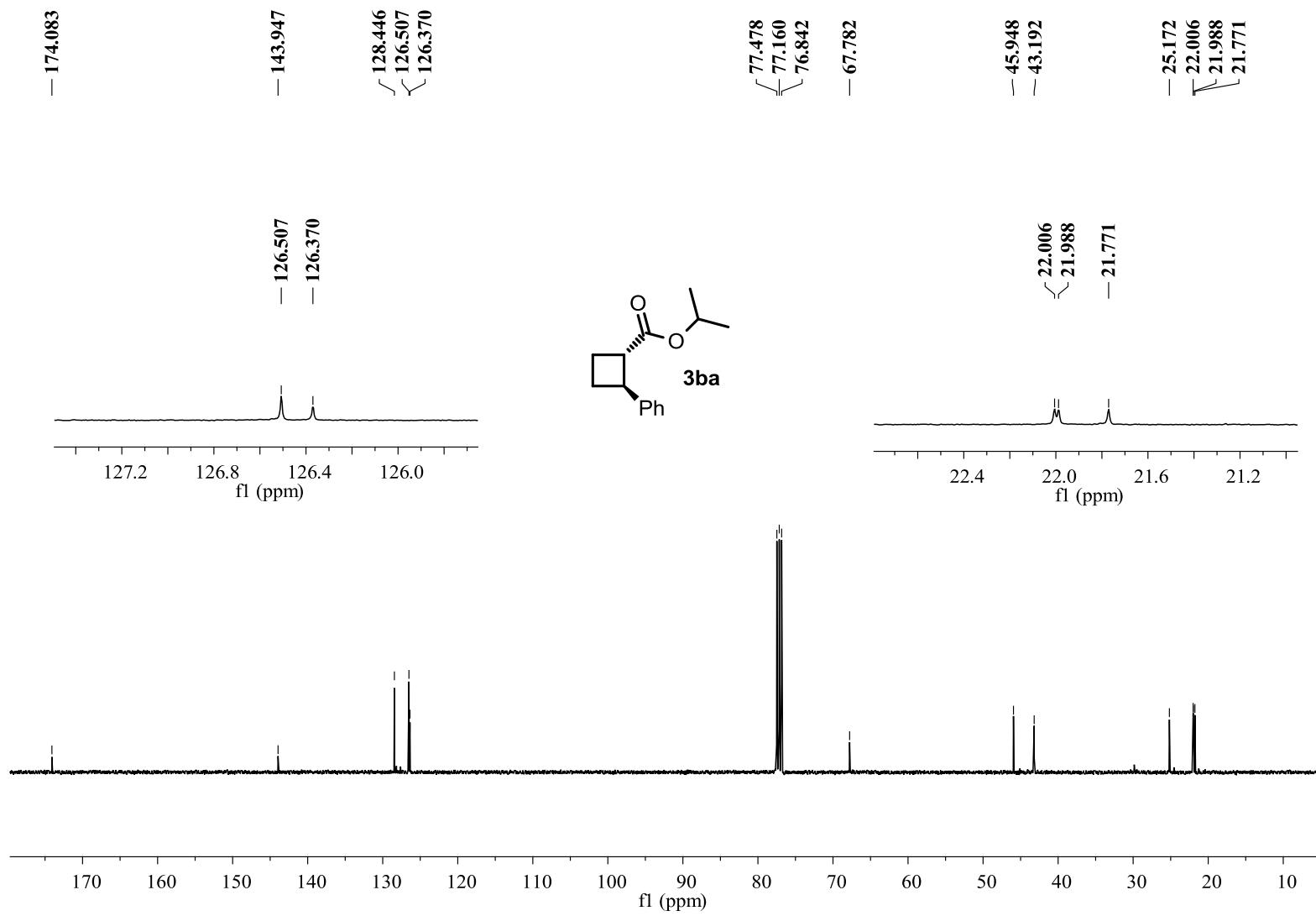


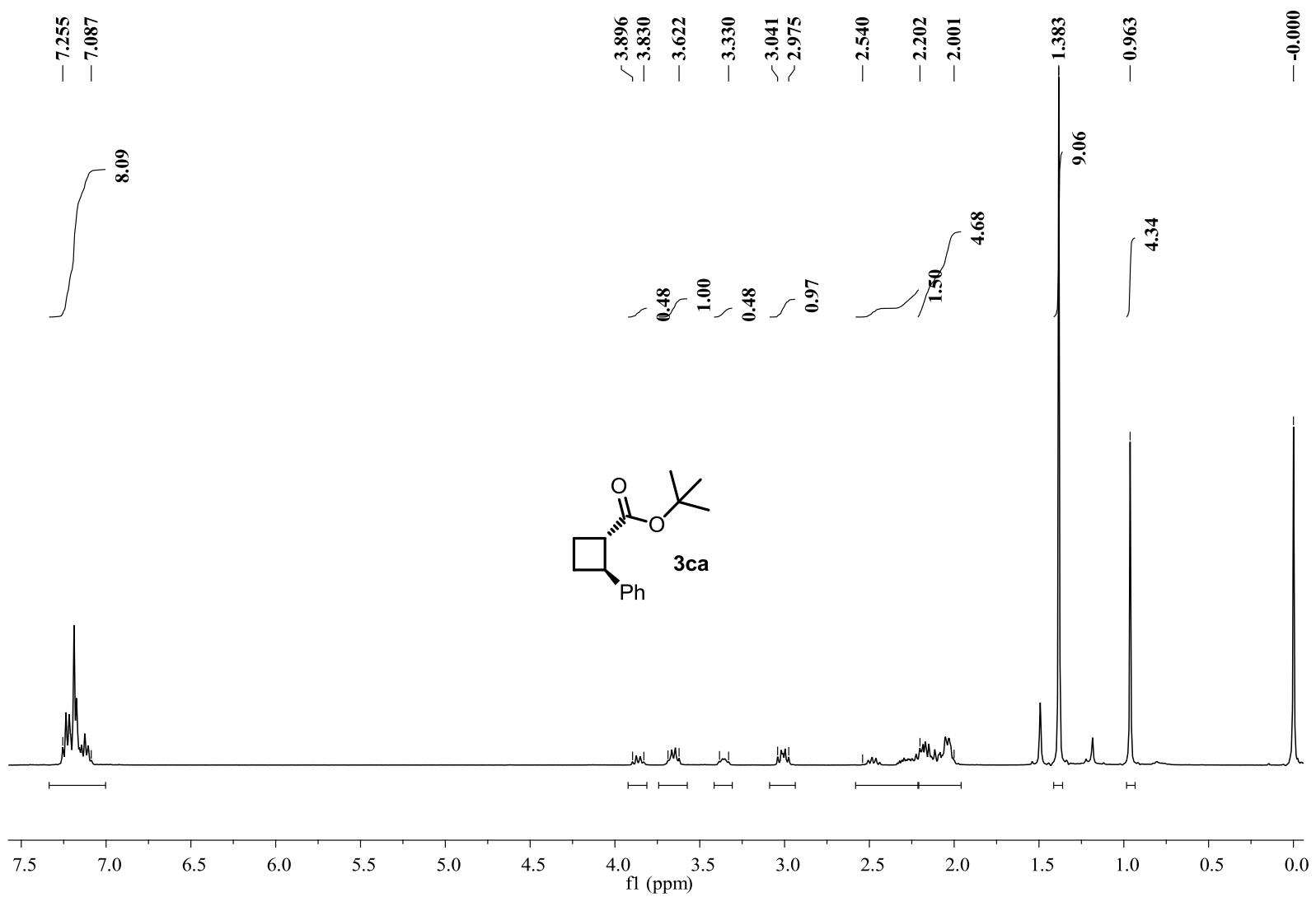


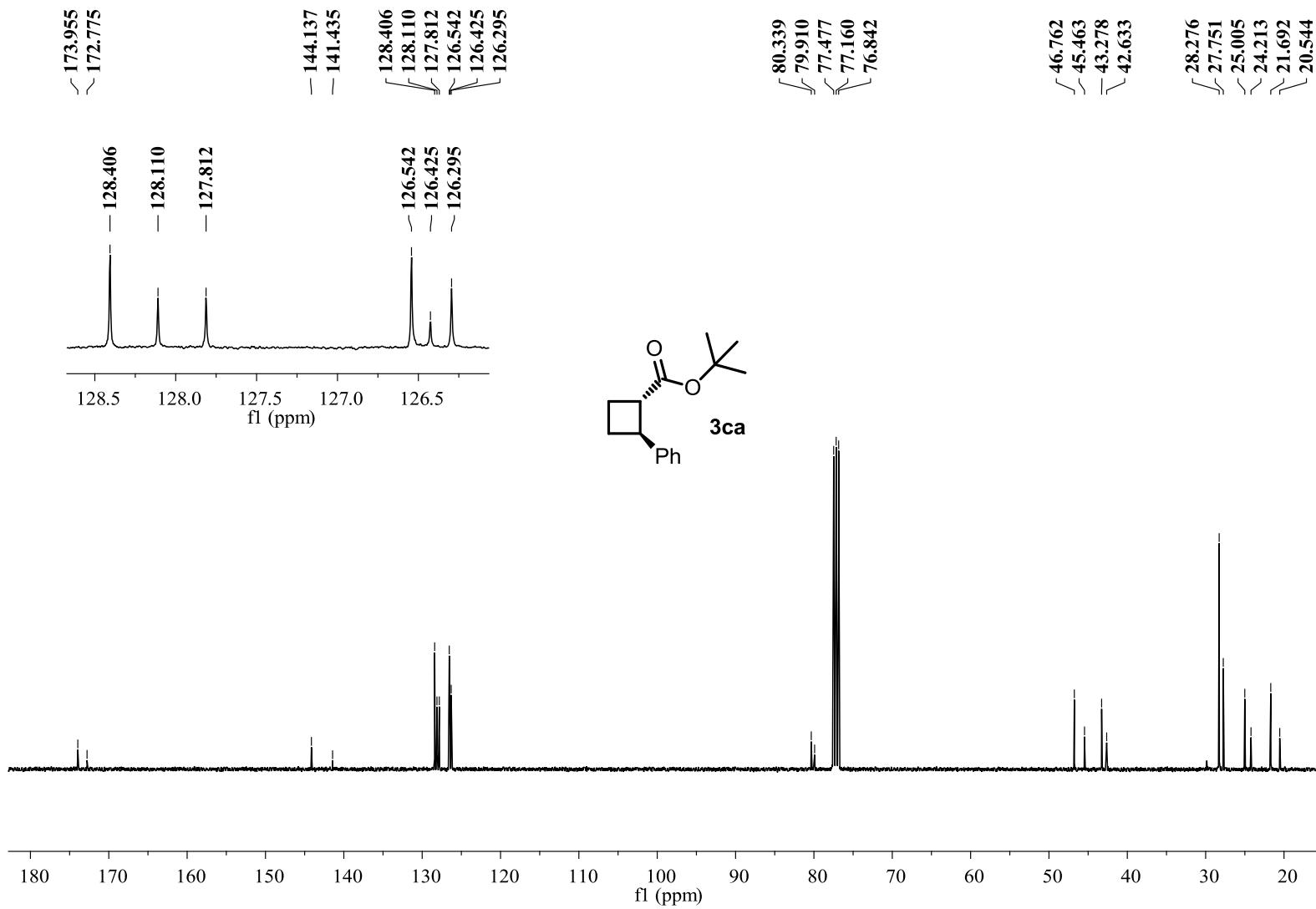


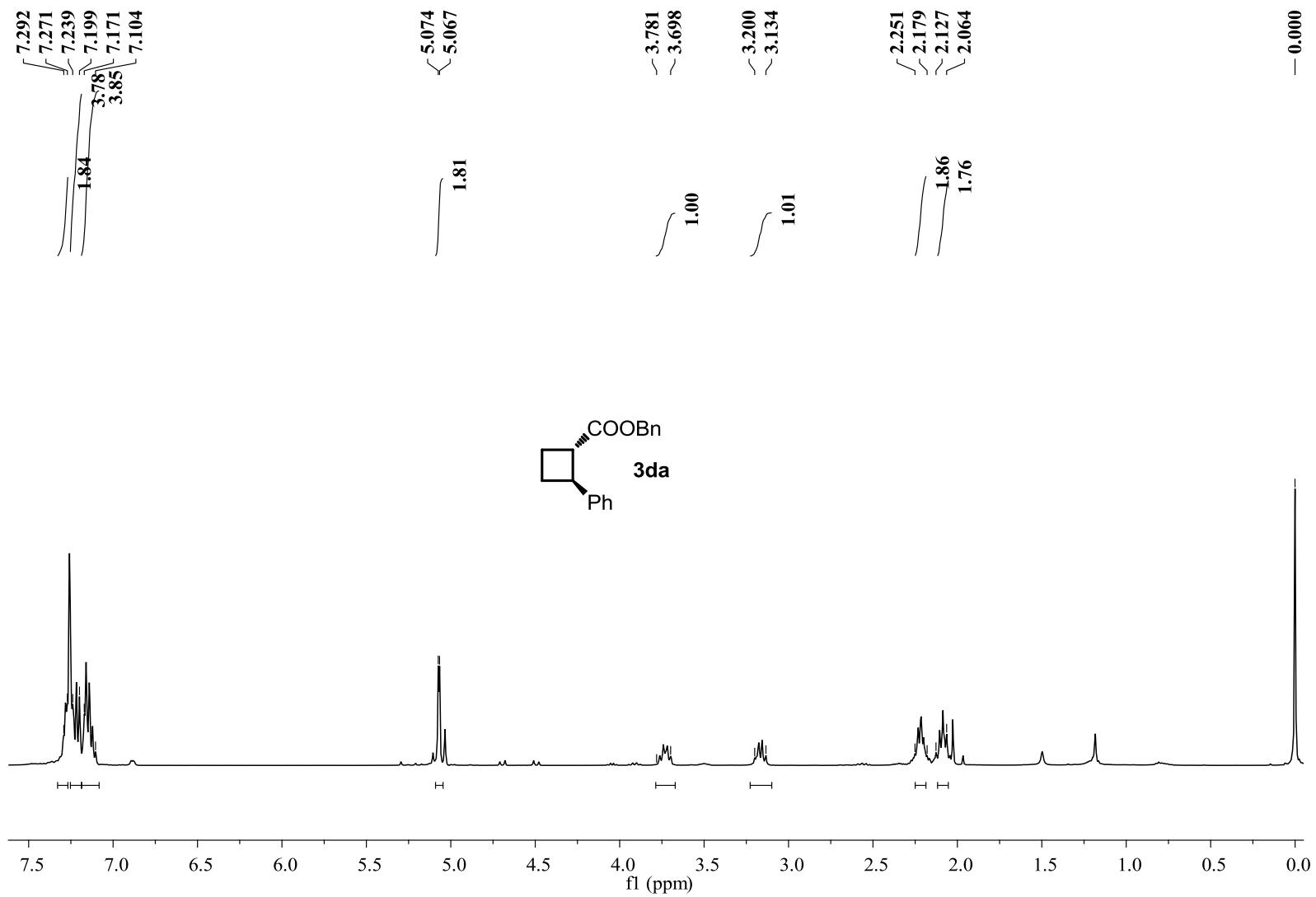


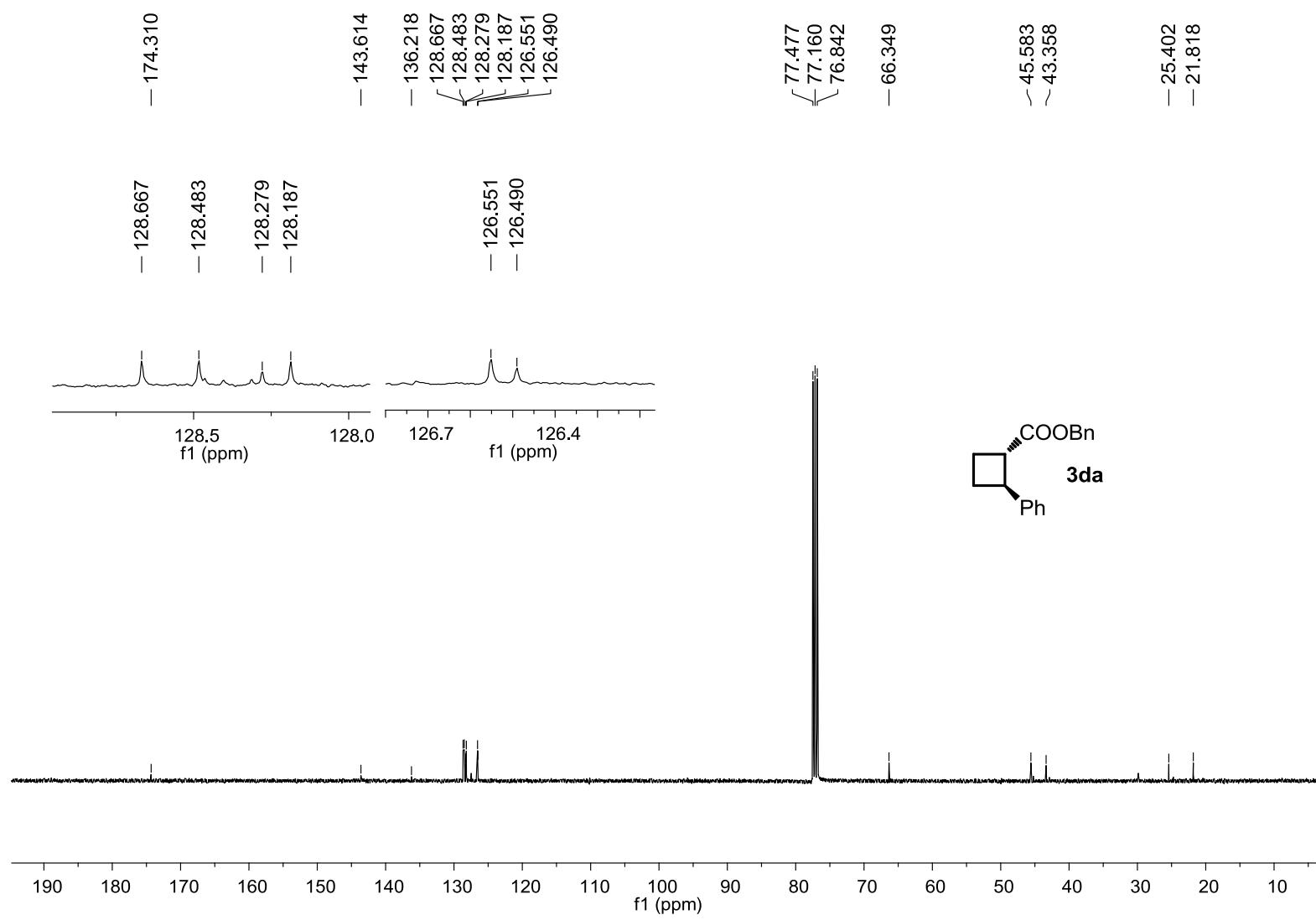


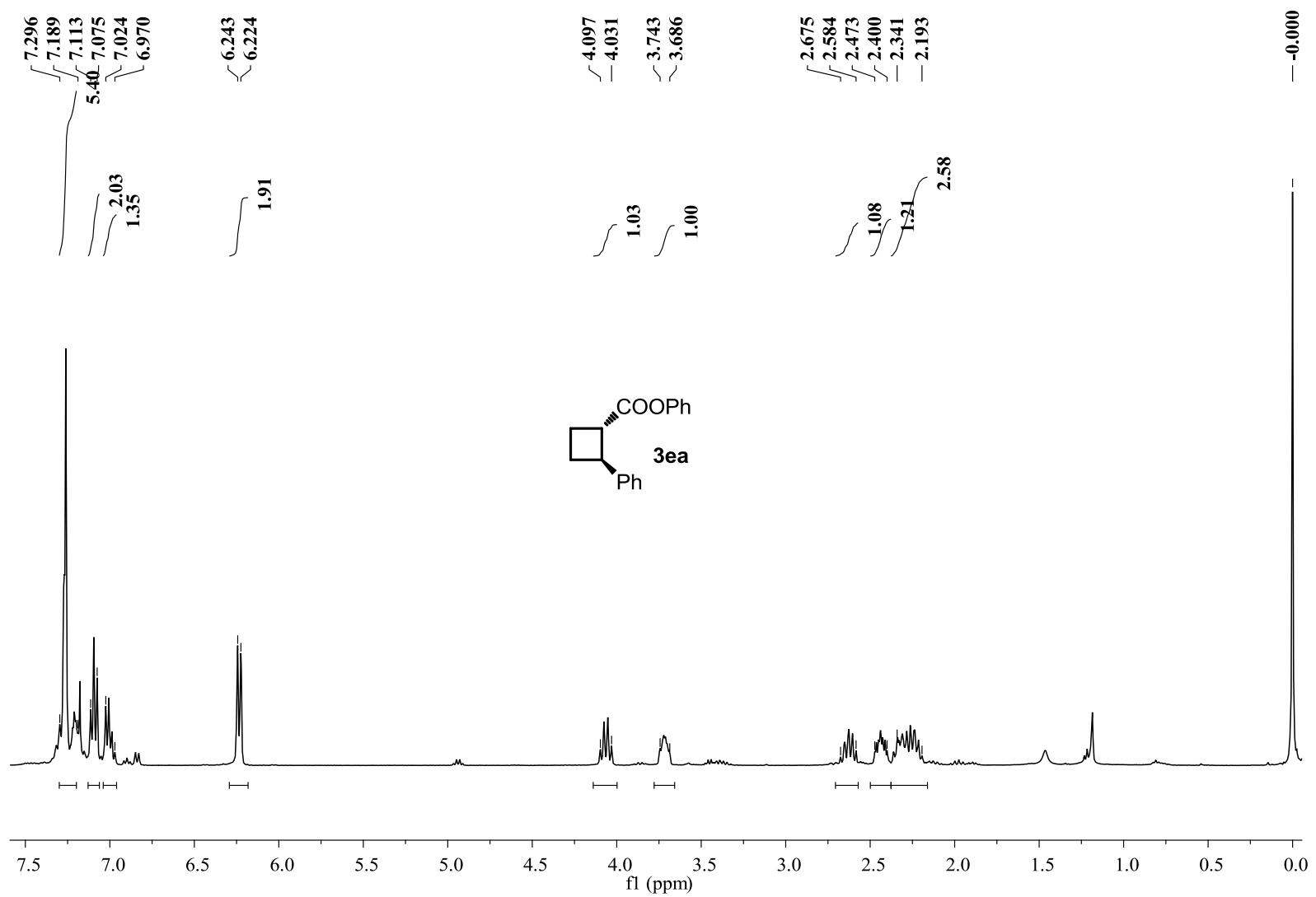


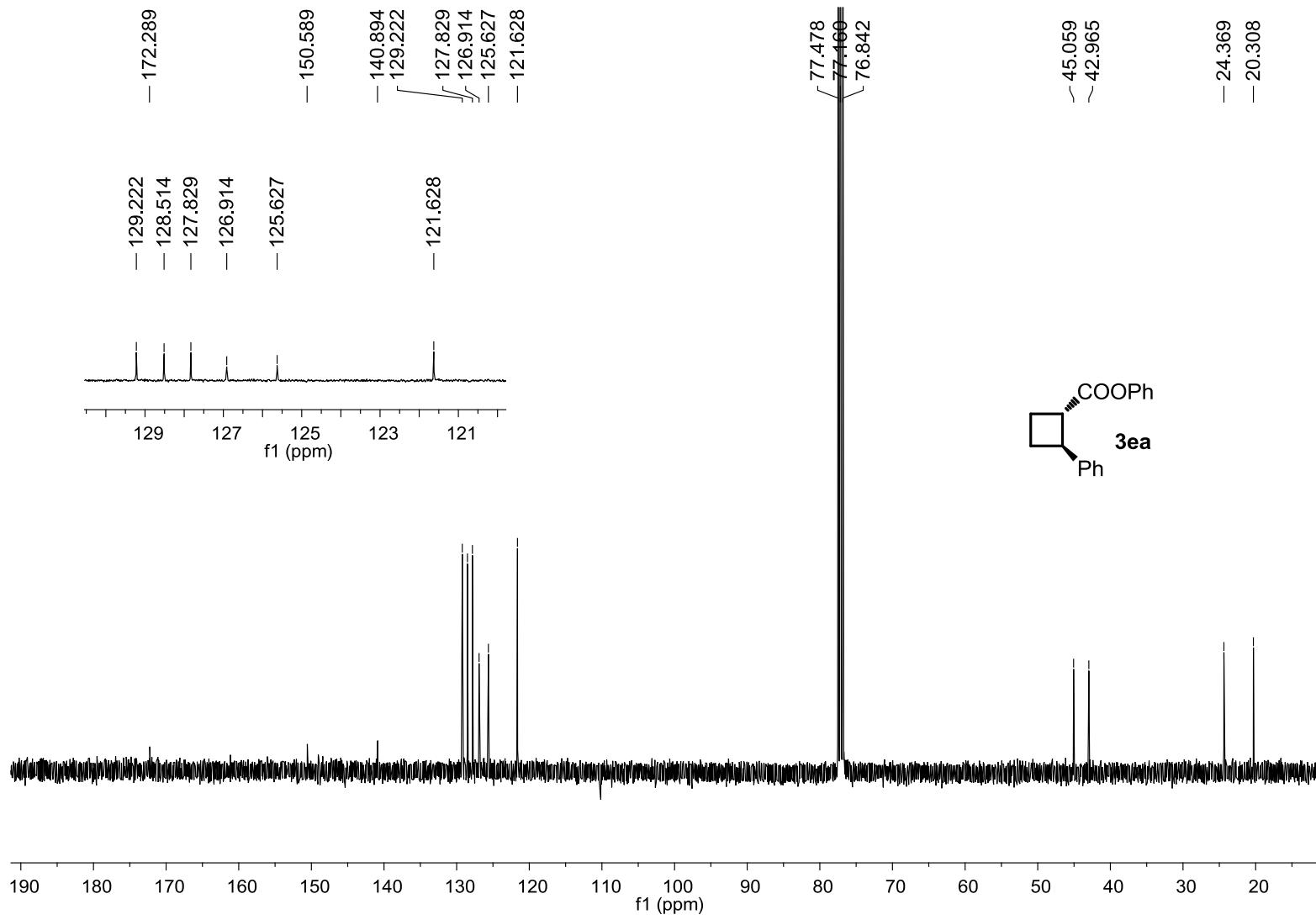


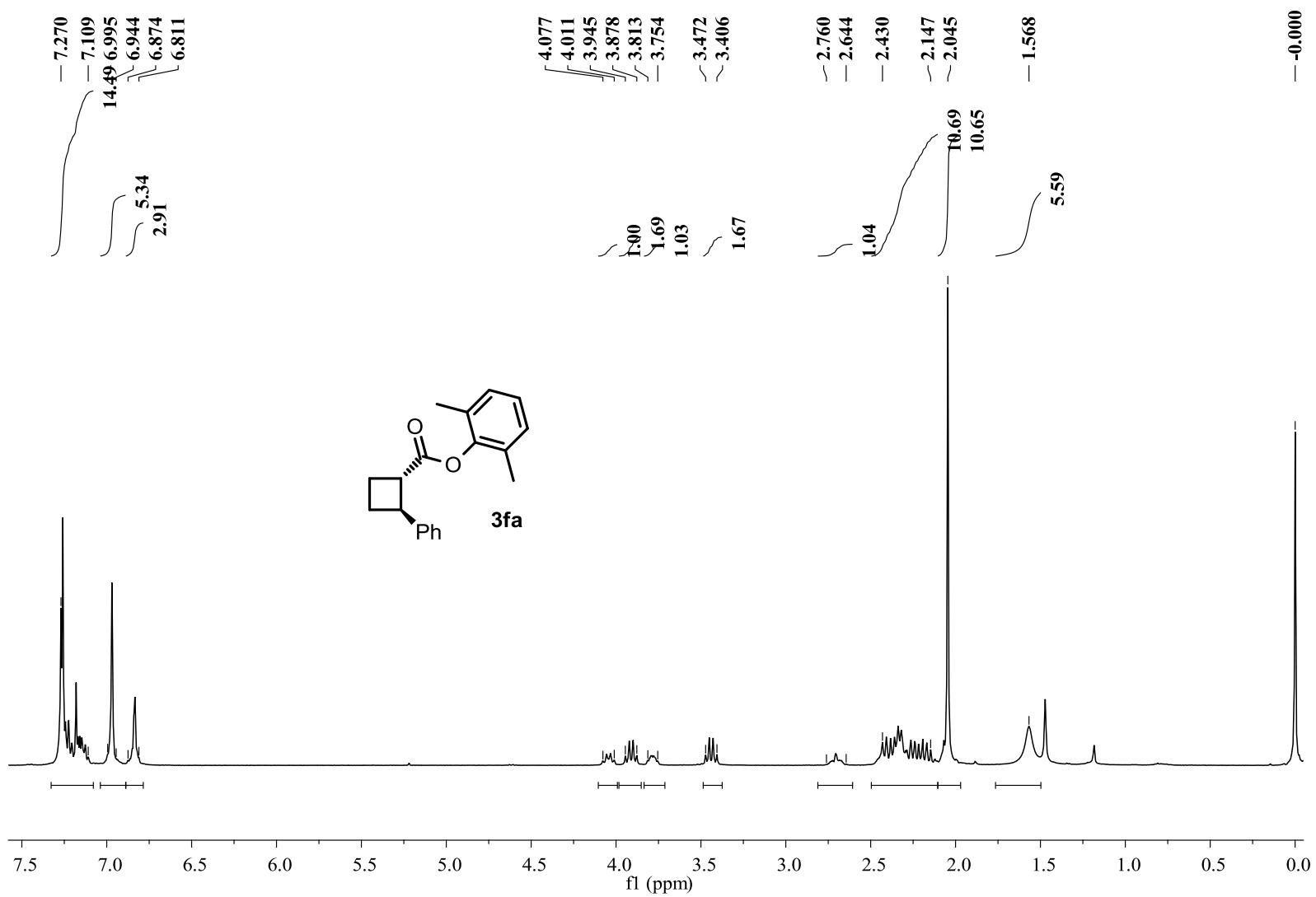


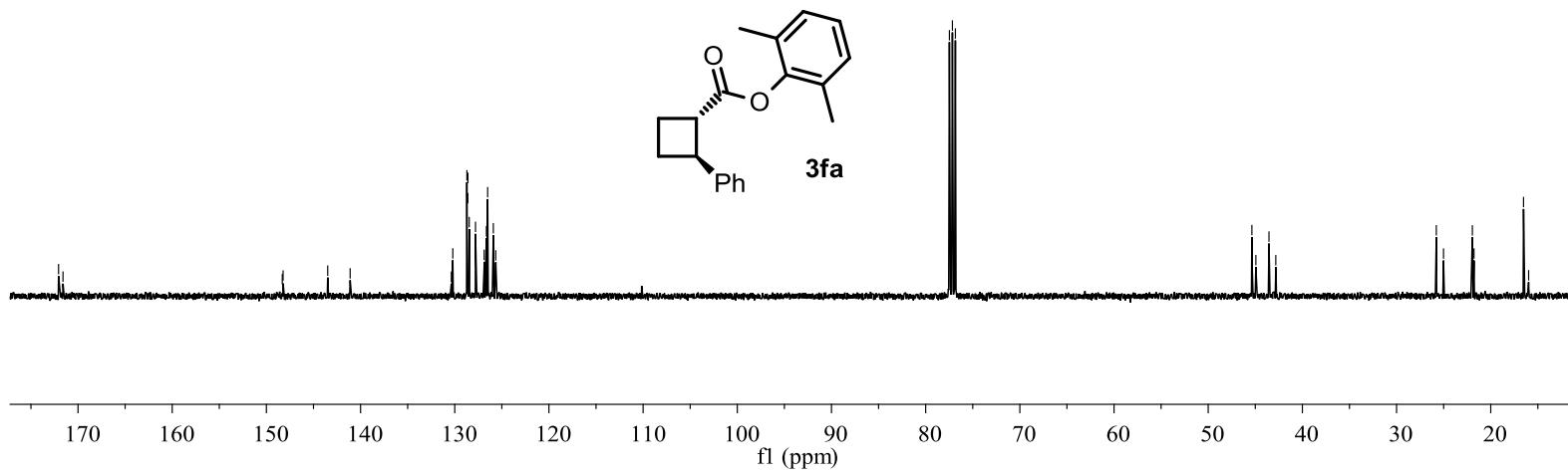
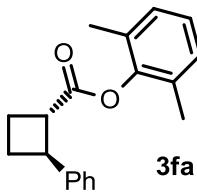
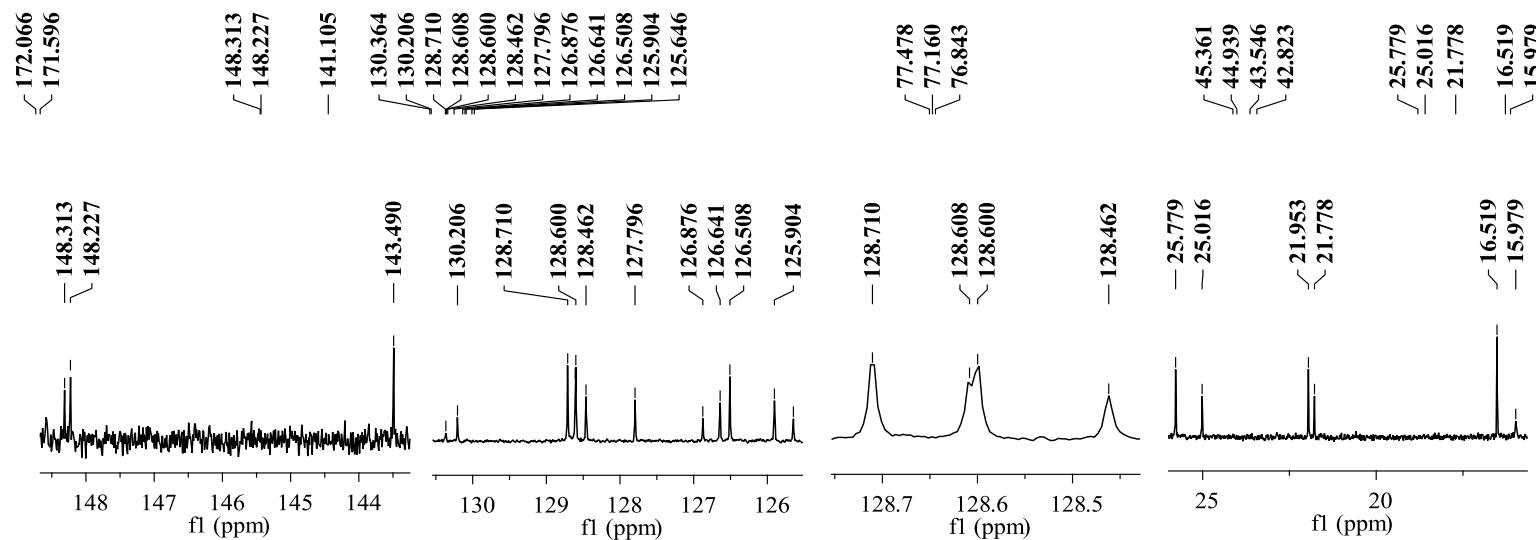


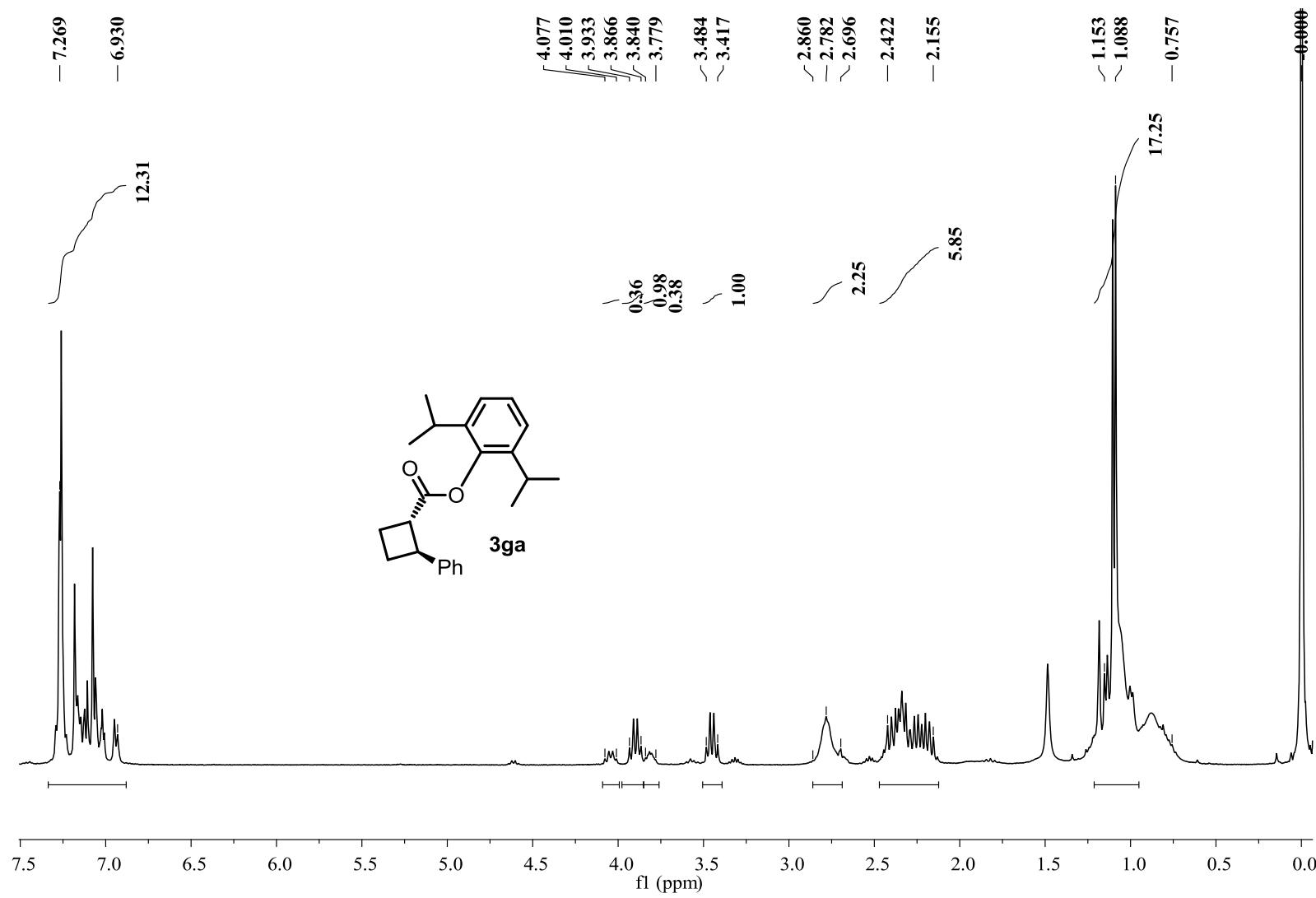


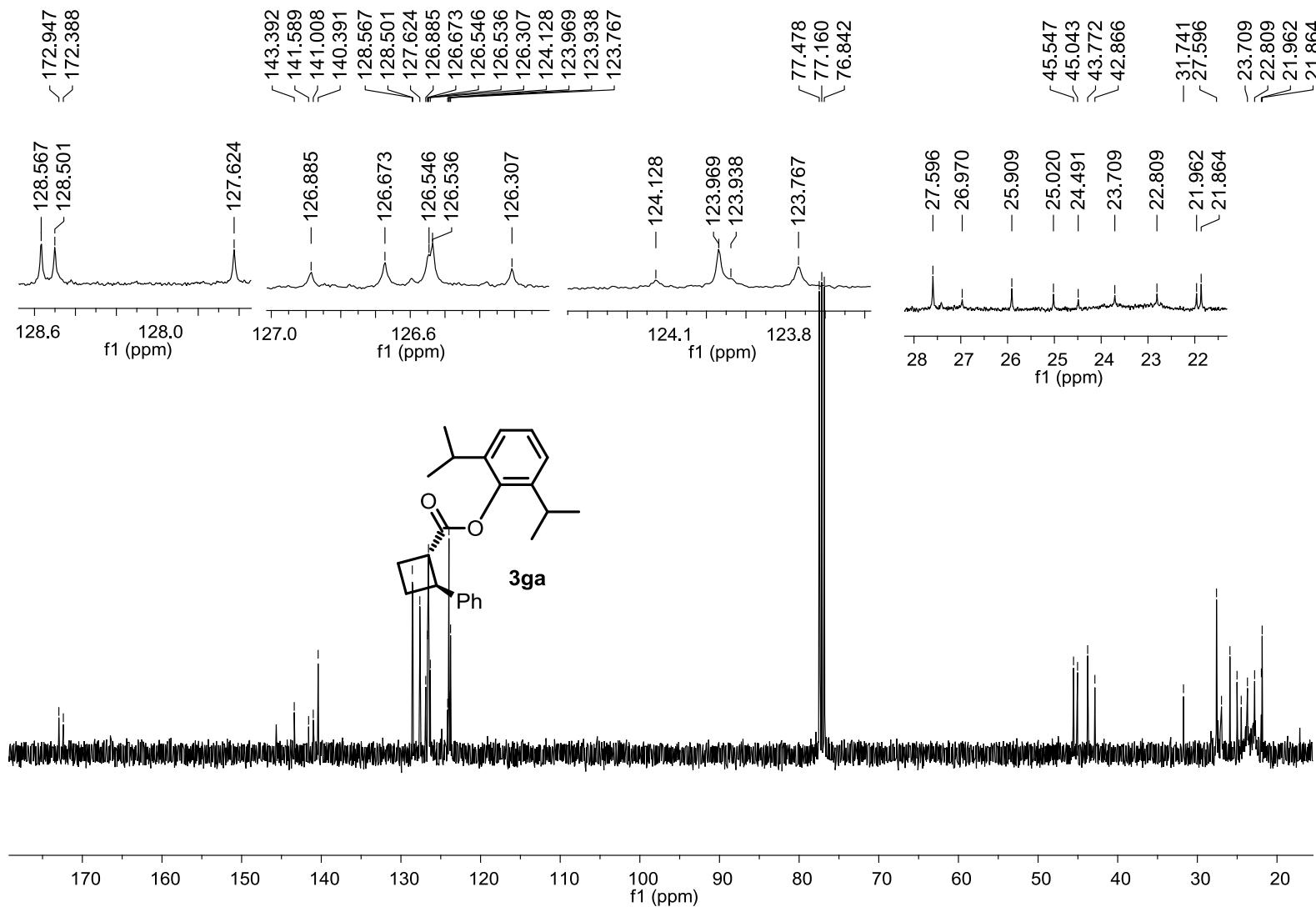


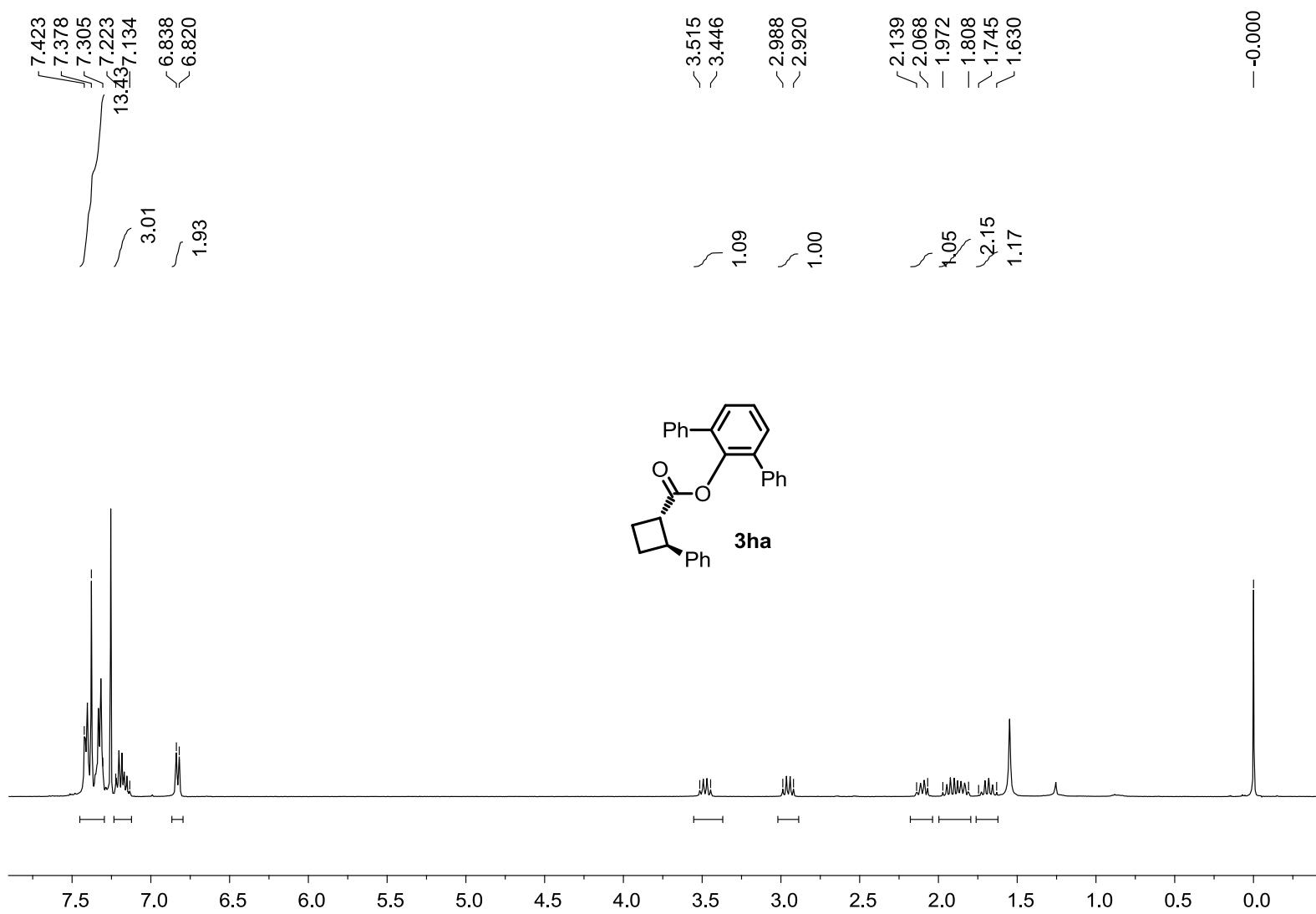


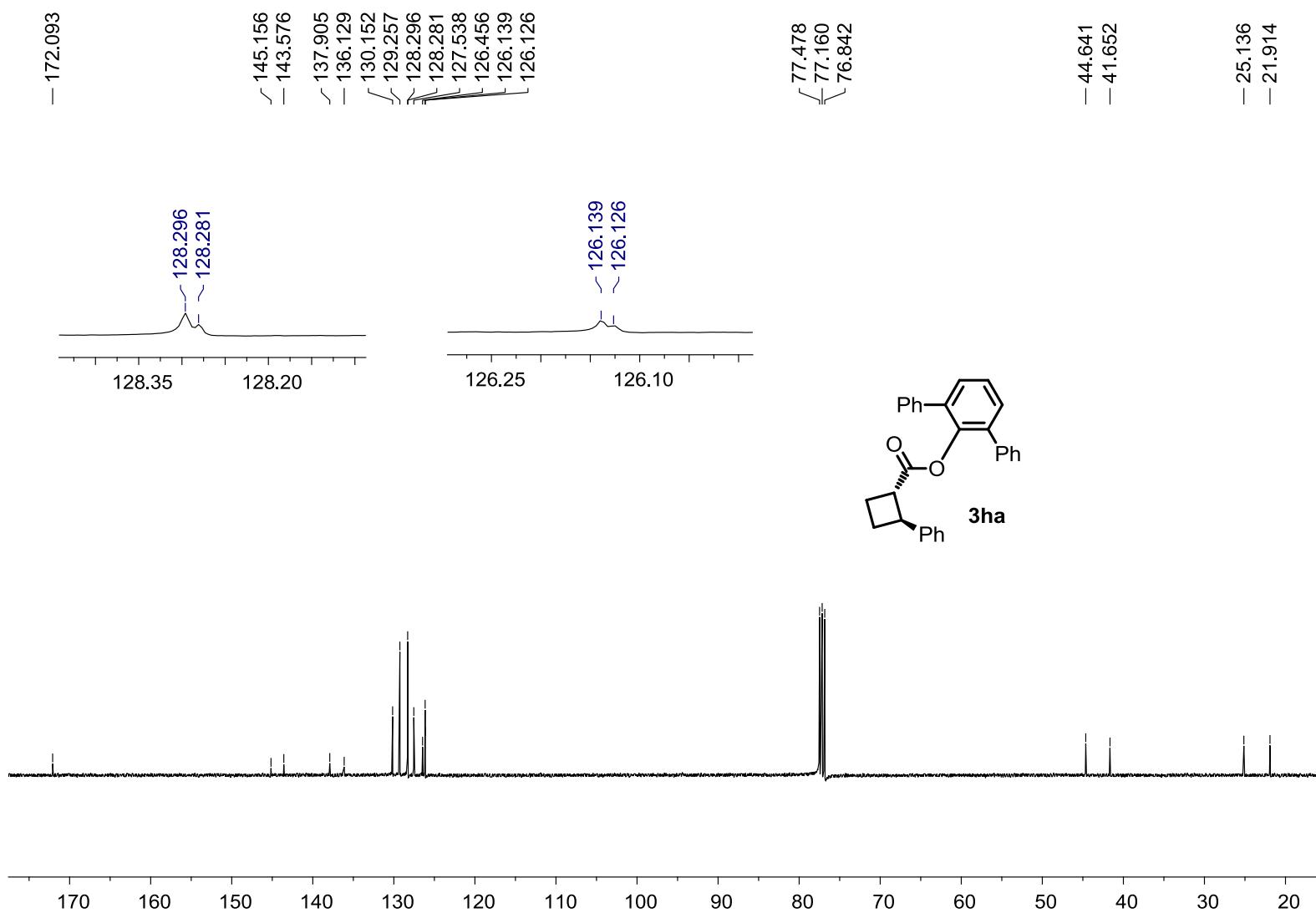


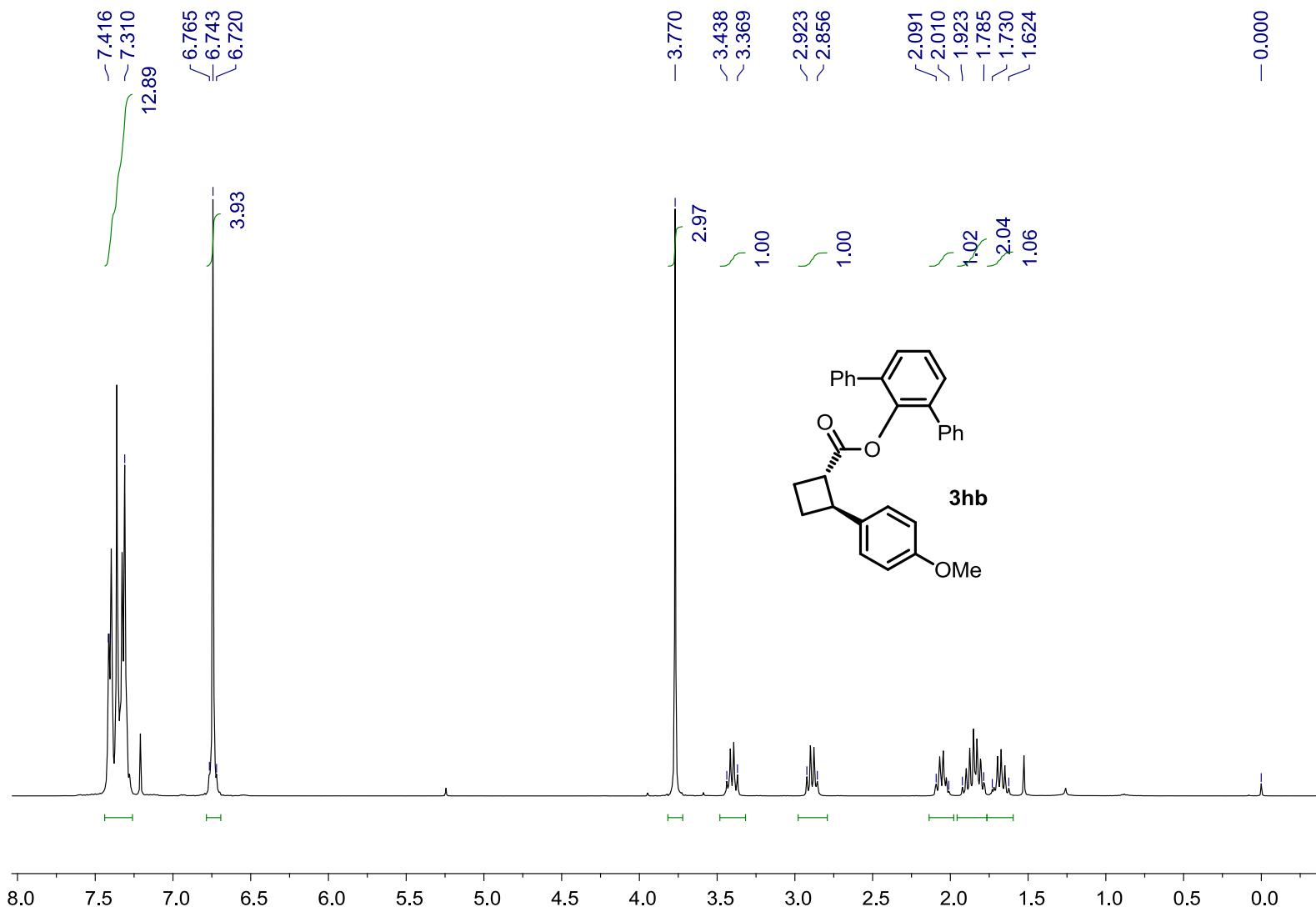


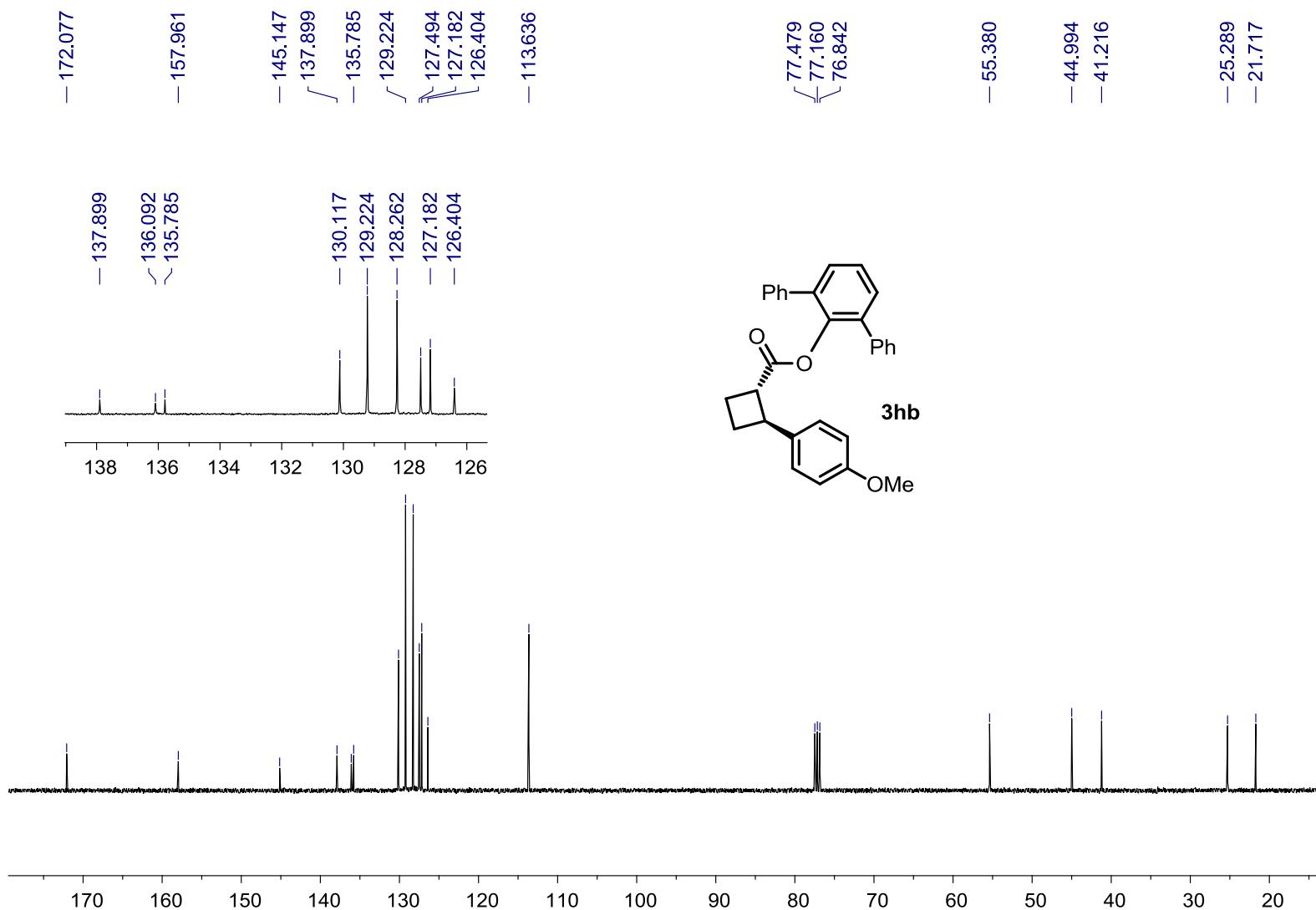


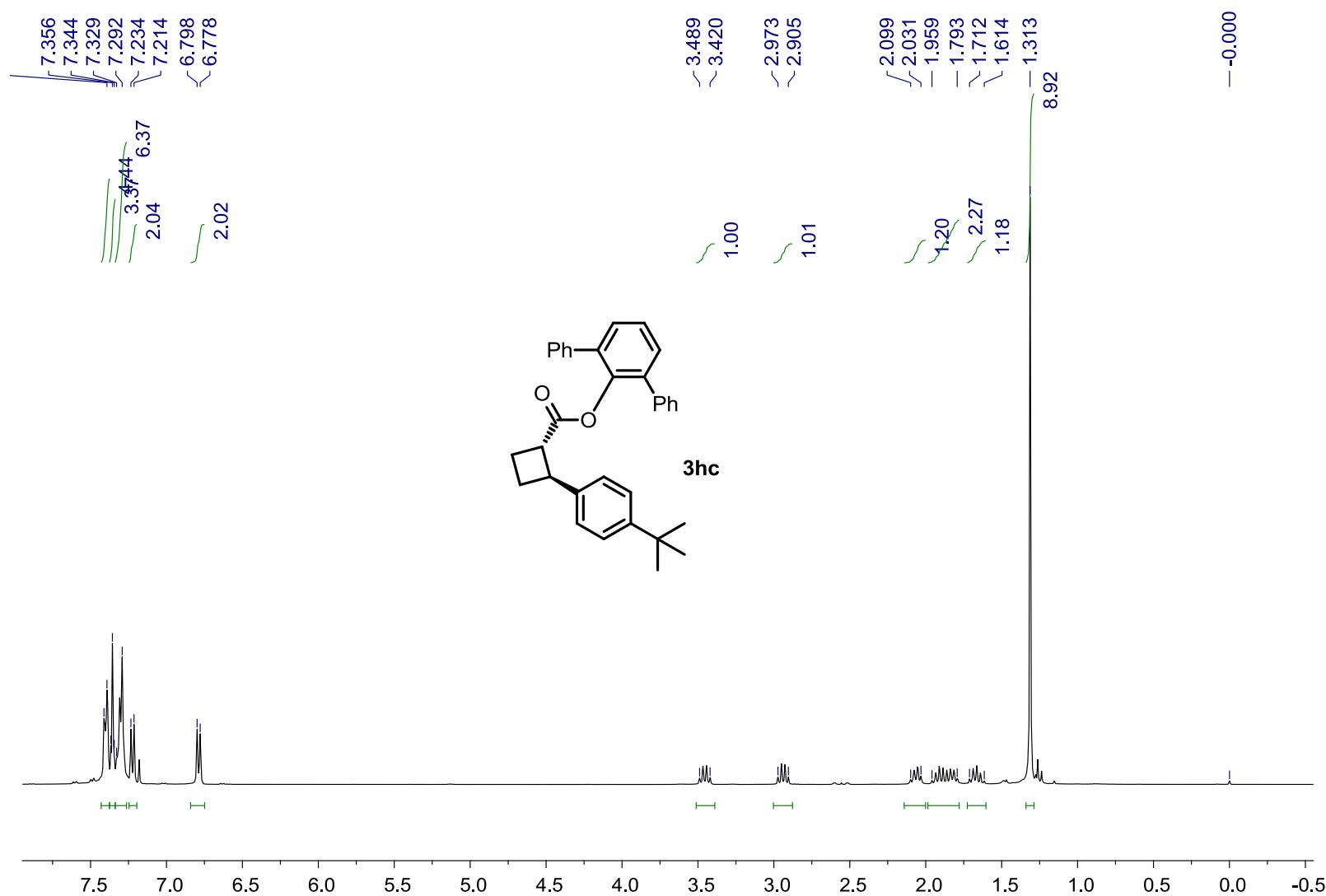


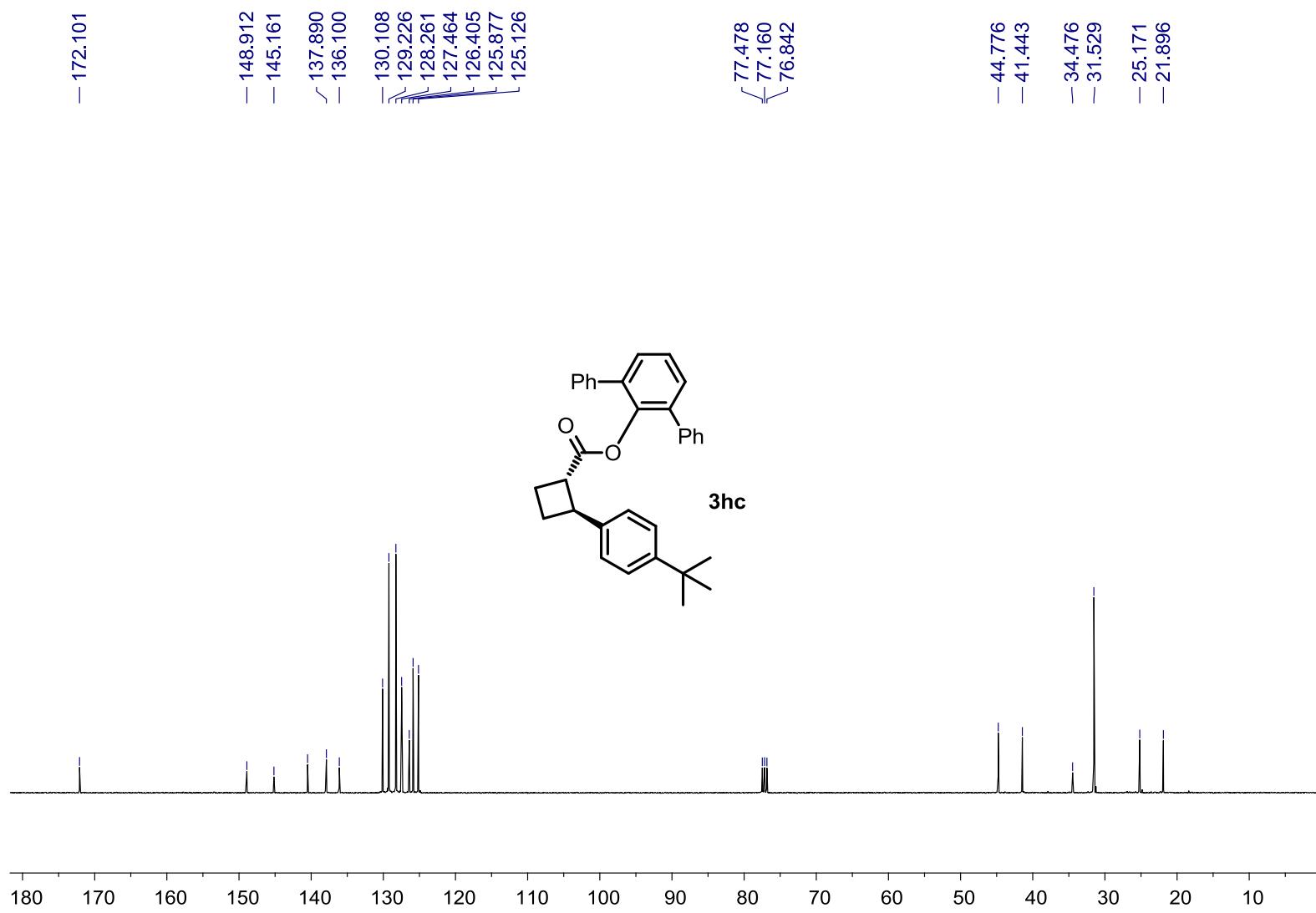


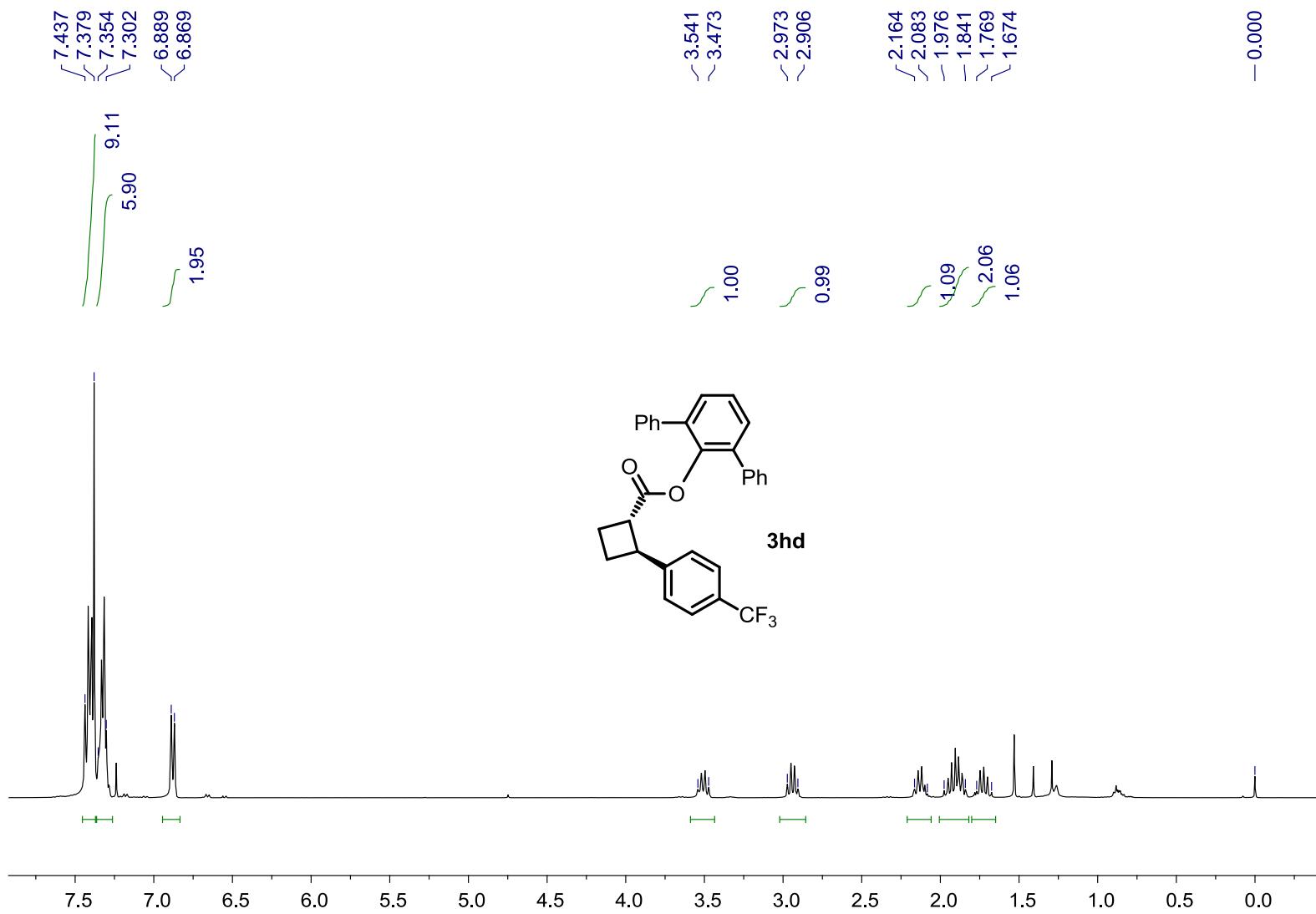


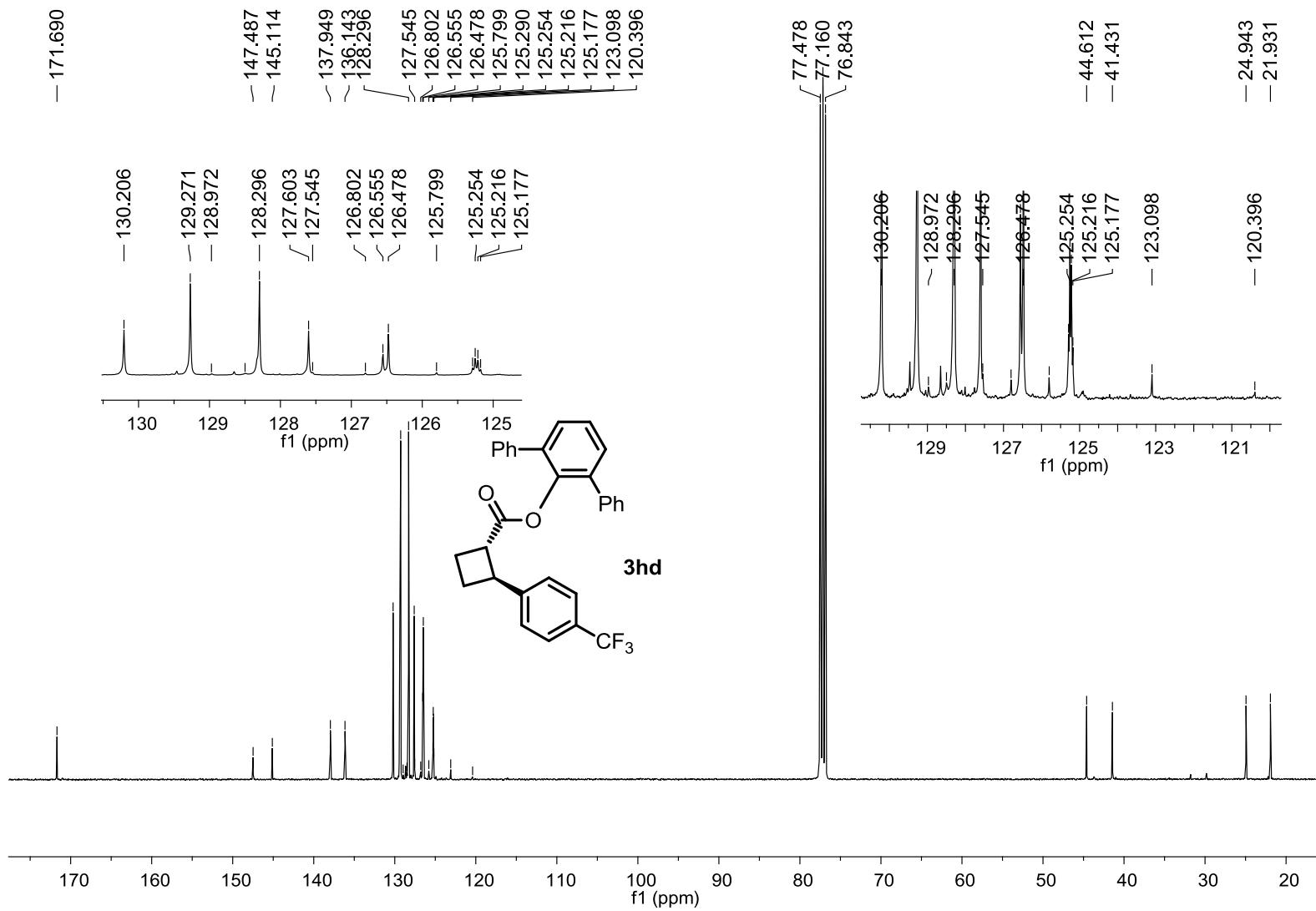




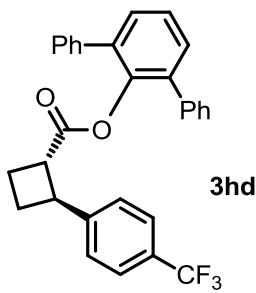




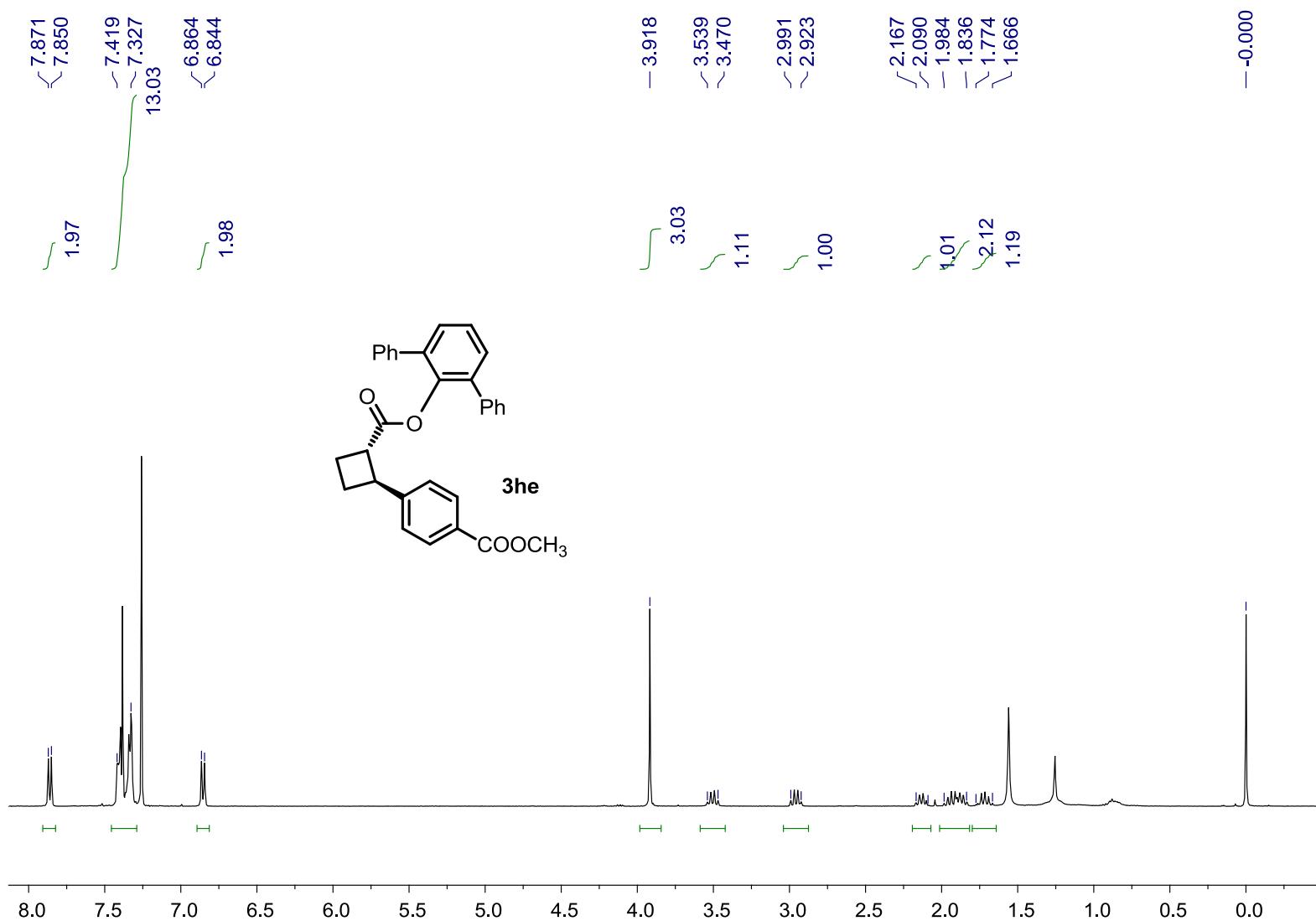


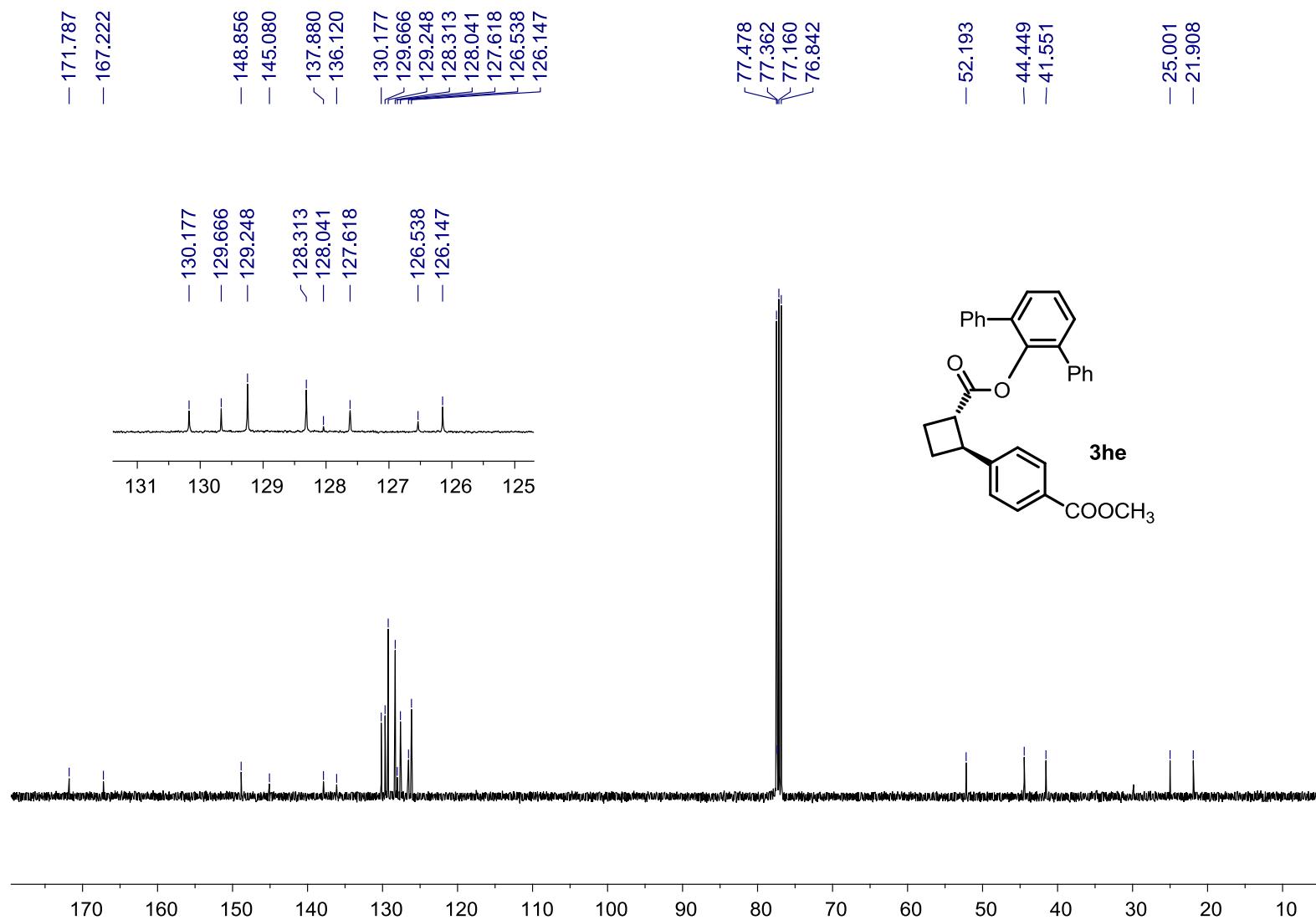


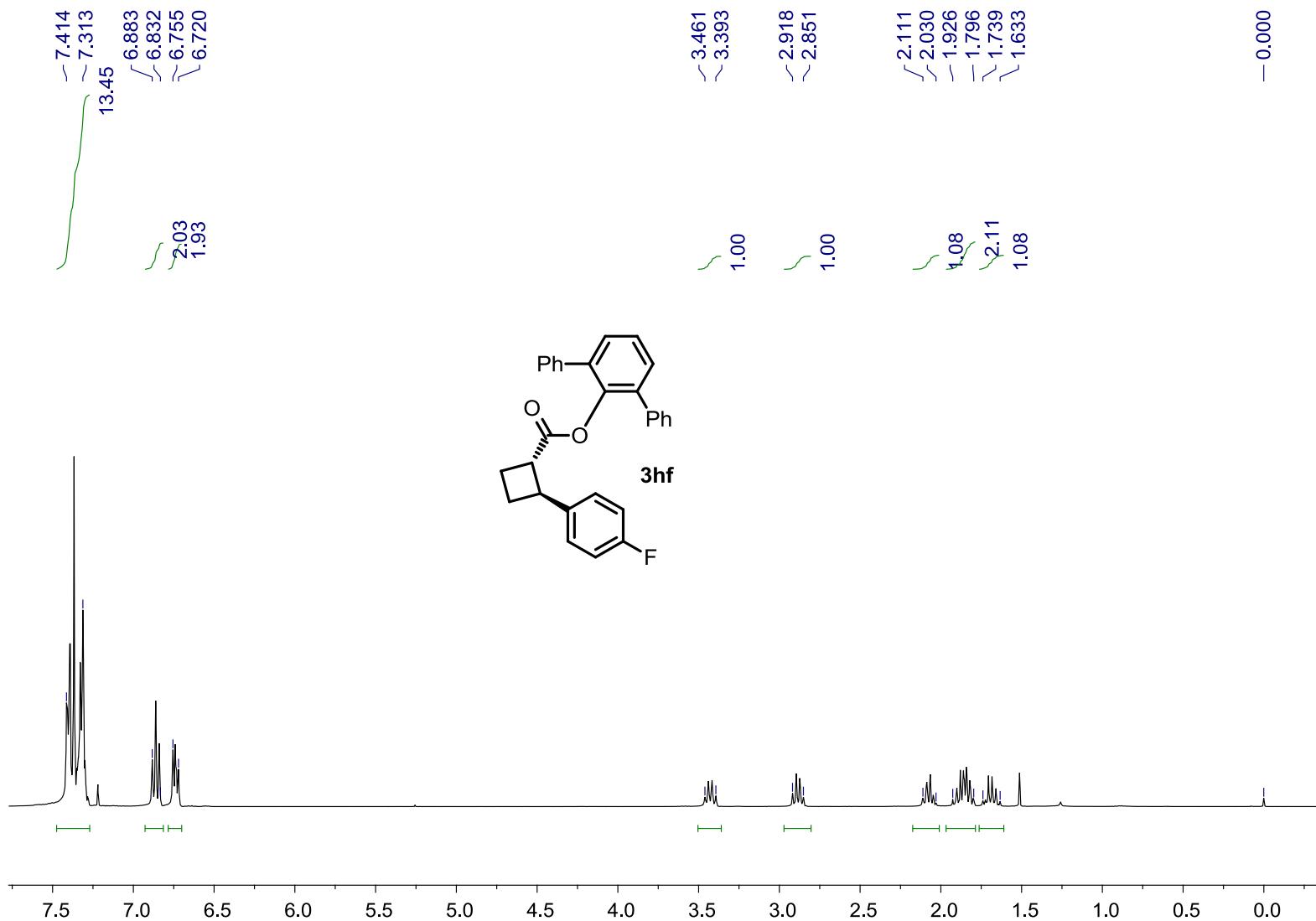
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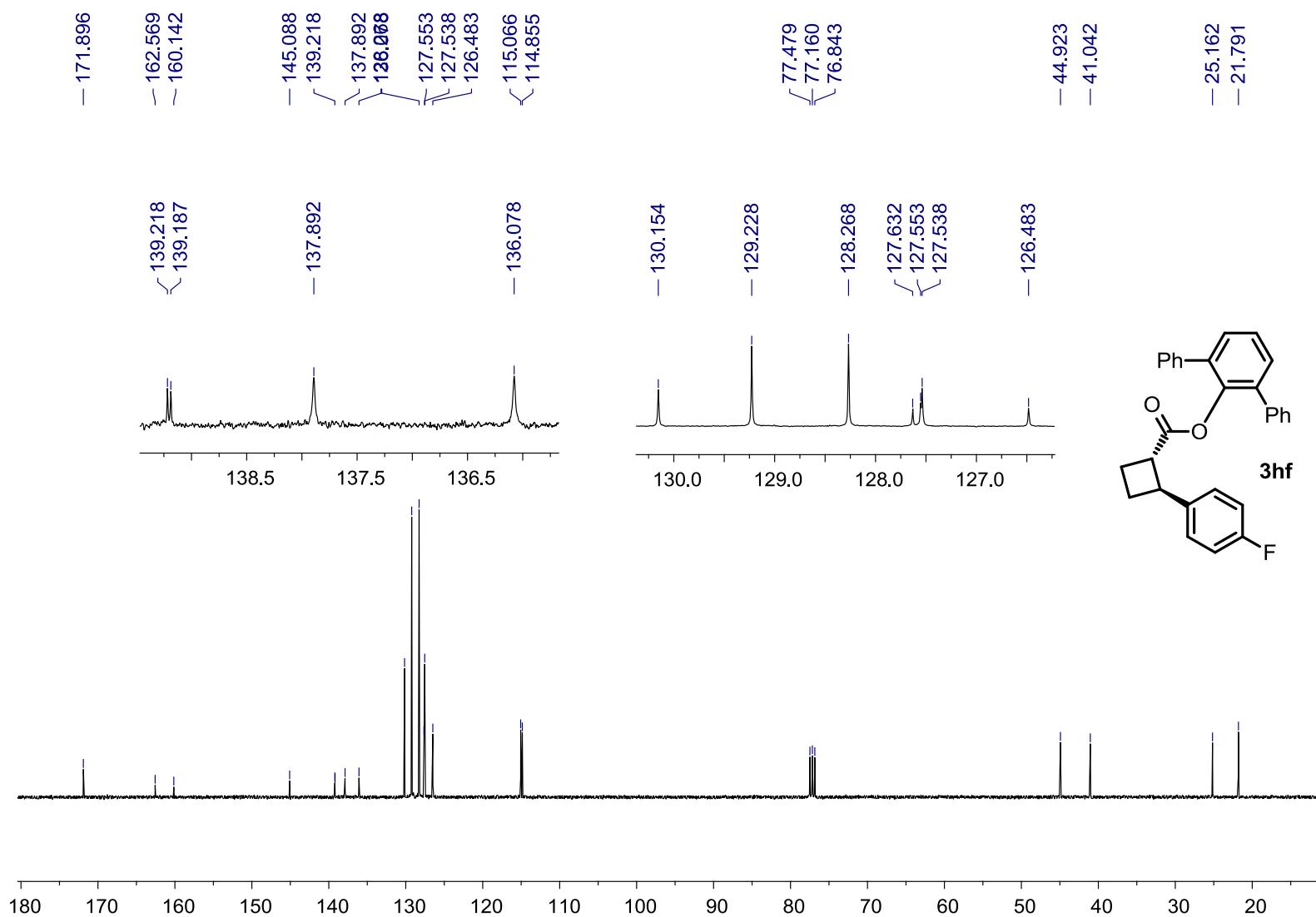


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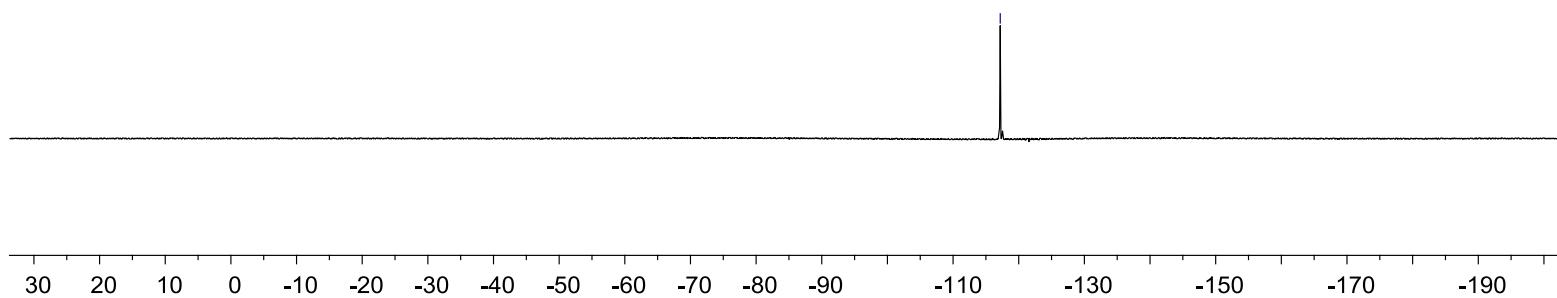
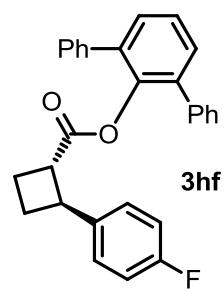


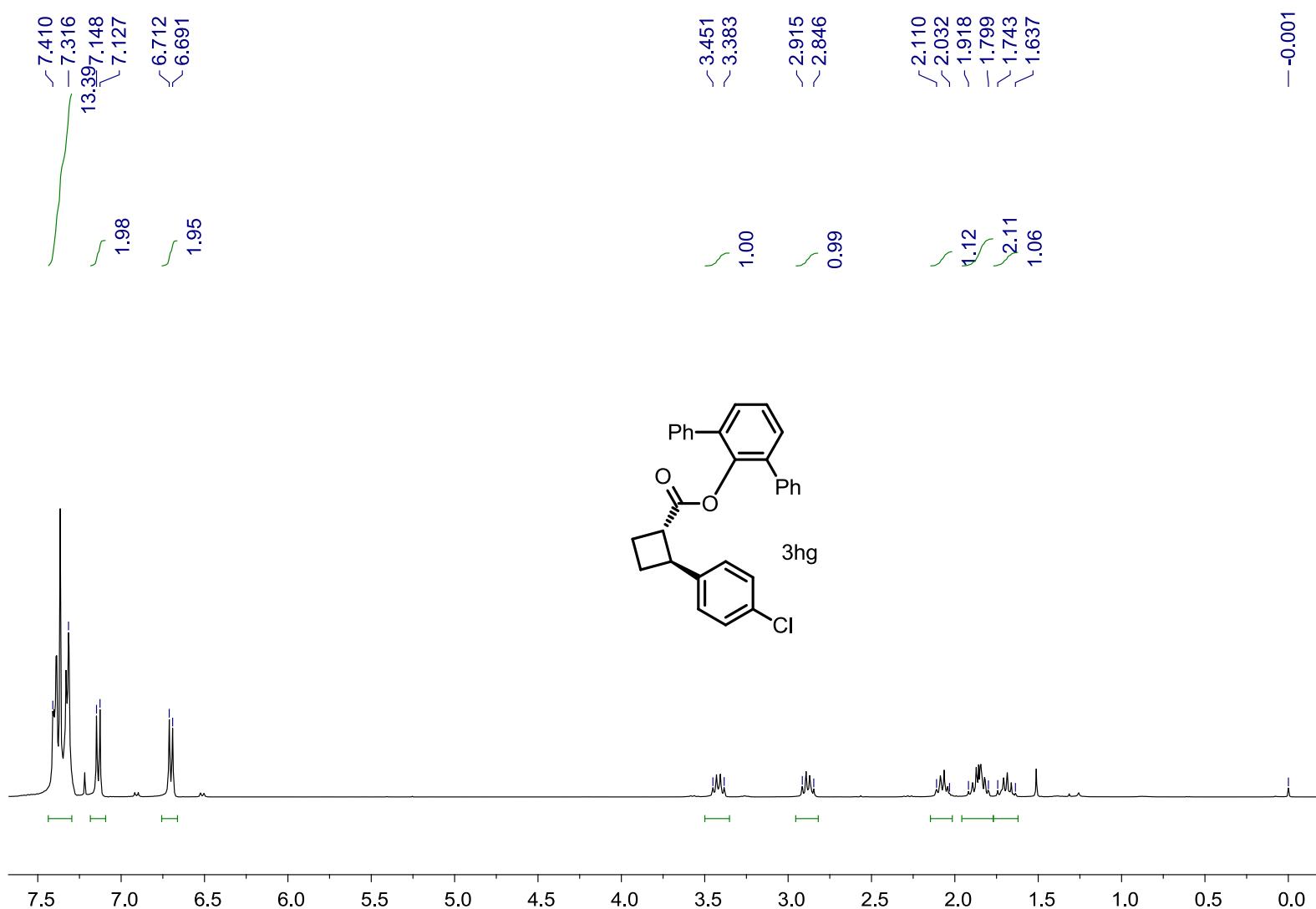


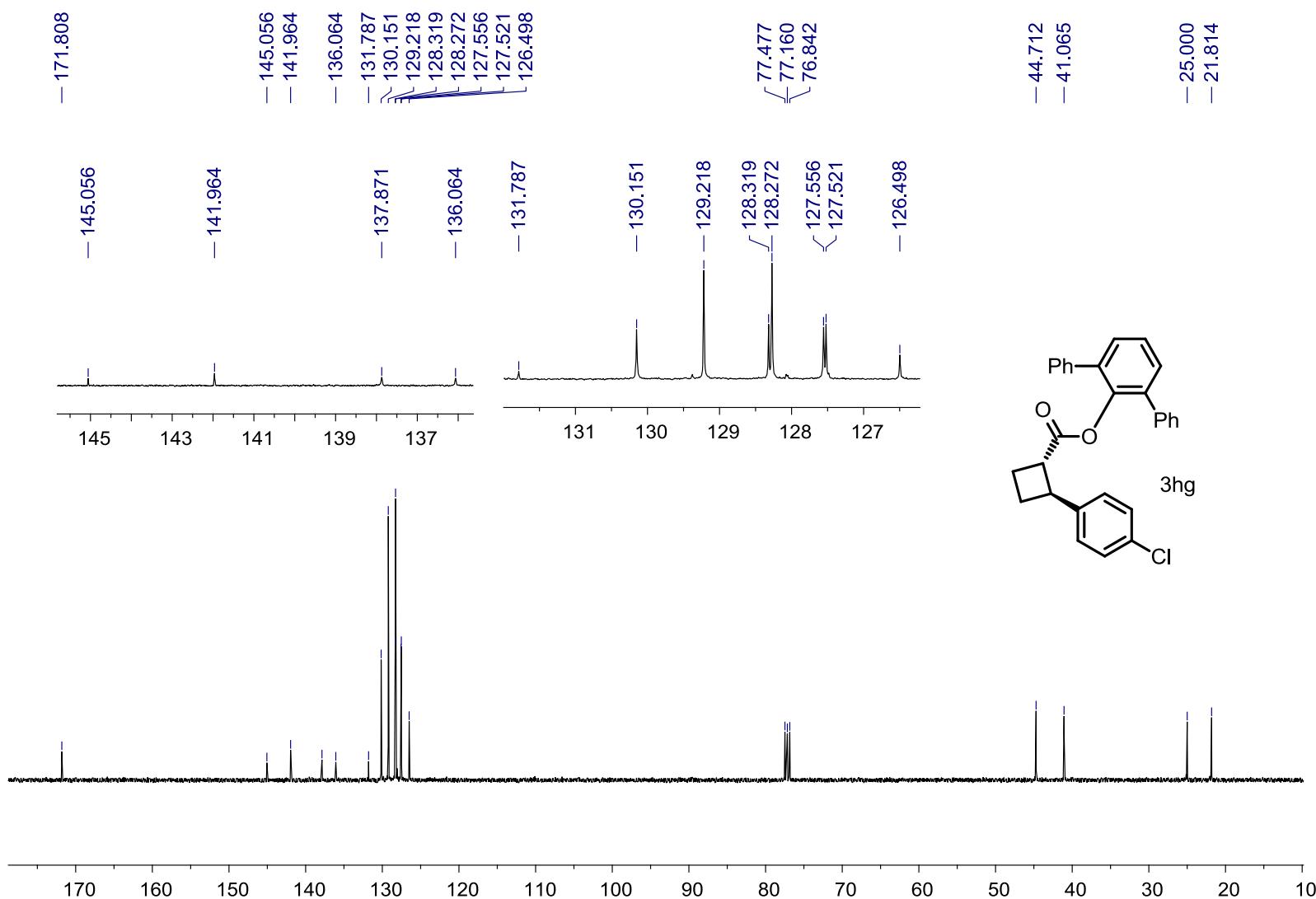


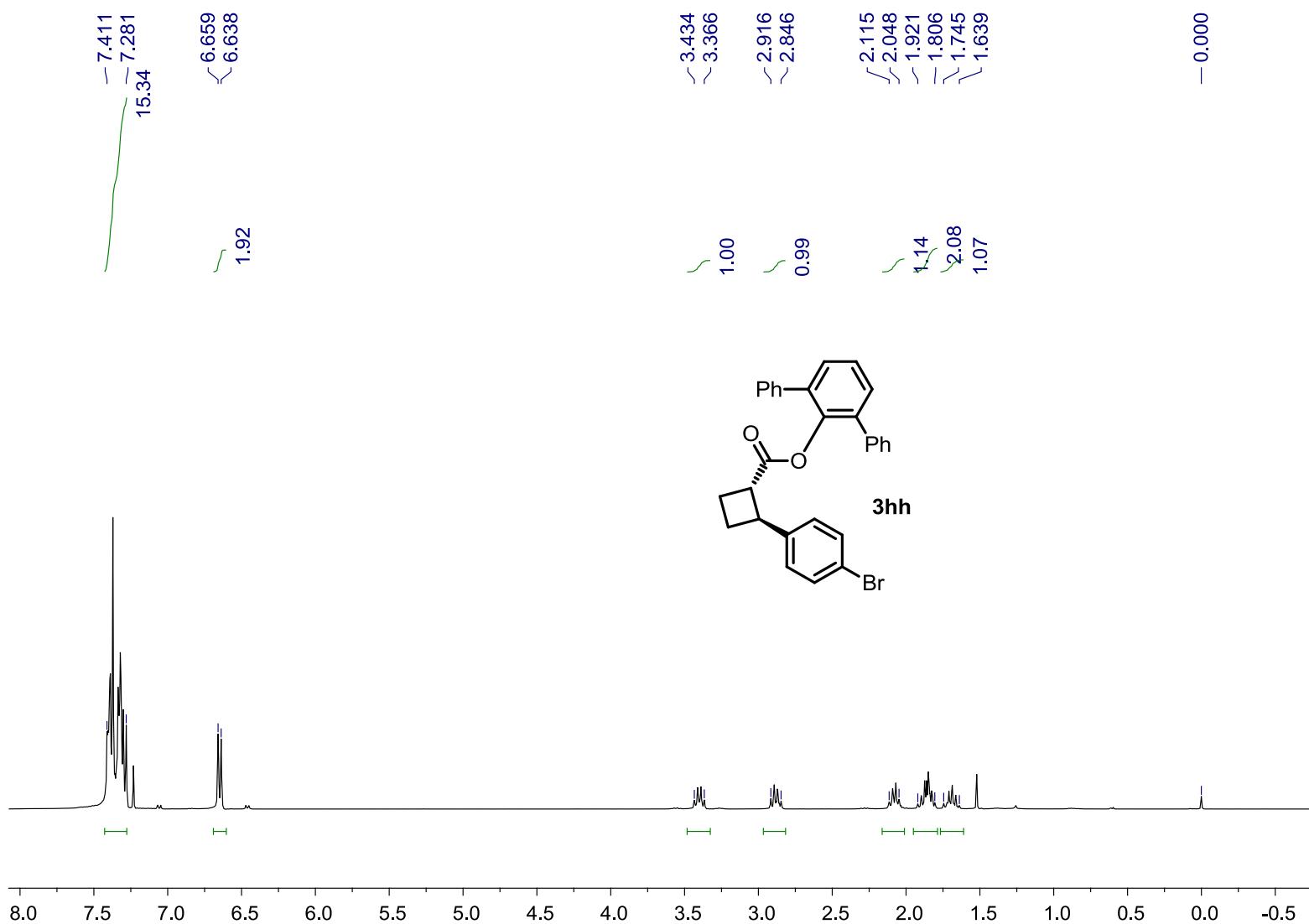


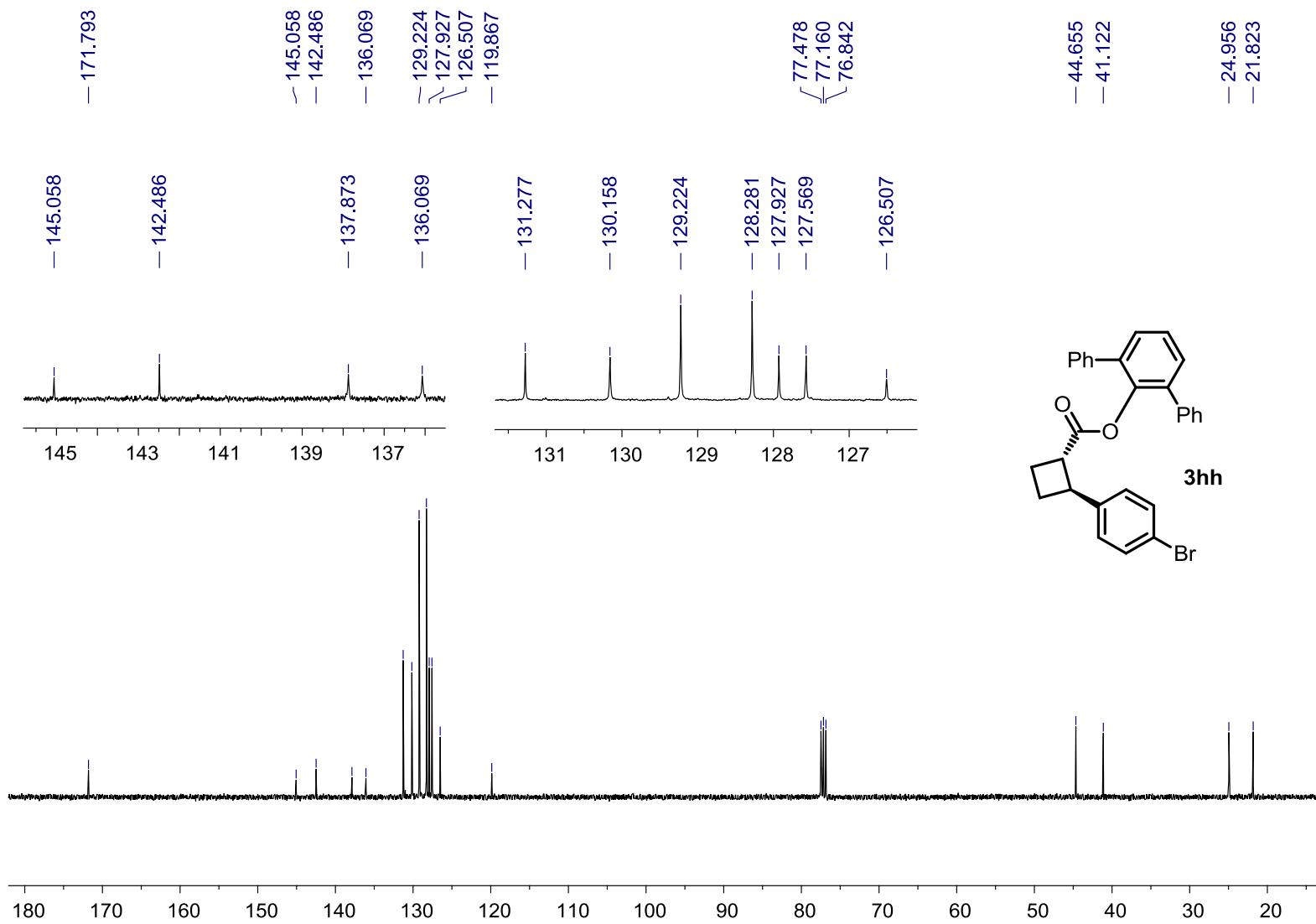
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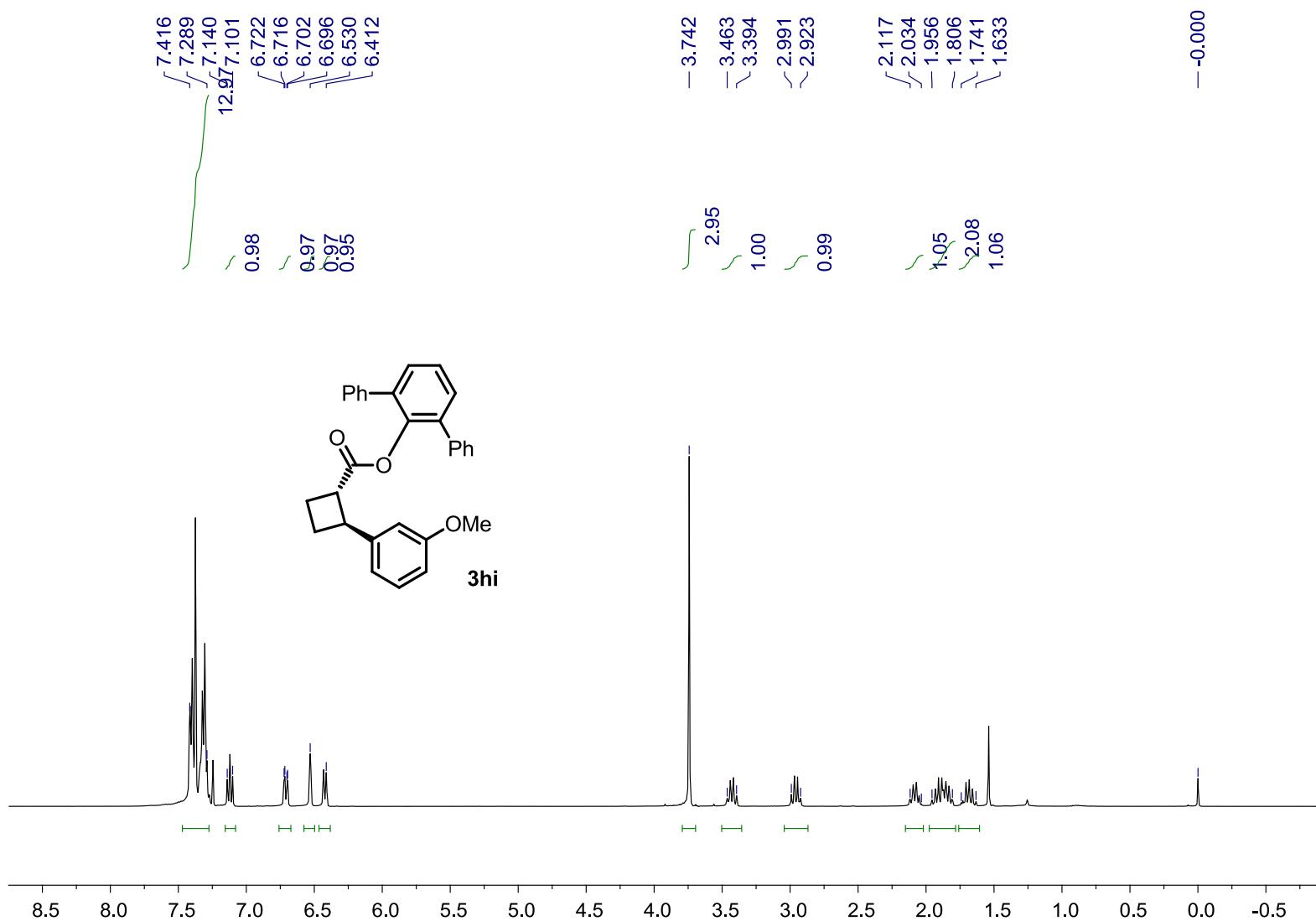


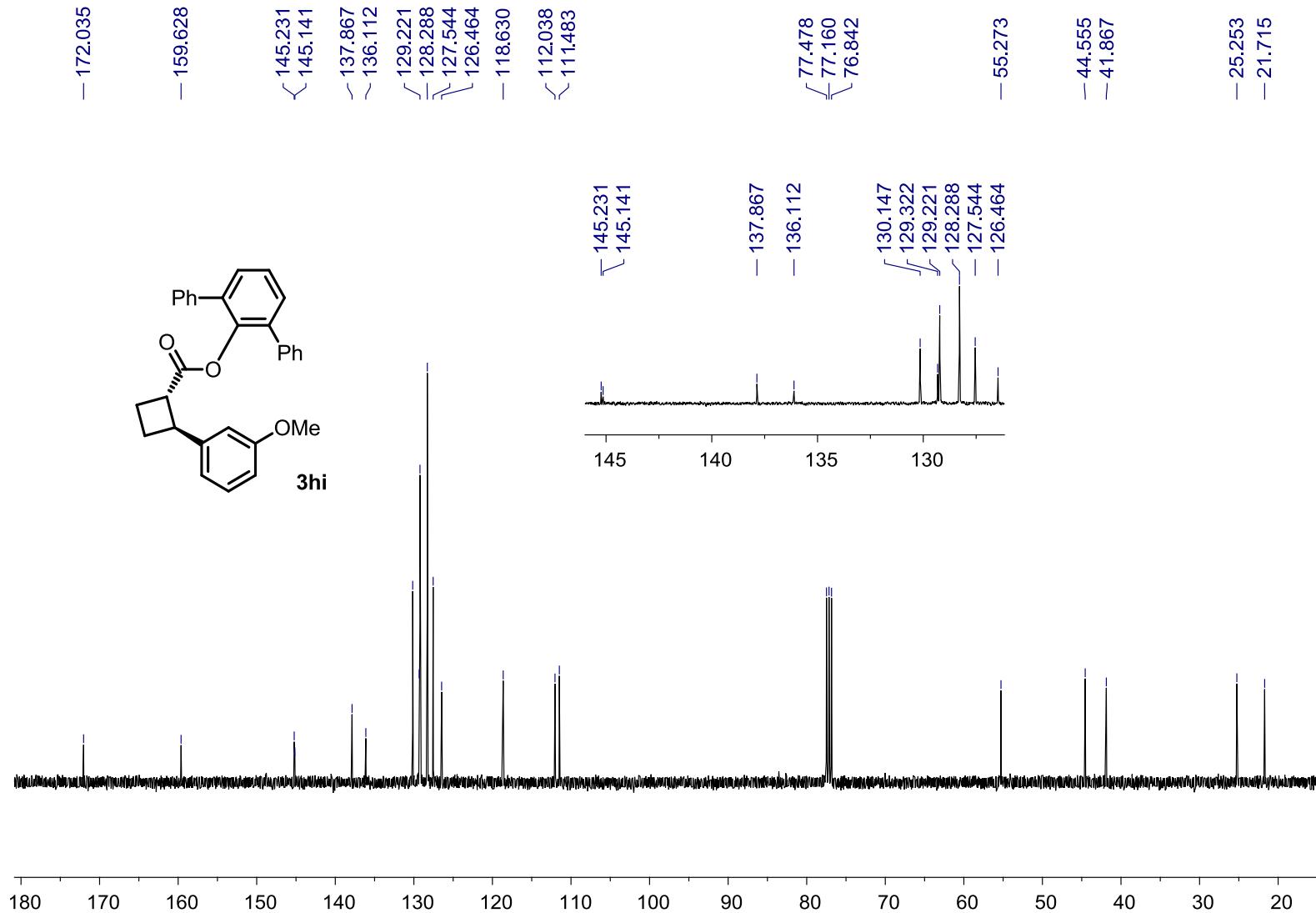


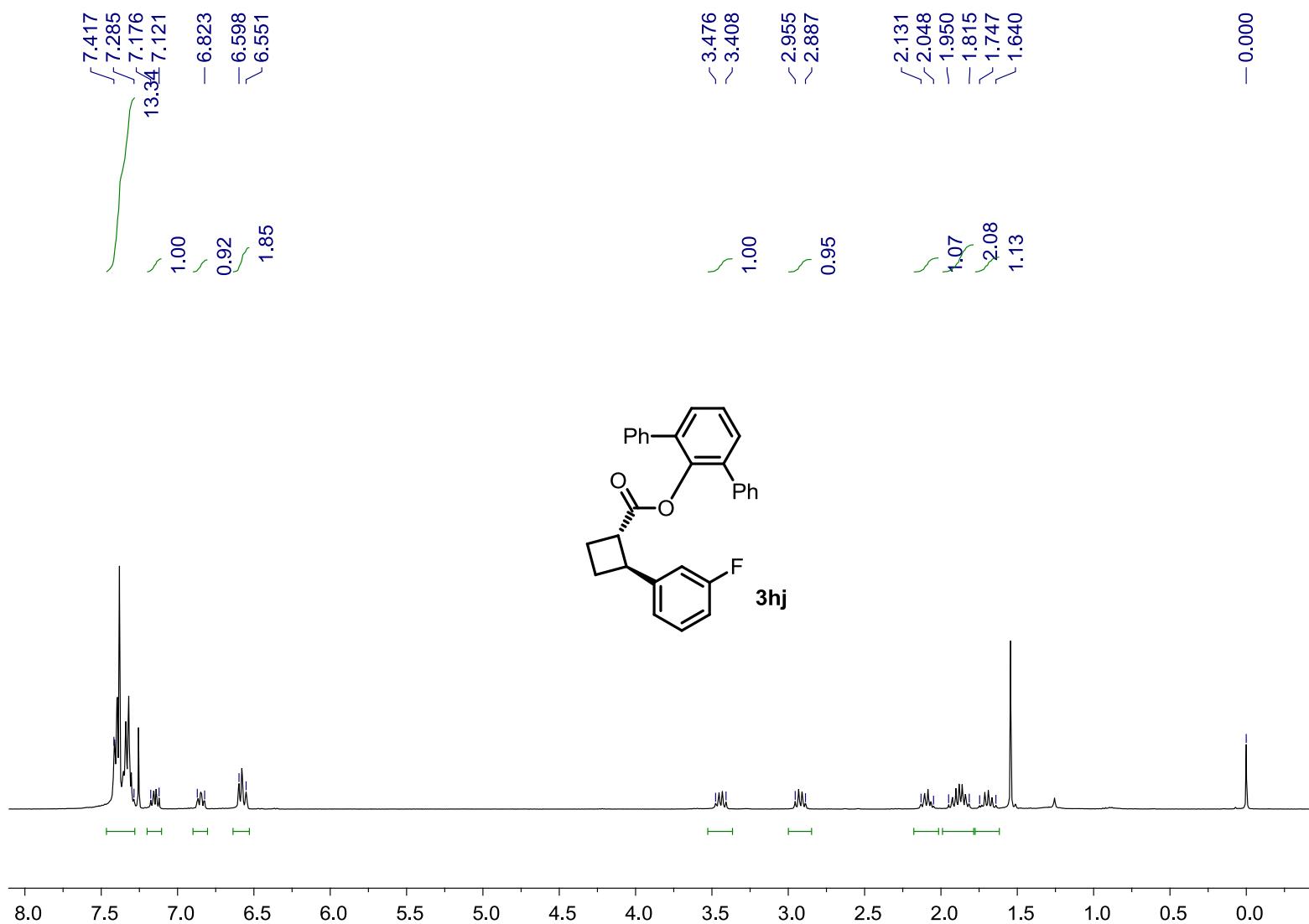


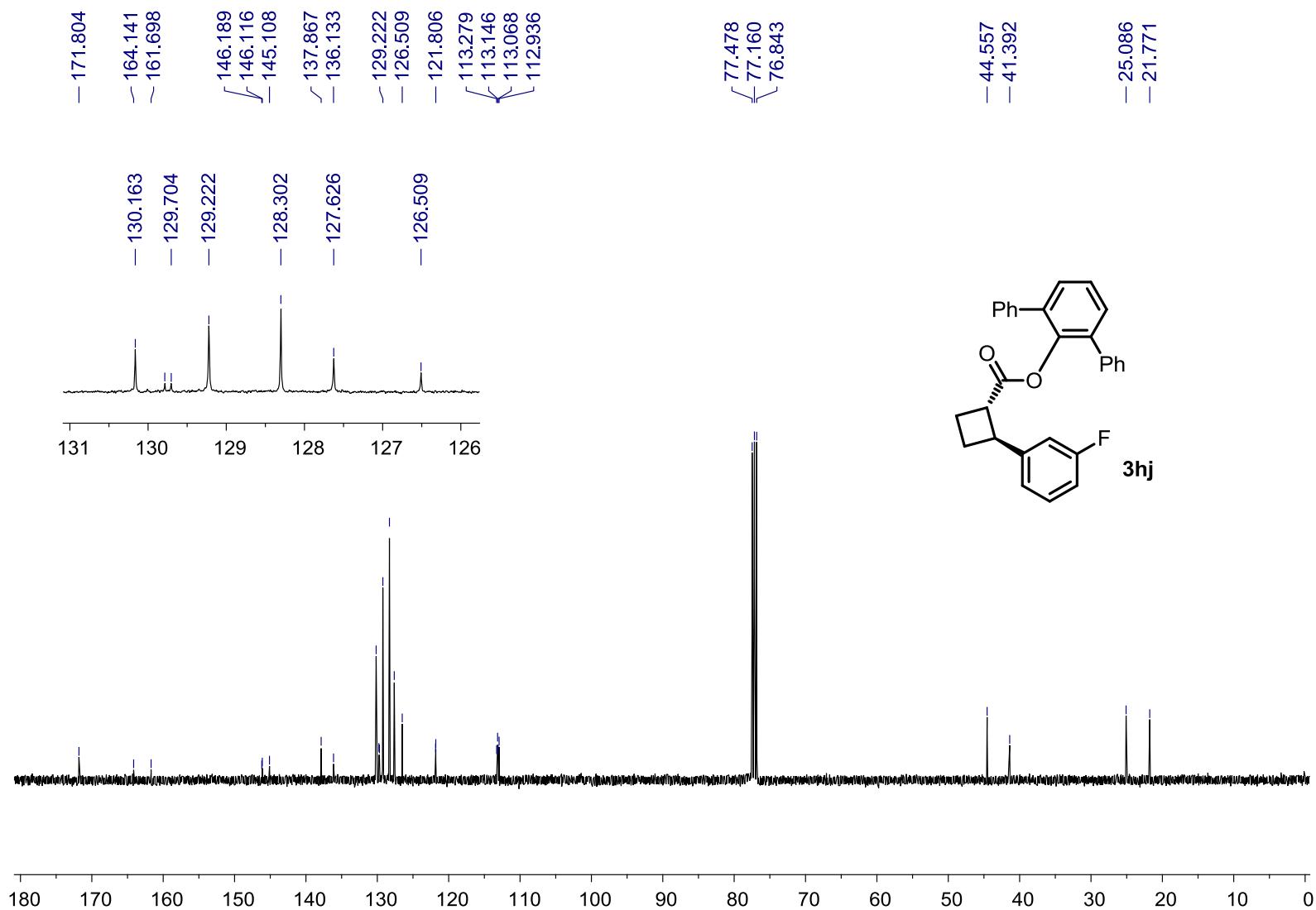


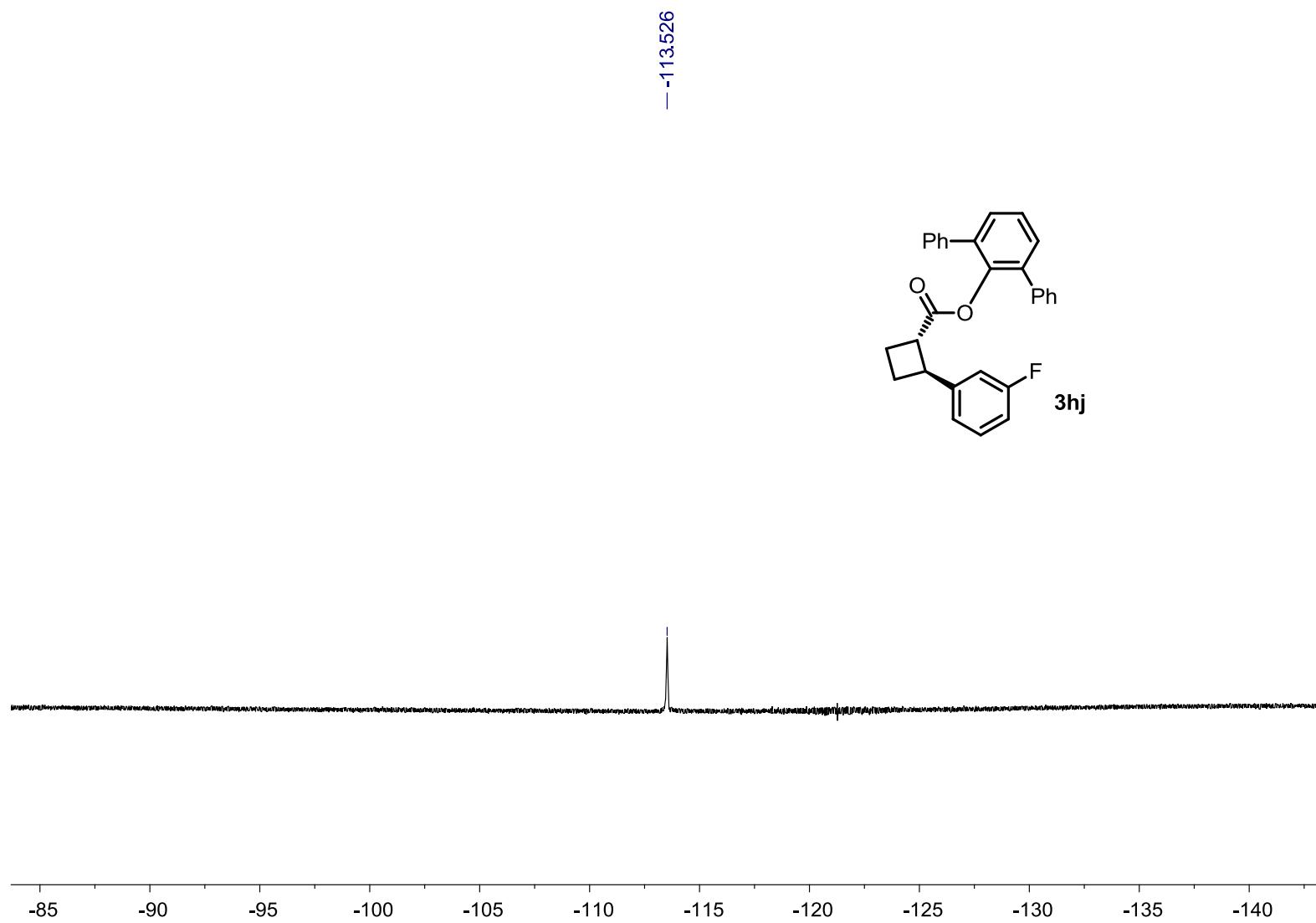


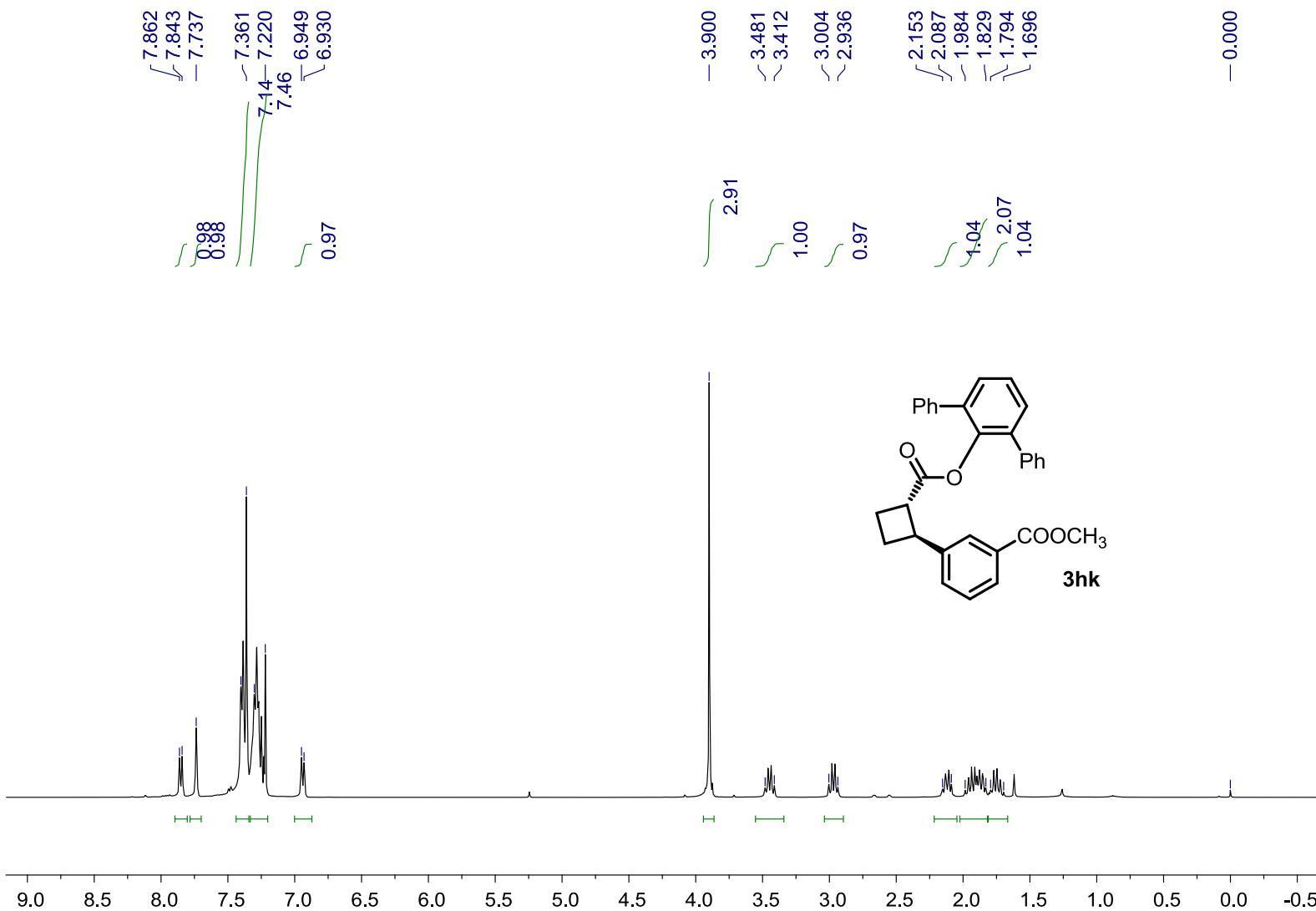


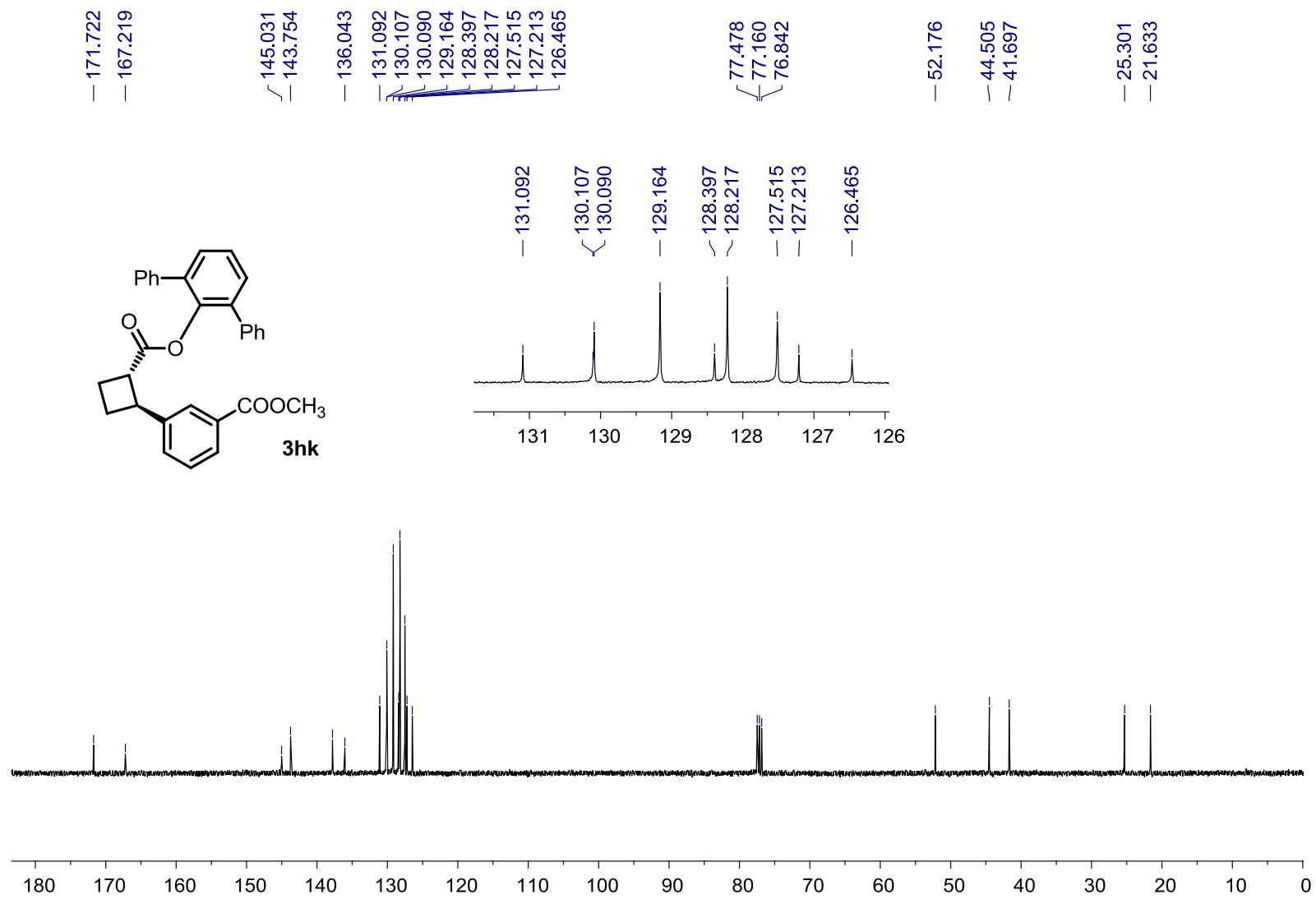


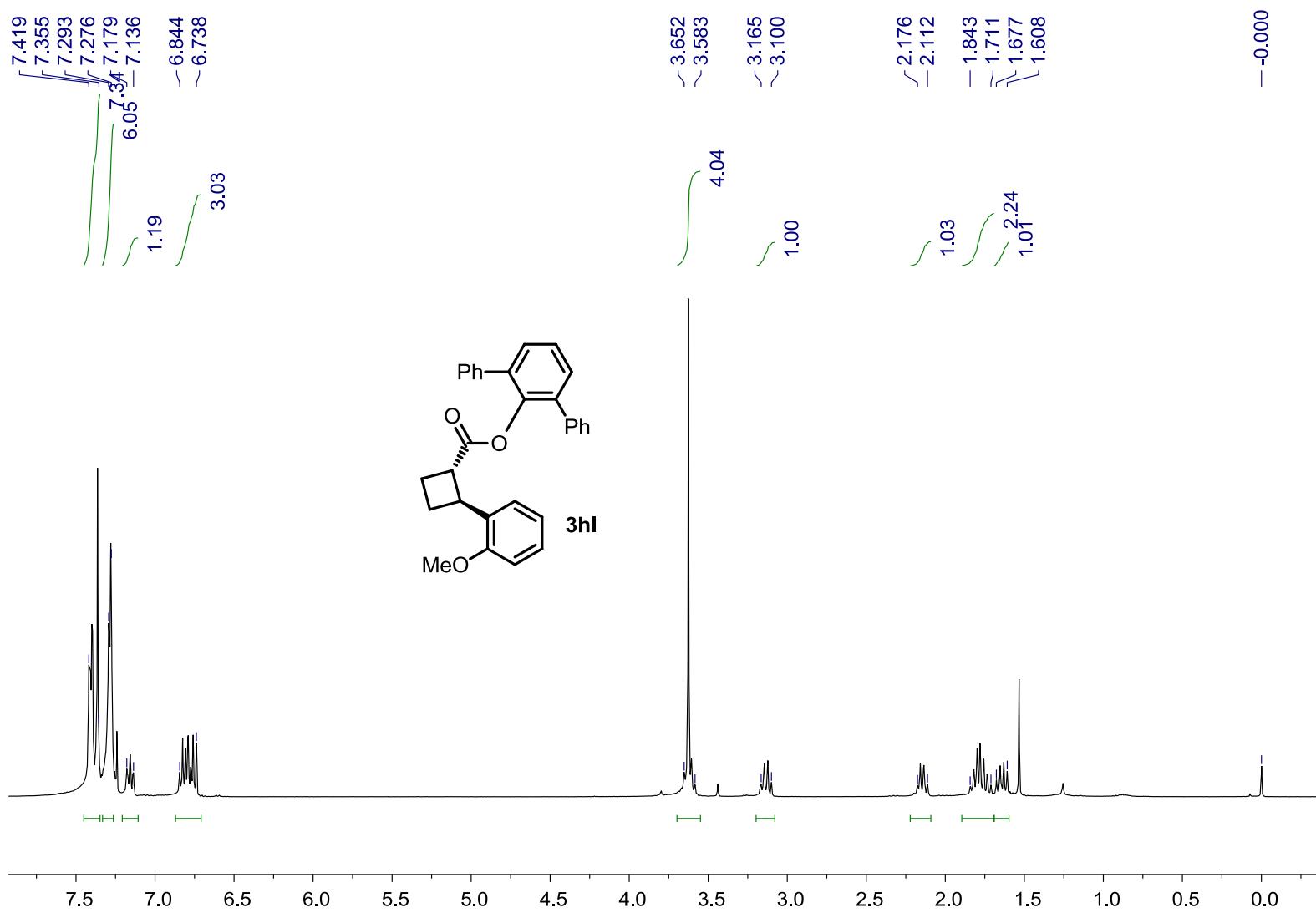


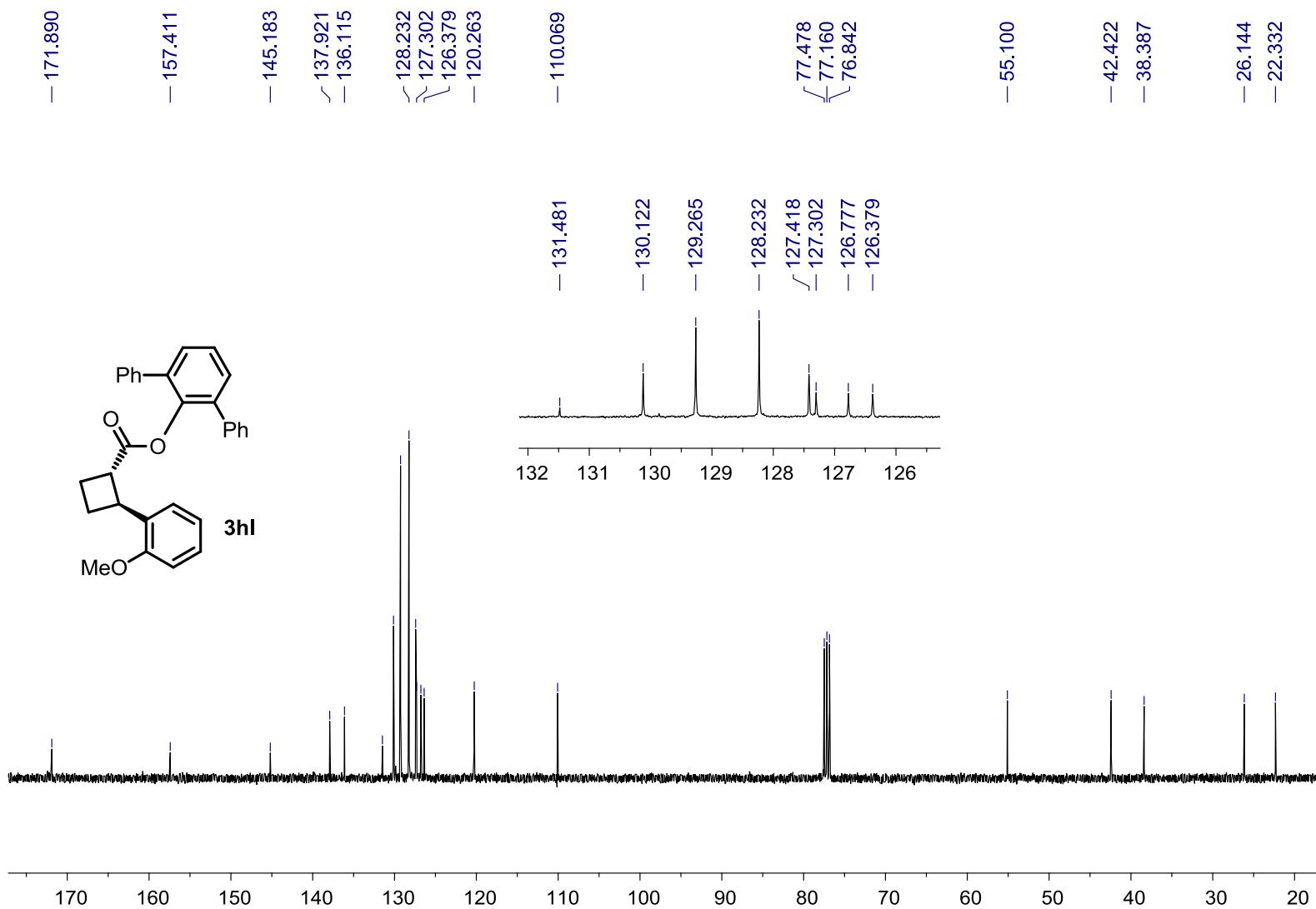


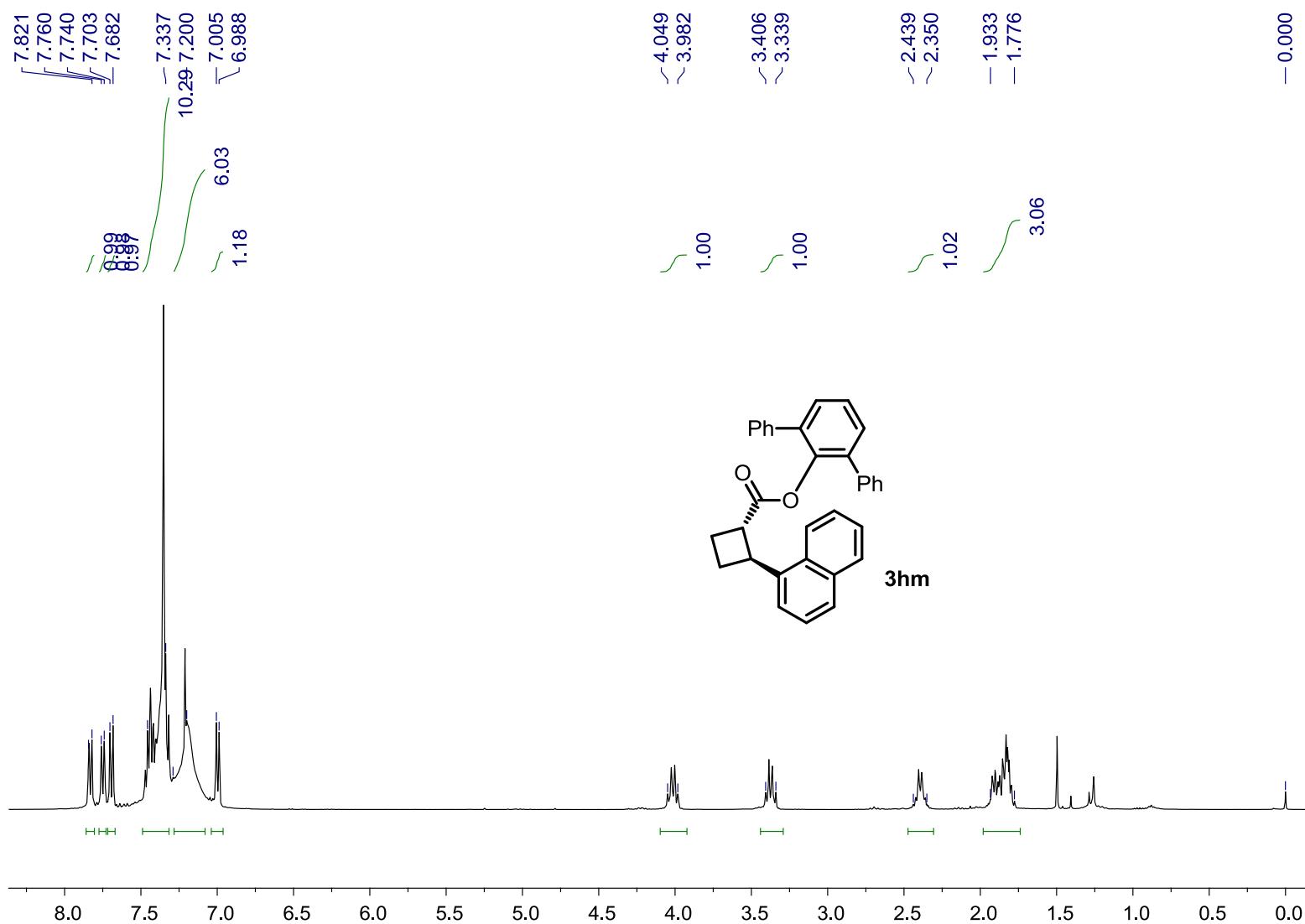


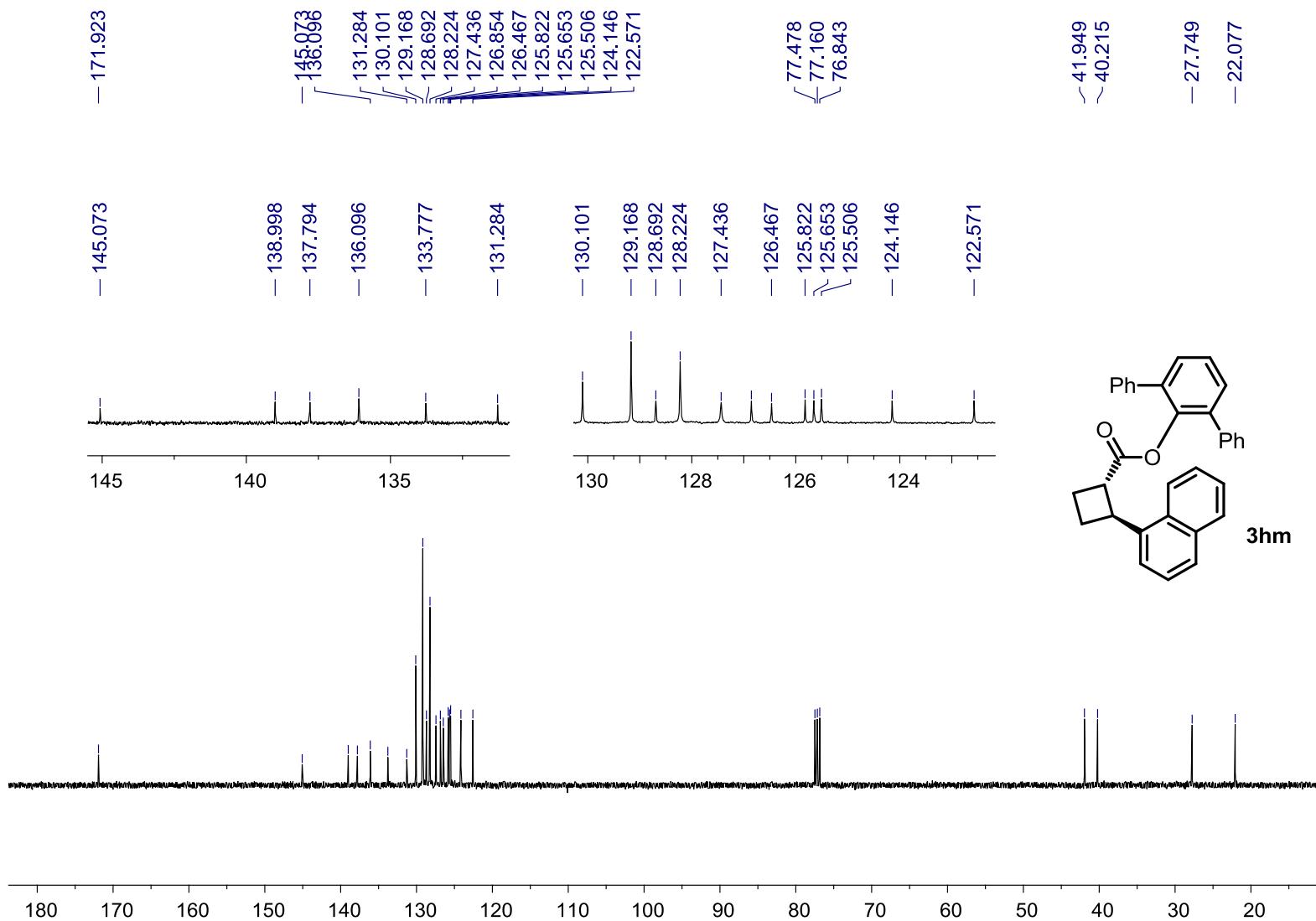


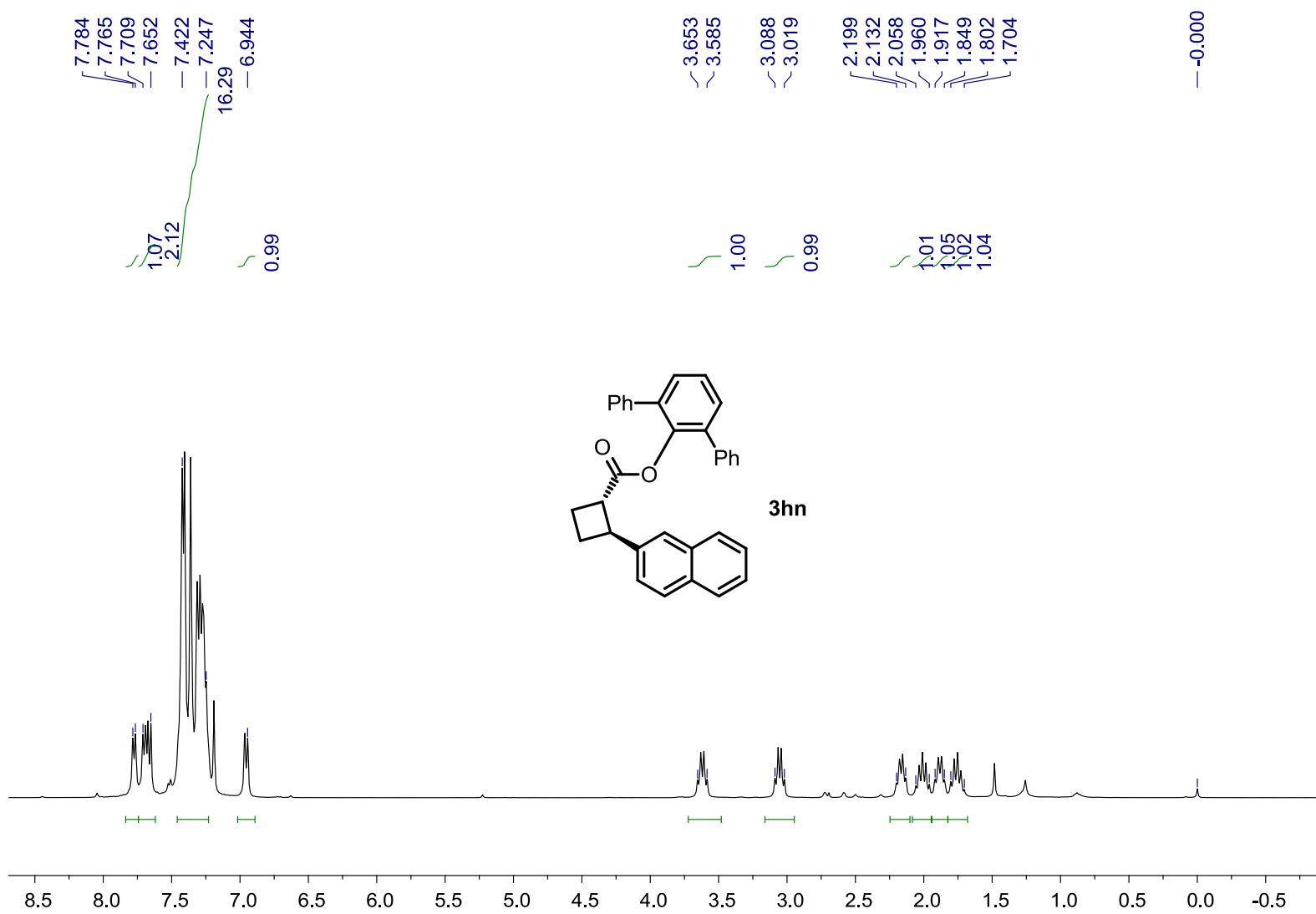


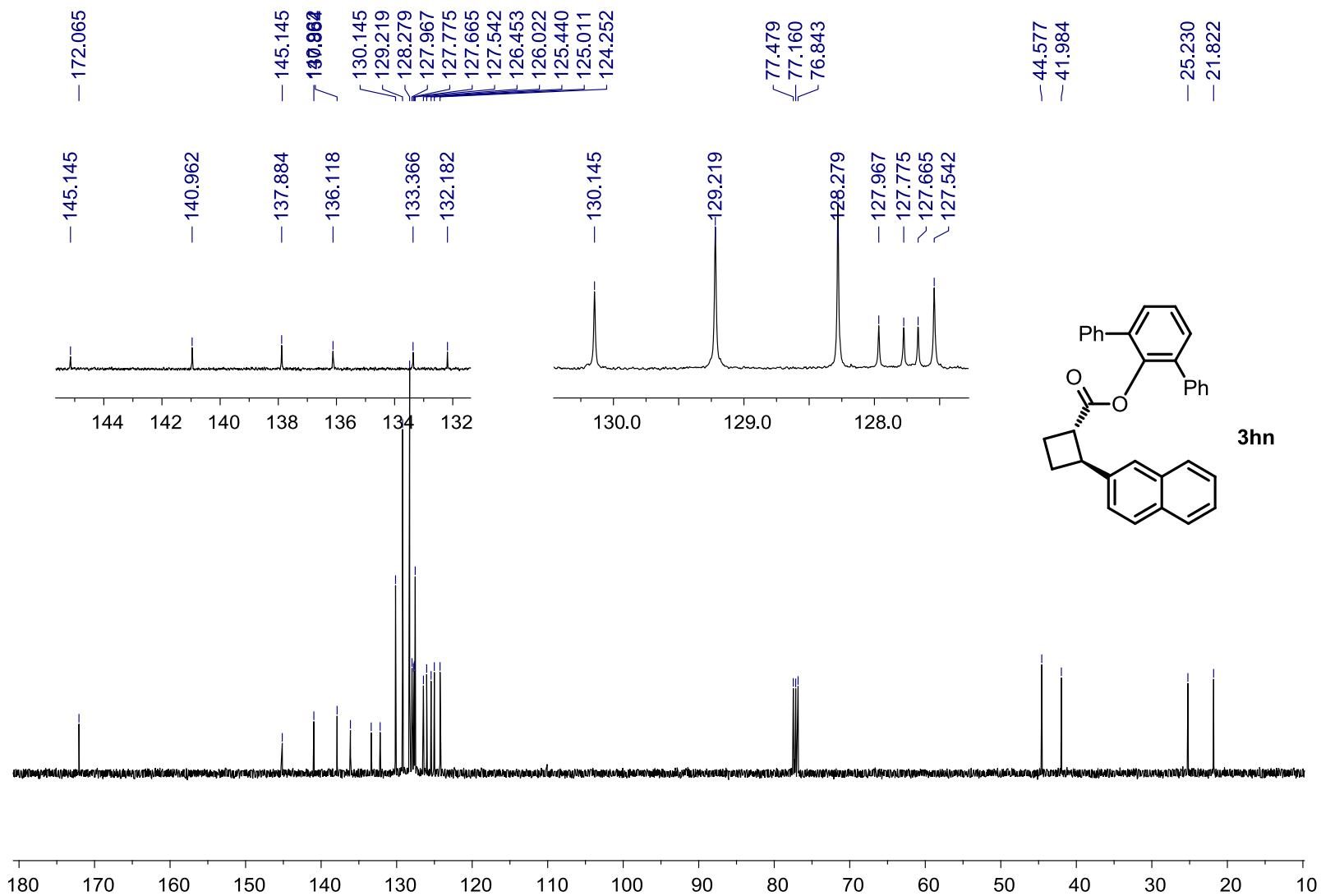


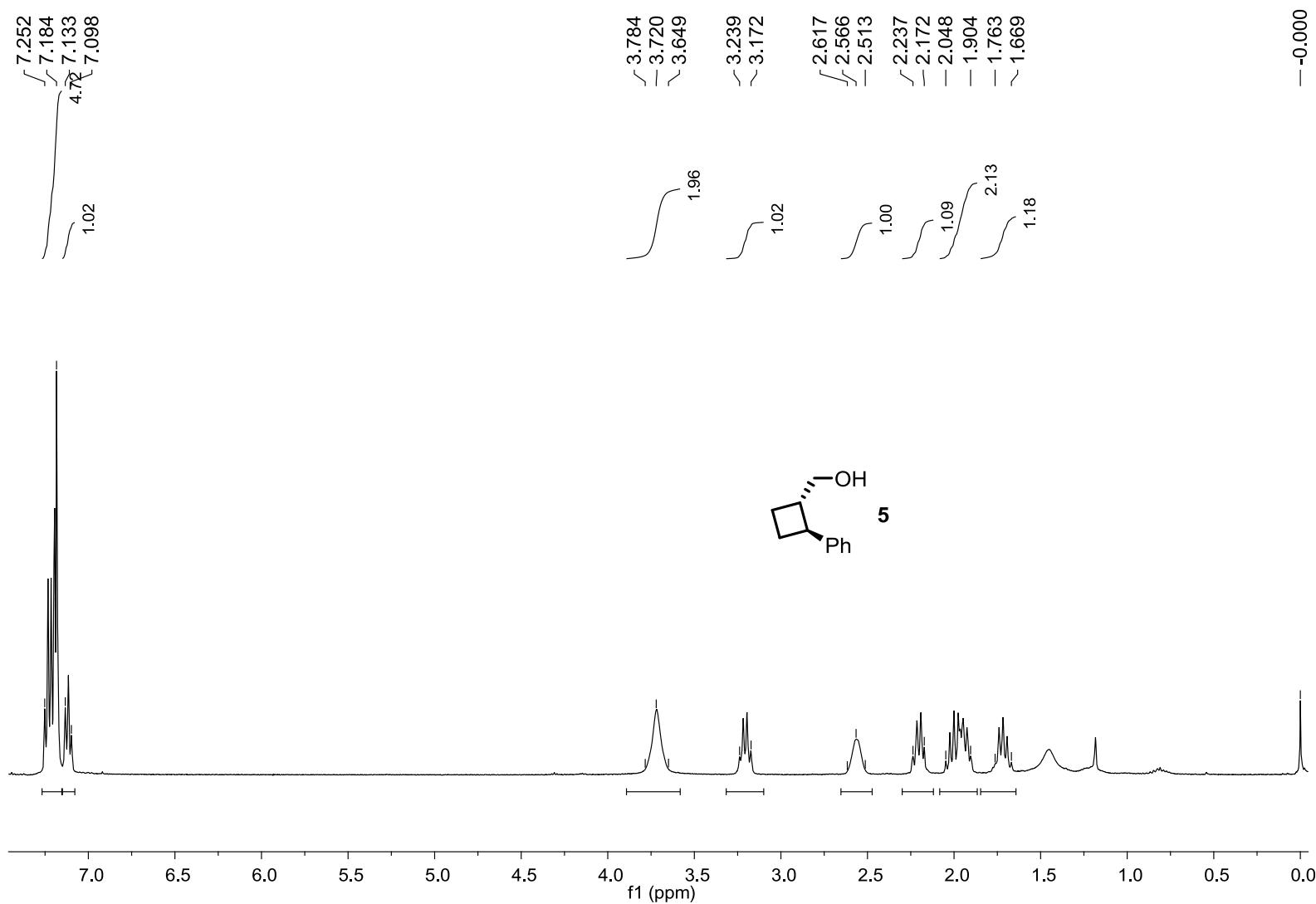


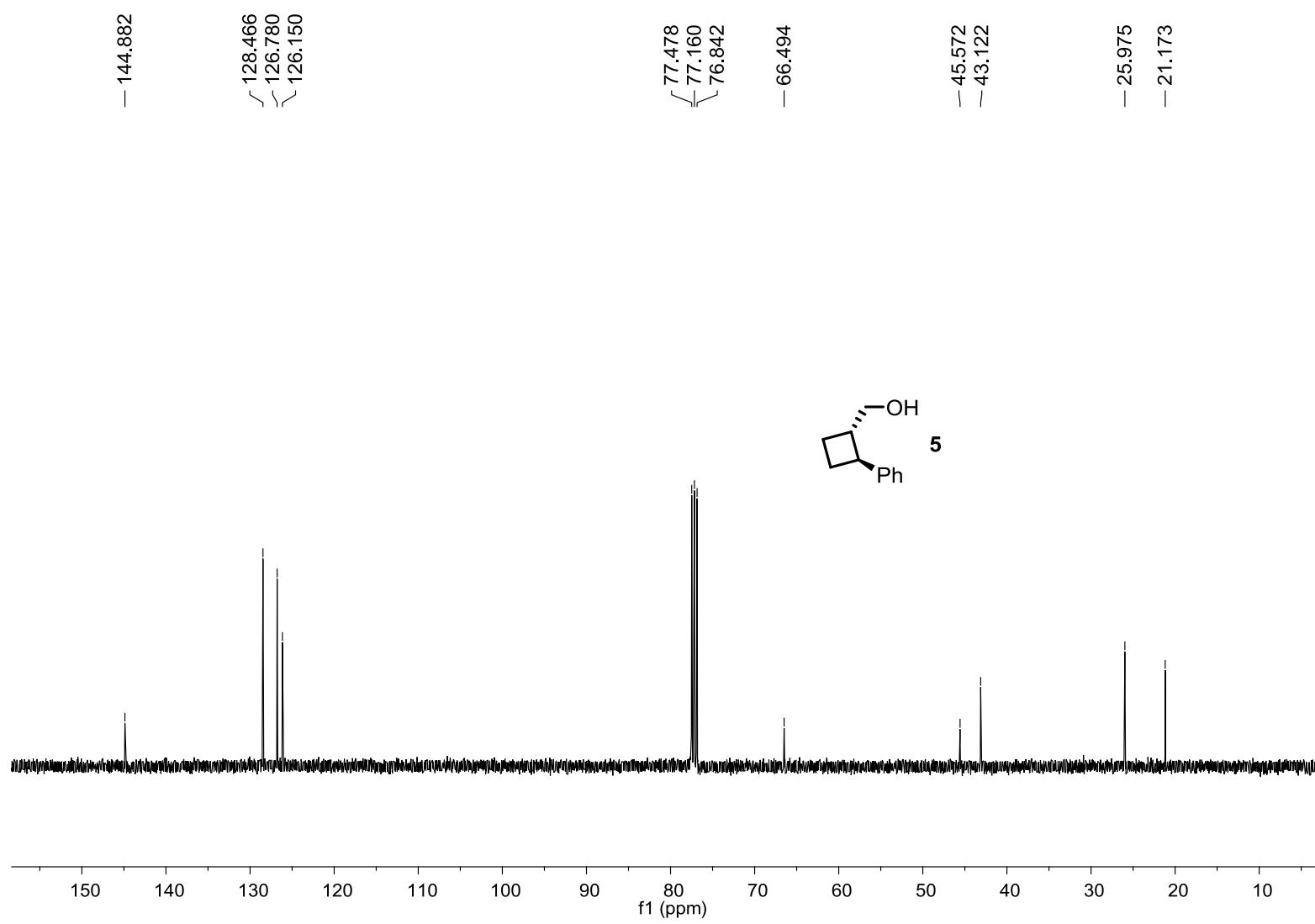


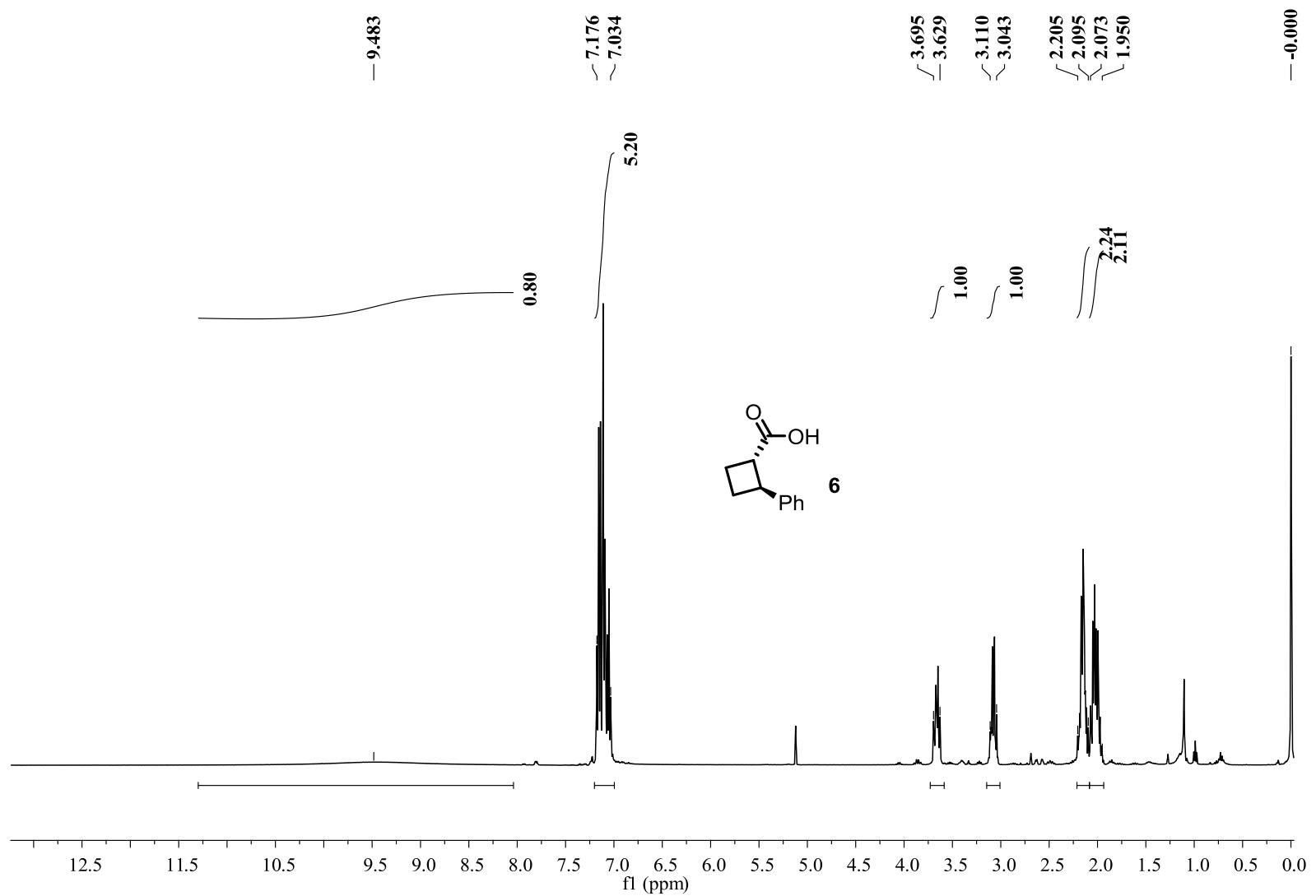


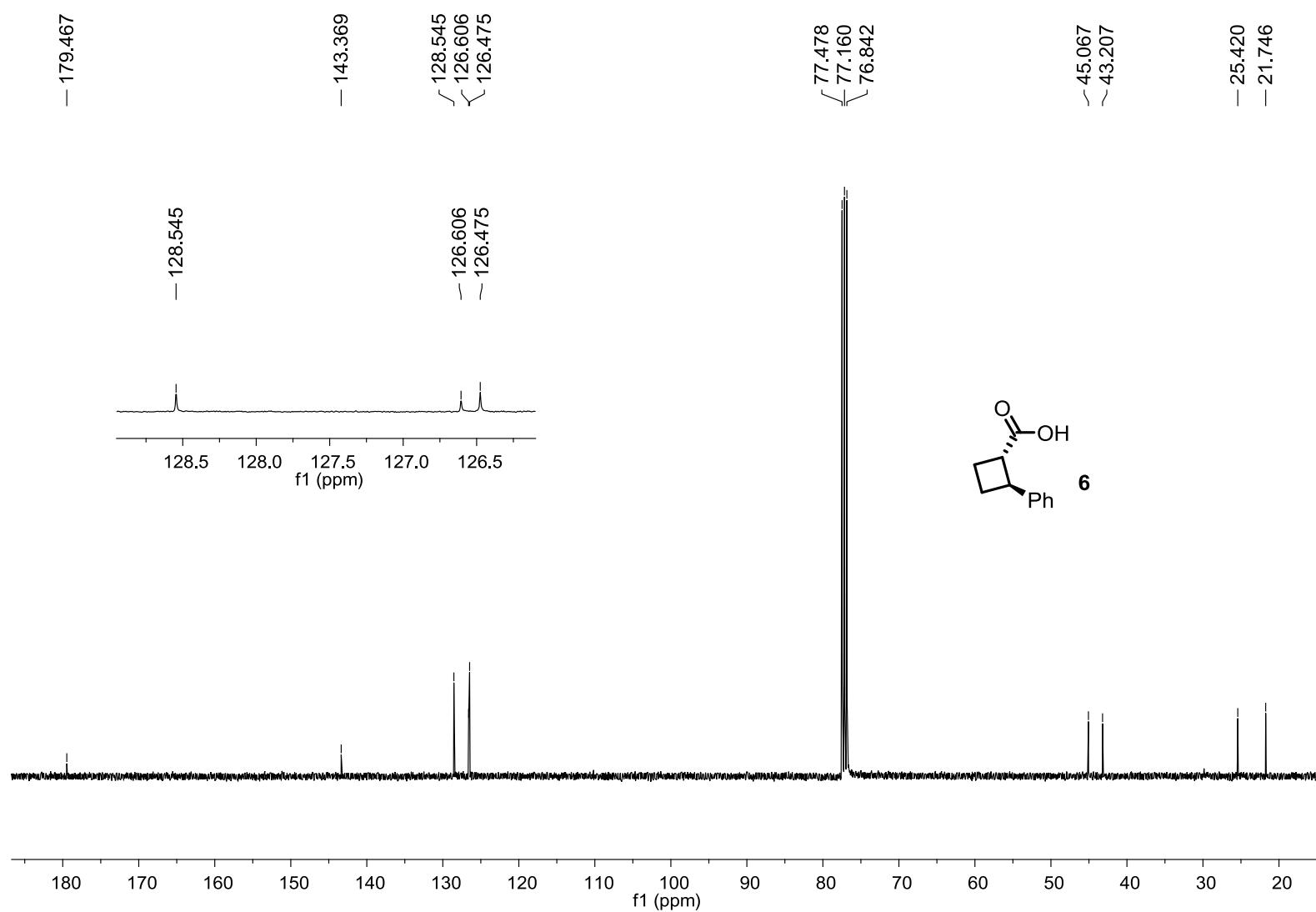


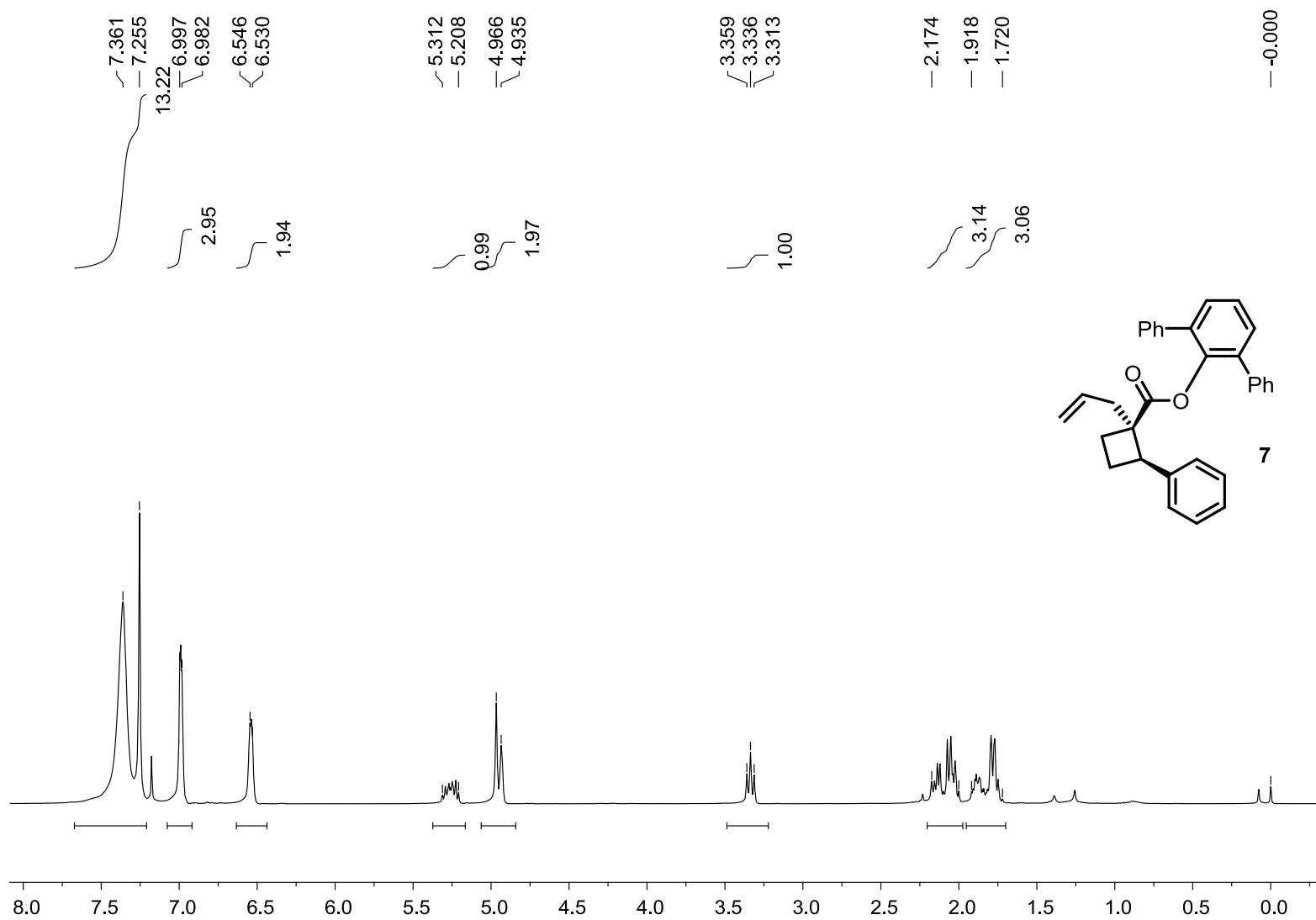


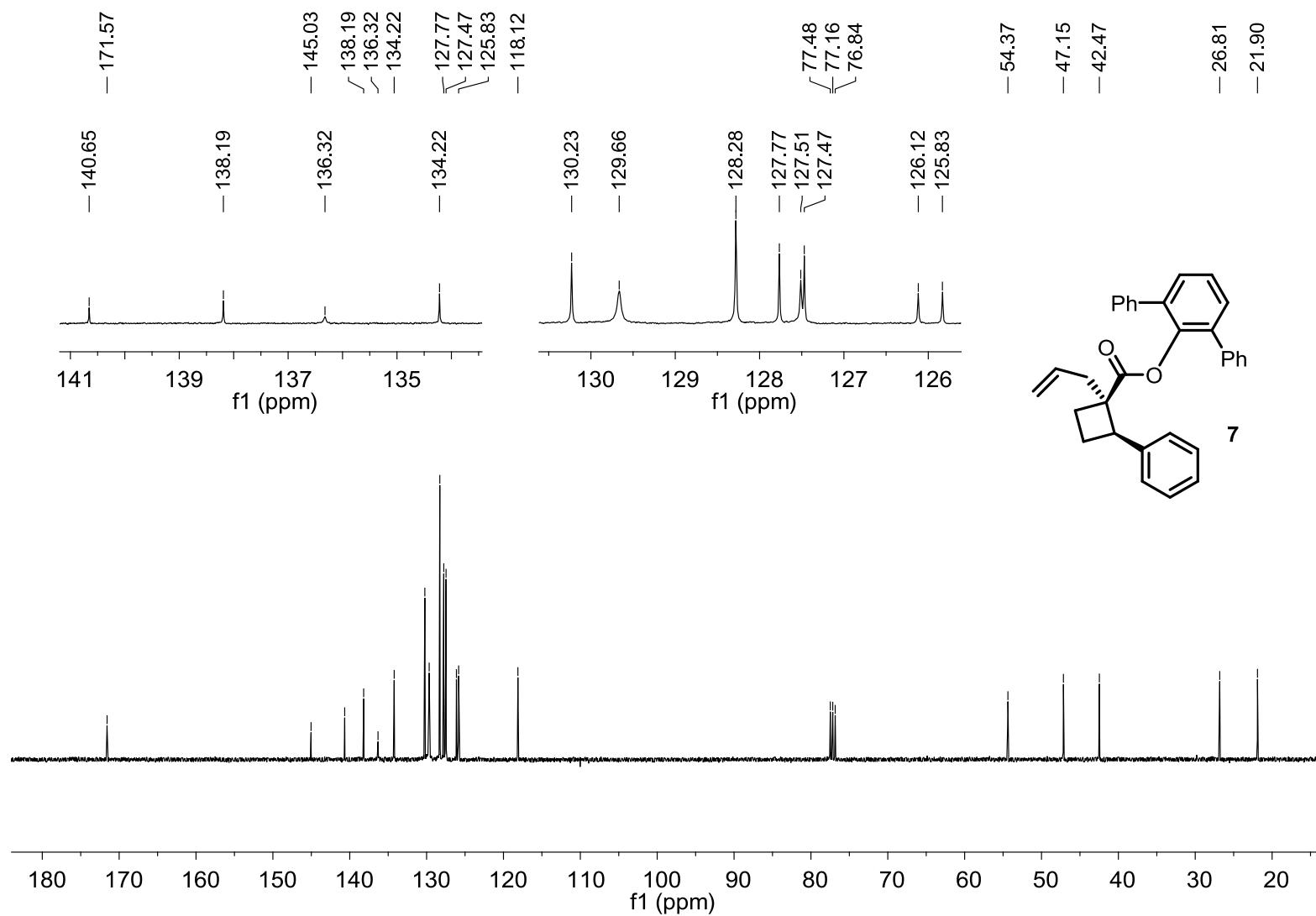


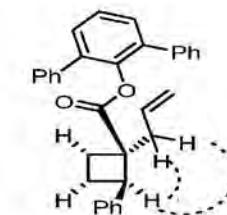












Key NOESY correlations for 7

----- = NOESY correlation

