

## *Supporting Information*

### **Palladium-catalyzed Direct Arylation of Phenols with Aryl Iodides**

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## 1. General methods

Analytical thin layer chromatography (TLC) was performed using Merck silica gel GF254 plates. Column chromatography was performed using silica gel (300-400mesh) eluting with ethyl acetate, petroleum and acetic acid. All products were characterized by their NMR and HRMS.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectra were recorded at 400 MHz and  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR spectra were recorded at 100 MHz (Bruker DPX) with  $\text{CDCl}_3$  as solvent. Chemical shifts are reported in ppm using TMS as internal standard. HRMS was recorded on a commercial apparatus (ESI Source, TOF).

Unless otherwise noted, all reagents were purchased from commercial suppliers and used without further purification.

## 2. General experimental procedure

### General experimental procedure for the C–H arylation of phenols with aryl iodides:

Phenols (0.5mmol), Iodobenzene (2.0mmol),  $\text{Pd}(\text{OAc})_2$  (0.05mmol),  $\text{AgOAc}$  (0.6mmol) and  $\text{TsOH}$  (1.5mmol) were combined in water (0.3mL) and  $\text{HOAc}$  (0.3mL) in a 10mL vial. The vial was sealed with a Teflon lined cap, and the reaction was stirred in a  $70^\circ\text{C}$  oil bath for 48 hours under  $\text{N}_2$  atmosphere. After cooled to room temperature, the mixture was extracted with ethyl acetate (3 x 10mL). The organic layer was dried over  $\text{Na}_2\text{SO}_4$  and the solvent was removed under reduced pressure. The residue was purified by silica-gel column chromatography to afford the corresponding product.

## 3. Optimization of Reaction Conditions

Optimization of reaction conditions was carried out using phenol and iodobenzene coupling partners, and many supplement results are summarized in Table S1. Our previous observation of significant solvent effects in the C–H arylation reaction system motivated us to examine the solvent dependence of the reaction using various solvents mixed 1:1 with  $\text{H}_2\text{O}$  and  $\text{AcOH}$ . Strongly coordinating solvents such as DMF, dioxane, DMSO, and  $\text{CH}_3\text{CN}$  did not promote the desired arylation reaction, while non-coordinating solvents provided markedly higher yields.  $\text{H}_2\text{O}/\text{AcOH}$  mixtures stood out as the best-performing solvents (entry 1 and 7). Apart from this, increasing the proportion of  $\text{H}_2\text{O}$  in the mixture to 2:1 decreased the yield of 53% to trace (entry 12 and 14). Similarly, if the proportion of  $\text{H}_2\text{O}/\text{AcOH}$  is 1:2, the yield of the corresponding product will turn trace (entry 13). Then, various silver salts and its amount had been explored under this perfect mixture solvent. Finally, we were pleased to obtain 3a and 4a in excellent yield (72%) by conducting the reaction with  $\text{AgOAc}/\text{TsOH}$  (entry 8 to 12).

Encouraged by the initial findings, we next started the optimization of ligands in this arylation reaction conditions. It was found that ligands, such as  $\text{PPh}_3$ , *o*- $\text{NO}_2$ - $\text{PhCOOH}$ , Proline, *N*-Ac-Gly, *N*-Ac-Ala, *L*-Serine, *N*-Ac-Leu and 2-Py-COOH, are not essential for this reaction (entry 17 to 24). Remarkably, *ortho*- and *para*-arylation products could be obtained under the best conditions (entry 16).

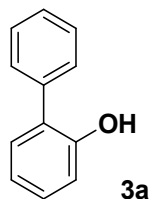
Table S1. Optimization of the reaction conditions<sup>a</sup>

| 1a              | 2a                                |                                                | 3a                                            | 4a                     |
|-----------------|-----------------------------------|------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------|------------------------|
| Entry           | Ligand                            | Additives                                      | Solvent                                       | Yield [%] <sup>f</sup> |
| 1               | -                                 | AgOAc                                          | H <sub>2</sub> O                              | -                      |
| 2               | -                                 | AgOAc                                          | CH <sub>3</sub> COOH                          | -                      |
| 3               | -                                 | AgOAc                                          | H <sub>2</sub> O/CH <sub>3</sub> CN(1:1)      | -                      |
| 4               | -                                 | AgOAc                                          | H <sub>2</sub> O/DMF(1:1)                     | -                      |
| 5               | -                                 | AgOAc                                          | H <sub>2</sub> O/DMSO(1:1)                    | -                      |
| 6               | -                                 | AgOAc                                          | H <sub>2</sub> O/Dioxane(1:1)                 | -                      |
| 7               | -                                 | AgOAc                                          | H <sub>2</sub> O/CH <sub>3</sub> COOH(1:1)    | 38(1:5)                |
| 8               | -                                 | AgOAc (2)/TsOH (3)                             | H <sub>2</sub> O/CH <sub>3</sub> COOH(1:1)    | 36(1:4)                |
| 9               | -                                 | AgOAc (1.2)/TsOH (3)                           | H <sub>2</sub> O/CH <sub>3</sub> COOH(1:1)    | 54(1:4)                |
| 10              | -                                 | Ag <sub>2</sub> O (0.6)/TsOH (3)               | H <sub>2</sub> O/CH <sub>3</sub> COOH(1:1)    | -                      |
| 11              | -                                 | Ag <sub>2</sub> CO <sub>3</sub> (0.6)/TsOH (3) | H <sub>2</sub> O/CH <sub>3</sub> COOH(1:1)    | -                      |
| 12              | -                                 | AgOAc (0.6)/TsOH (1.5)                         | H <sub>2</sub> O/CH <sub>3</sub> COOH(1:1)    | 53(1:10)               |
| 13 <sup>b</sup> | -                                 | AgOAc (0.6)/TsOH (1.5)                         | H <sub>2</sub> O/CH <sub>3</sub> COOH(1:2)    | trace                  |
| 14 <sup>c</sup> | -                                 | AgOAc (0.6)/TsOH (1.5)                         | H <sub>2</sub> O/CH <sub>3</sub> COOH(2:1)    | trace                  |
| 15 <sup>d</sup> | -                                 | AgOAc (0.6)/TsOH (1.5)                         | H <sub>2</sub> O/CH <sub>3</sub> COOH(1:1)    | 61(1:5)                |
| 16 <sup>e</sup> | -                                 | <b>AgOAc (0.6)/TsOH (1.5)</b>                  | <b>H<sub>2</sub>O/CH<sub>3</sub>COOH(1:1)</b> | <b>76(1:17)</b>        |
| 17 <sup>e</sup> | PPh <sub>3</sub>                  | AgOAc (0.6)/TsOH (1.5)                         | H <sub>2</sub> O/CH <sub>3</sub> COOH(1:1)    | -                      |
| 18 <sup>e</sup> | <i>o</i> -NO <sub>2</sub> -PhCOOH | AgOAc (0.6)/TsOH (1.5)                         | H <sub>2</sub> O/CH <sub>3</sub> COOH(1:1)    | -                      |
| 19 <sup>e</sup> | 2-Py-COOH                         | AgOAc (0.6)/TsOH (1.5)                         | H <sub>2</sub> O/CH <sub>3</sub> COOH(1:1)    | -                      |
| 20 <sup>e</sup> | Proline                           | AgOAc (0.6)/TsOH (1.5)                         | H <sub>2</sub> O/CH <sub>3</sub> COOH(1:1)    | -                      |
| 21 <sup>e</sup> | <i>L</i> -Serine                  | AgOAc (0.6)/TsOH (1.5)                         | H <sub>2</sub> O/CH <sub>3</sub> COOH(1:1)    | -                      |
| 22 <sup>e</sup> | N-Ac-Gly                          | AgOAc (0.6)/TsOH (1.5)                         | H <sub>2</sub> O/CH <sub>3</sub> COOH(1:1)    | -                      |
| 23 <sup>e</sup> | N-Ac-Ala                          | AgOAc (0.6)/TsOH (1.5)                         | H <sub>2</sub> O/CH <sub>3</sub> COOH(1:1)    | -                      |
| 24 <sup>e</sup> | N-Ac-Leu                          | AgOAc (0.6)/TsOH (1.5)                         | H <sub>2</sub> O/CH <sub>3</sub> COOH(1:1)    | -                      |

<sup>a</sup>Reactions conditions: **1a** (0.5 mmol), **2a** (2mmol), Pd(OAc)<sub>2</sub> (0.05 mmol), AgOAc (0.6mmol), TsOH (1.5 mmol). <sup>b</sup>0.1 mL H<sub>2</sub>O, 0.2 mL HOAc. <sup>c</sup>0.2 mL H<sub>2</sub>O, 0.1 mL HOAc. <sup>d</sup>0.2 mL H<sub>2</sub>O, 0.2 mL HOAc. <sup>e</sup>0.3 mL H<sub>2</sub>O, 0.3 mL HOAc. <sup>f</sup>Isolated yields.

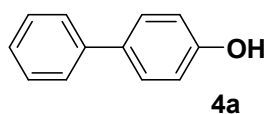
#### 4. Characterization data

##### 2-Phenylphenol (3a)<sup>[1]</sup>



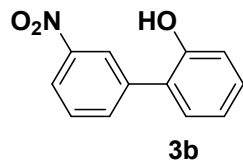
Purification by flash chromatography (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate 100:1), white solid, mp58-59°C; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 7.53 (s, 1H), 7.52 (s, 2H), 7.44 (s, 1H), 7.31 (s, 1H), 7.29 (s, 1H), 7.04 (s, 1H), 7.03 (d, *J* = 7.7 Hz, 2H), 5.29 (s, 1H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 152.42, 137.10, 130.26, 129.29, 129.18, 129.12, 128.14, 127.89, 120.87, 115.84; MS (EI): *m/z* = 170(M<sup>+</sup>).

##### 4-Phenylphenol (4a)<sup>[2]</sup>



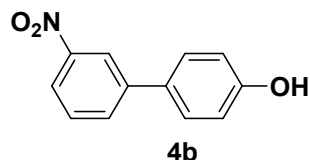
Purification by flash chromatography (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate 100:1), white solid, mp164-165 °C; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 7.54 (d, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 7.63 – 7.48 (m, 3H), 7.48 (d, *J* = 8.6 Hz, 2H), 7.48 – 7.36 (m, 3H), 7.36 (d, *J* = 44.1 Hz, 2H), 6.90 (d, *J* = 8.7 Hz, 2H), 4.97 (s, 1H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 154.86, 140.54, 133.82, 128.51, 128.19, 126.51, 115.44; MS (EI): *m/z* = 170(M<sup>+</sup>).

##### 3'-Nitro-[1,1'-biphenyl]-2-ol (3b)<sup>[3]</sup>



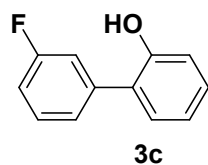
Purification by flash chromatography (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate 100:1), yellow solid, mp99.5-100 °C; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 8.32 (d, *J* = 96.2 Hz, 2H), 8.19 (s, 1H), 8.31 – 7.53 (m, 3H), 7.99 – 7.28 (m, 3H), 7.78 – 7.21 (m, 3H), 7.16 (d, *J* = 83.5 Hz, 1H), 7.00 (d, *J* = 37.2 Hz, 2H), 5.22 (s, 1H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 152.76, 148.33, 139.68, 135.40, 130.59, 129.93, 129.31, 126.04, 124.31, 122.02, 121.23, 116.39; MS (EI): *m/z* = 215(M<sup>+</sup>).

##### 3'-Nitro-[1,1'-biphenyl]-4-ol(4b)<sup>[4]</sup>



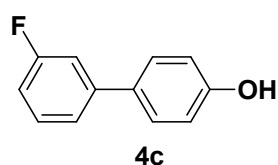
Purification by flash chromatography (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate 100:1), yellow solid, mp108-108.5 °C; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 8.30 (s, 1H), 8.17 (d, *J* = 102.0 Hz, 2H), 7.90 (d, *J* = 115.0 Hz, 2H), 7.48 (s, 1H), 7.44 (t, *J* = 14.8 Hz, 3H), 6.89 (d, *J* = 8.6 Hz, 2H), 5.57 (s, 1H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 156.33, 148.66, 142.45, 132.58, 131.20, 131.11, 129.66, 128.92, 128.49, 121.40, 121.36, 116.13; MS (EI): *m/z* = 215(M<sup>+</sup>).

### 3'-Fluoro-[1,1'-biphenyl]-2-ol (3c) <sup>[5]</sup>



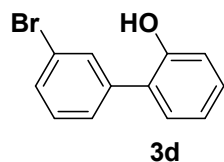
Purification by flash chromatography (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate 100:1), white solid; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 7.44 (s, 1H), 7.27 (s, 1H), 7.26 (s, 1H), 7.25 (s, 1H), 7.23 (s, 1H), 7.07 (s, 1H), 6.99 (s, 1H), 6.97 (s, 1H), 5.26 (s, 1H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 167.25, 164.79, 155.23, 142.43, 142.35, 133.51, 133.42, 133.11, 132.40, 129.89, 127.58, 127.56, 123.89, 119.23, 119.02, 118.98, 117.62, 117.41; MS (EI): m/z = 188(M<sup>+</sup>).

### 3'-Fluoro-[1,1'-biphenyl]-4-ol (4c) <sup>[6]</sup>



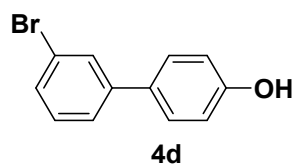
Purification by flash chromatography (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate 100:1), white solid, mp 122-123 °C; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 7.46 (s, 1H), 7.44 (s, 1H), 7.34 (s, 1H), 7.31 (s, 1H), 7.24 (s, 1H), 6.98 (s, 1H), 6.92 (s, 1H), 6.90 (s, 1H), 5.60 (s, 1H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 164.43, 161.99, 155.68, 143.11, 143.03, 132.60, 132.57, 130.19, 130.10, 128.37, 122.27, 122.25, 115.79, 113.61, 113.51, 113.39, 113.30; MS (EI): m/z = 188(M<sup>+</sup>).

### 3'-Bromo-[1,1'-biphenyl]-2-ol (3d)



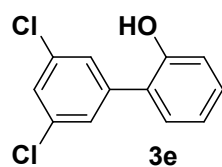
Purification by flash chromatography (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate 100:1), colourless oil; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 7.47 (s, 1H), 7.45 (s, 1H), 7.31 (s, 2H), 7.25 (s, 1H), 6.98 (s, 1H), 6.95 – 6.87 (m, 2H), 4.99 (s, 1H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 152.40, 139.47, 132.23, 130.72, 130.46, 130.30, 129.58, 127.72, 126.81, 123.09, 121.03, 116.11; ESI-MS: calculated [C<sub>12</sub>H<sub>8</sub>BrO]<sup>+</sup>: 246.9764, found: 246.9777.

### 3'-Bromo-[1,1'-biphenyl]-4-ol (4d)



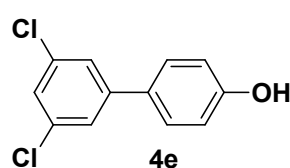
Purification by flash chromatography (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate 100:1), colourless oil; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 7.67 (s, 1H), 7.45 (s, 1H), 7.44 (s, 1H), 7.41 (d, *J* = 5.9 Hz, 2H), 7.25 (s, 1H), 6.90 (d, *J* = 8.6 Hz, 2H), 5.31 (s, 1H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 155.70, 142.93, 132.37, 130.24, 129.74, 129.59, 128.42, 125.29, 122.88, 115.85; ESI-MS: calculated [C<sub>12</sub>H<sub>8</sub>BrO]<sup>+</sup>: 246.9764, found: 246.9777.

**3',5'-dichloro-[1,1'-Biphenyl]-2-ol (3e)**



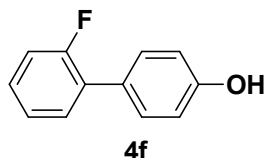
Purification by flash chromatography (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate 100:1), white solid, mp208-210 °C; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 7.44 (d, *J* = 1.8 Hz, 1H), 7.42 (s, 1H), 7.40 (s, 1H), 7.26 (s, 1H), 7.03 (s, 1H), 5.27 (s, 1H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 143.57, 138.70, 138.31, 136.07, 135.87, 135.57, 134.16, 129.57, 129.29, 124.69;ESI-MS: calculated[C<sub>12</sub> H<sub>7</sub> Cl<sub>2</sub> O]<sup>+</sup>: 236.9979, found:236.9896.

**3',5'-dichloro-[1,1'-Biphenyl]-4-ol (4e)**



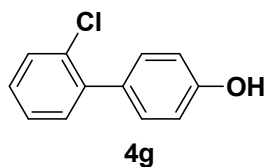
Purification by flash chromatography (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate100:1), white solid, mp108-109 °C; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 7.40 (d, *J* = 8.7 Hz, 2H), 7.38 (d, *J* = 1.8 Hz, 2H), 7.27 (s, 1H), 6.90 (d, *J* = 8.6 Hz, 2H), 5.29 (s, 1H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 155.12, 142.81, 134.30, 130.34, 127.52, 125.62, 124.23, 115.05; ESI-MS: calculated [C<sub>12</sub> H<sub>7</sub> Cl<sub>2</sub> O]<sup>+</sup>: 236.9879, found: 236.9855.

**2'-Fluoro-[1,1'-biphenyl]-4-ol(4f)<sup>[5]</sup>**



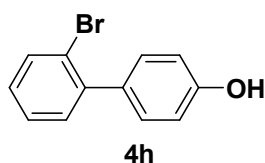
Purification by flash chromatography (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate100:1), white solid, mp124-126°C; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 7.44 (s, 1H), 7.42 (s, 2H), 7.38 (s, 1H), 7.23 (s, 1H), 7.18 (s, 1H), 7.16 (s, 1H), 6.91 (s, 1H), 6.89 (s, 1H), 5.33 (s, 1H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 162.25 (d, *J* = 246.9 Hz), 157.78 (s), 134.50 (d, *J* = 3.4 Hz), 133.02 (s), 132.98 (s), 132.90 (s), 132.87 (s), 130.95 (d, *J* = 8.2 Hz), 126.82 (d, *J* = 3.7 Hz); MS (EI): *m/z* = 188(M<sup>+</sup>).

**2'-chloro-[1,1'-biphenyl]-4-ol (4g)<sup>[6]</sup>**



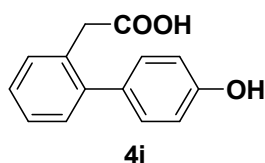
Purification by flash chromatography (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate 100:1),yellow solid, mp 54-56 °C; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 7.43 (s, 1H), 7.32 (d, *J* = 8.5 Hz, 1H), 7.29 (s, 1H), 7.27 (s, 1H), 7.25 (s, 1H), 6.89 (d, *J* = 8.3 Hz, 1H), 5.52 (s, 1H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 155.09, 140.08, 132.59, 132.05, 131.39, 130.87, 129.96, 128.25, 126.84, 115.01; MS (EI): *m/z* = 204(M<sup>+</sup>).

#### 2'-Bromo-[1,1'-biphenyl]-4-ol (4h)



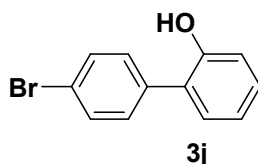
Purification by flash chromatography (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate 100:1), yellow solid; mp98-100 °C; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 7.31 (s, 1H), 7.29 (s, 1H), 7.24 (d, *J* = 7.4 Hz, 1H), 7.01 (s, 1H), 6.99 (s, 1H), 6.96 (d, *J* = 8.7 Hz, 1H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 155.25, 142.19, 133.74, 133.12, 131.35, 130.78, 128.44, 127.38, 122.89, 114.93; ESI-MS: calculated [C<sub>12</sub>H<sub>8</sub>BrO]<sup>+</sup>: 246.9764, found: 246.9777.

#### 4'-hydroxy-[1,1'-Biphenyl]-2-acetic acid (4i)



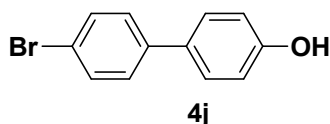
Purification by flash chromatography (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate/ acetic acid 100:1:1), white solid, mp105-107 °C; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 10.58 (s, 1H), 7.83 (s, 1H), 7.83 (s, 1H), 7.30 (s, 1H), 7.29 (s, 1H), 7.28 (s, 1H), 7.28 (s, 1H), 6.96 (s, 1H), 6.95 (s, 1H), 3.83 (s, 2H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 176.99, 139.60, 137.08, 133.28, 130.80, 129.45, 129.19, 128.70, 128.54, 127.40, 101.13, 46.07; ESI-MS: calculated [C<sub>14</sub>H<sub>11</sub>O<sub>3</sub>]<sup>+</sup>: 227.0714, found: 227.0708.

#### 4'-bromo-[1,1'-Biphenyl]-2-ol (3j)<sup>[8]</sup>



Purification by flash chromatography (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate 100:1), white solid, mp64-65 °C; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 7.61 (d, *J* = 2.4 Hz, 3H), 7.40 (d, *J* = 6.4 Hz, 2H), 7.27 (d, *J* = 10.4 Hz, 3H), 7.35 – 6.98 (m, 4H), 6.98 (d, *J* = 8.1 Hz, 2H), 5.22 (s, 1H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 152.63, 132.15, 131.90, 130.84, 130.23, 129.40, 129.27, 121.05, 120.87, 116.08; MS (EI): *m/z* = 188(M<sup>+</sup>).

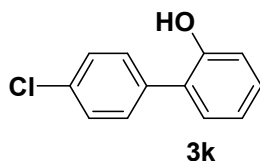
#### 4'-bromo-[1,1'-Biphenyl]-4-ol(4j)<sup>[9]</sup>



Purification by flash chromatography (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate 100:1), white solid, mp 166-167 °C; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 7.44 (d, *J* = 8.5 Hz, 2H), 7.35 (d, *J* = 8.6 Hz, 2H), 7.31 (d, *J* = 8.5 Hz, 2H), 6.82 (d, *J* = 8.6 Hz, 2H), 5.26 (s, 1H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 155.37,

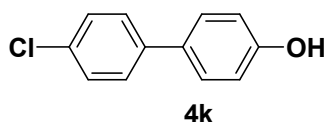
139.67, 132.77, 131.80, 128.29, 128.24, 120.85, 115.80; MS (EI):  $m/z = 188(M^+)$ .

**4'-chloro-[1,1'-Biphenyl]-2-ol (3k)<sup>[10]</sup>**



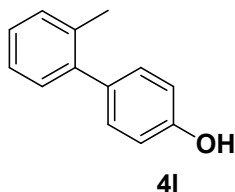
Purification by flash chromatography (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate 100:1), white solid, mp 53.0-53.5 °C; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 7.49 (d,  $J = 3.2$  Hz, 1H), 7.46 (d,  $J = 8.9$  Hz, 3H), 7.27 (s, 1H), 7.25 (s, 1H), 7.03 (s, 1H), 7.00 (s, 1H), 5.20 (s, 2H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 152.39, 135.75, 135.73, 133.79, 130.52, 130.29, 129.38, 129.21, 129.20, 127.09, 121.05, 116.07. MS (EI):  $m/z = 188(M^+)$ .

**4'-chloro-[1,1'-Biphenyl]-4-ol (4k)<sup>[2]</sup>**



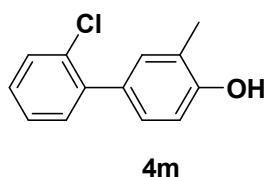
Purification by flash chromatography (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate 100:1), white solid, mp 146-147 °C; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 7.50 (s, 1H), 7.46 (d,  $J = 8.3$  Hz, 3H), 7.41 (d,  $J = 2.1$  Hz, 1H), 7.39 (s, 1H), 6.94 (d,  $J = 8.5$  Hz, 2H), 5.25 (s, 1H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 155.33, 139.21, 132.78, 132.74, 128.85, 128.27, 127.93, 115.81. MS (EI):  $m/z = 204(M^+)$ .

**2'-methyl-[1,1'-Biphenyl]-4-ol (4l)<sup>[11]</sup>**



Purification by flash chromatography (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate 100:1), light yellow solid, mp 80-81 °C; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 7.15 (d,  $J = 4.7$  Hz, 1H), 7.14 – 7.12 (m, 1H), 7.13 (d,  $J = 3.6$  Hz, 1H), 7.10 (s, 1H), 6.80 (d,  $J = 8.4$  Hz, 1H), 5.22 (s, 1H), 2.19 (s, 1H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 153.47, 140.49, 134.48, 133.52, 129.45, 129.31, 128.89, 126.00, 124.76, 113.97, 19.54. MS (EI):  $m/z = 184(M^+)$ .

**2'-chloro-3-methyl-[1,1'-Biphenyl]-4-ol (4m)**

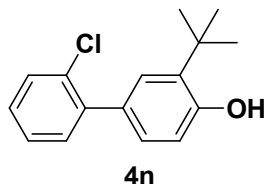


Purification by flash chromatography (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate 100:1), white solid, mp 84-85 °C; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 7.43 (s, 1H), 7.30 (d,  $J = 2.1$  Hz, 1H), 7.29 – 7.23 (m, 2H),



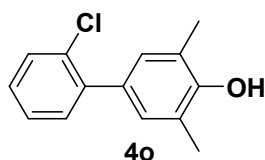
7.25 (d,  $J = 2.2$  Hz, 1H), 7.24 (t,  $J = 9.7$  Hz, 3H), 6.84 (s, 1H), 4.93 (s, 1H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  142.14, 134.42, 133.98, 133.26, 131.75, 130.11, 129.97, 128.62, 116.38, 17.71. ESI-MS: calculated  $[\text{C}_{13}\text{H}_9\text{ClO}]^-$ : 217.0426, found: 217.0429.

**2'-chloro-3-(1,1-dimethylethyl)-[1,1'-Biphenyl]-4-ol(4n)**



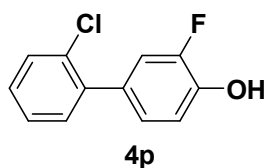
Purification by flash chromatography (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate 100:1), deep yellow oil;  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  7.44 (s, 1H), 7.35 (d,  $J = 15.6$  Hz, 1H), 7.25 (d,  $J = 20.7$  Hz, 1H), 7.18 (s, 1H), 6.72 (s, 1H), 4.99 (s, 1H), 1.44 (s, 1H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  153.84, 140.63, 135.64, 132.59, 131.57, 131.46, 129.98, 128.69, 128.02, 127.93, 126.80, 116.13, 34.69, 29.65; ESI-MS: calculated  $[\text{C}_{16}\text{H}_{16}\text{ClO}]^-$ : 259.0895, found: 259.0913.

**2'-chloro-3,5-dimethyl-[1,1'-Biphenyl]-4-ol (4o)**



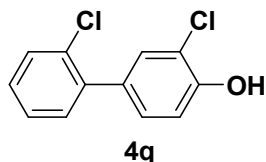
Purification by flash chromatography (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate 100:1), yellow oil;  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  7.39 (s, 1H), 7.33 (d,  $J = 46.3$  Hz, 1H), 7.27 (d,  $J = 4.5$  Hz, 1H), 7.23 (d,  $J = 27.1$  Hz, 1H), 7.19 (s, 1H), 7.03 (s, 1H), 6.61 (s, 1H), 2.10 (s, 1H), 2.05 (s, 1H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  158.39, 146.19, 143.56, 142.62, 133.75, 133.63, 132.93, 130.83, 130.43, 130.07, 127.18, 14.23; ESI-MS: calculated  $[\text{C}_{14}\text{H}_{12}\text{ClO}]^-$ : 231.0582, found: 231.0561.

**2'-chloro-3-Fluoro-[1,1'-Biphenyl]-4-ol(4p)**



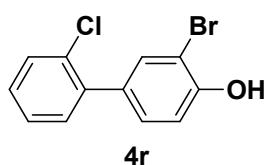
Purification by flash chromatography (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate 100:1), colourless oil;  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  7.49 (s, 1H), 7.34 (d,  $J = 2.9$  Hz, 1H), 7.33 (d,  $J = 1.7$  Hz, 1H), 7.32 (d,  $J = 3.8$  Hz, 1H), 7.12 (d,  $J = 18.2$  Hz, 2H), 5.76 (s, 1H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  150.48 (d,  $J = 237.7$  Hz), 143.11 (d,  $J = 14.3$  Hz), 132.26 (d,  $J = 6.2$  Hz), 131.31 (s), 130.02 (d,  $J = 5.8$  Hz), 128.70 (d,  $J = 9.7$  Hz), 126.90 (d,  $J = 7.0$  Hz), 126.04 (d,  $J = 3.1$  Hz), 126.04 (d,  $J = 3.1$  Hz); ESI-MS: calculated  $[\text{C}_{12}\text{H}_7\text{ClFO}]^-$ : 221.0175, found: 221.0176.

**2',3-dichloro-[1,1'-Biphenyl]-4-ol (4q)**



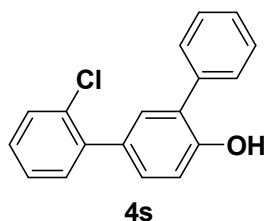
Purification by flash chromatography (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate 100:1), dark green solid, mp 44-46 °C;  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  7.41 (d,  $J = 2.1$  Hz, 3H), 7.28 (s, 1H), 7.27 (d,  $J = 1.6$  Hz, 2H), 7.25 (s, 1H), 7.07 (s, 1H), 5.73 (s, 1H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  150.92, 138.86, 132.82, 132.54, 131.27, 130.05, 129.95, 129.69, 128.72, 126.95, 119.55, 115.88. ESI-MS: calculated  $[\text{C}_{12}\text{H}_7\text{Cl}_2\text{O}]^-$ : 236.9879, found: 236.9863.

**2'-chloro-3-Bromo-[1,1'-Biphenyl]-4-ol (4r)**



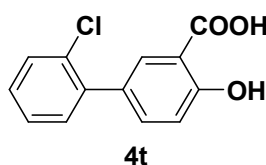
Purification by flash chromatography (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate 100:1), pale yellow solid; mp 53-55 °C;  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  7.04 (s, 1H), 6.93 (s, 1H), 6.78 (s, 1H), 6.78 (s, 1H), 6.77 (s, 1H), 6.77 (s, 1H), 6.57 (s, 1H), 5.16 (s, 1H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  151.85, 138.72, 133.20, 132.85, 132.55, 131.28, 130.44, 130.04, 128.72, 126.93, 115.64, 109.81; ESI-MS: calculated  $[\text{C}_{12}\text{H}_8\text{BrClO}]^-$ : 280.9374, found: 280.9366.

**2'-chloro-3-phenyl-[1,1'-Biphenyl]-4-ol (4s)**



Purification by flash chromatography (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate 100:1), yellow oil;  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  7.36 (d,  $J = 2.1$  Hz, 3H), 7.34 (s, 2H), 7.32 (s, 1H), 7.30 (s, 1H), 7.22 (d,  $J = 1.4$  Hz, 2H), 7.20 (s, 2H), 7.14 (s, 2H), 7.09 (s, 1H), 6.90 (s, 2H), 5.21 (s, 1H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  154.63, 142.51, 135.17, 134.63, 133.97, 132.80, 132.56, 131.90, 131.71, 130.84, 130.56, 130.31, 129.42, 118.14. ESI-MS: calculated  $[\text{C}_{18}\text{H}_{12}\text{ClO}]^-$ : 279.0582, found: 279.0552.

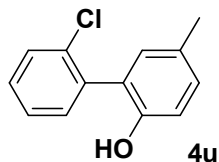
**2'-chloro-4-hydroxy-[1,1'-Biphenyl]-3-carboxylic acid (4t)**



Purification by flash chromatography (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate/ acetic acid 100:1:1), white solid, mp 158-160 °C;  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  10.69 (s, 1H), 8.04 (s, 1H), 7.65 (s, 1H), 7.51

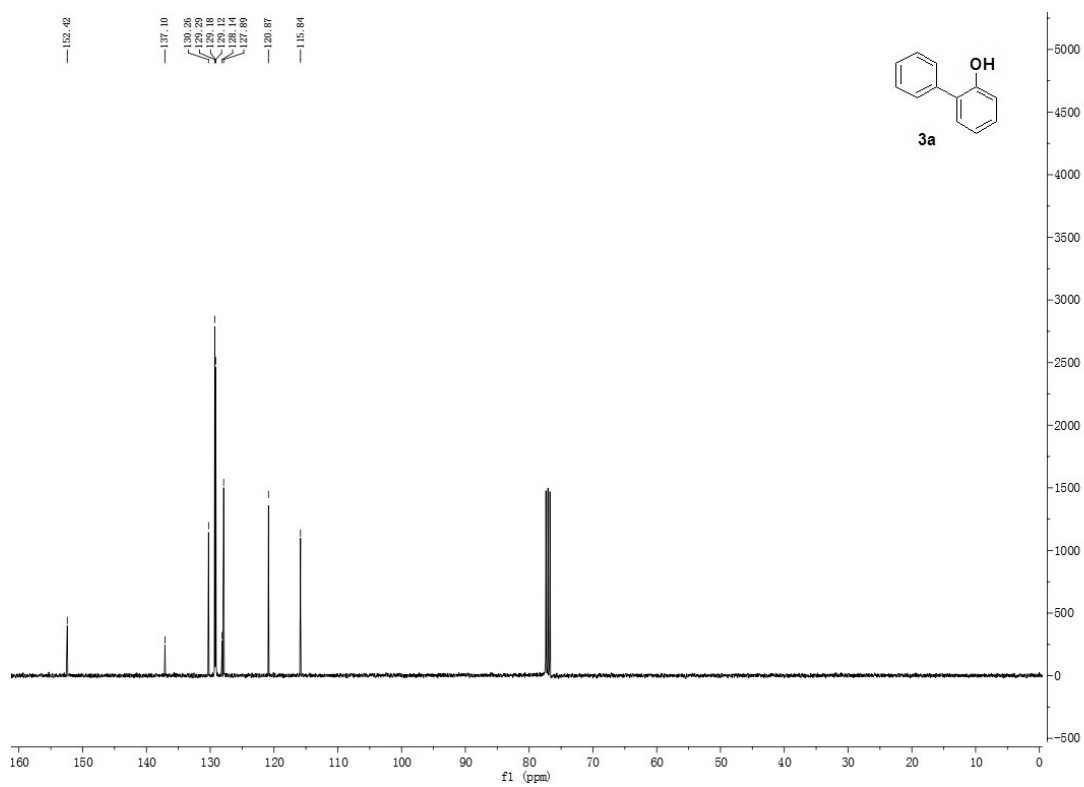
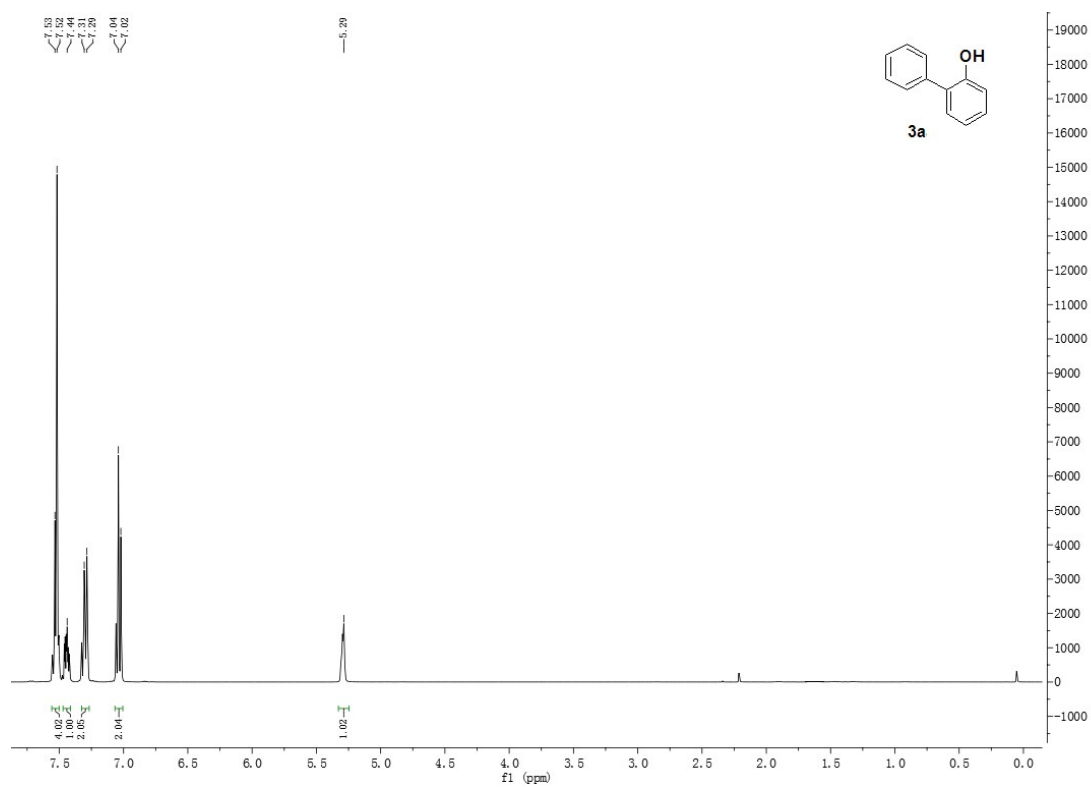
(s, 1H), 7.50 (s, 1H), 7.36 (s, 2H), 7.11 (s, 1H), 7.09 (s, 1H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  161.62, 138.03, 131.63, 131.21, 130.05, 129.73, 128.94, 128.74, 128.58, 127.01, 126.39, 122.89, 117.53; ESI-MS: calculated  $[\text{C}_{13}\text{H}_8\text{ClO}_3]^-$ : 247.0167, found: 247.0153.

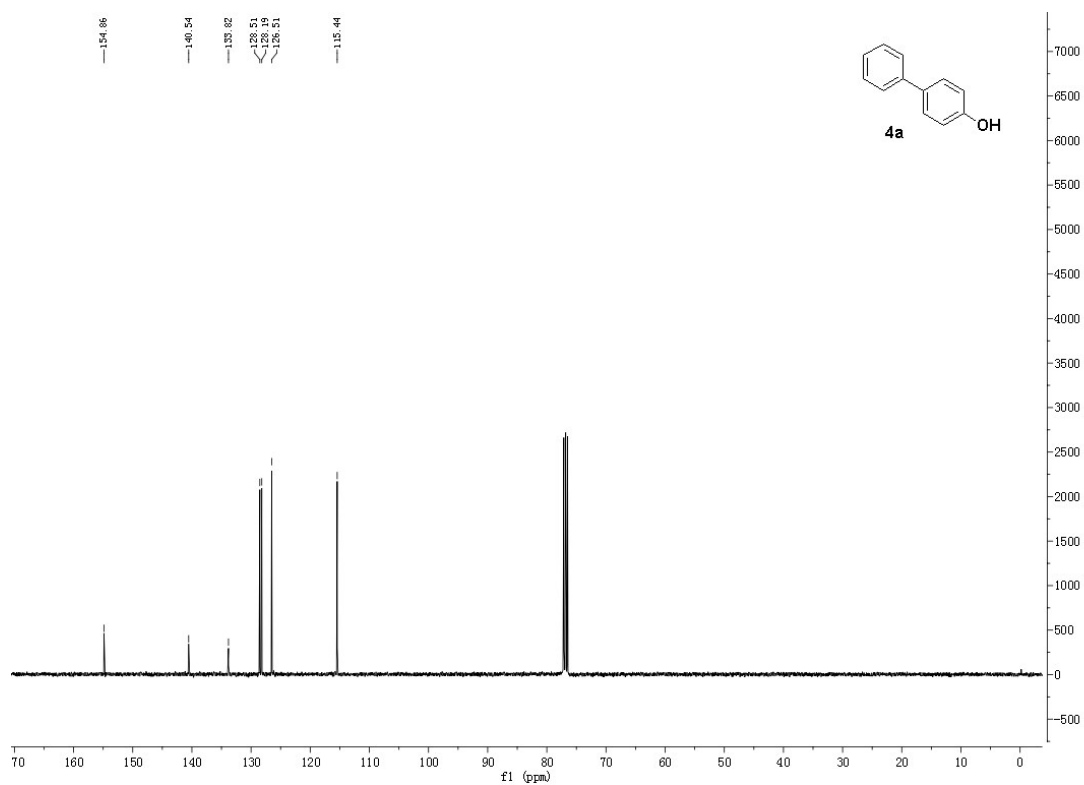
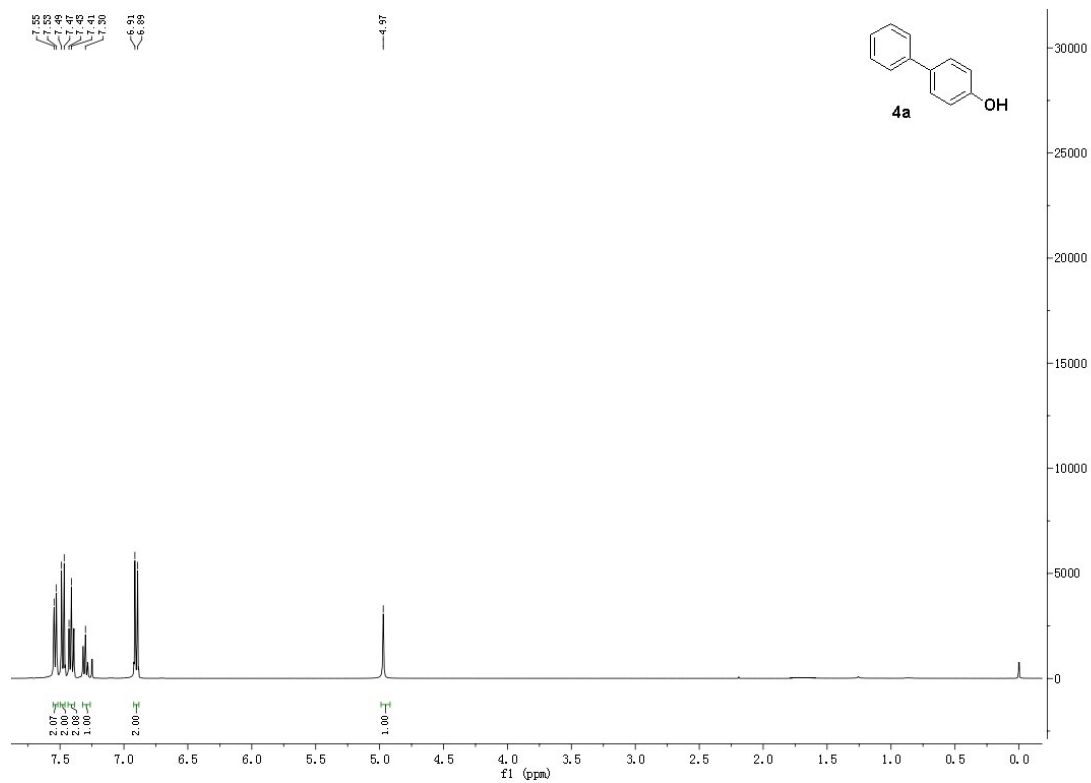
**2'-chloro-5-methyl-[1,1'-Biphenyl]-2-ol (4u)**

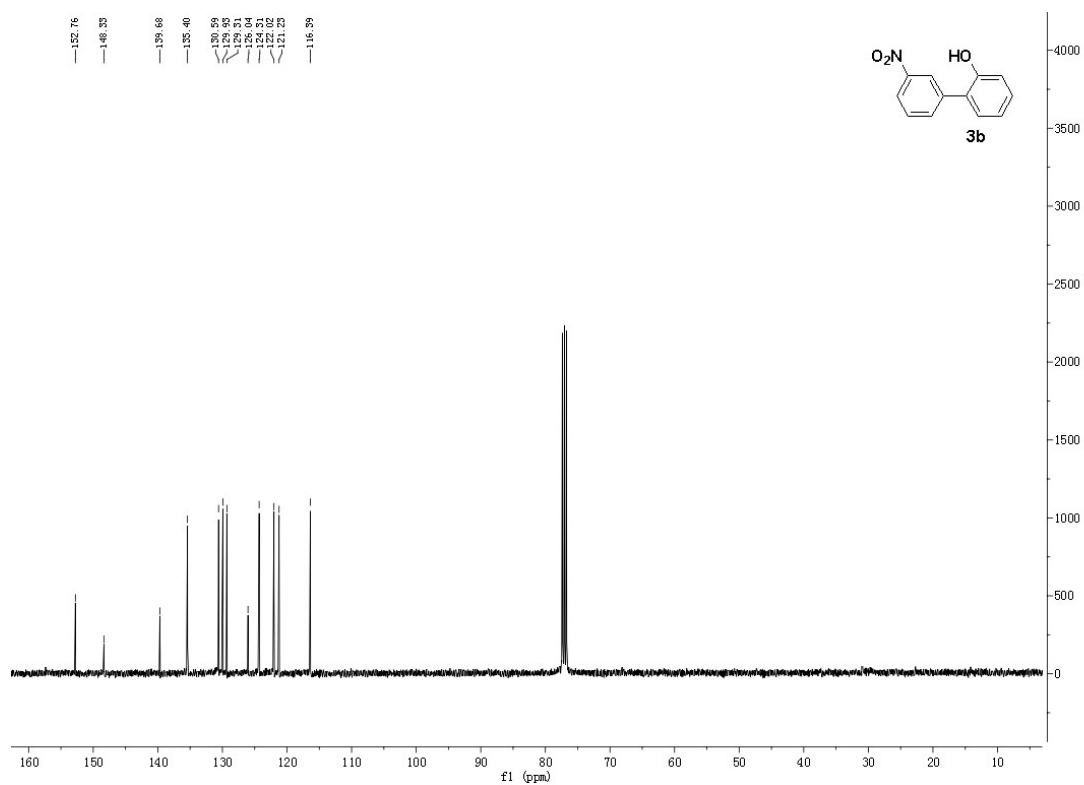
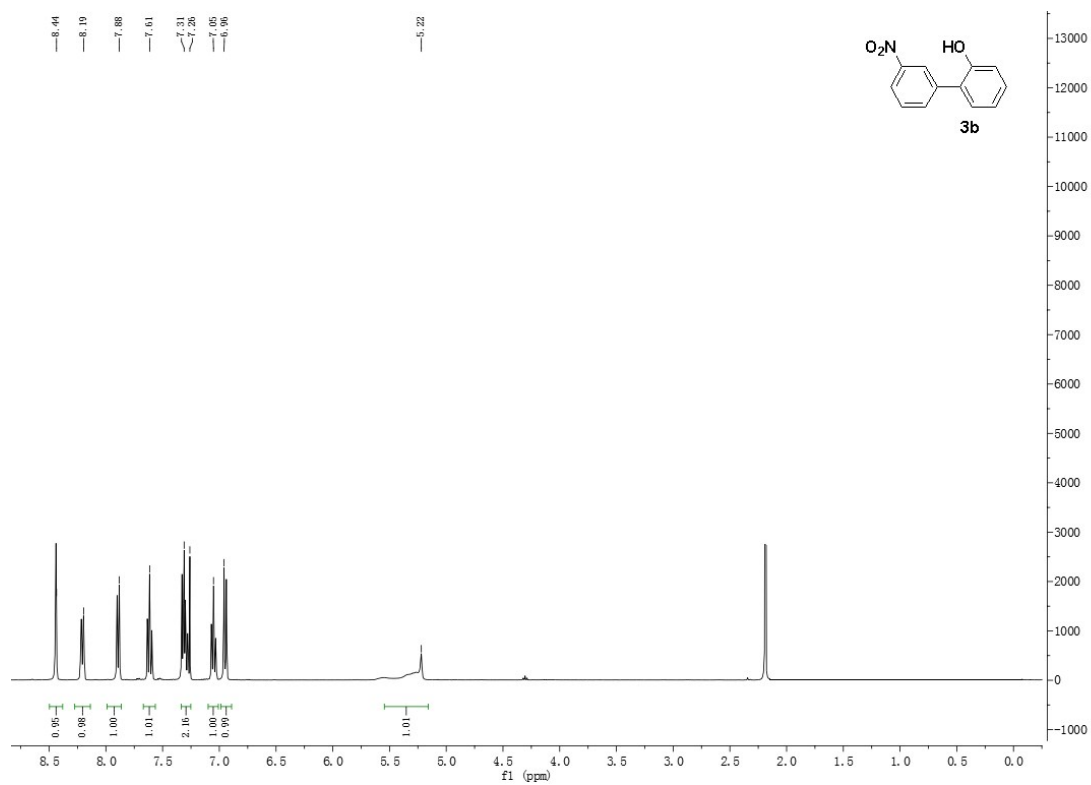


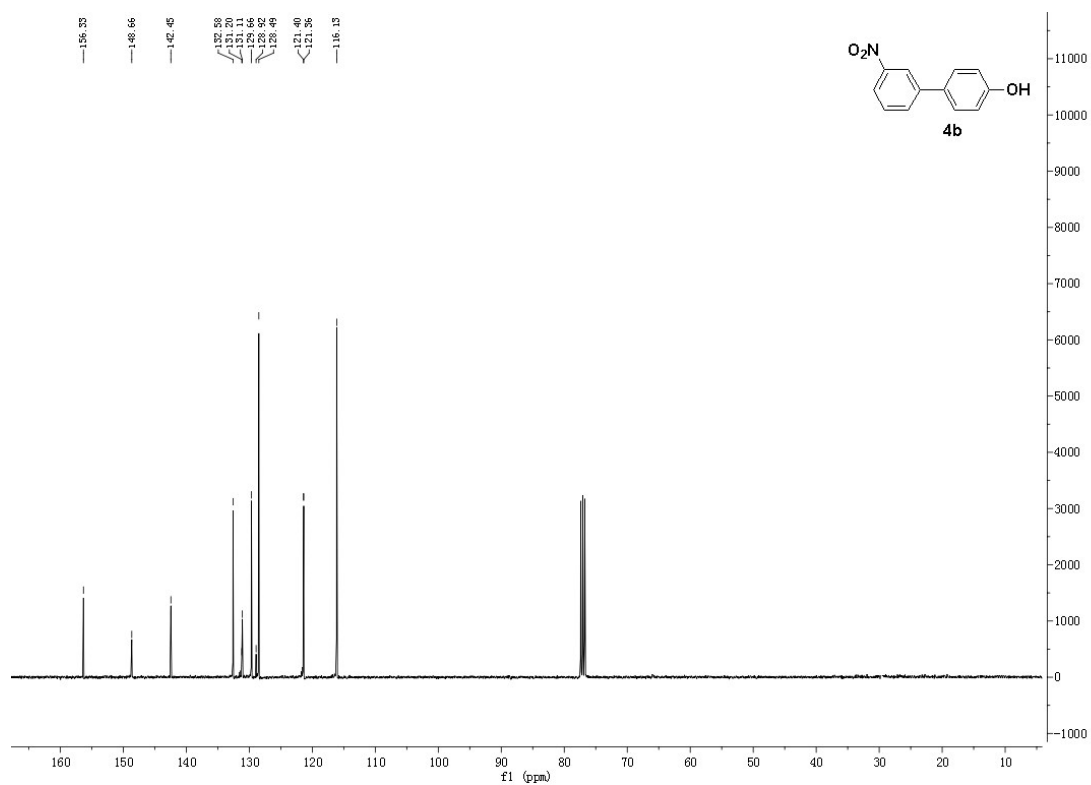
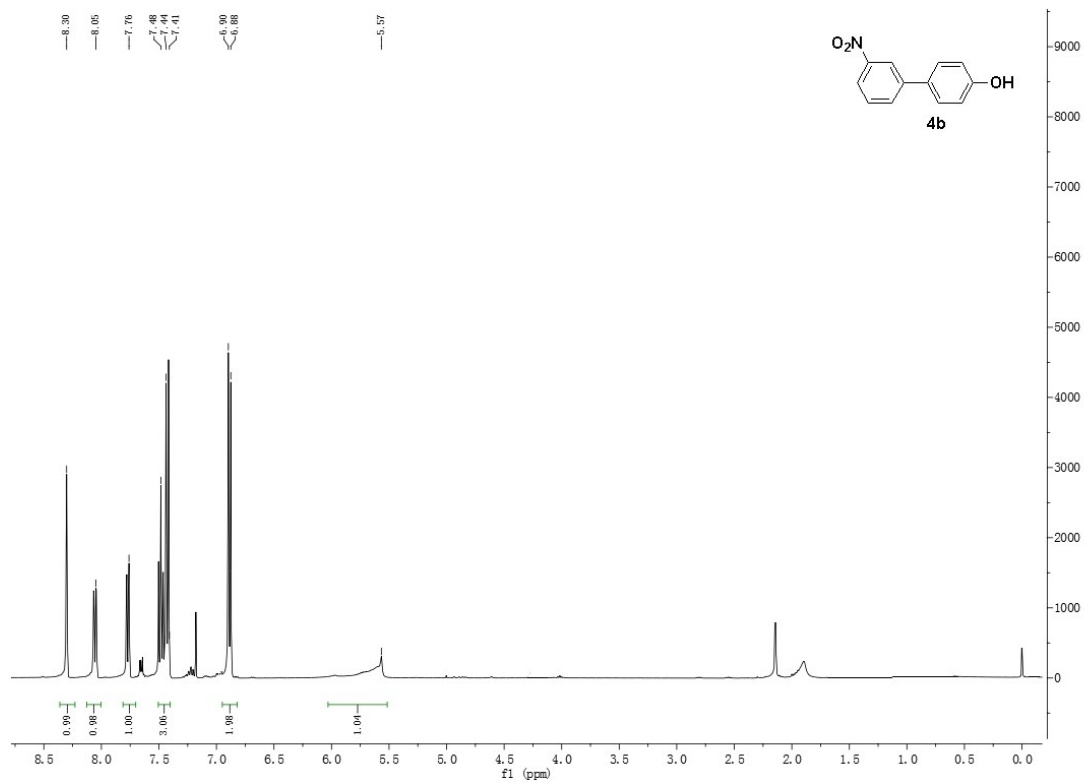
Purification by flash chromatography (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate 100:1), colourless oil;  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  7.52 (s, 1H), 7.39 (dd,  $J = 36.0, 35.0$  Hz, 2H), 7.41 – 7.17 (m, 1H), 6.96 (t,  $J = 43.9$  Hz, 1H), 6.89 (d,  $J = 8.2$  Hz, 1H), 4.71 (s, 1H), 2.32 (s, 1H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  150.34, 135.94, 133.99, 132.14, 130.99, 130.33, 130.01, 129.52, 128.85, 127.26, 125.73, 115.70, 13.75; ESI-MS: calculated  $[\text{C}_{13}\text{H}_{10}\text{ClO}]^-$ : 217.0426, found: 217.0410.

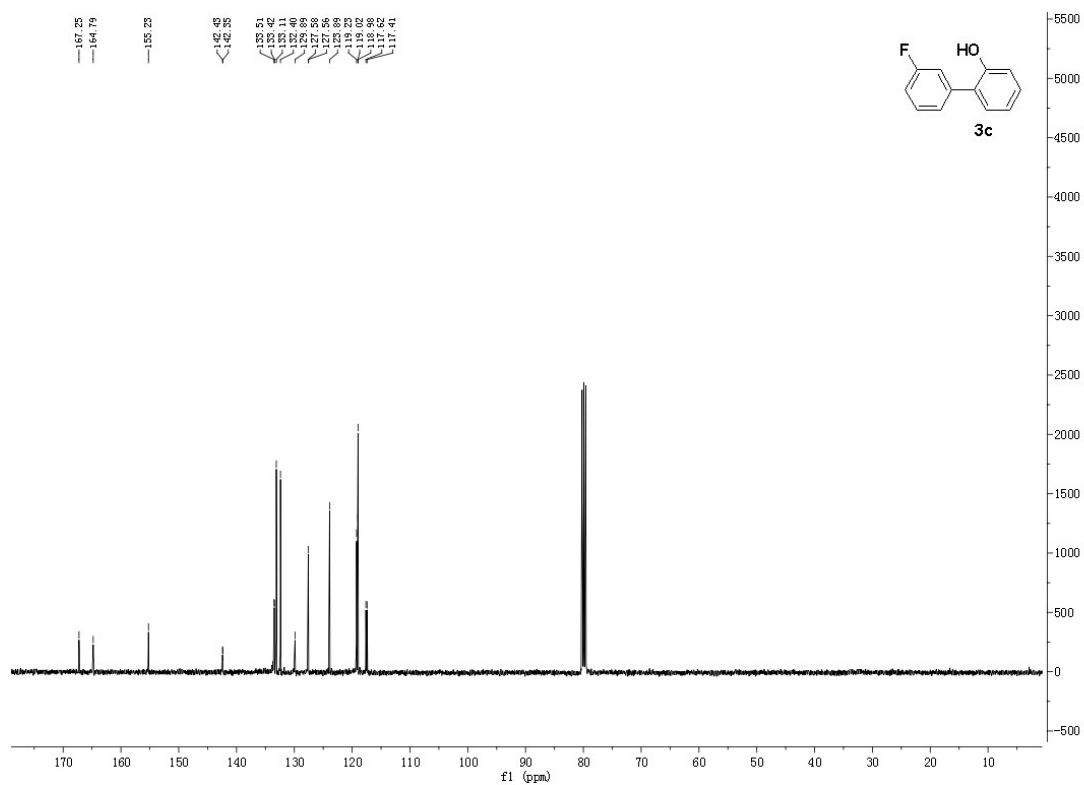
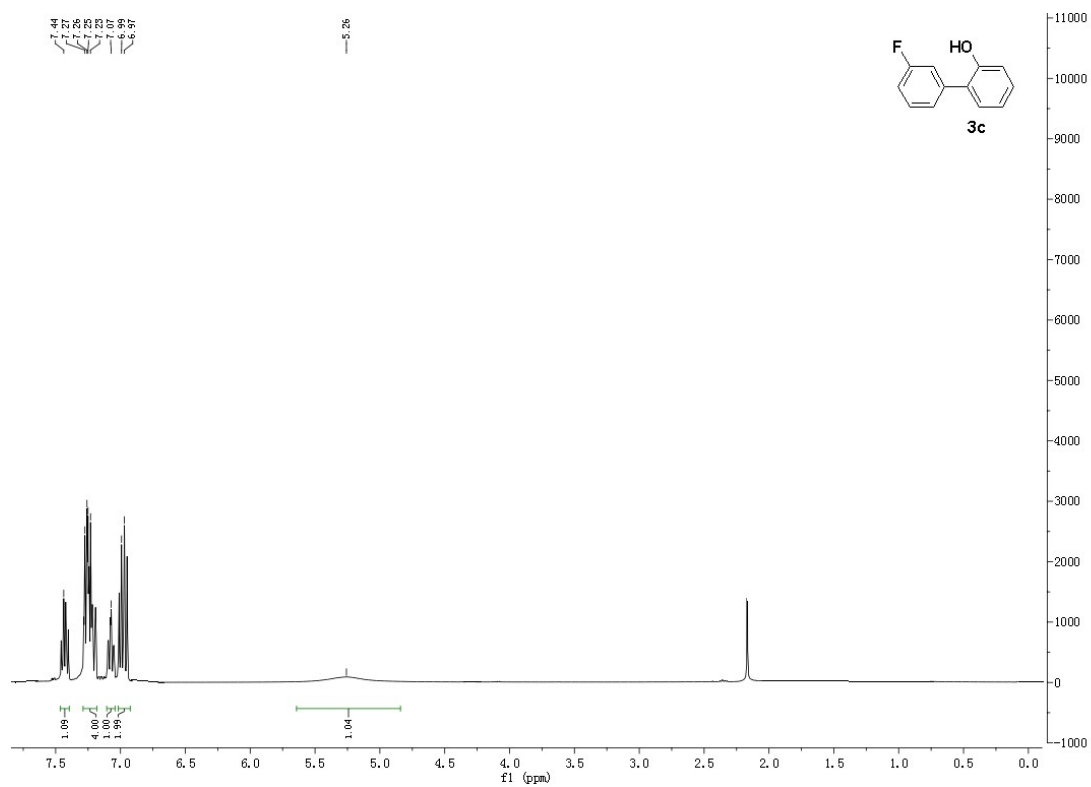
## 5. NMR Spectra



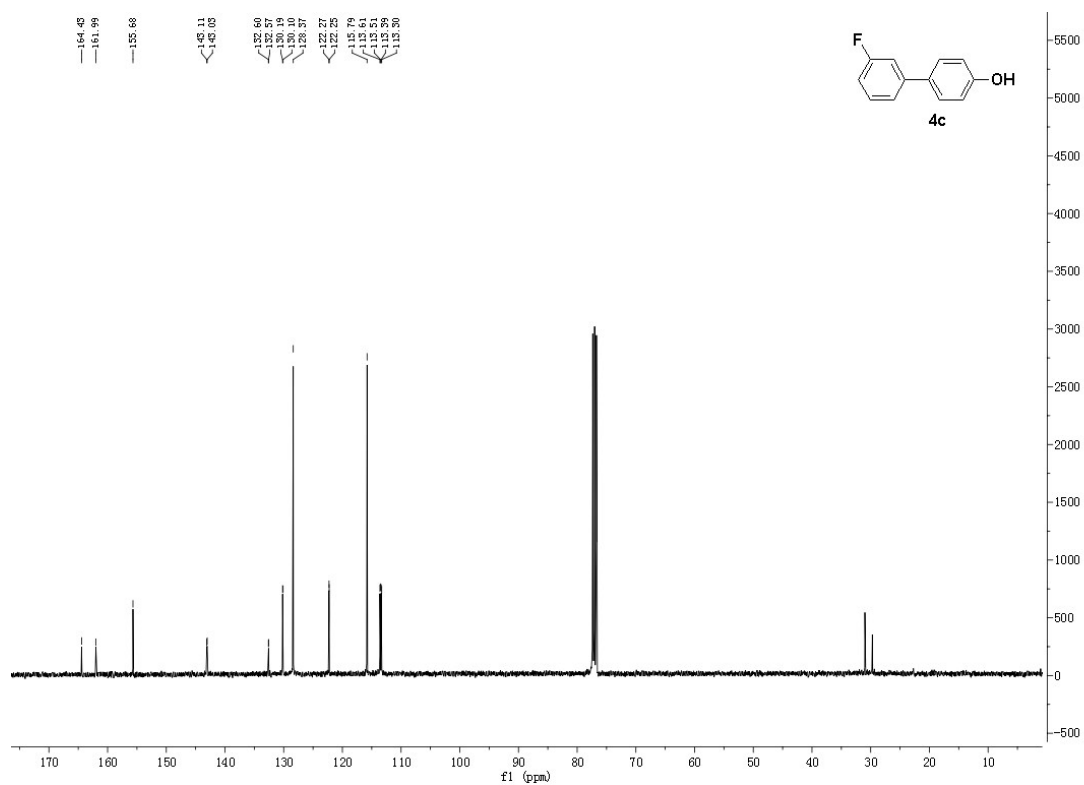
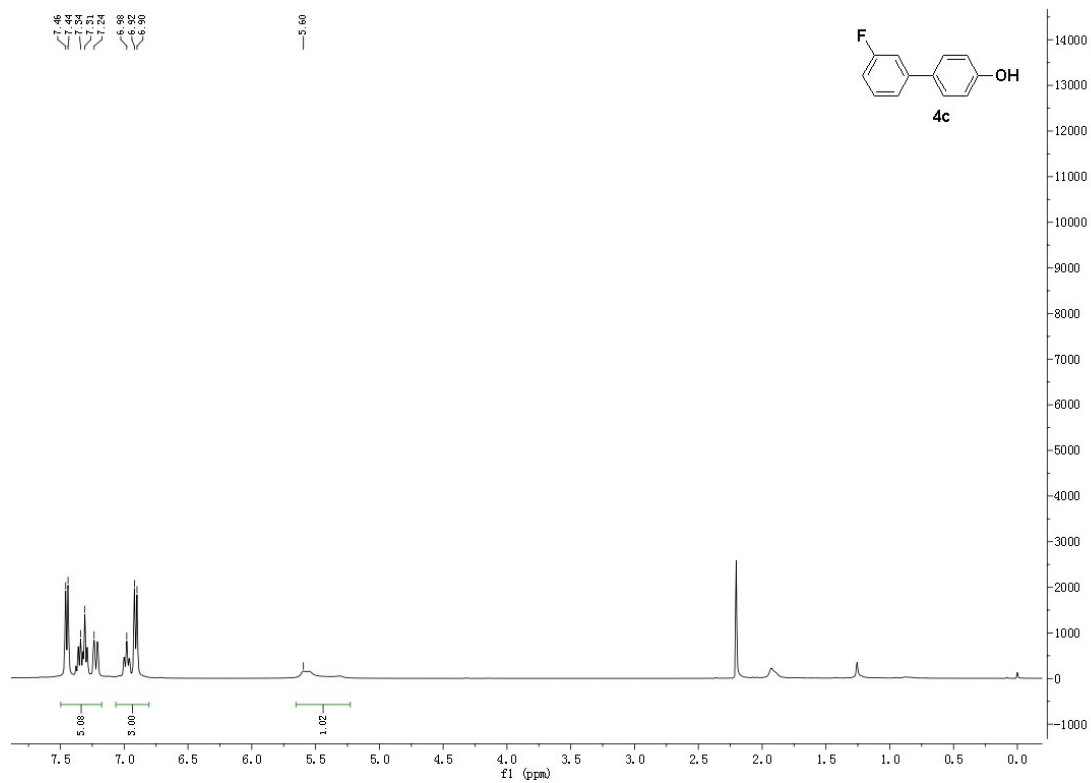


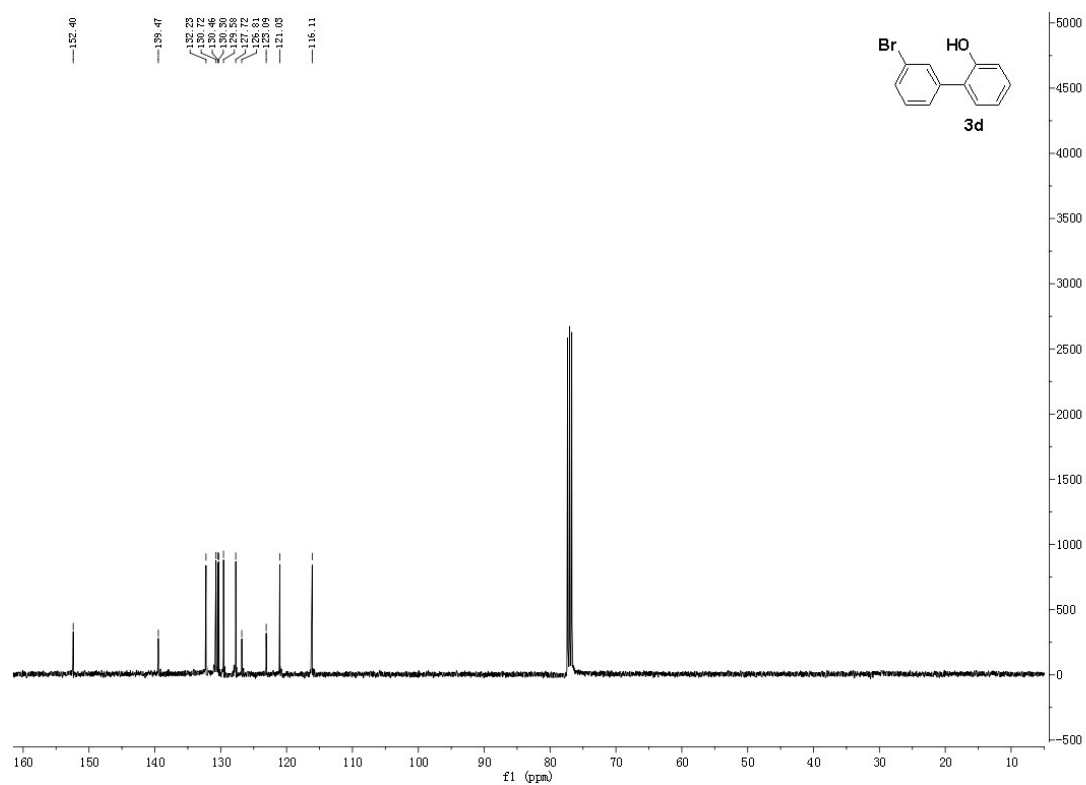
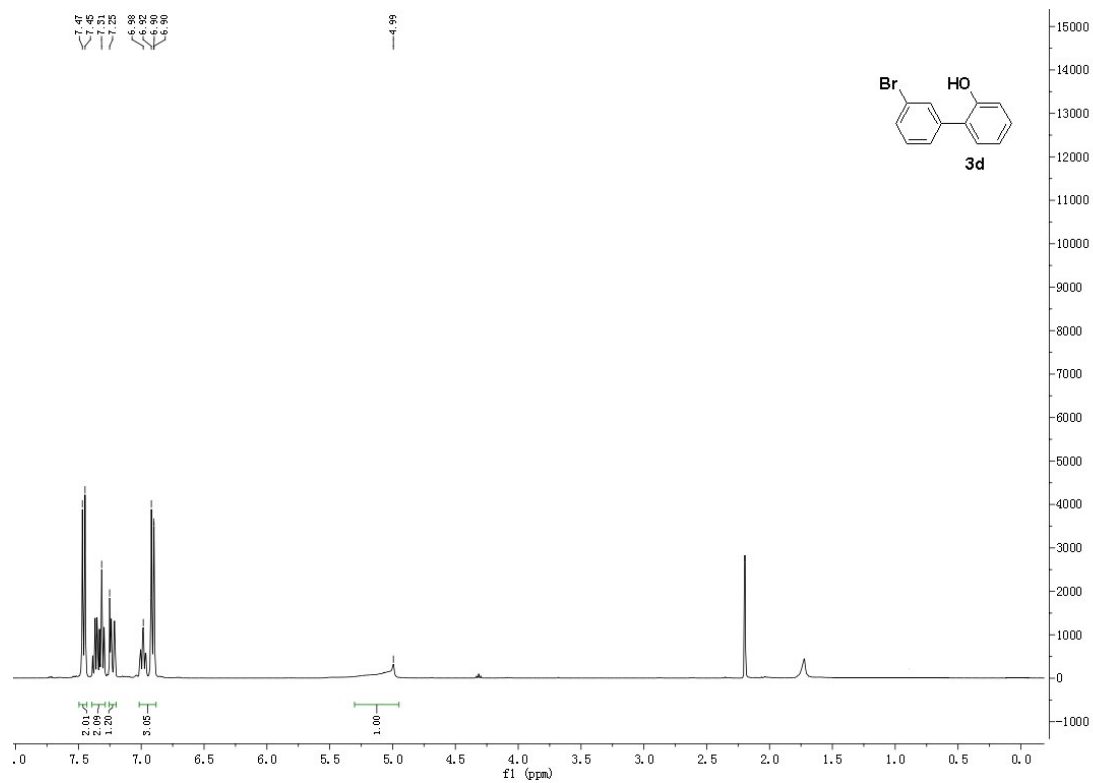


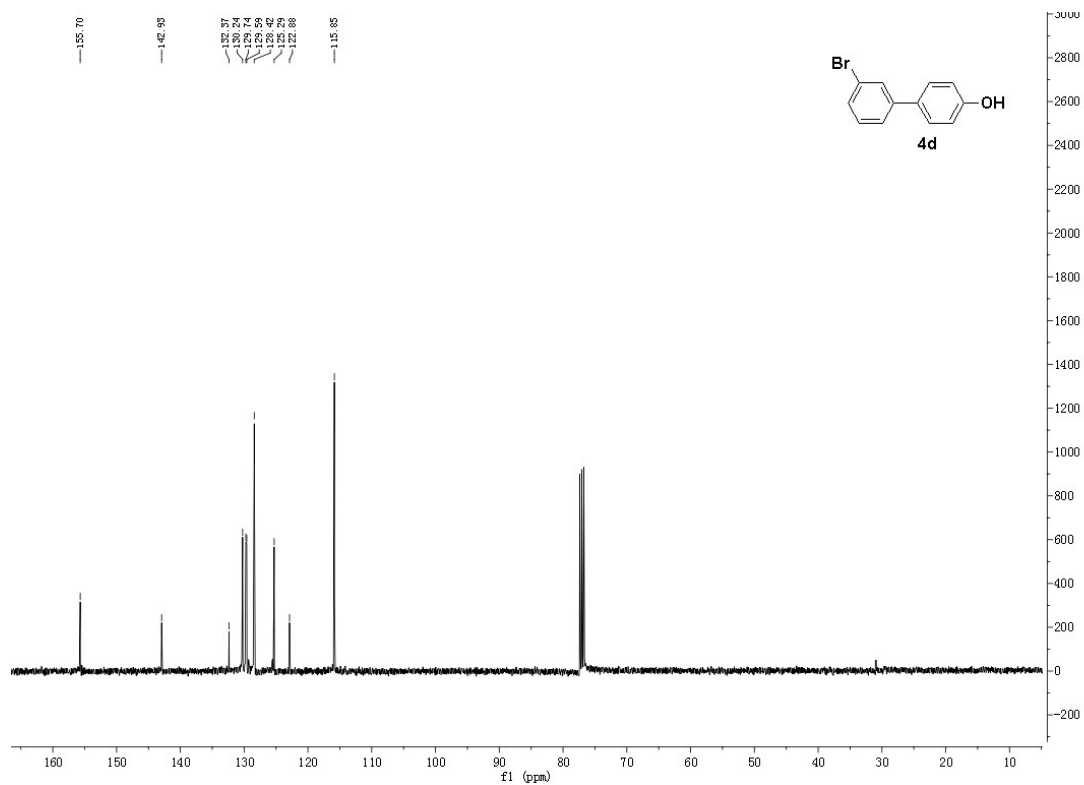
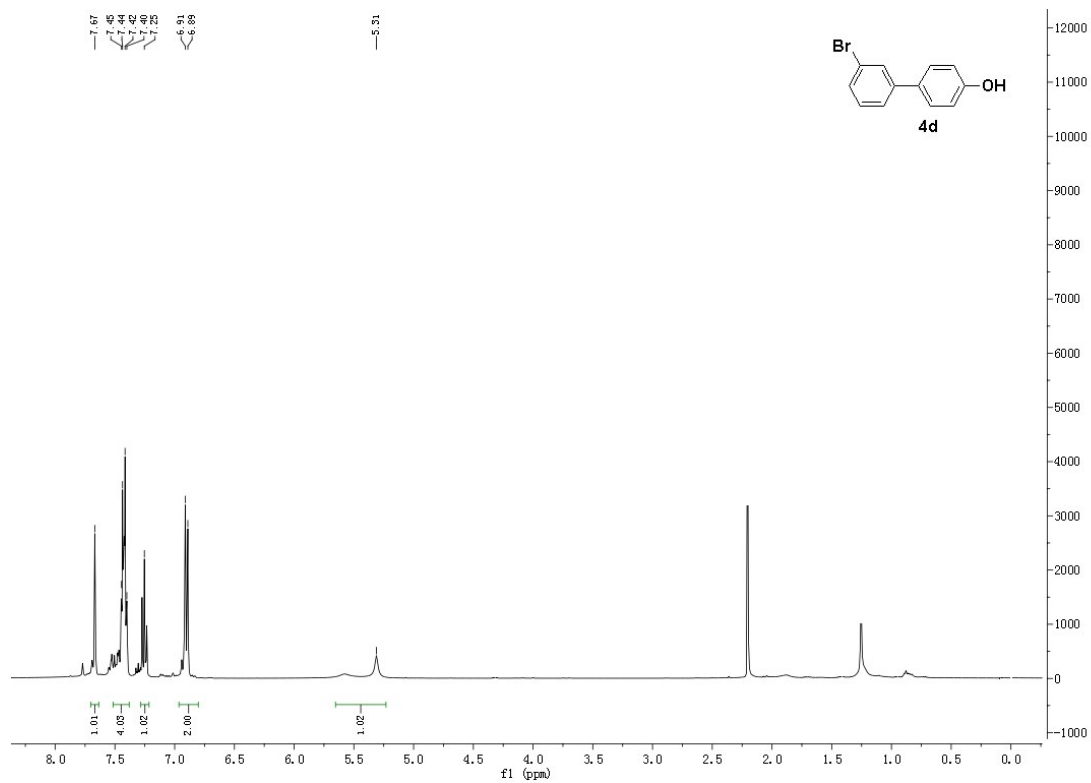


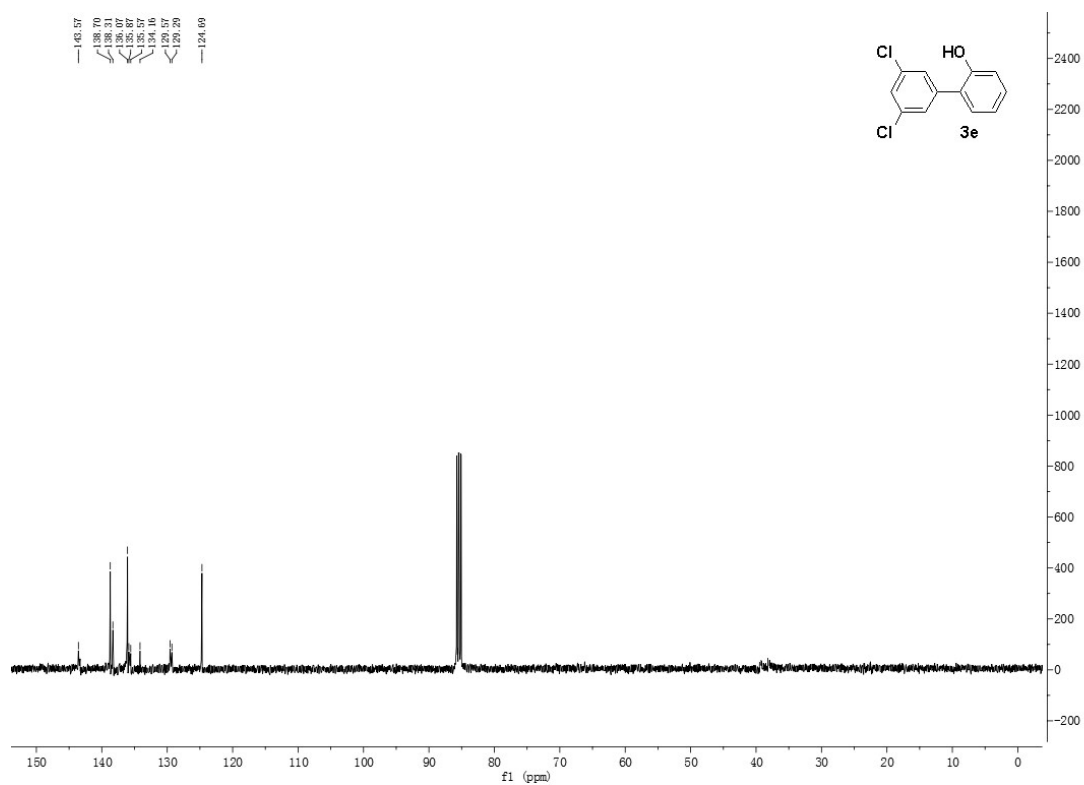
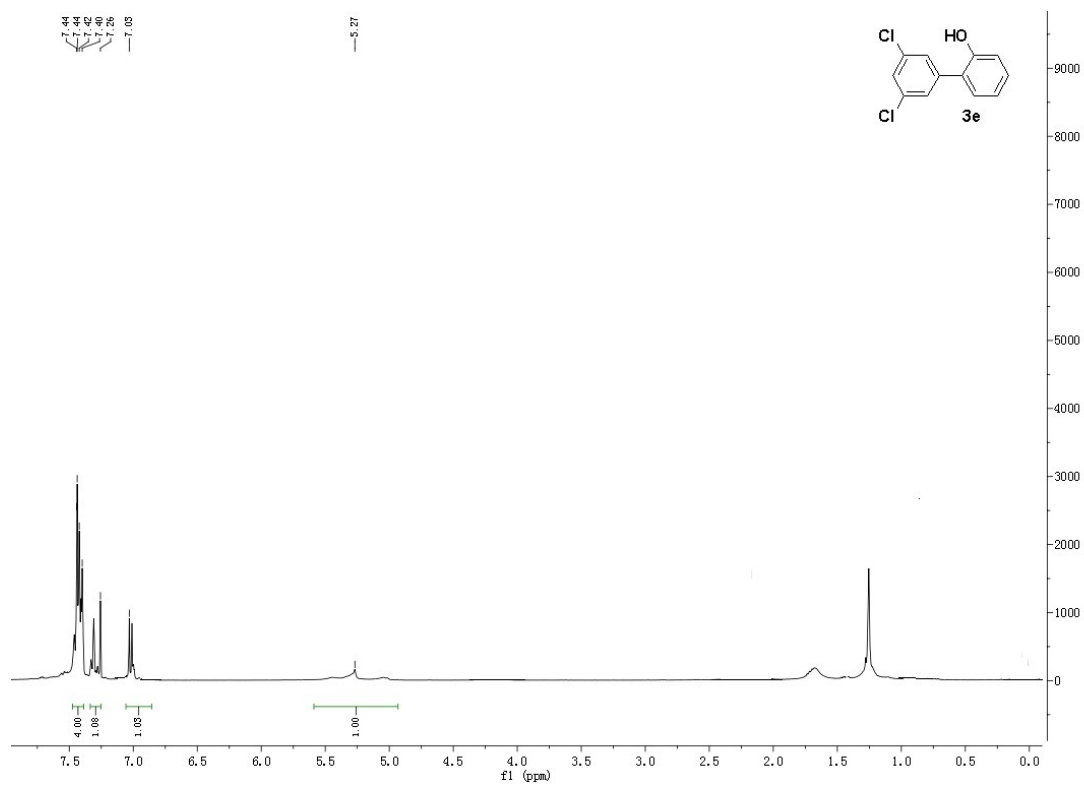


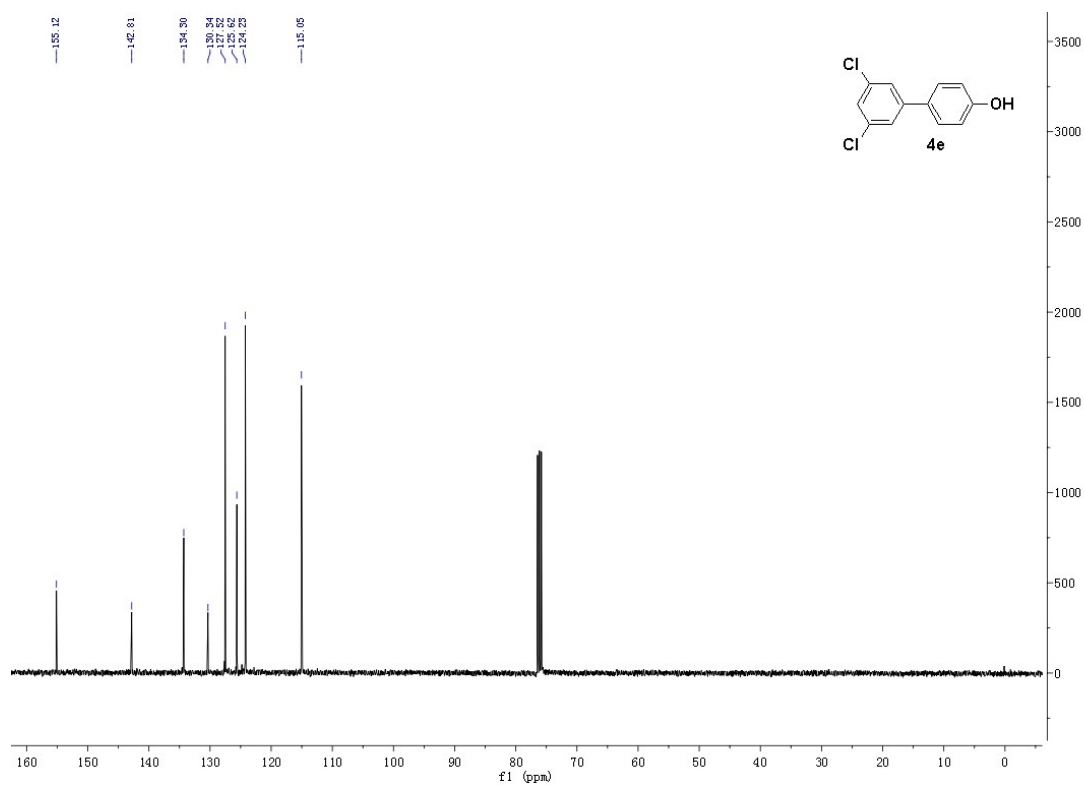
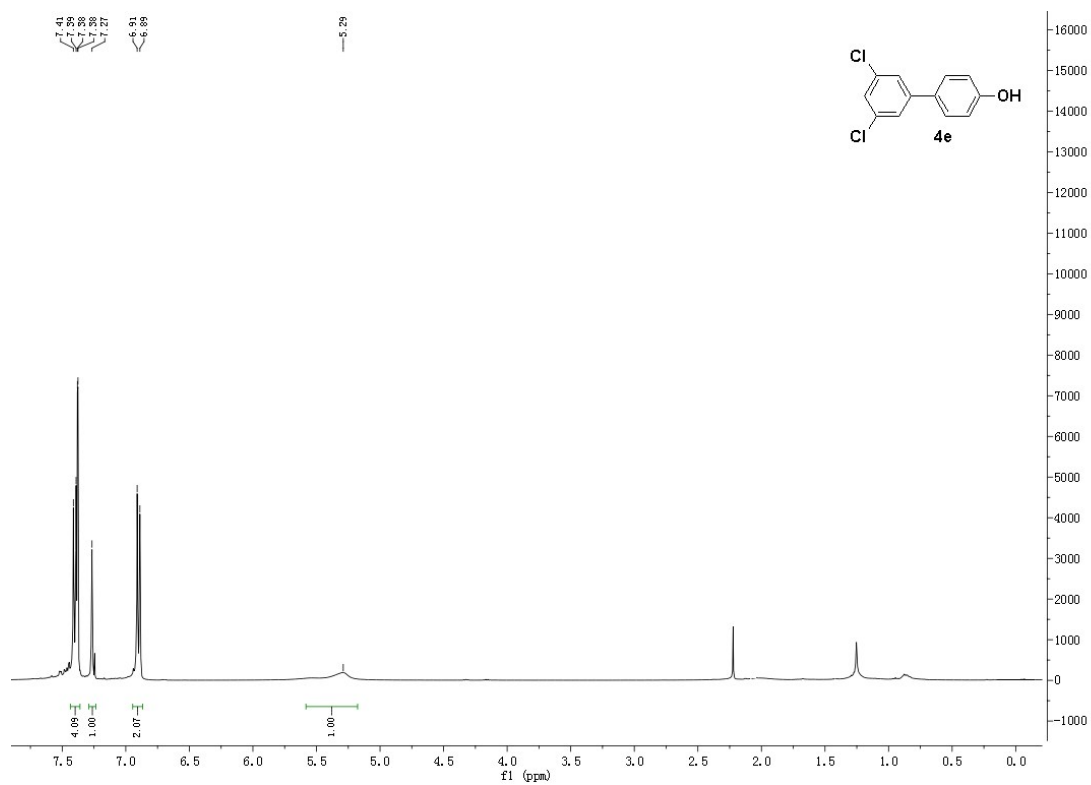


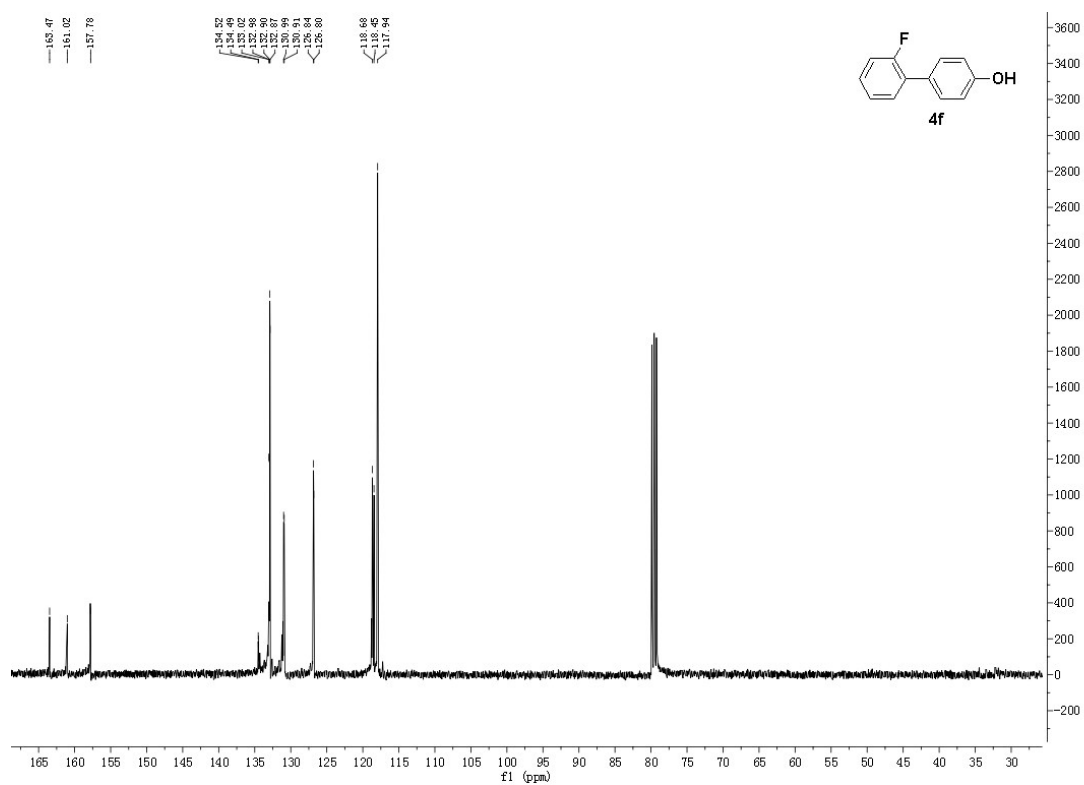
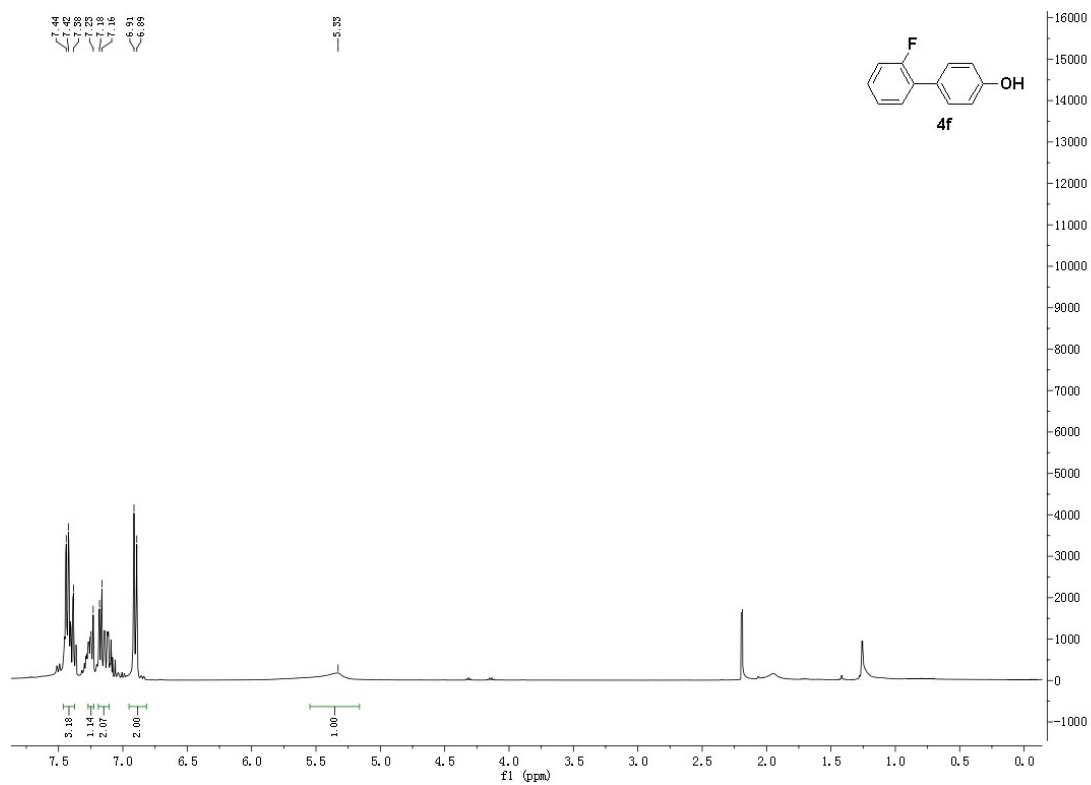


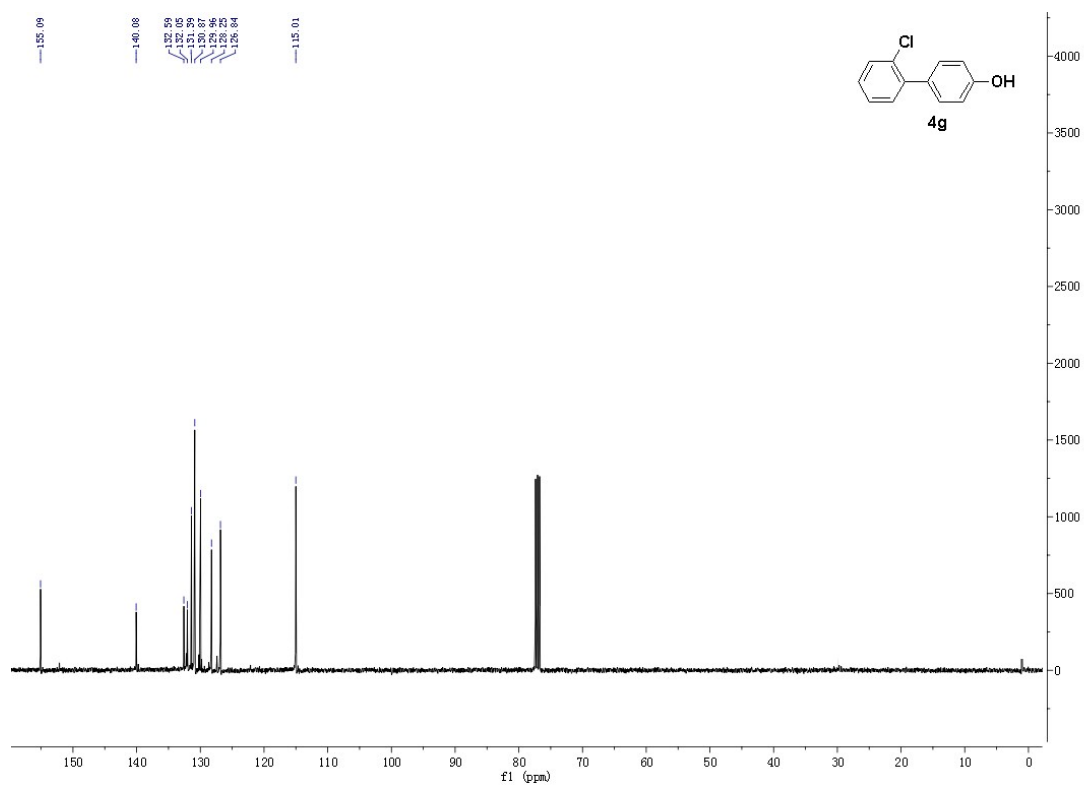
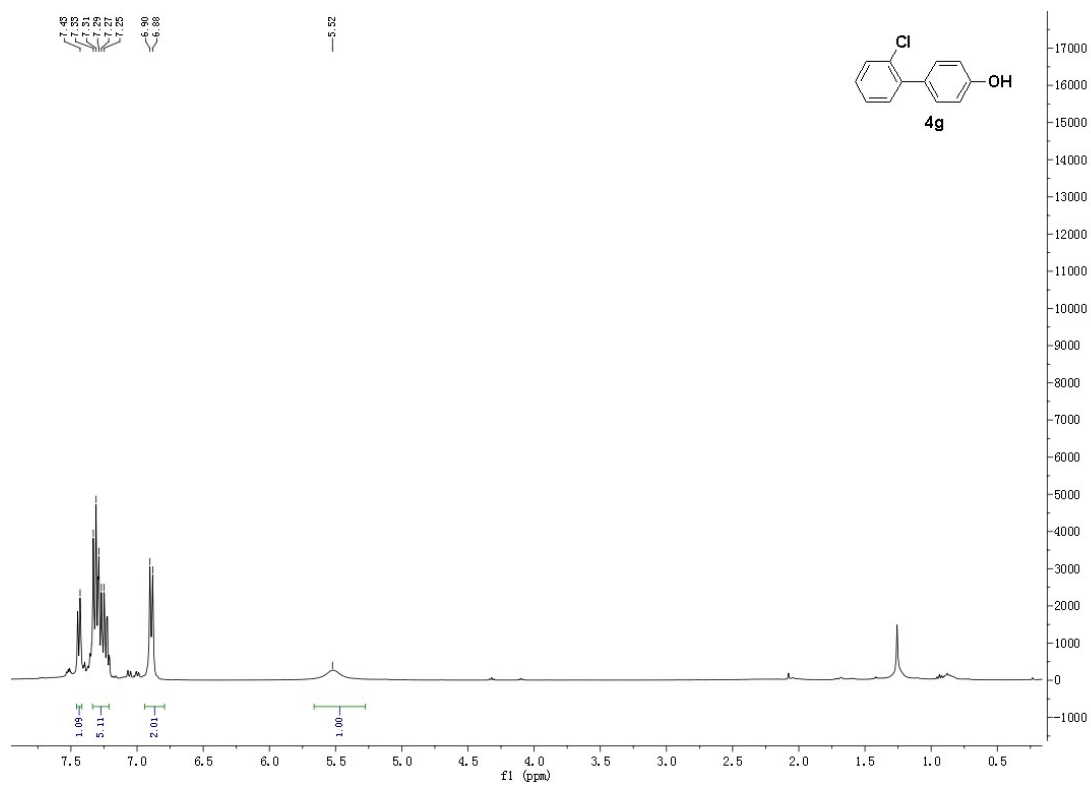


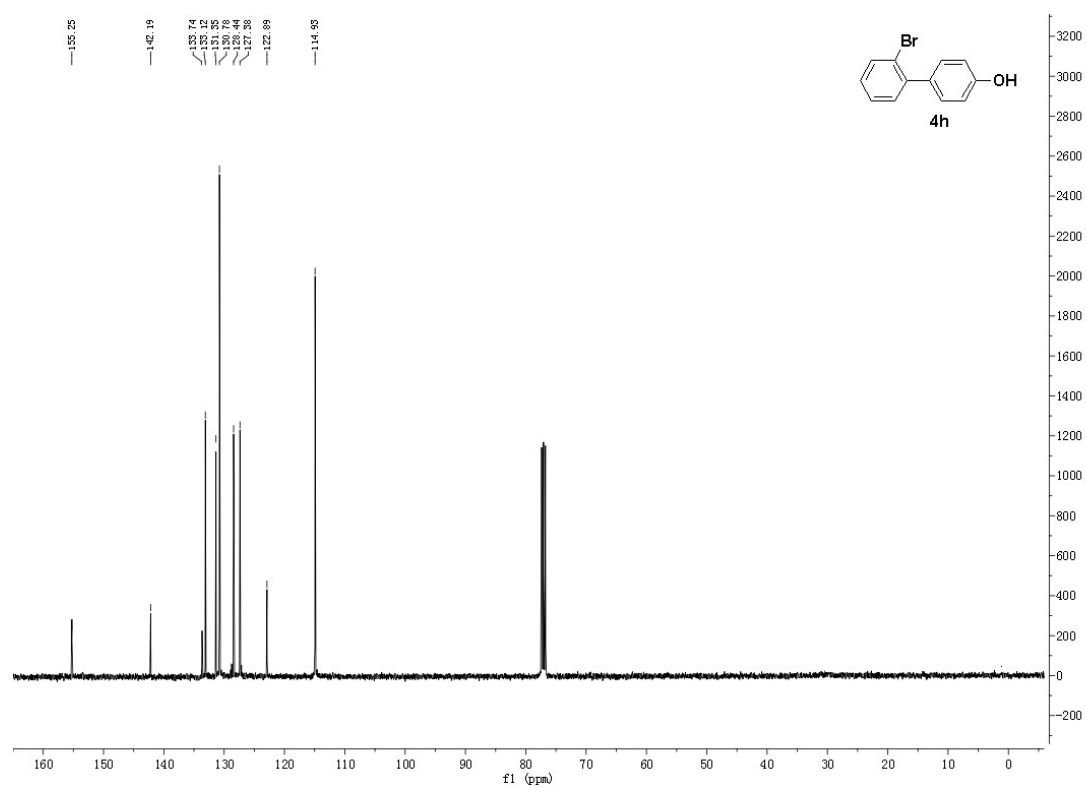
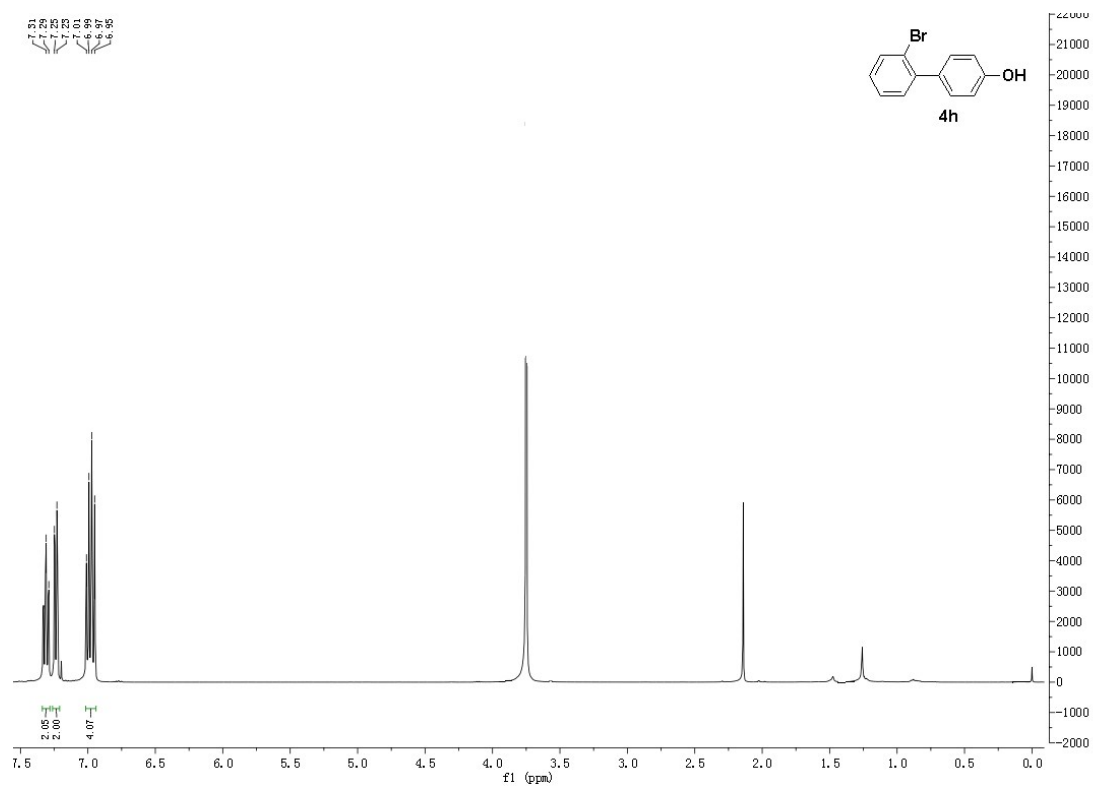




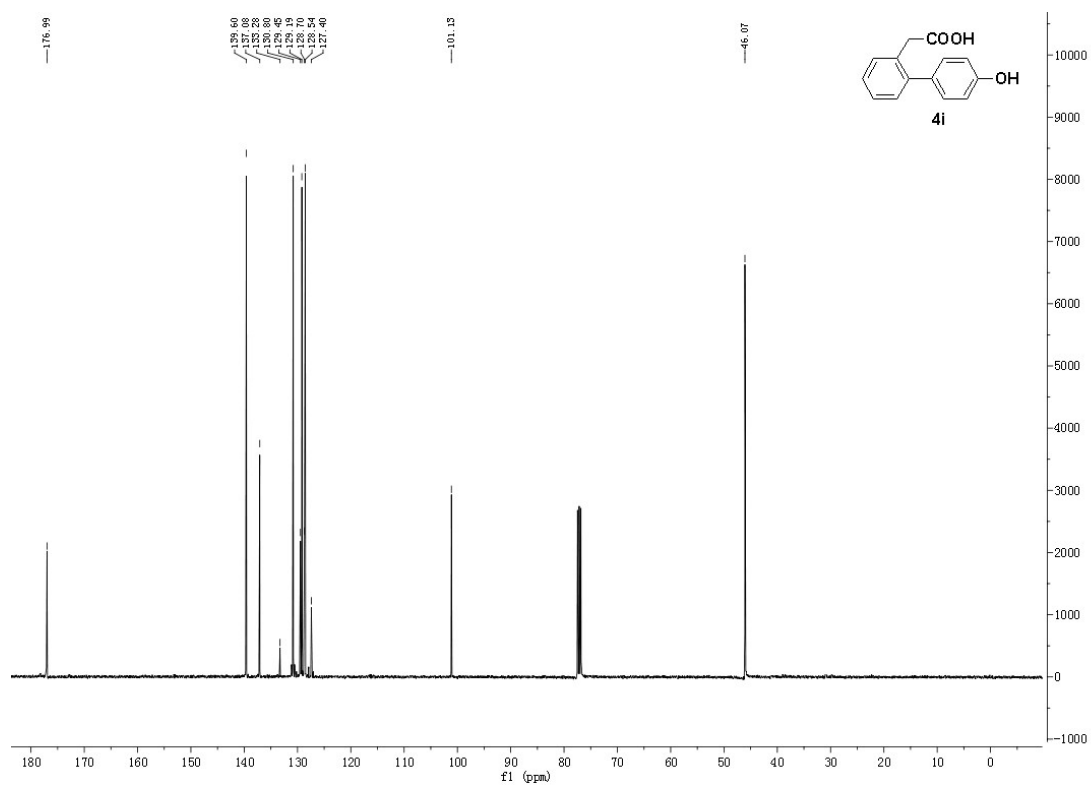
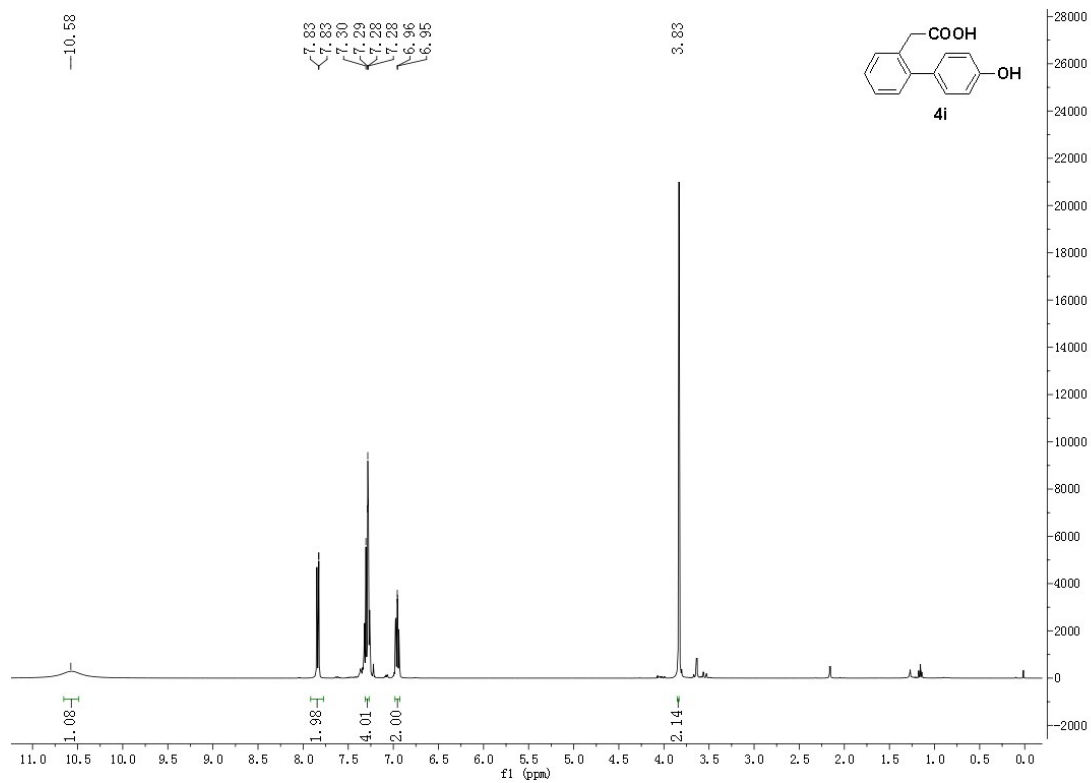


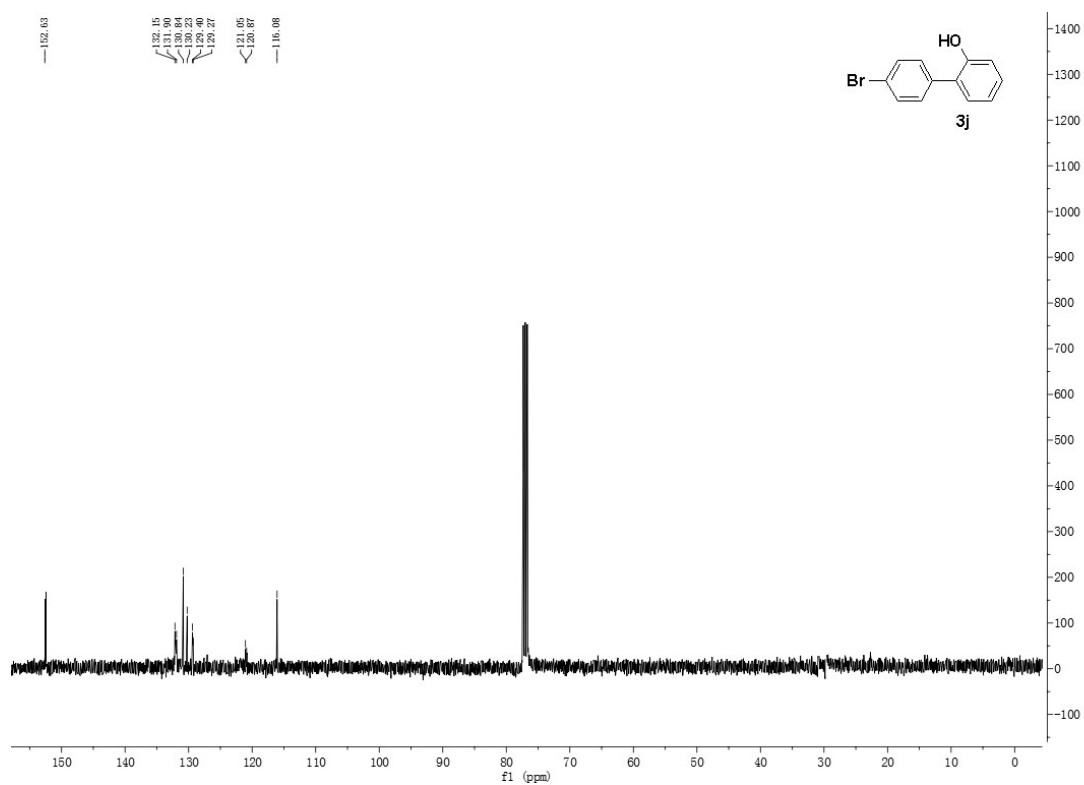
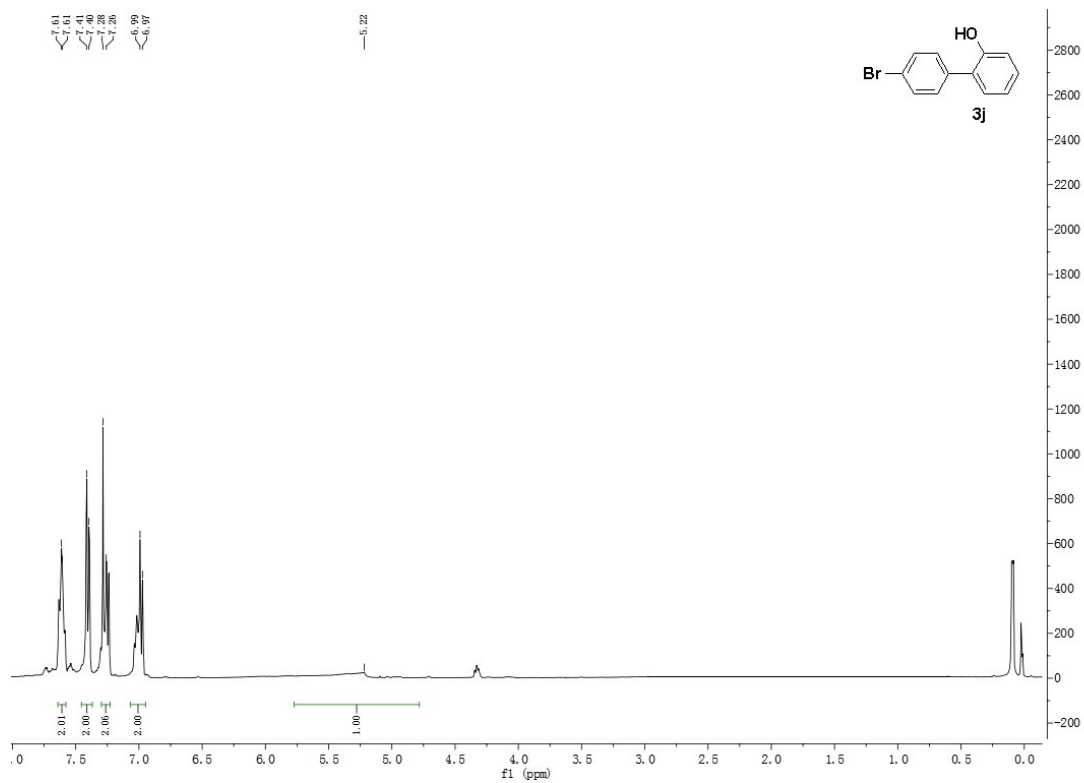


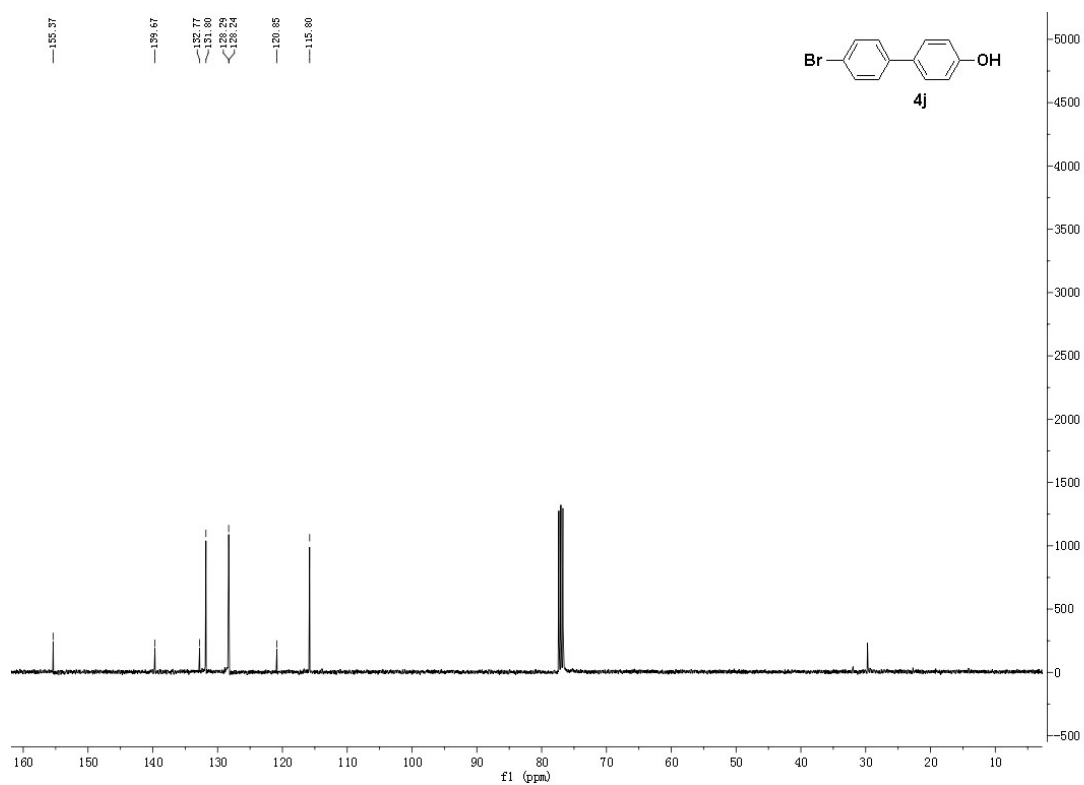
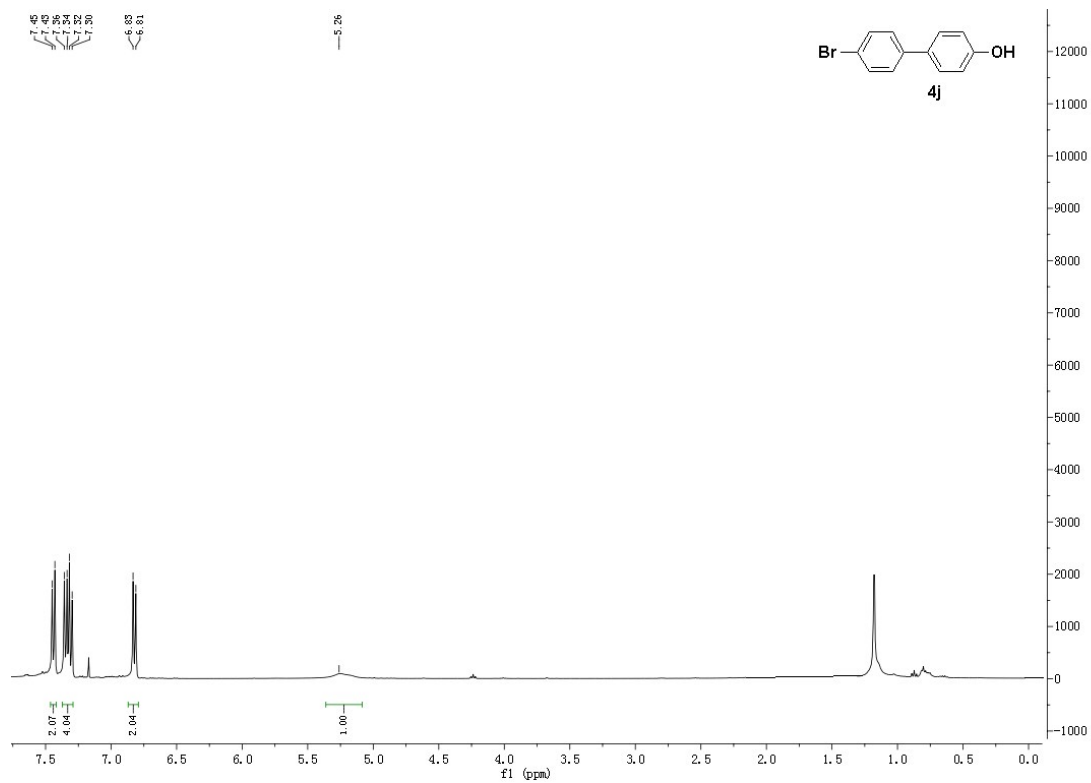


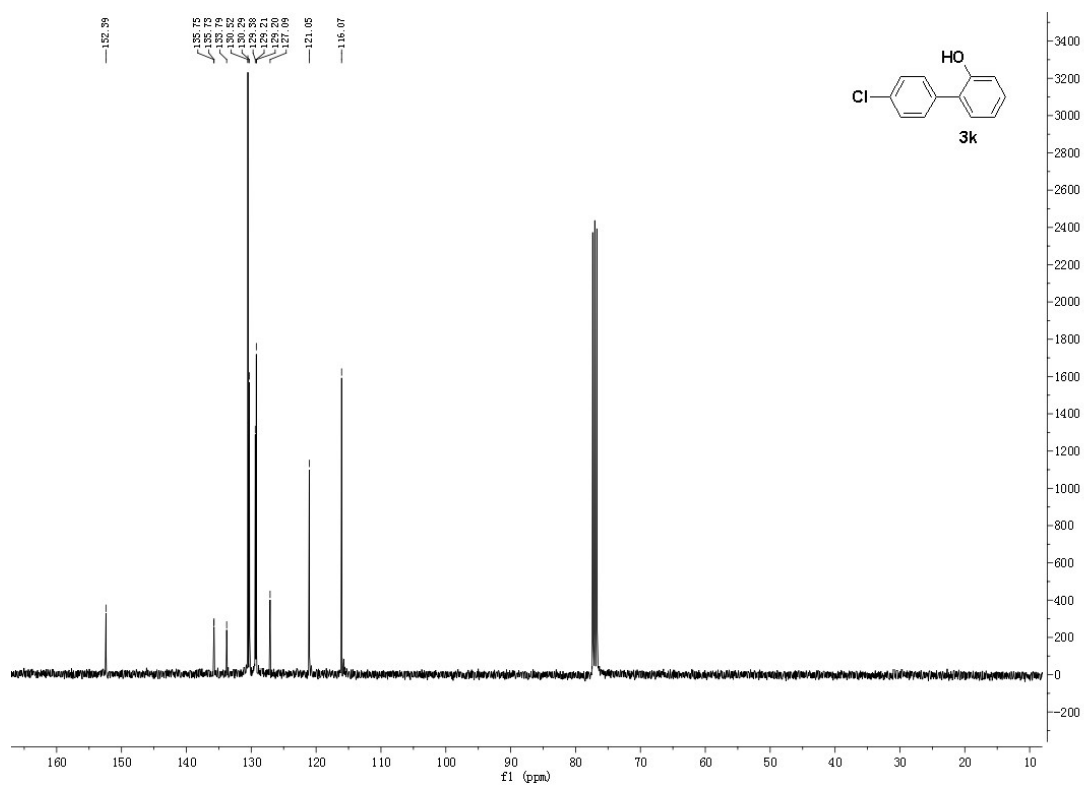
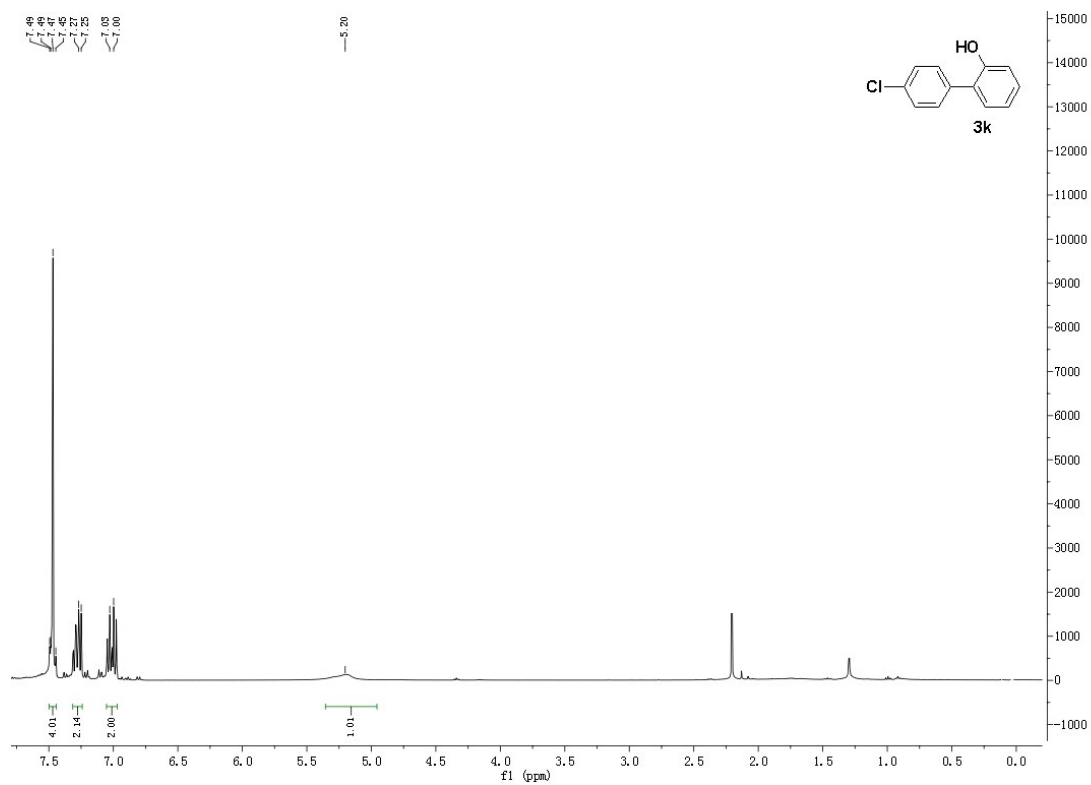


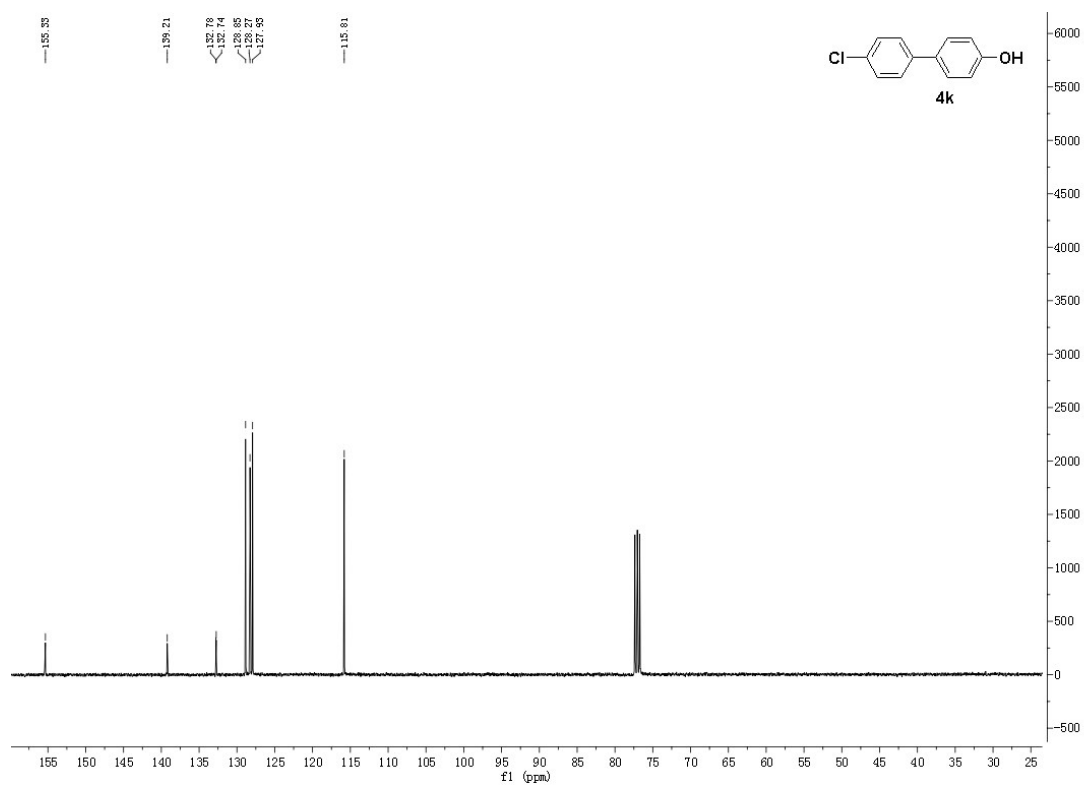
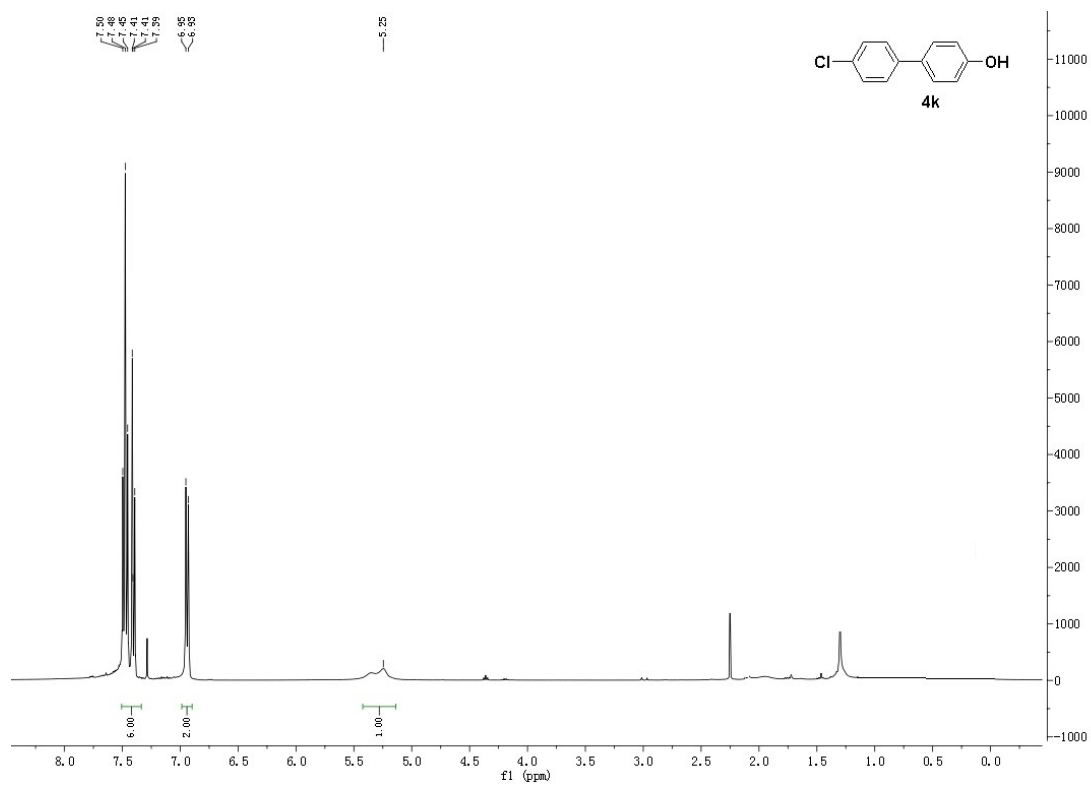


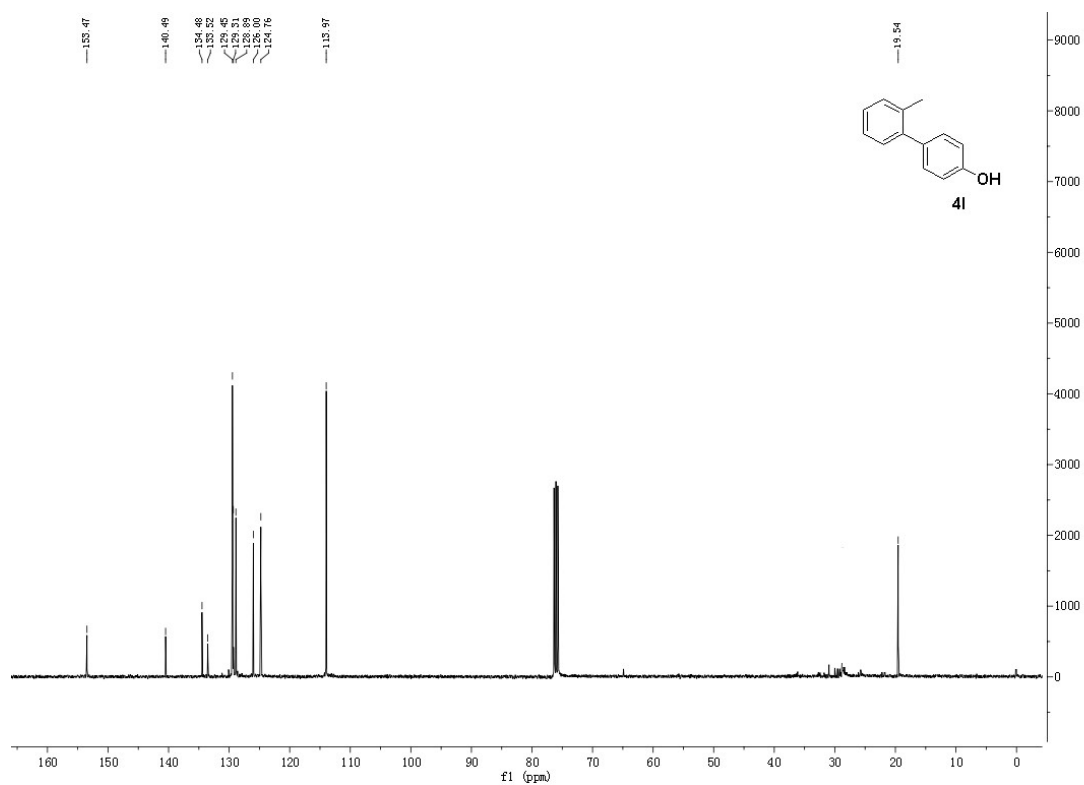
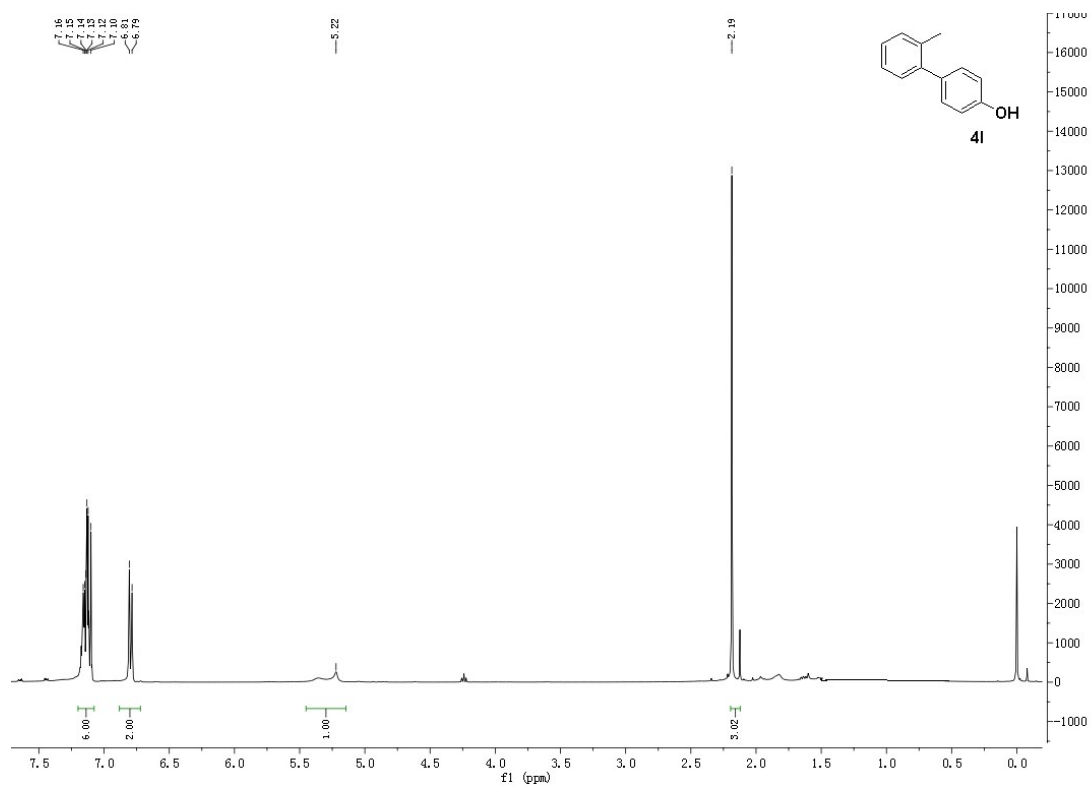


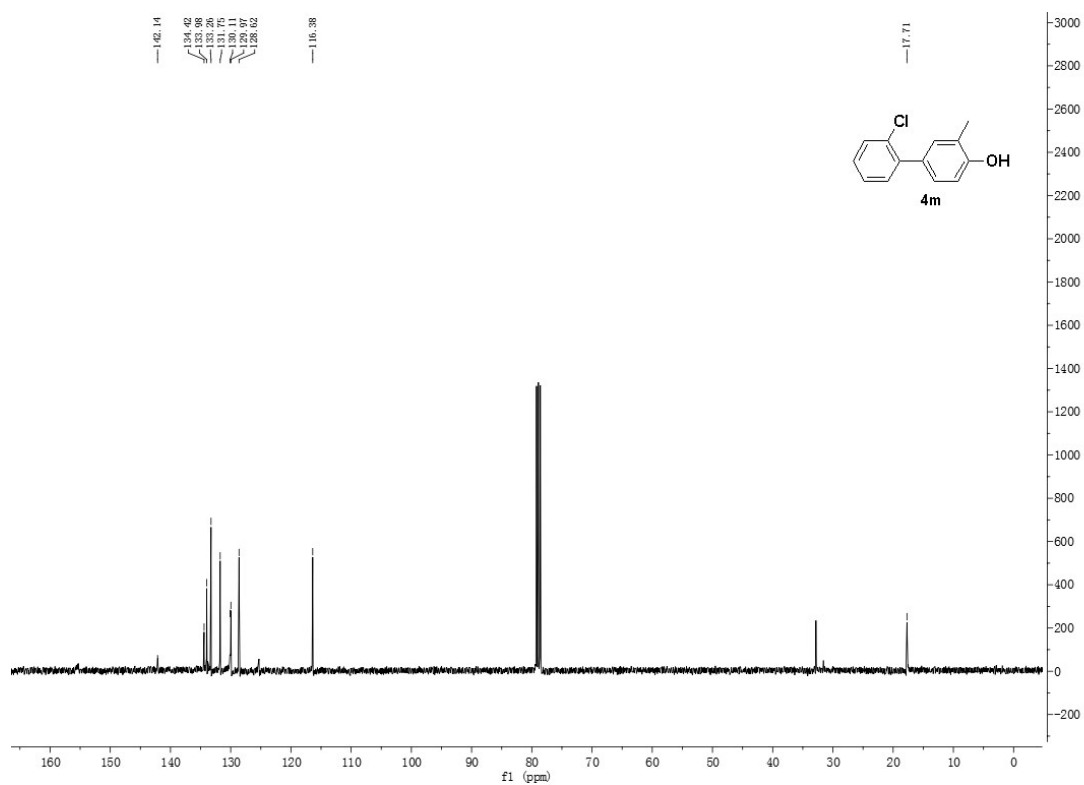
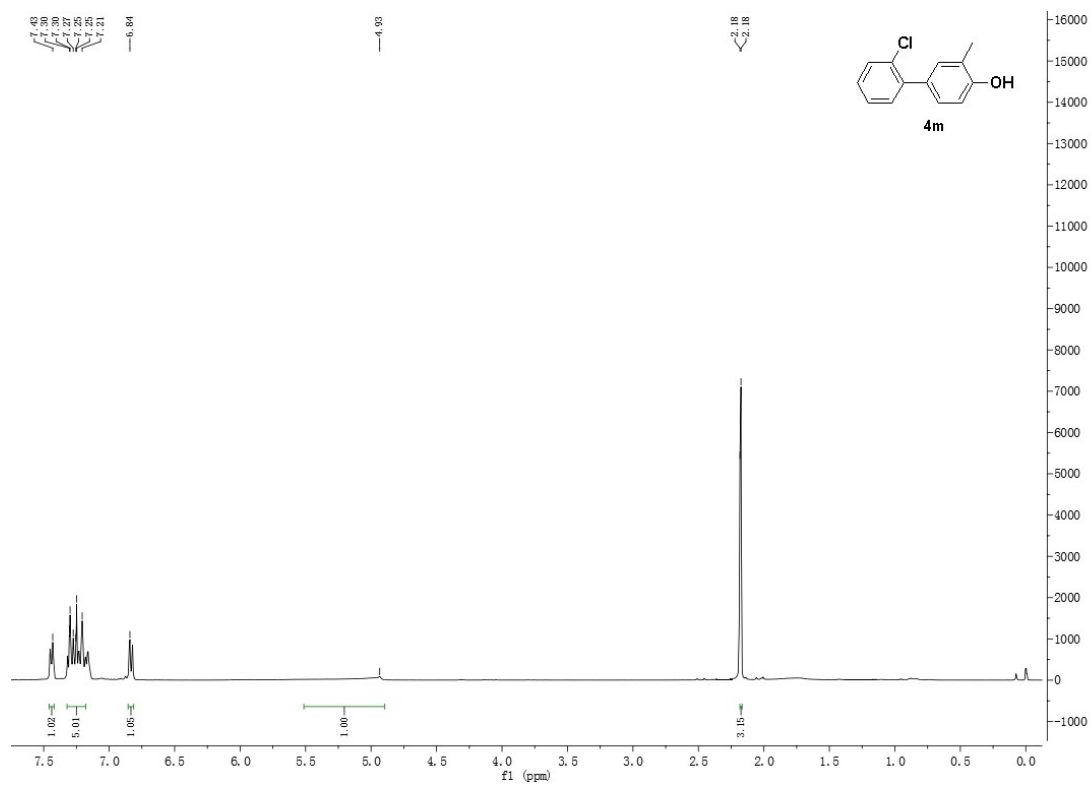


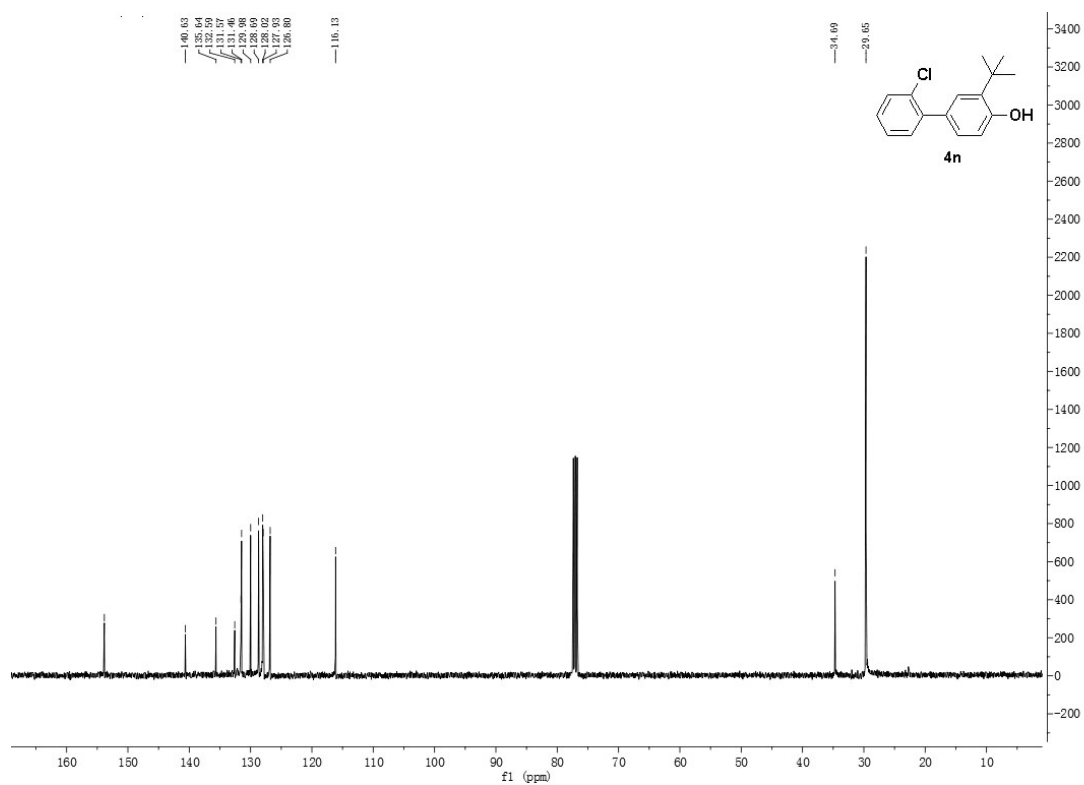
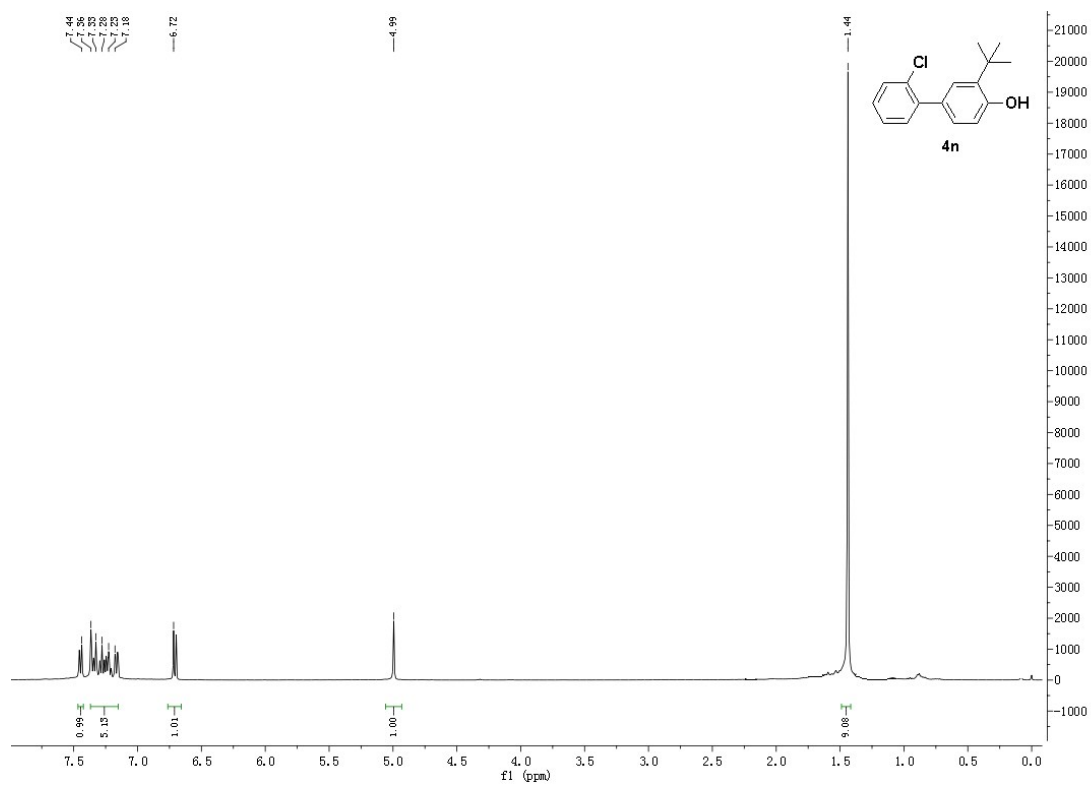




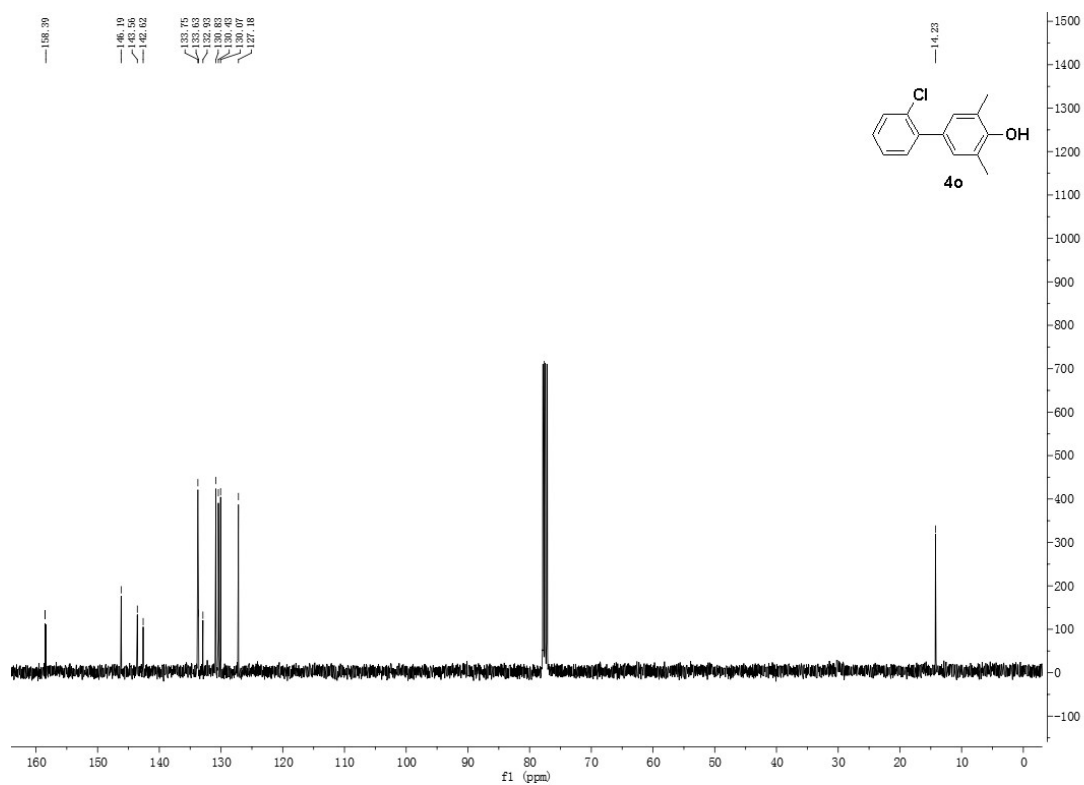
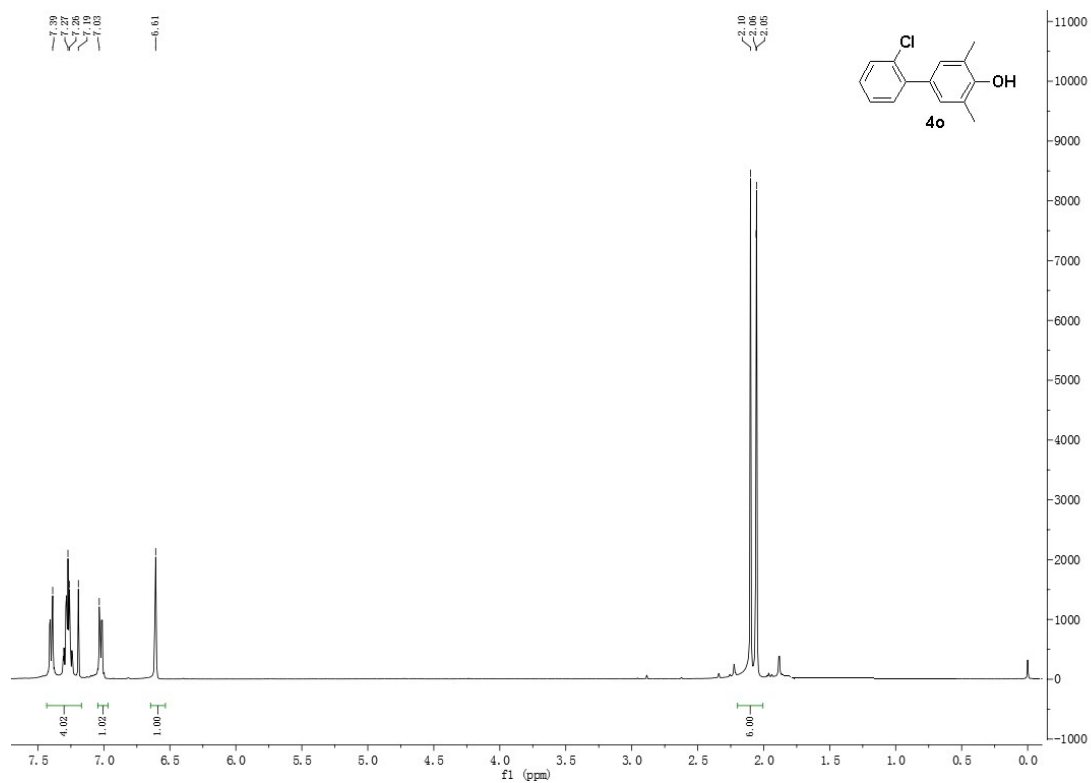


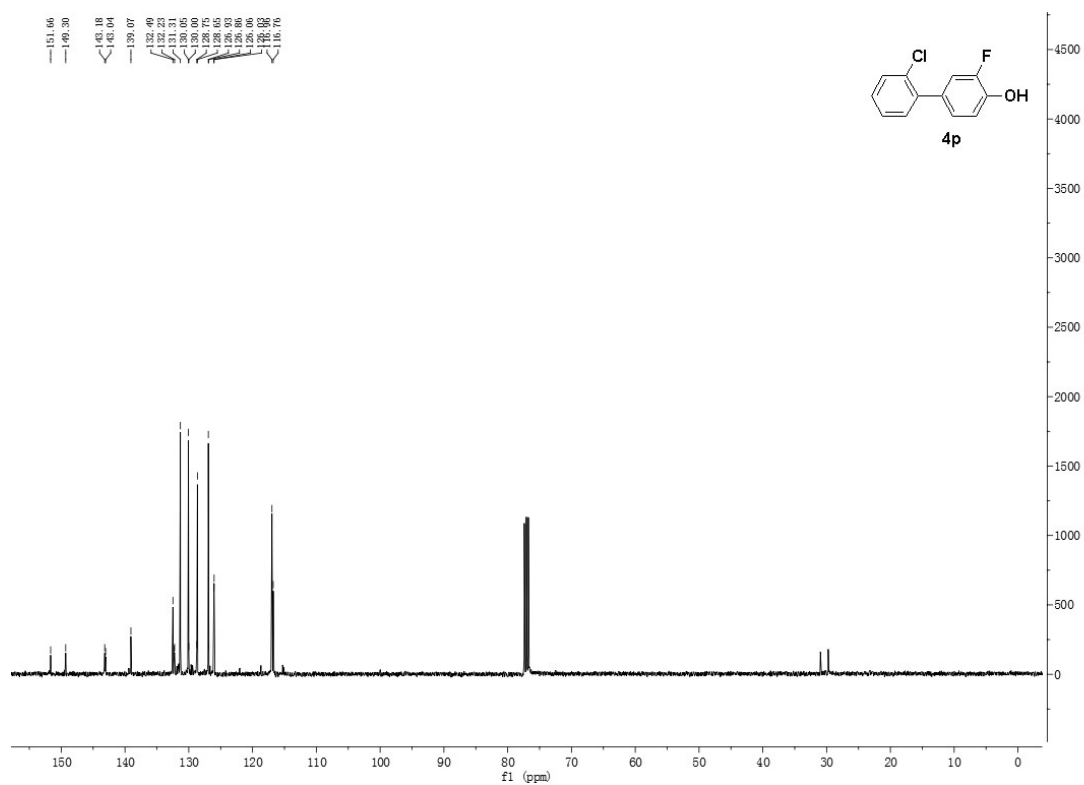
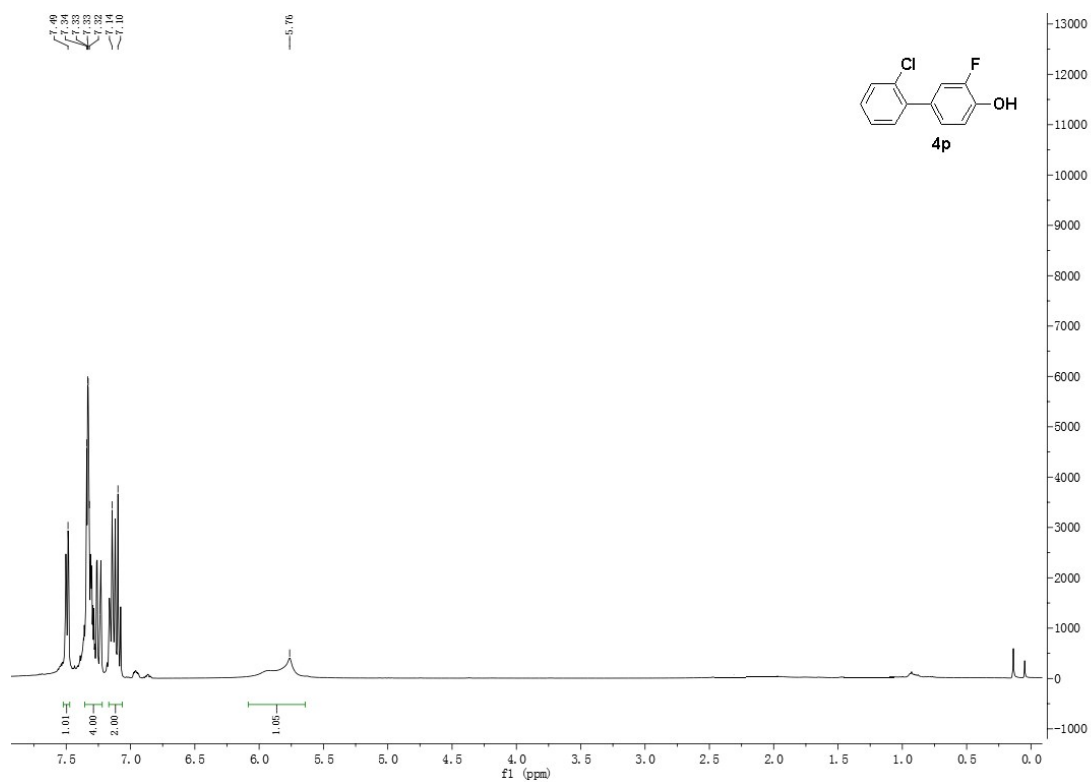


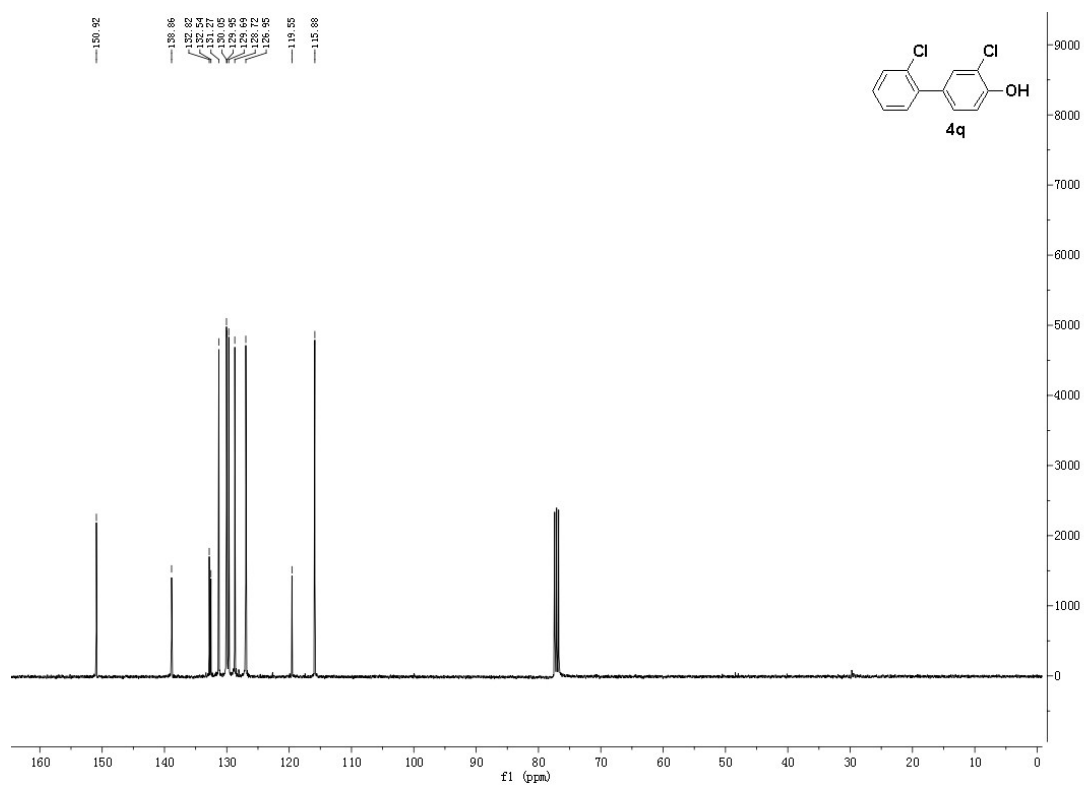
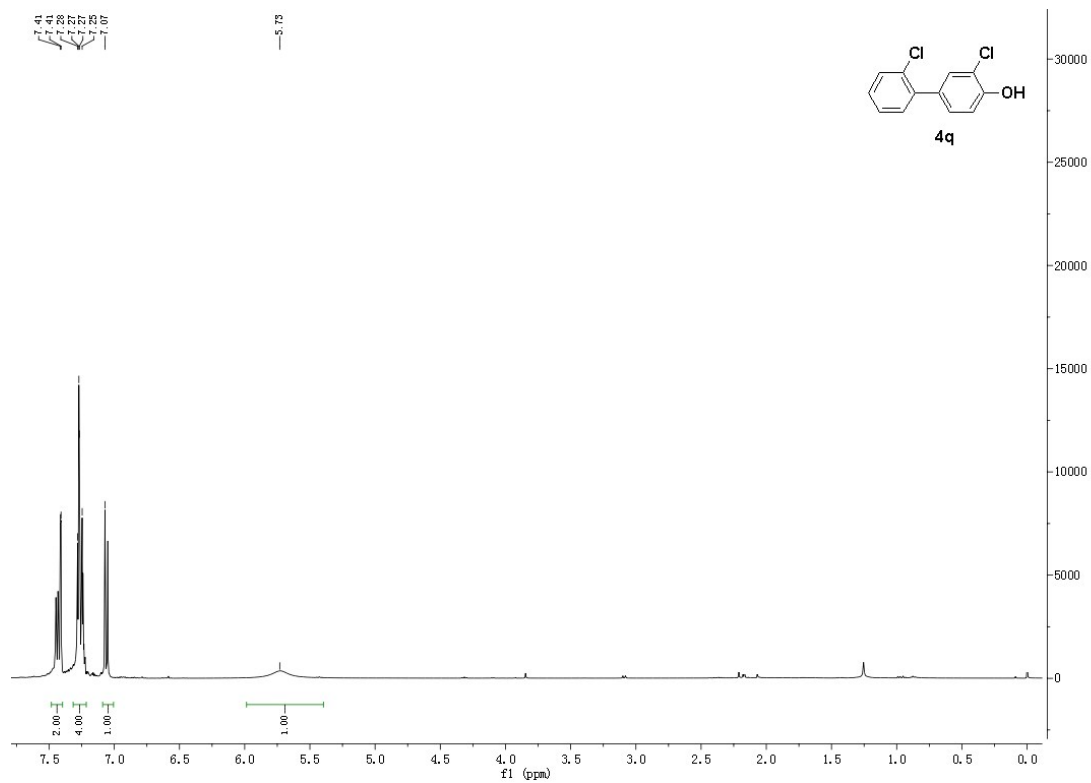


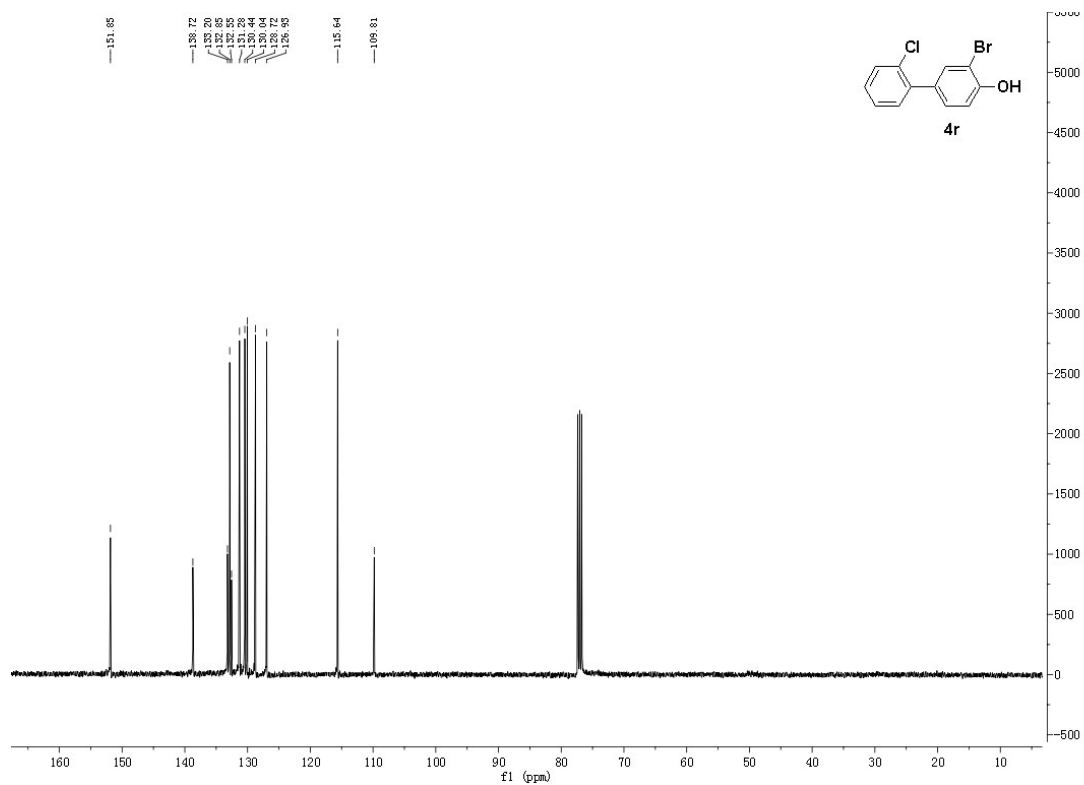
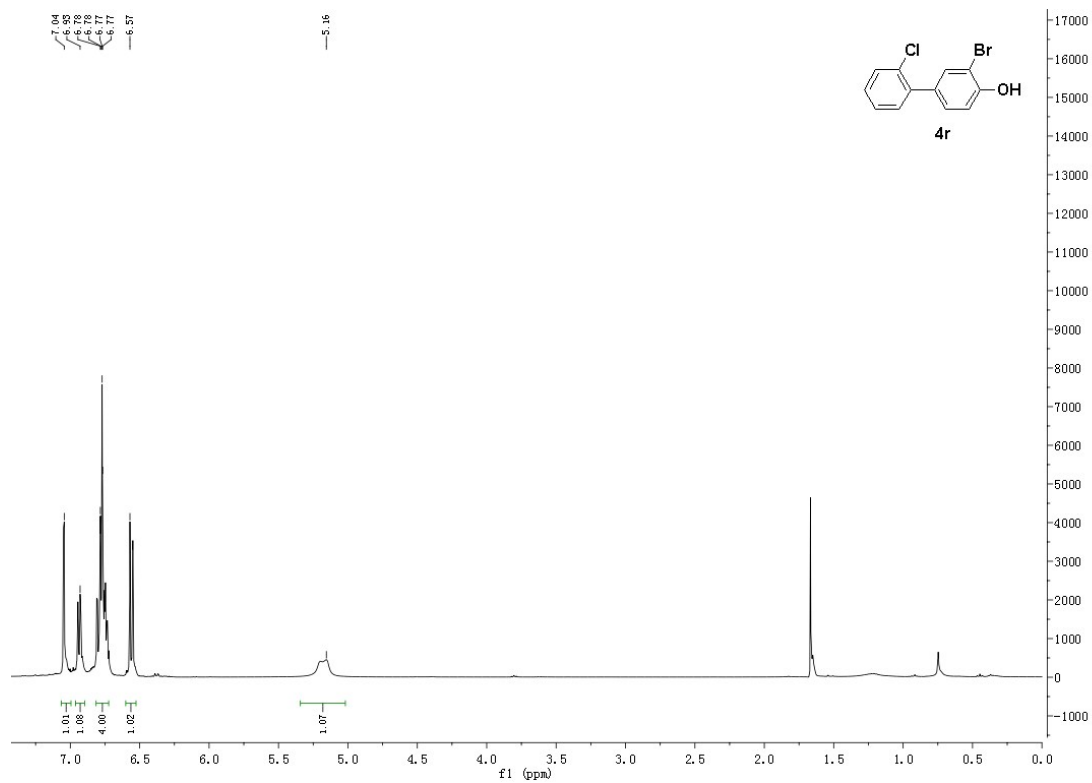


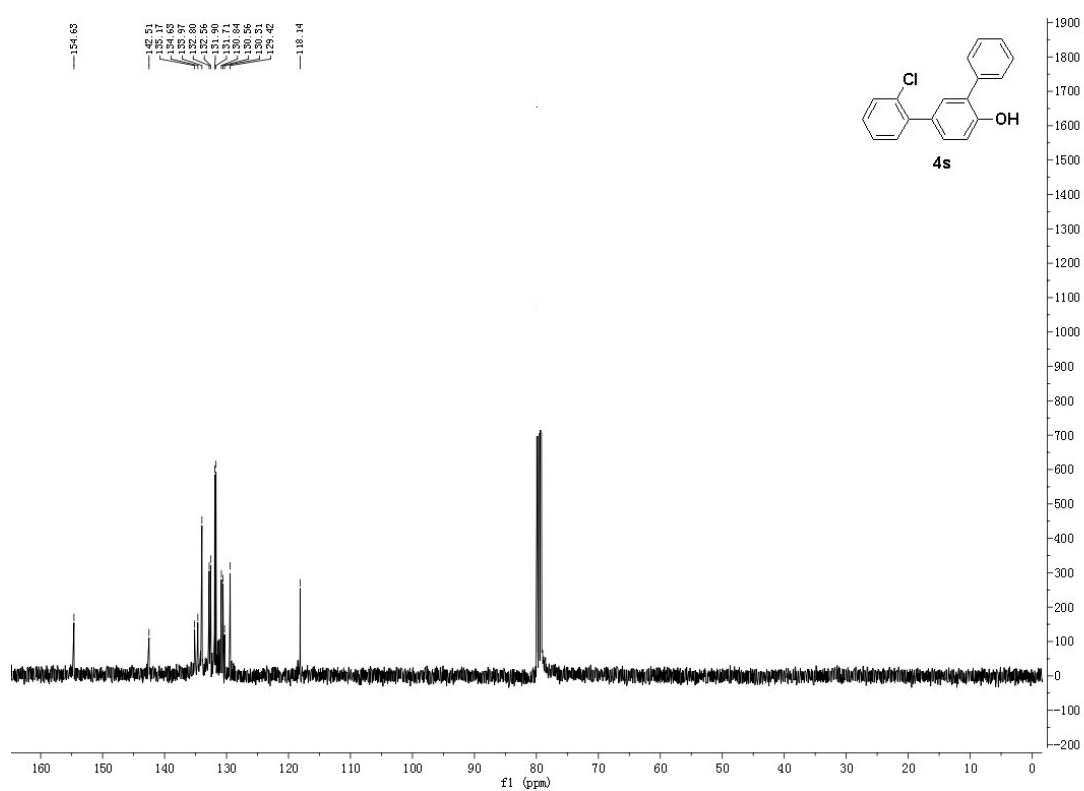
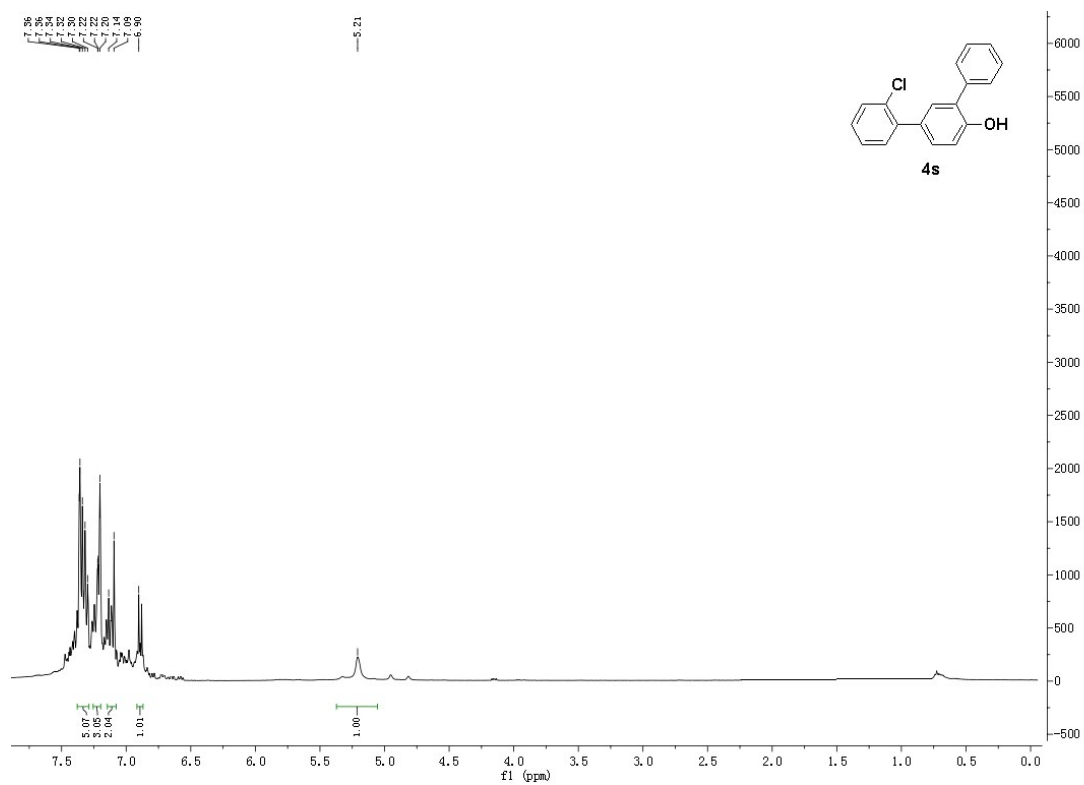


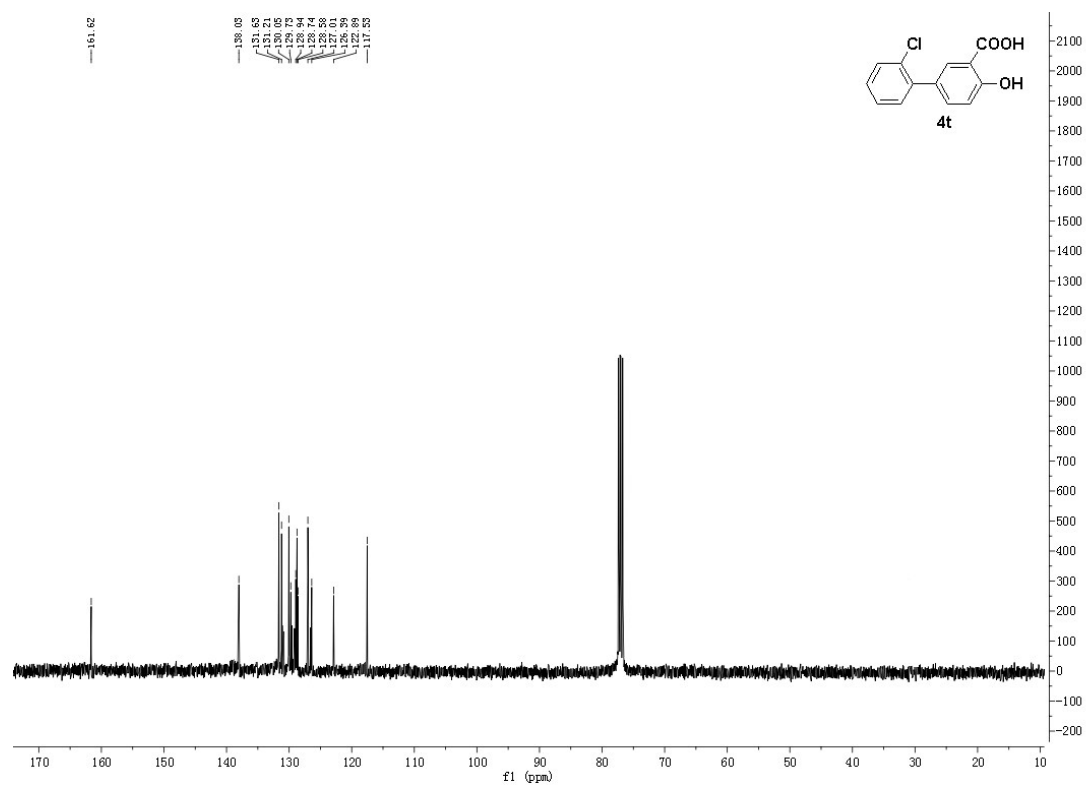
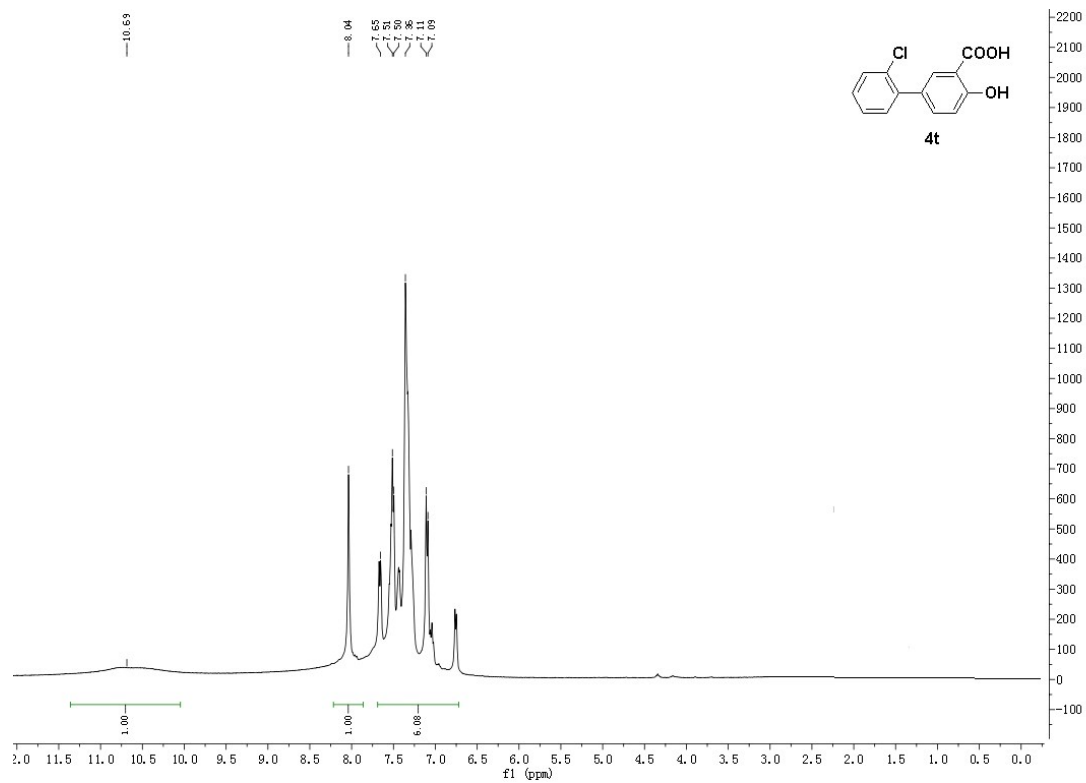


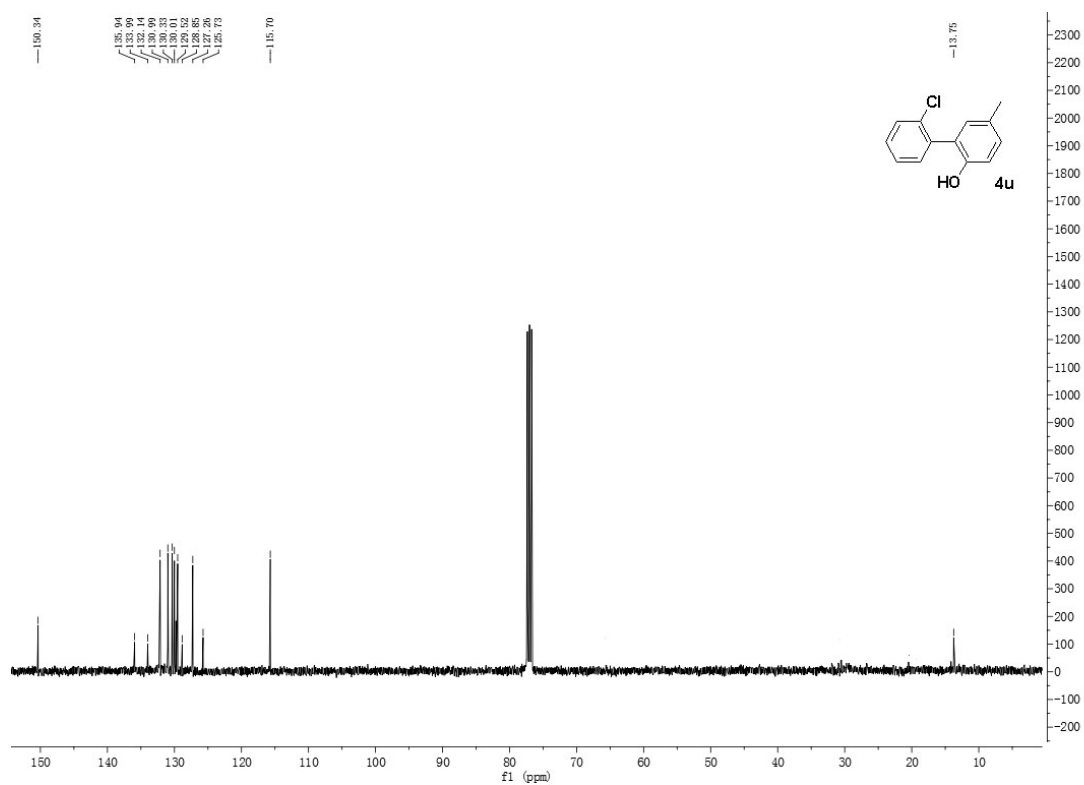
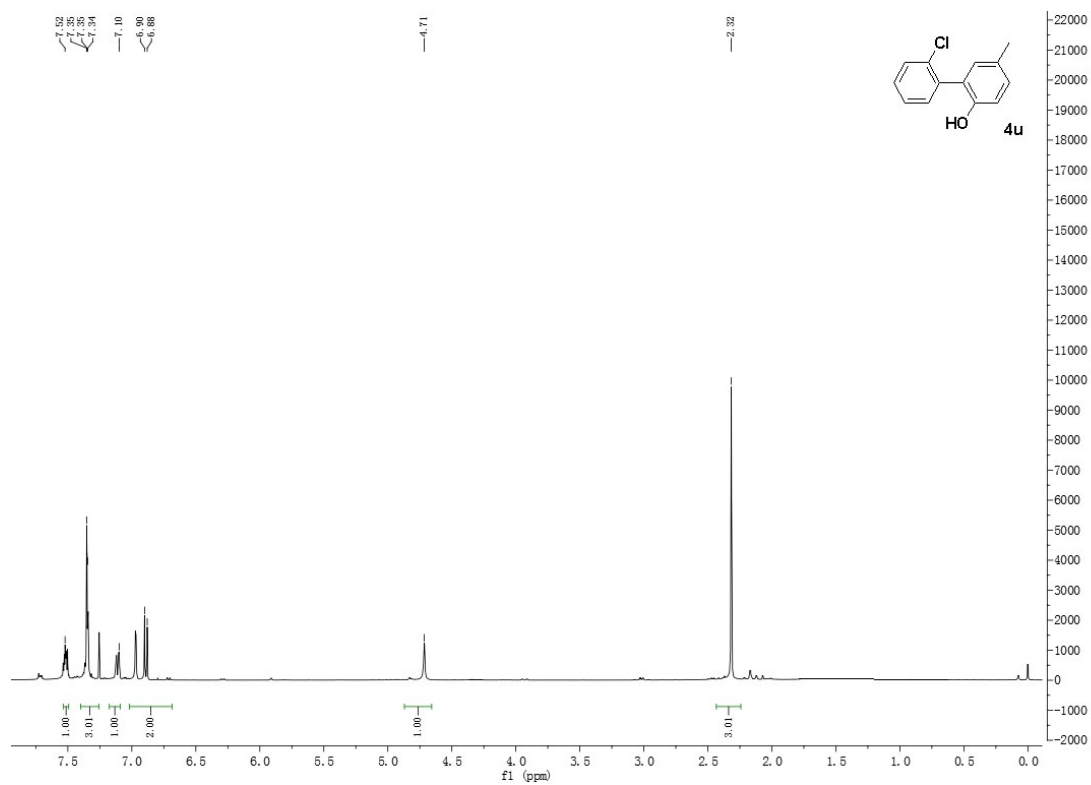












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