Supporting information

Room-Temperature Cobalt-Catalyzed Arylation of Aromatic Acid: Overriding *Ortho*-Selectivity via Oxidative Assembly of Carboxylate and Aryl Titanate Reagents Using Oxygen

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General remarks.

All NMR spectra were collected using a 400 MHz (100 MHz for ¹³C spectroscopy) and all spectra recorded with tetramethylsilane as an internal standard unless otherwise noted. High resolution mass spectra (HRMS) were obtained with a microTOF (ESI). Infrared data were acquired using an FT-IR spectrophotometer. Melting points were recorded on a microscopic instrument and uncorrected.

The corresponding glassware used for aryl magnesium reagents or lithium reagents was oven dried (120 °C) and cooled under a stream of argon gas. Aryl Grignard reagents such as phenyl magnesium or 4-methoxyphenyl magnesium were prepared according to standard procedure. Functionalized aryl Grignard reagents such as 2-cyanophenyl magnesium chloride or 4-(ethoxycarbonyl)phenyl magnesium chloride were prepared via iodine-magnesium exchange using *i*-PrMgCl·LiCl according to Knochel's method.^[1] All the Grignard reagents were titrated before use.^[2]

Typical procedure (3ad)

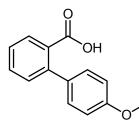
Under Ar atmosphere, a solution of *i*-PrMgCl·LiCl (5 mmol, 1.0 M in THF) was added dropwise to a solution of ethyl 4-iodobenzoate (1380 mg, 5 mmol) in 10 mL THF at $-40 \text{ }^{\circ}\text{C}$ and stirred for 1h at that temperature. A solution of Ti(OEt)₄ (570 mg, 2.5 mmol) in 10 mL THF added dropwise to that mixture. The stirring was continued for 1 h and then the temperature was allowed to come to $0 \text{ }^{\circ}\text{C}$.

In another three neck flask, a solution of $Ti(OEt)_4$ (570 mg, 2.5 mmol) in 10 mL THF was added dropwise to 5 mmol Lithium (2-carboxylatophenyl) lithium (prepared from benzoic acid via direct metalation using 2.2 equiv. s-BuLi/TMEDA (1:1) according to the literature^[3]). The temperature of this mixture was allowed to come to 0 °C during 1 h. The above-prepared Grignard reagent was added in and stirred at room temperature for 0.5 h. To the resulting mixture a solution of CoCl₂ (48.8 mg, 0.38

mmol), DMPU (195 mg, 1.5 mmol) in THF (5 ml) was added in at one portion. The Ar atmosphere was changed into O_2 atmosphere (applied by an oxygen bag). The thus-obtained mixture was stirred at room temperature until the completion of the reaction (monitored by TLC). The reaction was quenched with diluted HCl solution and extracted with CH₂Cl₂. The organic layer was dried over Na₂SO₄ and concentrated to yield the crude compound, which was purified by column chromatography to yield the desired product **3ad**.

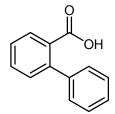
Characterization Data

4'-Methoxy-[1,1'-biphenyl]-2-carboxylic acid (3aa)



As described in the typical procedure for **3ad**, the product was isolated as a white solid in 75% yield. m.p. = 136–138 °C (lit. 138–140 °C); $R_f = 0.35$ (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate/acetic acid = 5:1:0.01). IR (cm⁻¹, KBr): 2977, 1701, 1609, 1243; ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 400 MHz) (ppm) 7.92 (d, J = 7.6 Hz, 1H) , 7.52–7.56 (m, 1H), 7.35–7.39 (m, 2H) , 7.26 (d, J = 8.6 Hz, 2H), 6.92 (d, J = 8.6 Hz, 2H), 3.85 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (DMSO-d₆, 100 MHz) (ppm) 169.8, 158.6, 140.4, 133.0, 132.3, 130.6, 130.3, 129.4, 128.9, 126.7, 113.6, 55.1. Data was consistent with that reported in the literature. ^[4]

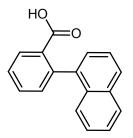
[1,1'-Biphenyl]-2-carboxylic acid (3ab)



As described in the typical procedure for **3ad**, the product was isolated as a white solid in 80% yield. m.p. = 110–112 °C (lit. 108–110 °C); $R_f = 0.34$ (petroleum

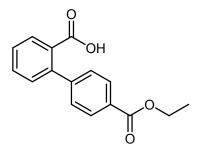
ether/ethyl acetate/acetic acid = 6:1:0.01). IR (cm⁻¹, KBr): 1693, 1596, 1483, 1295, 750, 700; ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 400 MHz) (ppm) 7.94 (d, J = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 7.56 (t, J = 7.4 Hz, 1H), 7.35–7.44 (m, 7H); ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃, 100 MHz) (ppm) 173.8, 143.5, 141.0, 134.8, 132.4, 131.2, 130.7, 129.3, 128.5, 128.1, 127.3, 127.22, 127.18. Data was consistent with that reported in the literature. ^[4]

2-(Naphthalen-1-yl)benzoic acid (3ac)



As described in the typical procedure for **3ad**, the product was isolated as a white solid in 72% yield. m.p. = 174.4–175.6 °C (lit. 174–175 °C); $R_f = 0.32$ (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate/acetic acid = 6:1:0.01). IR (cm⁻¹, KBr): 3410, 3056, 1701, 1602, 1303, 754; ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 400 MHz) (ppm) 11.48 (br s, 1H), 8.13–8.11 (m, 1H), 8.06–7.83 (m, 2H), 7.68–7.60 (m, 1H), 7.53–7.42 (m, 3H), 7.38–7.29 (m, 4H); ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃, 100 MHz) (ppm) 171.3, 142.2, 139.3, 134.9, 133.5, 132.5, 132.4, 132.3, 130.0, 128.2, 127.7, 127.3, 126.1, 126.0, 125.6, 125.5, 125.2. Data was consistent with that reported in the literature.^[5]

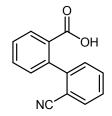
4'-(Ethoxycarbonyl)-[1,1'-biphenyl]-2-carboxylic acid (3ad)



As described in the typical procedure for **3ad**, the product was isolated as a white solid in 73% yield. m.p. = 113.6–114.3 °C; $R_f = 0.42$ (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate/acetic acid = 5:1:0.01). IR (cm⁻¹, KBr): 3392, 3061, 2987, 1705, 1693, 1280, 754; ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 400 MHz) (ppm) 8.07 (d, J = 8.2Hz, 1H), 8.00 (d, J = 1.1Hz,

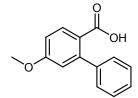
1H), 7.99 (d, J = 1.1 Hz, 1H), 7.61–7.57 (m, 1H), 7.48–7.45 (m, 1H), 7.40–7.34 (m, 3H), 4.40 (q, J = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 1.41 (t, J = 7.2 Hz, 3H); ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃, 100 MHz) (ppm) 172.2, 166.5, 145.8, 142.6, 132.3, 131.04, 131.00, 129.4, 129.3, 128.9, 128.5, 127.8, 61.0, 14.4. Data was consistent with that reported in the literature.^[6]

2'-Cyano-[1,1'-biphenyl]-2-carboxylic acid (3ae)



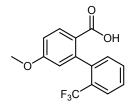
As described in the typical procedure for **3ad**, the product was isolated as a white solid in 65% yield. m.p. = 170.4–172.3 °C (lit. 170–172 °C); $R_f = 0.38$ (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate/acetic acid = 5:1:0.01). IR (cm⁻¹, KBr): 3433, 3267, 3051, 2229, 1701, 1602, 1433, 1384, 1095, 692, 521; ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 400 MHz) (ppm) 8.12 (d, J = 7.4 Hz, 1H), 7.63–7.58 (m, 3H), 7.48 (t, J = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 7.34–7.24 (m, 3H); ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃, 100 MHz) (ppm) 171.0, 135.0, 134.9, 133.7, 132.2, 132.1, 130.2, 130.0, 128.6, 128.52, 128.49, 127.9, 119.2, 117.6. Data was consistent with that reported in the literature.^[7]

5-Methoxy-[1,1'-biphenyl]-2-carboxylic acid (3bb)



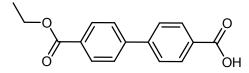
As described in the typical procedure for **3ad**, the product was isolated as a white solid in 71% yield. m.p. = 174.6–174.8 °C (lit. 171-173 °C); R_f = 0.33 (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate/acetic acid = 5:1:0.01). IR (cm⁻¹, KBr): 3431, 2918, 1697, 1602, 1317, 1114, 754; ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 400 MHz) (ppm) 8.02 (d, *J* = 8.7 Hz, 1H), 7.39–7.31 (m, 5H), 6.94–6.91 (m, 1H), 6.28 (d, *J* = 2.6 Hz, 1H), 3.87 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃, 100 MHz) (ppm) 171.7, 162.4, 146.4, 141.4, 133.5, 128.4, 127.9, 127.4, 120.3, 116.7, 112.7, 55.5. Data was consistent with that reported in the literature.^[8]

5-Methoxy-2'-(trifluoromethyl)-[1, 1'-biphenyl]-2-carboxylic acid ^[9] (3bf)



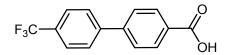
As described in **3bb**, the product was isolated as a yellow solid in 75% yield. m.p. = 115.3–116.2 °C; $R_f = 0.36$ (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate/acetic acid = 5:1:0.01). IR (cm⁻¹, KBr): 3400, 2954, 1691, 1676. 1602, 1317, 1168, 763; ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 400 MHz) (ppm) 8.07 (d, J = 8.8 Hz, 1H), 7.69 (d, J = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.52–7.42 (m, 2H), 7.19 (d, J = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 6.96–6.93 (m, 1H), 6.73,(d, J = 2.6 Hz, 1H), 3.84 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃, 100 MHz) (ppm) 170.8, 162.6, 143.6, 140.4, 133.3, 130.9, 130.4, 128.0–127.3 (q), 127.2, 125.7–125.6 (q), 125.2, 123.0, 120.8 (d), 113.2, 55.5.

4'-(Ethoxycarbonyl)-[1, 1'-biphenyl]-4-carboxylic acid (3cd)



The Grignard reagent of 4-Iodobenzoic acid was prepared via I-Mg exchange method following the general procedure for **3ad**. The product was isolated as a white solid in 77% yield. m.p. = 185.7–187.4 °C; $R_f = 0.46$ (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate/acetic acid = 5:1:0.01). IR (cm⁻¹, KBr): 3437, 3072, 2981, 1707, 1674, 1606, 1274, 1099, 756; ¹H NMR (DMSO-d₆, 400 MHz) (ppm) 13.11 (br s, 1H), 8.08–8.06 (m, 4H), 7.90–7.86 (m, 4H), 4.35 (q, J = 7.0 Hz, 2H), 1.35 (t, J = 7.0 Hz, 3H); ¹³C NMR (DMSO-d₆, 100 MHz) (ppm) 167.5, 165.9, 143.9, 143.4, 130.9, 130.5, 130.3, 130.0, 127.7, 127.6, 61.3, 14.6. Data was consistent with that reported in the literature.^[10]

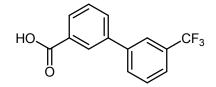
4'-(Trifluoromethyl)-[1, 1'-biphenyl]-4-carboxylic acid (3cg)



As described in **3cd**, the product was isolated as a yellow solid in 88% yield. m.p. = 120.6–121.7 °C (lit. 120.0–121.1 °C); $R_f = 0.43$ (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate/acetic acid = 6:1:0.01). IR (cm⁻¹, KBr): 3412, 3078, 1689, 1608, 1323, 1128, 1070, 835; ¹H NMR (DMSO-d₆, 400 MHz) (ppm) 13.06 (br s, 1H), 8.06 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 7.96 (d,

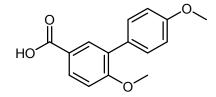
J = 7.9 Hz, 2H), 7.89–7.85 (m, 4H); ¹³C NMR (DMSO-d₆, 100 MHz) (ppm) 167.5, 143.5, 143.1, 131.0, 130.5, 128.3, 127.8, 126.3(d), 125.8, 123.7. Data was consistent with that reported in the literature.^[11]

3'-(Trifluoromethyl)-[1, 1'-biphenyl]-3-carboxylic acid (3dh)



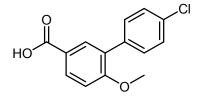
As described in **3cd**, the product was isolated as a yellow solid in 76% yield. m.p. = 163.4–164.5 °C; $R_f = 0.37$ (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate/acetic acid = 6:1:0.01). IR (cm⁻¹, KBr): 3431, 3088, 1701, 1685, 1568, 1313, 1124, 750; ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 400 MHz) (ppm) 8.35 (s, 1H), 8.25 (s, 1H), 8.15 (d, J = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 8.04 (d, J = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 7.87–7.80 (m, 1H), 7.75–7.73 (m, 1H), 7.67–7.57 (m, 1H), 7.36 (t, J = 7.9 Hz, 1H); ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃, 100 MHz) (ppm) 170.9, 140.2, 136.8, 133.2, 132.5, 131.2, 130.5, 130.1, 129.7, 129.5, 129.3, 128.8, 124.0, 122.6. Data was consistent with that reported in the literature.^[12]

4', 6-Dimethoxy-[1,1'-biphenyl]-3-carboxylic acid^[13] (3ba)



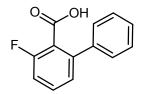
4-Methoxybenzoic acid was lithiated n-BuLi/t-BuOLi according to the reported procedure^[14] and the cross-coupling was conducted as described in **3ad**. The product was isolated as a white solid in 69% yield. m.p. = 167.4–168.3 °C; $R_f = 0.33$ (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate/acetic acid = 5:1:0.01). IR (cm⁻¹, KBr): 3433, 3034, 2984, 1695, 1602, 1257, 1026, 823; ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 400 MHz) (ppm) 8.09–8.07 (m, 2H), 7.48 (d, J = 6.6 Hz, 2H), 7.01 (d, J = 9.2 Hz, 1H), 6.97 (d, J = 8.8 Hz, 2H), 3.90 (s, 3H), 3.86 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃, 100 MHz) (ppm) 171.4, 160.9, 159.0, 132.8, 131.1, 130.6, 130.4, 129.7, 121.6, 113.6, 110.6, 55.8, 55.3.

4'-Chloro-6-methoxy-[1, 1'-biphenyl]-3-carboxylic acid (3bi)



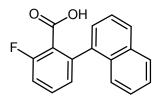
As described in **3ba**, the product was isolated as a white solid in 55% yield. m.p. = 187.4–188.3 °C; $R_f = 0.35$ (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate/acetic acid = 5:1:0.01). IR (cm⁻¹, KBr): 3431, 3292, 1685, 1606, 1435, 1271, 1024, 628; ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 400 MHz) (ppm) 8.11 (dd, J = 8.6 Hz, 2.2 Hz, 1H), 8.05 (d, J = 2.2 Hz, 1H), 7.47 (d, J = 8.6 Hz, 2H), 7.39 (d, J = 8.6 Hz, 2H), 7.03 (d, J = 8.7 Hz, 1H), 3.90 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃, 100 MHz) (ppm) 171.1, 160.8, 135.5, 132.8, 131.8, 131.4, 130.8, 128.3, 121.7, 111.1, 110.8, 56.5. MS (HRMS) m/z calcd. for C₁₄H₁₁ClO₃ 261.0324 [M-H]⁻, found 261.0313.

3-Fluoro-[1, 1'-biphenyl]-2-carboxylic acid (3eb)



2-Fluorobenzoic acid was lithiated using 2.2 equiv. *s*-BuLi at -78 °C and the crosscoupling was conducted following the general procedure for **3ad**. The product was isolated as a white solid in 81% yield. m.p. = 115.3–117.5 °C (lit. 115–117 °C); R_f = 0.40 (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate/acetic acid = 6:1:0.01). IR (cm⁻¹, KBr): 3412, 3011, 1707, 1614, 1462, 1257, 756; ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 400 MHz) (ppm) 7.62–7.42 (m, 6H), 7.31 (dd, *J* = 8.3 Hz, 2.5 Hz, 1H), 7.13 (t, *J* = 9.1 Hz, 1H); ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃, 100 MHz) (ppm) 170.9, 160.9, 142.9, 132.8, 132.4, 131.8, 128.6, 128.3, 128.2, 125.9, 114.9. Data was consistent with that reported in the literature.^[15]

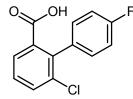
2-Fluoro-6-(naphthalen-1-yl)benzoic acid (3ec)



As described in **3eb**, the product was isolated as a white solid in 76% yield .m.p. = 178.4–180.0 °C; $R_f = 0.40$ (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate/acetic acid = 6:1:0.01). IR

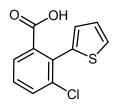
(cm⁻¹, KBr): 3433, 3066, 1701, 1602, 1303, 754; ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 400 MHz) (ppm) 9.23 (br s, 1H), 8.06–8.02 (m, 1H), 7.90–7.60 (m, 4H), 7.50–7.18 (m, 4H), 7.16–7.11 (m, 1H); ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃, 100 MHz) (ppm) 169.0, 161.6, 135.8, 135.7, 132.8, 132.54, 132.46, 129.0, 124.17, 124.15, 120.4, 117.3, 117.1, 115.2, 115.1. MS (HRMS) *m/z* calcd. for $C_{17}H_{11}FO_2$ 265.0670 [M-H]⁻, found 265.0667.

6-Chloro-4'-fluoro-[1, 1'-biphenyl]-2-carboxylic acid (3fj)



3-Chlorobenzoic acid was lithiated using 2.2 equiv. TMPLi according to the reported procedure^[16] and the cross-coupling was conducted following the general procedure for **3ad**. The product was isolated as a white solid in 77% yield. m.p. = 116.7–116.9 °C; $R_f = 0.37$ (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate/acetic acid = 6:1:0.01). IR (cm⁻¹, KBr): 3421, 3074, 1703, 1512, 1436, 702; ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 400 MHz) (ppm) 11.22 (br s, 1H), 7.89 (dd, J = 7.8 Hz, 1.2 Hz, 1H), 7.66 (dd, J = 8.0 Hz, 1.2 Hz, 1H), 7.41–7.39 (m, 1H), 7.21–7.17 (m, 2H), 7.10 (t, J = 8.7 Hz, 2H); ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃, 100 MHz) (ppm) 172.1, 163.4, 140.5, 133.9, 133.6, 132.0, 130.7, 130.6, 129.9, 128.6, 115.1. MS (HRMS) *m/z* calcd. for C₁₃H₈CIFO₂ 249.0124 [M-H]⁻, found 249.0139.

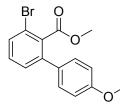
3-Chloro-2-(thiophen-2-yl)benzoic acid (3fk)



As described in **3fj**, the product was isolated as a yellow solid in 67% yield. m.p. = 108.8–109.4 °C; $R_f = 0.34$ (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate/acetic acid = 6:1:0.01). IR (cm⁻¹, KBr): 3527, 3068, 1665, 1608, 1433, 1253, 750; ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 400 MHz) (ppm) 10.94 (br s, 1H), 7.88 (dd, J = 8.0 Hz, 1.6 Hz, 1H), 7.71 (dd, J = 7.7 Hz, 1.5 Hz, 1H), 7.21–7.17 (m, 2H), 7.39 (t, J = 7.9 Hz, 1H), 6.91 (t, J = 8.0 Hz, 1H); ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃, 100 MHz) (ppm) 171.0, 157.9, 141.5, 137.8, 137.0, 132.5, 129.4,

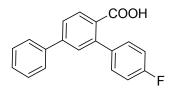
129.1, 128.9, 122.5, 119.7. MS (HRMS) *m*/*z* calcd. for C₁₁H₇ClO₂S 236.9783 [M-H]⁻, found 236.9779.

Methyl 3-bromo-4'-methoxy-[1, 1'-biphenyl]-2-carboxylate (3ga)



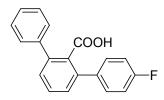
The lithium reagent of 2-bromobenzoic acid was prepared using 2 equiv. TMPLi according to the reported procedure^[17] and the cross-coupling was conducted following the general procedure. The product acid was esterified using methanol and isolated as a yellow solid in 49% yield. m.p. = 87.8–89.4 °C; R_f = 0.48 (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 20:1). IR (cm⁻¹, KBr): 3031, 2987, 1723, 1608, 1512, 1381, 764; ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 400 MHz) (ppm) 7.54 (dd, *J* = 6.3 Hz, 2.8 Hz, 1H), 7.31–7.29 (m, 4H), 6.93 (d, *J* = 8.8 Hz, 2H), 3.83 (s, 3H), 3.71 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃, 100 MHz) (ppm) 168.4, 159.5, 141.5, 135.2, 131.7, 131.0, 130.5, 129.5, 128.7, 119.6, 113.9, 55.3, 52.5. Anal. Calcd. for C₁₅H₁₃BrO₃: C, 56.10; H, 4.08. Found: C, 56.22; H, 3.99. MS (ESI): [M+H]⁺ [m/z 322 (100%), 320 (31%)].

4"-Fluoro-[1,1':3',1"-terphenyl]-4'-carboxylic acid (3hj)



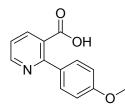
Biphenyl-4-carboxylic acid was lithiated using *s*-BuLi/TMEDA according to the reported method^[18] and the cross-coupling was conducted following the general procedure. The product was isolated as a white solid in 85% yield. m.p. = 215.7–216.4 °C; $R_f = 0.34$ (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate/acetic acid = 6:1:0.01). IR (cm⁻¹, KBr): 3402, 3011, 1690, 1484, 1197, 764; ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 400 MHz) (ppm) 8.22 (d, J = 7.7 Hz, 1H), 7.93 (d, J = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 7.31–7.13 (m, 9H); ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃, 100 MHz) (ppm) 168.1, 161.5, 141.9, 140.4, 135.4, 135.3, 131.6, 131.4, 129.0, 128.32, 128.27, 128.1, 127.63, 127.56, 115.6. Anal. Calcd. for C₁₉H₁₃FO₂: C, 78.07; H, 4.48. Found: C, 78.25; H, 4.29. MS (ESI): [M+H]⁺ (m/z 293).

4-Fluoro-[1, 1':3', 1"-terphenyl]-2'-carboxylic acid (3ij)



The product was prepared as described in **3hj** and isolated as a white solid in 76% yield. m.p. = 243.4–245.1 °C; $R_f = 0.37$ (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate/acetic acid = 6:1:0.01). IR (cm⁻¹, KBr): 3443, 3030, 1687, 1593, 1217, 833; ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 400 MHz) (ppm); 8.15 (d, J = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 7.50 (t, J = 7.7 Hz, 1H), 7.41–7.30 (m, 9H); ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃, 100 MHz) (ppm) 169.8, 161.7, 139.4, 135.4, 135.3, 132.9, 132.8, 131.6, 131.4, 129.43, 129.39, 128.1, 127.6, 119.6, 115.6. Anal. Calcd. for C₁₉H₁₃FO₂: C, 78.07; H, 4.48. Found: C, 78.17; H, 4.22. MS (ESI): [M+H]⁺ (m/z 293).

2-(4-Methoxyphenyl)nicotinic acid (3ja)



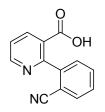
3-Pyridinecarboxylic acid was lithiated with n-BuLi/TMPLi in THF at -50 °C according to the literature ^[19] and the cross-coupling conducted following the general procedure. The product was isolated as a yellow solid in 89% yield. m.p. = 254.3–255.4 °C; $R_f = 0.27$ (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate/acetic acid = 1:1:0.01). IR (cm⁻¹, KBr): 3431, 3008, 1699, 1606, 1429, 1251, 840; ¹H NMR (DMSO-d₆, 400 MHz) (ppm) 13.19 (br s, 1H), 8.71 (d, J = 3.4 Hz, 1H), 8.05 (d, J = 7.4 Hz, 1H), 7.53 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 7.43–7.40 (m, 1H), 7.01 (d, J = 8.1 Hz, 2H), 3.81 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (DMSO-d₆, 100 MHz) (ppm) 170.0, 160.2, 156.6, 151.1, 137.6, 132.5, 130.5, 128.4, 121.9, 114.0, 55.7. Data was consistent with that reported in the literature.^[20]

2-Phenylnicotinic acid (3jb)



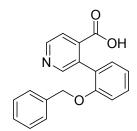
As described in **3ja**, the product was isolated as a yellow solid in 92% yield (915 mg), m.p. = 167.6–168.4 °C (lit. 168–169 °C); $R_f = 0.30$ (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate/acetic acid = 1:1:0.01). IR (cm⁻¹, KBr): 3431, 3055, 2918, 1705, 1578, 1440, 1280, 754; ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 400 MHz) (ppm) 10.14 (br s, 1H), 8.84 (dd, J = 4.9 Hz, 1.7 Hz, 1H), 8.25–8.22 (m, 1H), 7.53–7.52 (m, 2H), 7.43–7.38 (m, 4H); ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃, 100 MHz) (ppm) 170.8, 158.9, 150.8, 139.5, 138.6, 129.1, 128.8, 128.2, 126.9, 122.1. Data was consistent with that reported in the literature.^[21]

2-(2-Cyanophenyl)nicotinic acid (3je)



As described in **3ja**, the product was isolated as a yellow solid in 83% yield (834 mg), m.p. = 198.6–199.3 °C; $R_f = 0.33$ (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate/acetic acid = 1:1:0.01).. IR (cm⁻¹, KBr): 3385, 3170, 2225, 1658, 1577, 1402, 704; ¹H NMR (DMSO-d₆, 400 MHz) (ppm) 8.50 (dd, J = 4.8 Hz, 2.8 Hz, 1H), 8.13 (dd, J = 7.6 Hz, 2.0 Hz, 1H), 7.88 (d, J = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 7.54–7.50 (m, 1H), 7.47–7.43 (m, 2H); ¹³C NMR (DMSO-d₆, 100 MHz) (ppm) 166.9, 152.3, 150.4, 143.7, 139.2, 134.7, 131.7, 128.7, 128.0, 123.8, 117.4, 114.9, 104.3. Anal. Calcd. for C₁₃H₈N₂O₂: C, 69.64; H, 3.60; N, 12.49. Found: C, 69.72; H, 3.46; N, 12.55. MS (ESI): [M+H]⁺ (m/z 225).

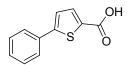
3-(2-(Benzyloxy)phenyl)isonicotinic acid (3kl)



As described in **3ja**, the product was isolated as a yellow solid in 77% yield. m.p. = 187.7–188.3 °C. R_f = 0.43 (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate/acetic acid = 1:1:0.01). IR (cm⁻¹, KBr):3412, 3010, 1668, 1612, 1432, 1110, 837; ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 400 MHz) (ppm) 13.41 (br s, 1H), 8.50 (dd, J = 5.0 Hz, 0.6 Hz, 1H), 7.91 (d, J = 8.3 Hz, 1H),

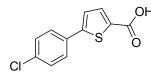
7.85–7.78 (m, 3H), 7.35–7.22 (m, 4H), 7.04 (d, J = 1.0 Hz, 1H), 7.02–6.89 (m, 2H), 5.19 (s, 2H); ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃, 100 MHz) (ppm) 167.3, 151.6, 149.3, 136.7, 136.4, 135.2, 129.2, 129.0, 128.7, 128.5, 128.4, 127.2, 126.3, 125.4, 119.3, 116.4, 70.1. MS (HRMS) *m/z* calcd. for C₁₉H₁₅NO₃ 306.1125 [M+H]⁺, found 306.1127.

5-Phenylthiophene-2-carboxylic acid (3lb)



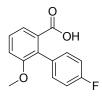
Thiophene-2-carboxylic acid was prepared using LDA according to the literature^[22] and the cross-coupling was conducted following the general procedure. The product was isolated as a white solid in 80% yield. m.p. = 187.3–187.8 °C (lit. 187–188 °C); $R_f = 0.40$ (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate/acetic acid = 5:1:0.01). IR (cm⁻¹, KBr): 3446, 3018, 1701, 1660, 1539, 1290, 746; ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 400 MHz) (ppm) 7.87 (d, J = 4.0 Hz, 1H), 7.67–7.65 (m, 2H), 7.45–7.33 (m, 4H); ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃, 100 MHz) (ppm) 167.4, 153.1, 136.0, 133.3, 131.2, 129.2, 129.1, 126.4, 123.9. Data was consistent with that reported in the literature.^[23]

5-(4-Chlorophenyl)thiophene-2-carboxylic acid (3li)



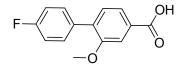
As described in **3lb**, the product was isolated as a white solid in 68% yield. m.p. = 252.7-253.6 °C (lit. 253-254 °C); $R_f = 0.40$ (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate/acetic acid = 5:1:0.01). IR (cm⁻¹, KBr): 3421, 3099, 1653, 1535, 1311, 1093, 810, 752; ¹H NMR (DMSO-d₆, 400 MHz) (ppm) 13.10 (br s, 1H), 7.77 (d, J = 6.8 Hz, 2H), 7.72 (d, J = 3.1 Hz, 1H), 7.60 (d, J = 3.1 Hz, 1H), 7.52 (d, J = 6.8 Hz, 2H); ¹³C NMR (DMSO-d₆, 100 MHz) (ppm) 163.2, 148.6, 134.8, 134.4, 133.9, 132.2, 129.7, 128.0, 125.7. Data was consistent with that reported in the literature.^[23]

4'-Fluoro-6-methoxy-[1, 1'-biphenyl]-2-carboxylic acid^[24] (3mj)



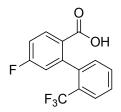
3-Methoxybenzoic acid was lithiated at C2 using TMPLi according to the literature^[14] and the cross-coupling was conducted following the general procedure. The product was isolated as a white solid in 81% yield. m.p. = 196.6–198.7 °C. R_f = 0.37 (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate/acetic acid = 6:1:0.01). IR (cm⁻¹, KBr): 3336, 3061, 1707, 1490, 1219, 887; ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 400 MHz) (ppm); 8.14 (d, *J* = 7.9 Hz, 1H), 7.50–7.44 (m, 2H), 7.36–7.33 (m, 2H), 7.14 (t, *J* = 8.7 Hz, 2H), 3.82 (s, 3H);¹³C NMR (CDCl₃, 100 MHz) (ppm) 168.2, 160.9, 158.9, 132.6(d), 129.0(d), 128.5, 123.3, 123.1, 120.5(d), 115.3, 115.1, 55.4. MS (HRMS) *m/z* calcd. for C₁₄H₁₁FO₃ 245.0619 [M-H]⁻, found 245.0619.

4'-Fluoro-2-methoxy-[1, 1'-biphenyl]-4-carboxylic acid (4mj)



3-Methoxybenzoic acid was lithiated at C4 using n-BuLi/t-BuOK (1:1.4 equiv.) a according to the literature^[14] and the cross-coupling was conducted following the general procedure. The product was isolated as a white solid in 73% yield, m.p. = 178.3–179.1 °C; R_f = 0.38 (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate/acetic acid = 6:1:0.01). IR (cm⁻¹, KBr): 3446, 3290, 1691, 1436, 1006, 753; ¹H NMR (DMSO-d₆, 400 MHz) (ppm) 10.10 (br s, 1H), 7.63–7.59 (m, 3H), 7.49–7.47 (m, 3H), 7.39 (s, 1H), 3.38 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (DMSO-d₆, 100 MHz) (ppm) 167.5, 154.8, 136.8, 132.4, 131.6, 131.3, 131.1, 130.8, 128.5, 120.9, 117.2, 55.5. MS (HRMS) *m/z* calcd. for C₁₄H₁₁FO₃ 245.0619 [M-H]⁻, found 245.0619.

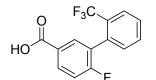
5-Fluoro-2'-(trifluoromethyl)-[1, 1'-biphenyl]-2-carboxylic acid (3nf)



4-Fluorobenzoic acid was lithiated at C2 using 2.2 equiv. s-BuLi at -78 °C according to the literature^[25] and the cross-coupling was conducted following the general procedure. The product was isolated as a yellow solid in 72% yield. m.p. =

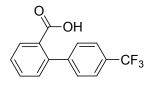
164.5–165.4 °C; $R_f = 0.43$ (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate/acetic acid = 6:1:0.01). IR (cm⁻¹, KBr): 3421, 3066, 1692, 1600, 1435, 766; ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 400 MHz) (ppm) 8.32 (s, 1H), 7.57–7.53 (m, 3H), 7.46–7.42 (m, 3H); ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃, 100 MHz) (ppm) 167.7, 167.1, 136.5, 134.4, 131.1, 129.7, 129.5, 127.2, 126.4, 125.4, 124.7, 124.1, 115.2, 110.7. Anal. Calcd. for C₁₄H₈F₄O₂: C, 59.16; H, 2.84. Found: C, 59.12; H, 2.86. MS (ESI): [M+H]⁺ (m/z 285).

6-Fluoro-2'-(trifluoromethyl)-[1, 1'-biphenyl]-3-carboxylic acid (4nf)



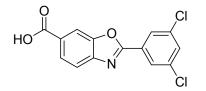
4-Fluorobenzoic acid was lithiated at C3 using using TMPLi at according to the literature^[25] and the cross-coupling was conducted following the general procedure. The product was isolated as a yellow solid in 69% yield (950 mg), m.p. = 177.7–178.2 °C; Rf = 0.41 (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate/acetic acid = 6:1:0.01).IR (cm⁻¹, KBr): 3435, 3095, 1686, 1593, 1265, 767; ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 400 MHz) (ppm) 11.52 (br s, 1H), 8.17–8.08 (m, 3H), 7.46 (t, J = 6.4 Hz, 2H), 7.16–7.11 (m, 2H); ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃, 100 MHz) (ppm) 169.2, 164.0, 131.4, 131.3, 130.6, 130.0, 129.6, 128.0, 127.7, 127.6, 127.3, 126.2, 124.0, 114.7. Anal. Calcd. for C₁₄H₈F₄O₂: C, 59.16; H, 2.84. Found: C, 59.21; H, 2.77. MS (ESI): [M+H]⁺ (m/z 285).

4'-(Trifluoromethyl)-[1, 1'-biphenyl]-2-carboxylic acid (Xenalipin)



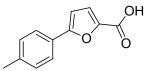
As described in **3aa**, the product was isolated as a white solid in 77% yield. m.p. = 165.7-166.2 °C (lit. 165-166 °C); Rf = 0.41 (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate/acetic acid = 5:1:0.01). IR (cm⁻¹, KBr): 3399, 3070, 1686, 1452, 1321, 1066, 708; ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 400 MHz) (ppm) 10.41 (br s, 1H), 8.12-7.92 (m, 2H), 7.67-7.60 (m, 2H), 7.52-7.44 (m, 3H), 7.35-7.33(m, 1H); ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃, 100 MHz) (ppm) 172.2, 142.4, 133.9, 132.5, 131.2, 130.2, 129.2, 128.9, 128.5, 128.0, 125.02-124.93 (q), 119.5. Data was consistent with that reported in the literature.^[26]

2-(3, 5-Dichlorophenyl)benzo[d]oxazole-6-carboxylic acid (Tafamidis)



Benzo[d]oxazole-6-carboxylic acid was lithiated at C2 using 3 equiv. TMPLi at -50 °C according to the reported procedure and the product was isolated as a white solid in 61% yield. m.p. = 200.4–202.7 °C; $R_f = 0.37$ (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate/acetic acid = 6:1:0.01). IR (cm⁻¹, KBr): 3383, 1685, 1608, 1224, 769; ¹H NMR (DMSO-d₆, 400 MHz) (ppm) 8.27 (s, 1H), 8.18 (d, J = 6.8 Hz, 1H), 8.04–8.02 (m, 1H), 7.94 (s, 1H), 7.88 (d, J = 1.6 Hz, 1H), 7.67 (dd, J = 6.8 Hz, 5.2 Hz, 1H); ¹³C NMR (DMSO-d₆, 100 MHz) (ppm) 167.2, 162.1, 150.1, 145.0, 137.8, 133.7, 131.4, 128.6, 126.8, 124.3, 120.5, 112.6. Data was consistent with that reported in the literature. ^[27]

5-(p-Tolyl)furan-2-carboxylic acid (5)



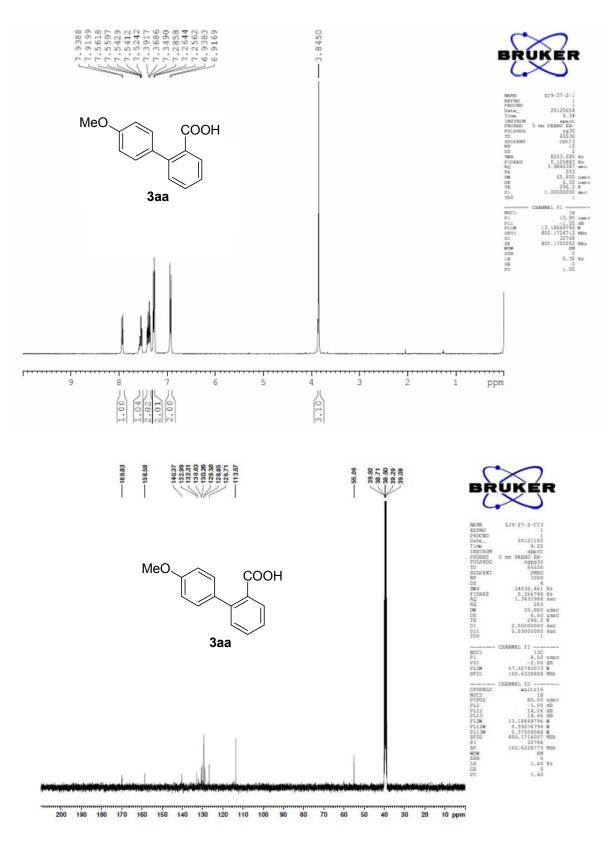
Furan-2-carboxylic acid was lithiated at C5 using LDA according to the literature^[28] The product was isolated as a white solid in 88% yield (888 mg), m.p. = 184.6–185.2 °C (lit. 185–186 °C); R_f = 0.42 (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate/acetic acid = 5:1:0.01). IR (cm⁻¹, KBr): 3445, 3024, 1664, 1485, 1165, 806, 758; ¹H NMR (DMSO-d₆, 400 MHz) (ppm) 13.07 (br s, 1H), 7.70 (d, *J* = 6.4 Hz, 2H), 7.31–7.28 (m, 3H), 7.07 (d, *J* = 2.8 Hz, 1H), 2.34 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (DMSO-d₆, 100 MHz) (ppm) 159.8, 157.0, 144.2, 139.1, 130.1, 127.0, 124.8, 120.4, 107.7, 21.4. Data was consistent with that reported in the literature.^[29]

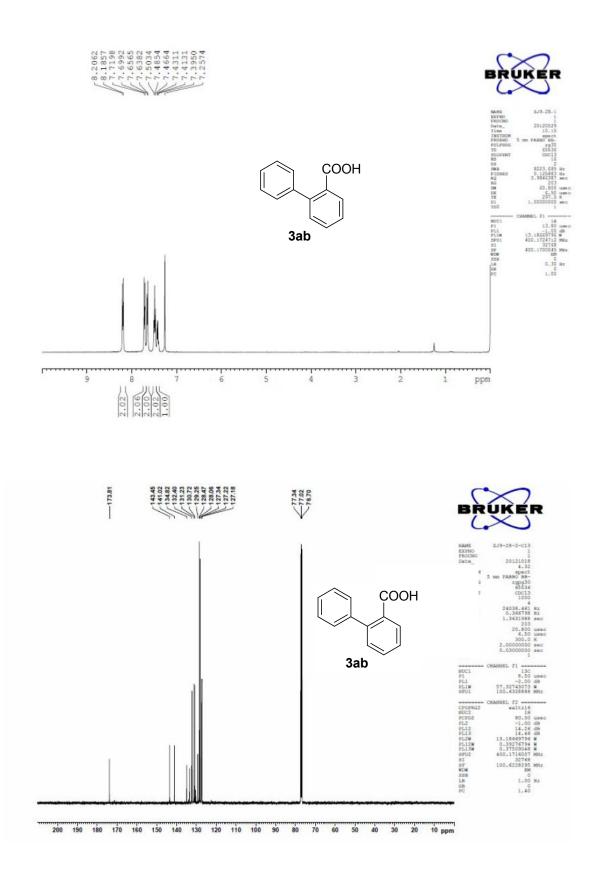
Reference

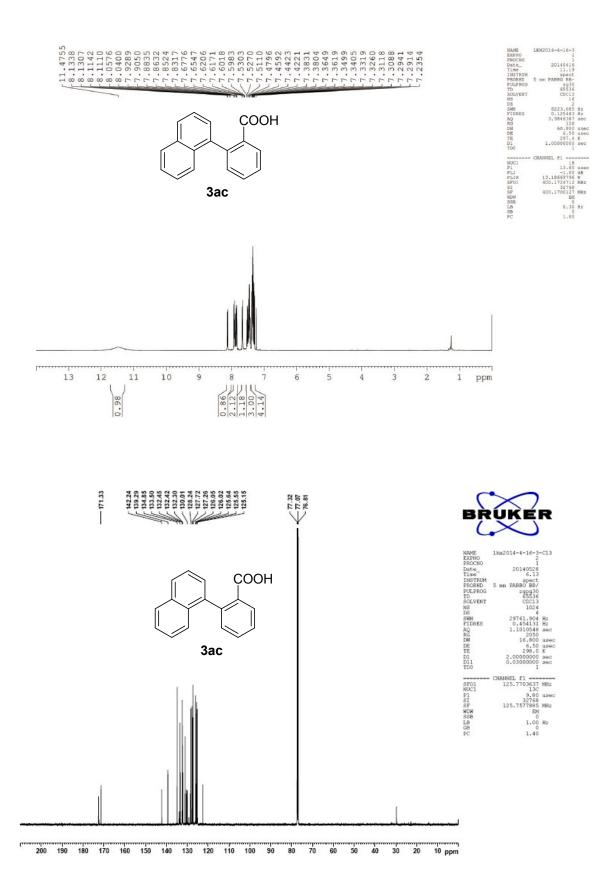
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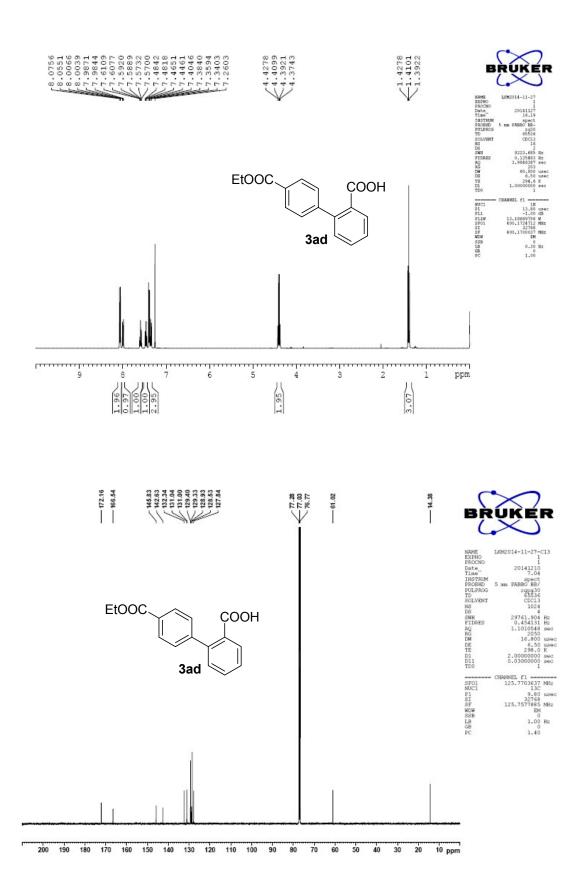
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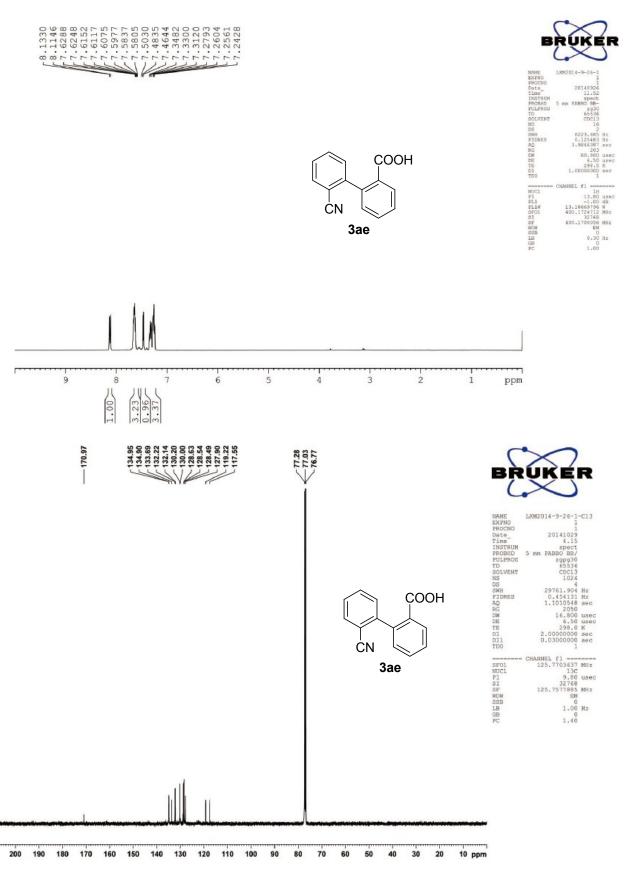
V. Copies of ¹H NMR and ¹³C NMR spectra



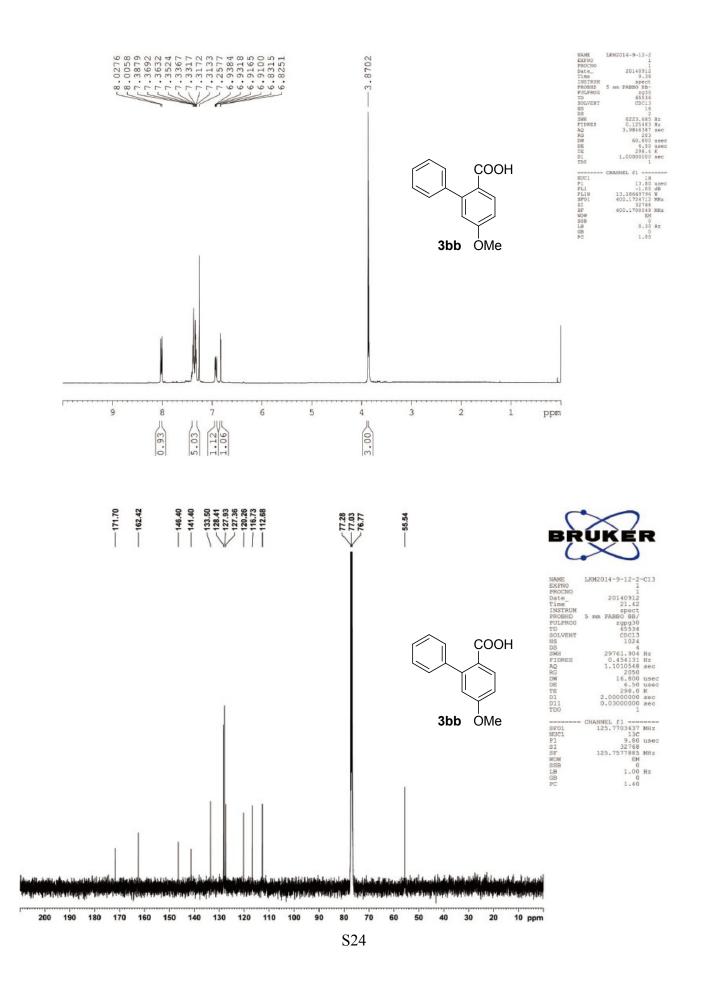


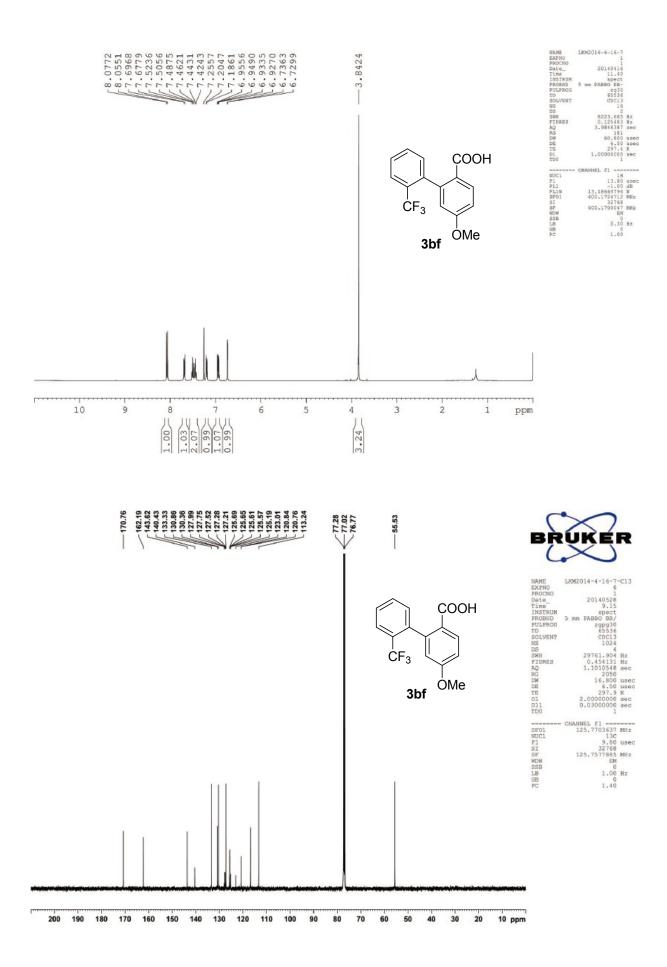


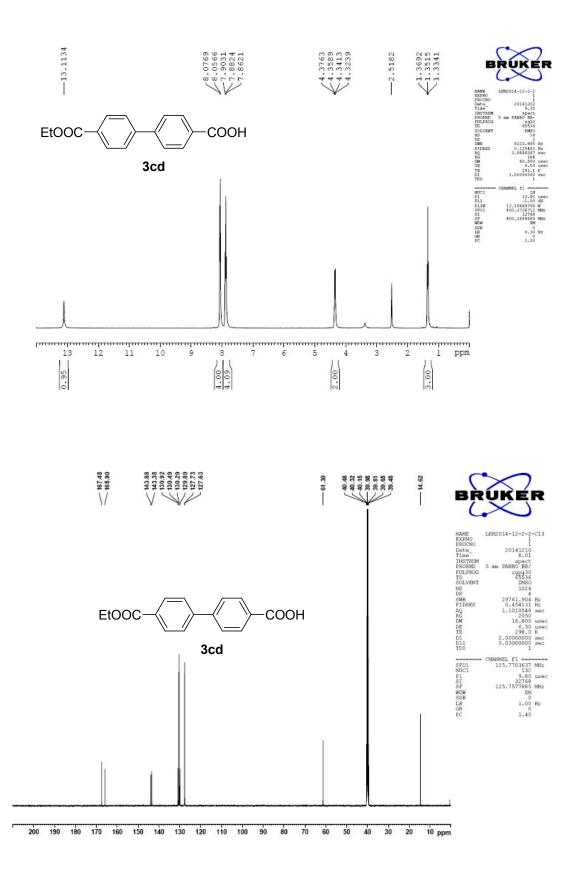


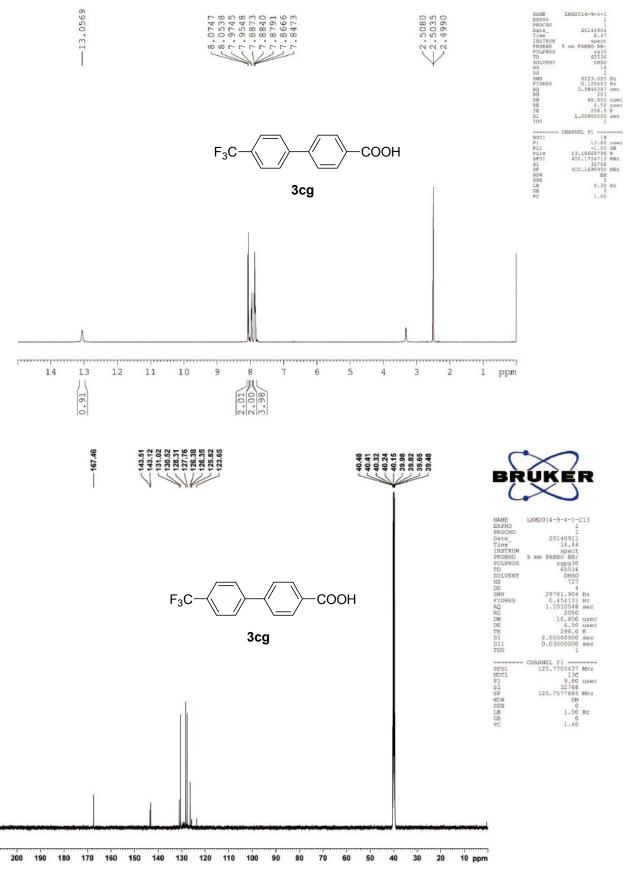


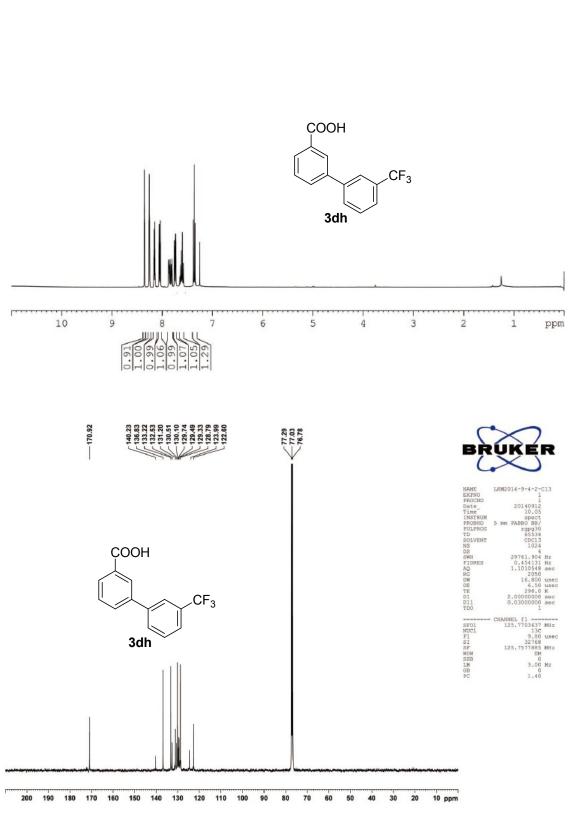
S23



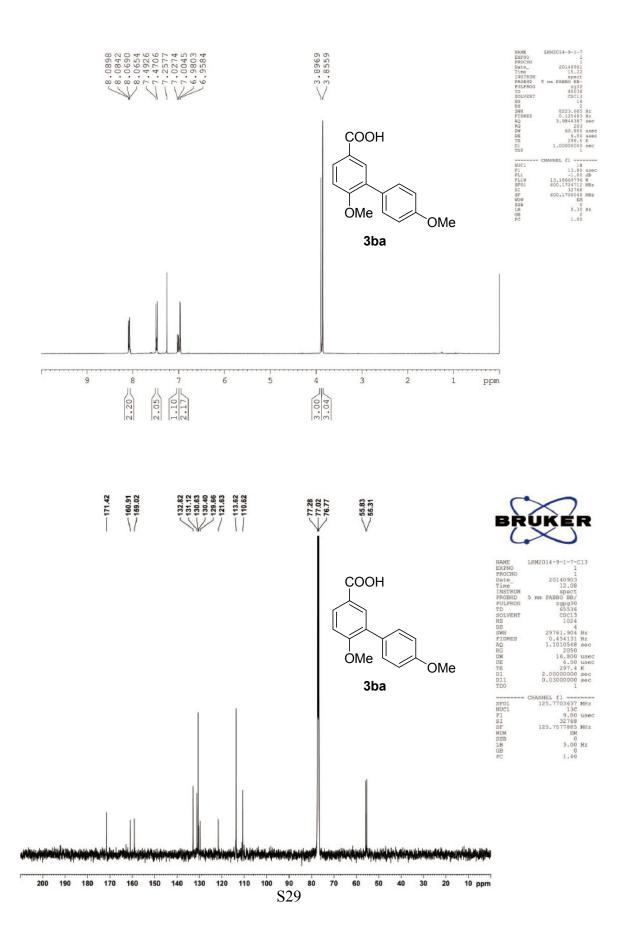


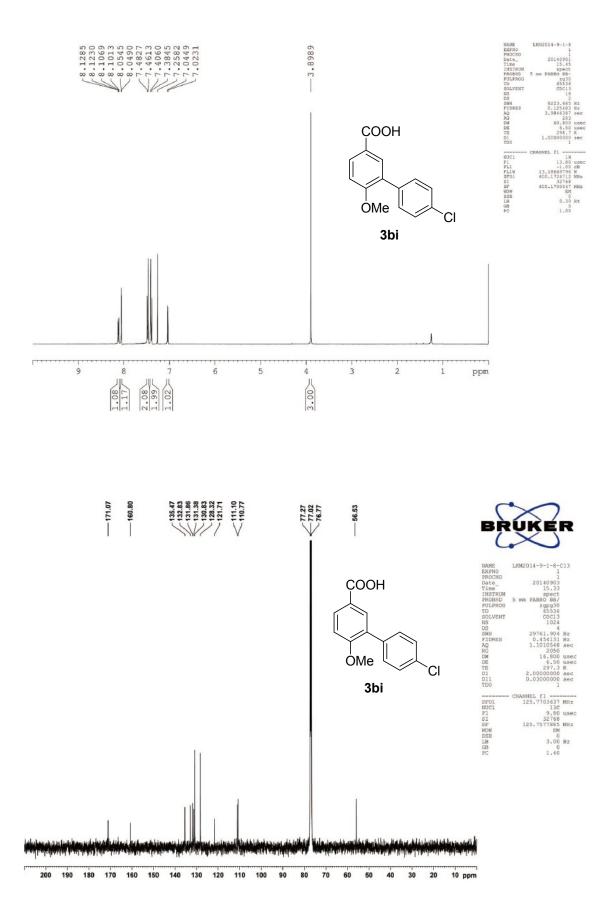


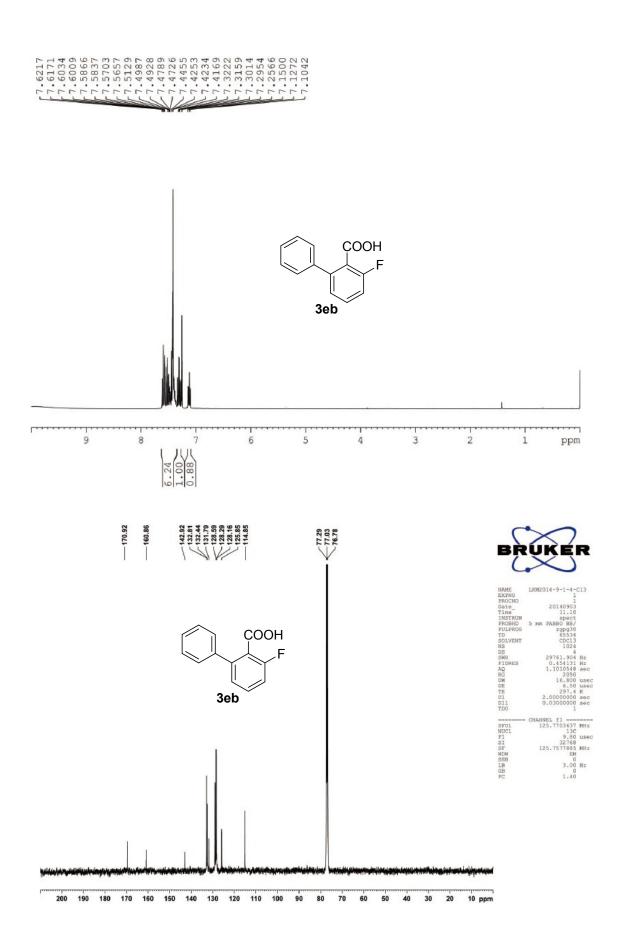


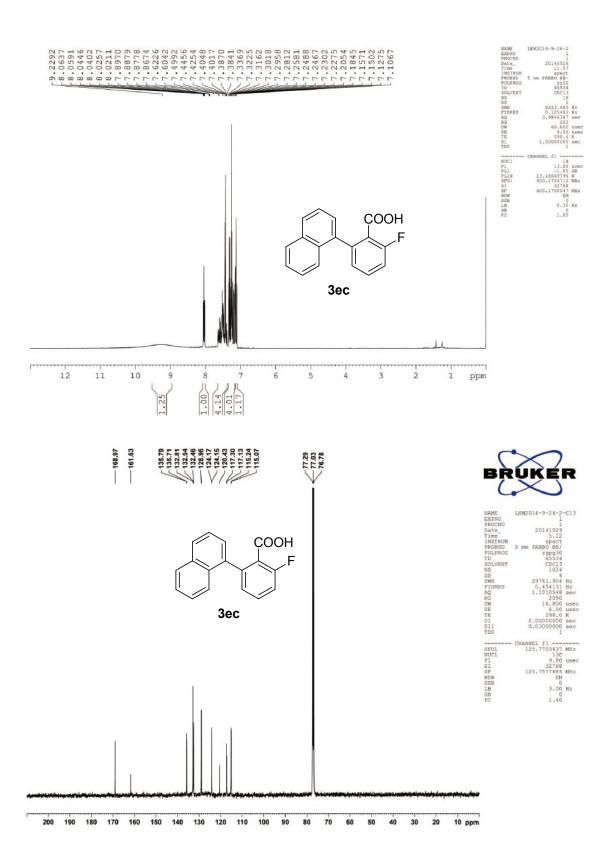


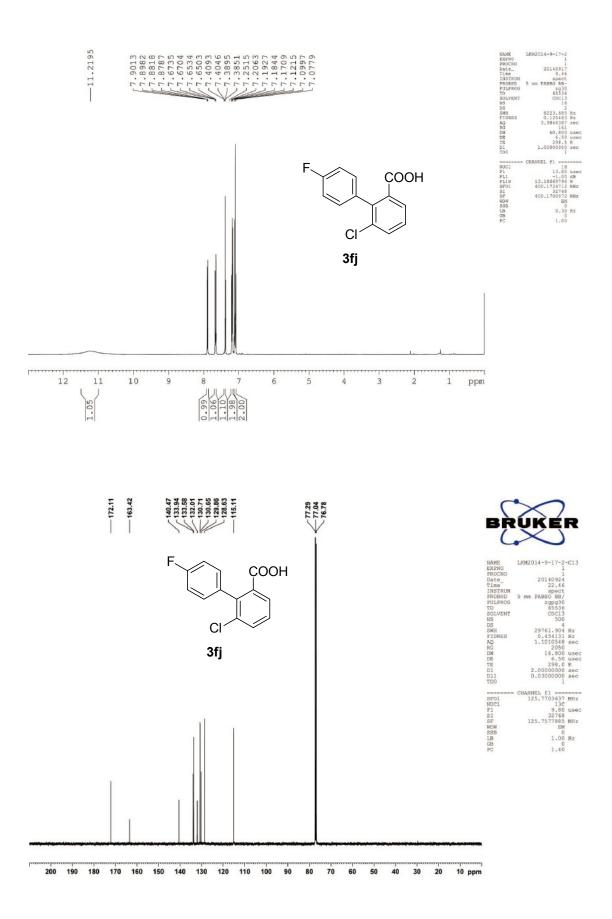
S28

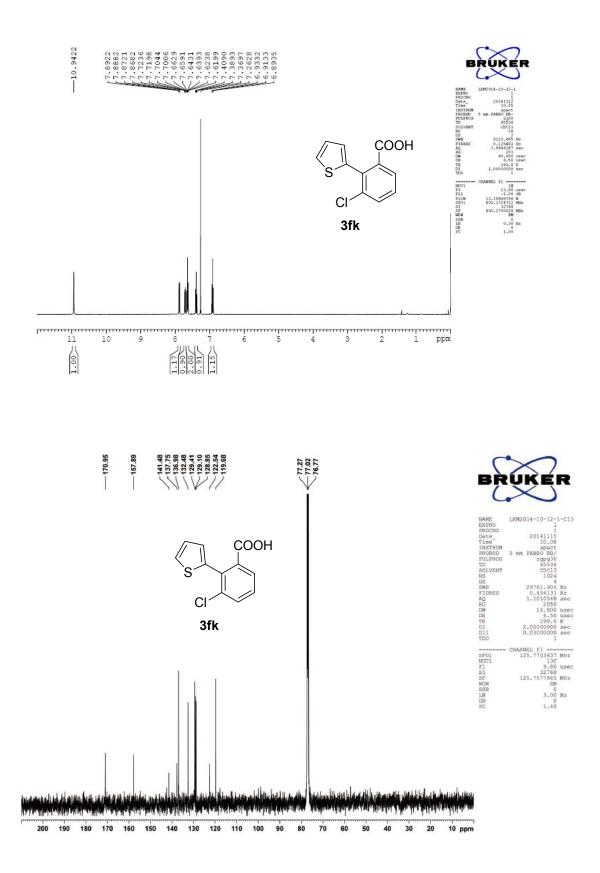


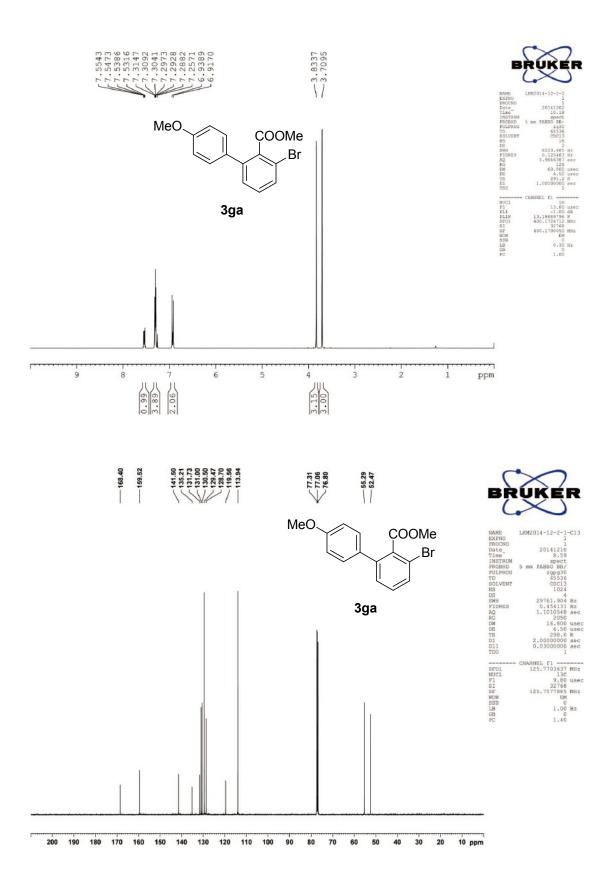


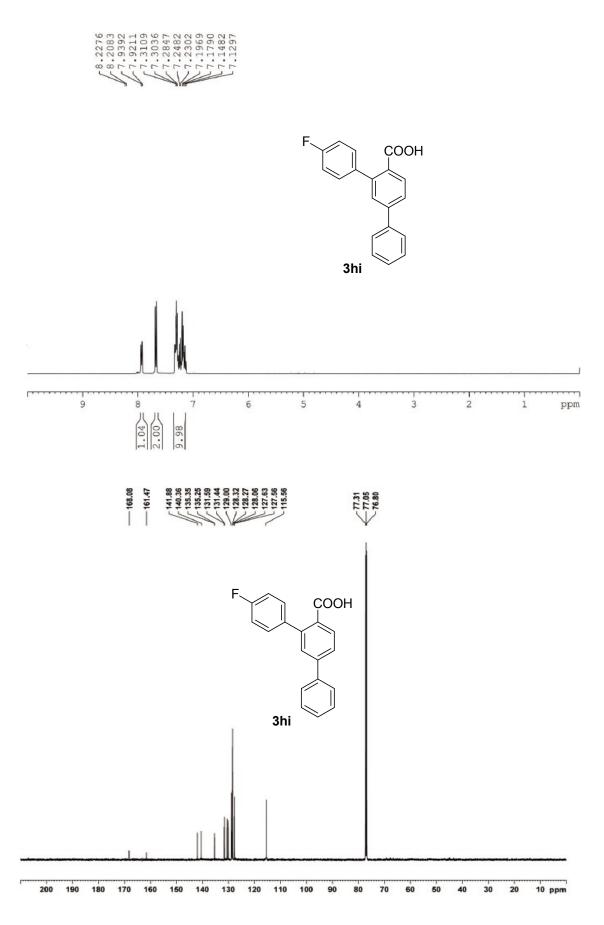


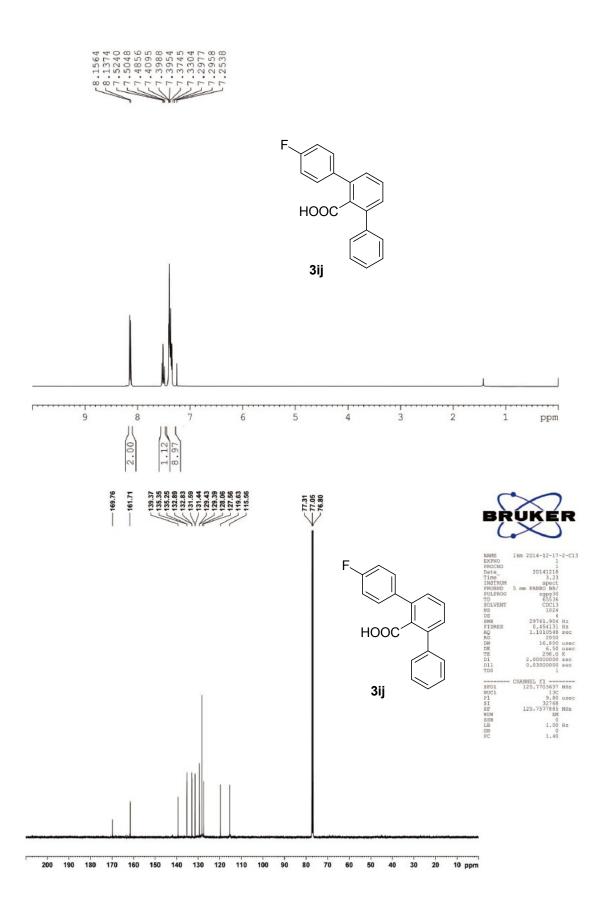


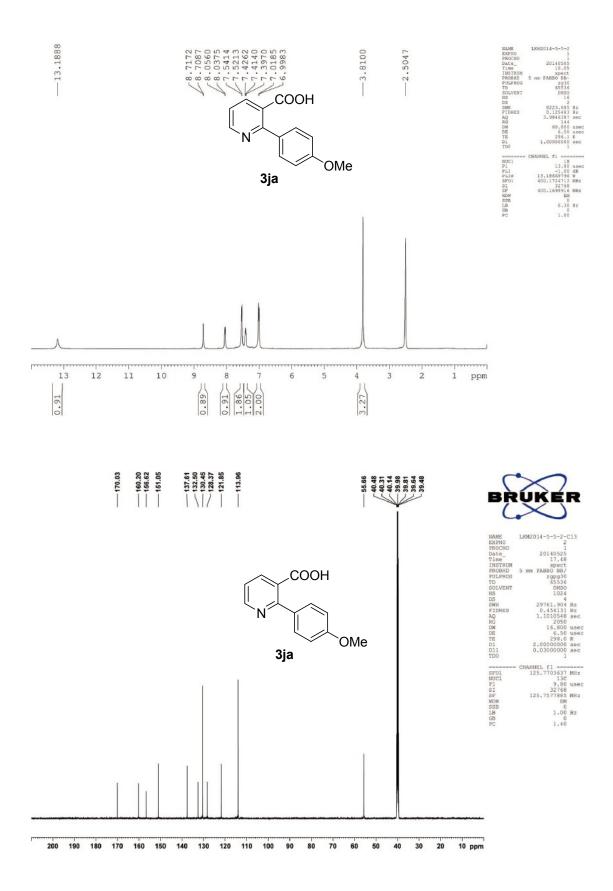


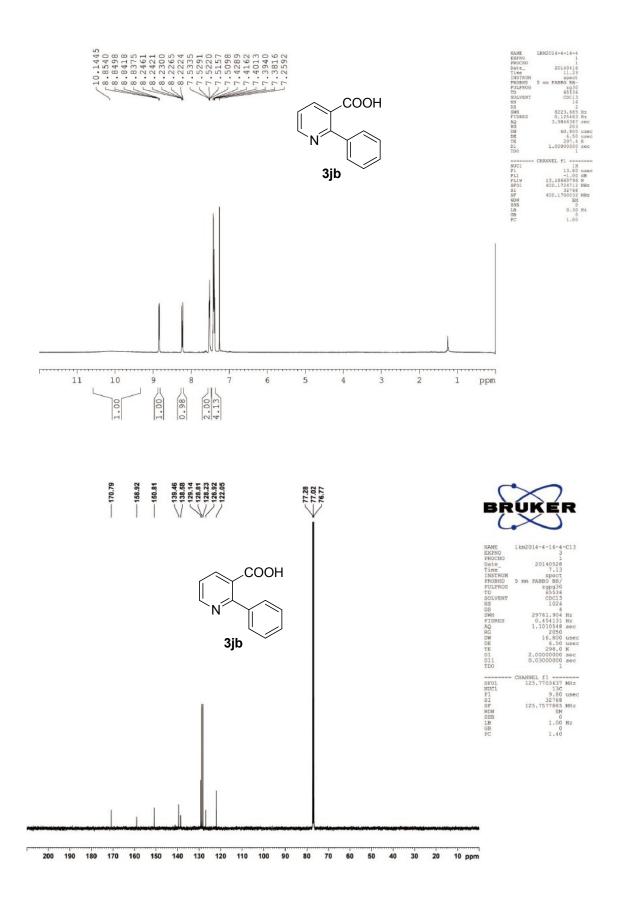


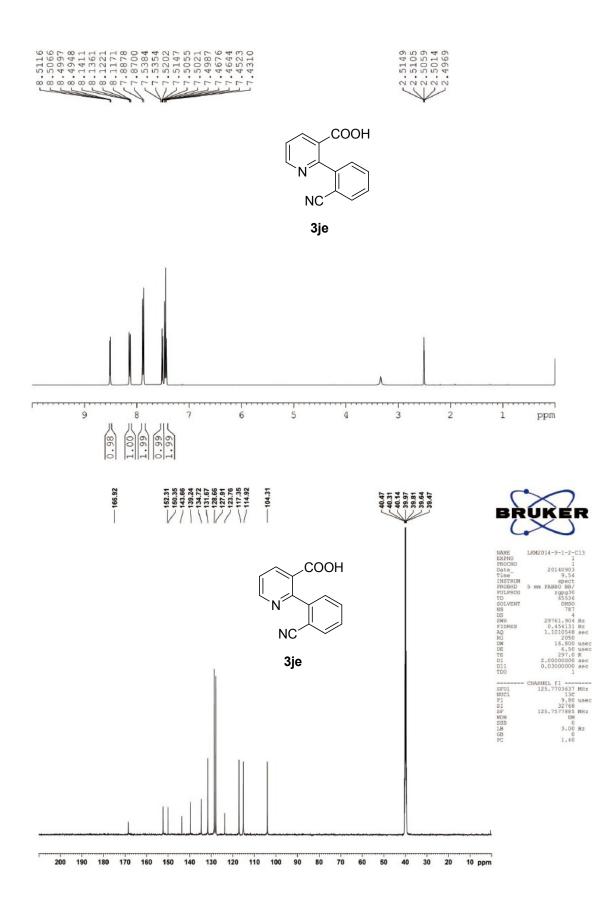


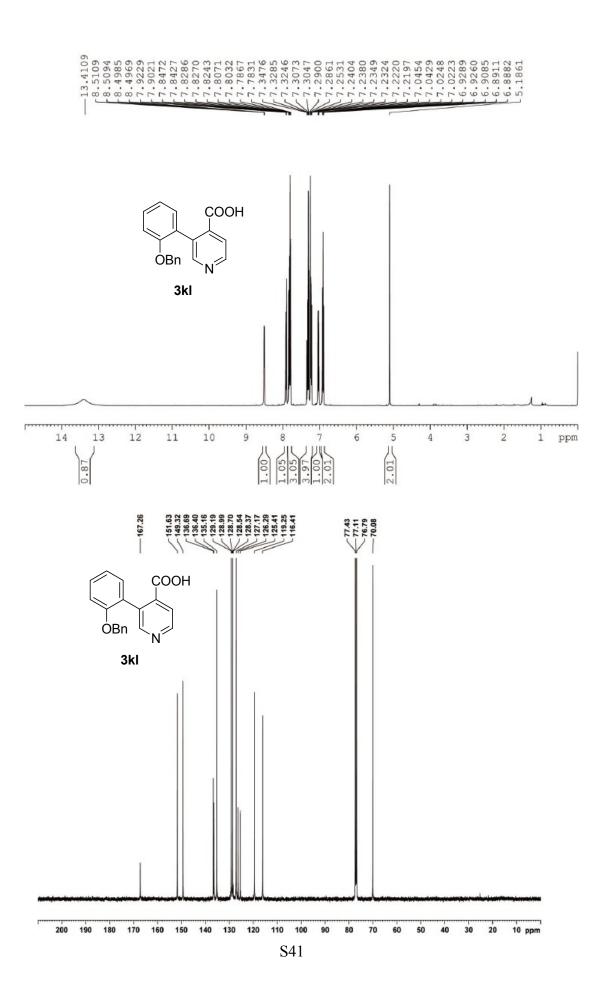


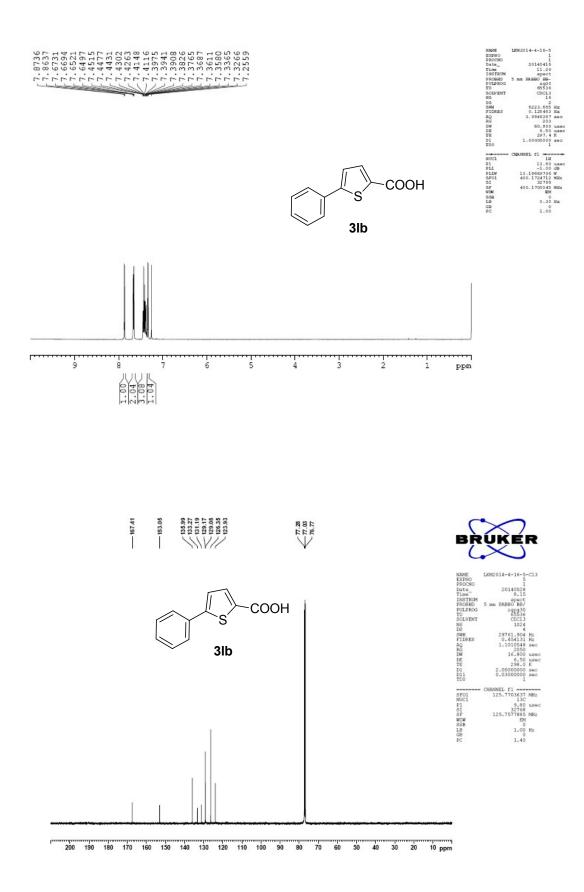


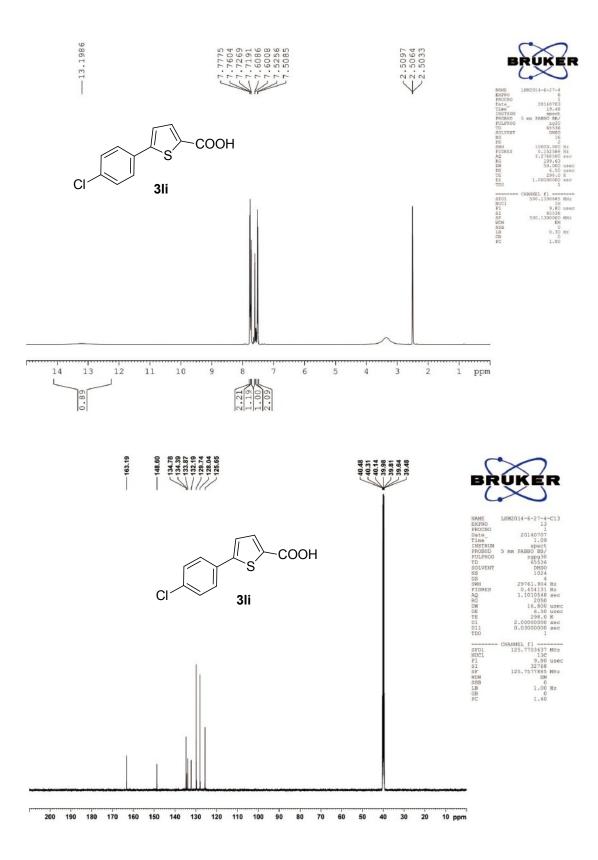


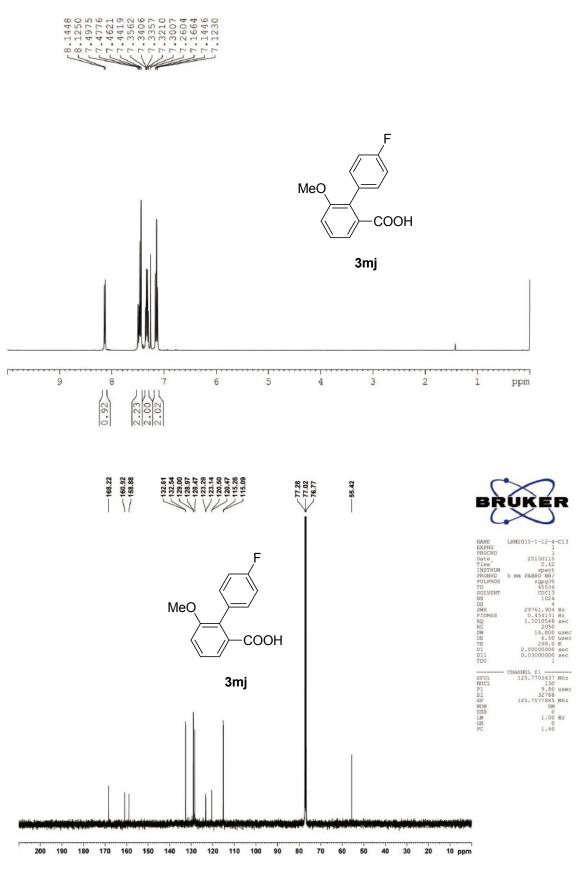




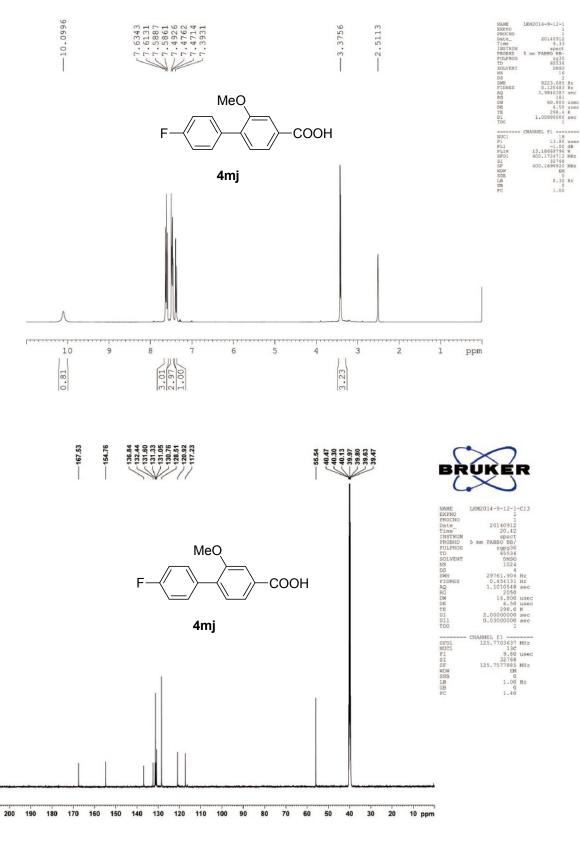


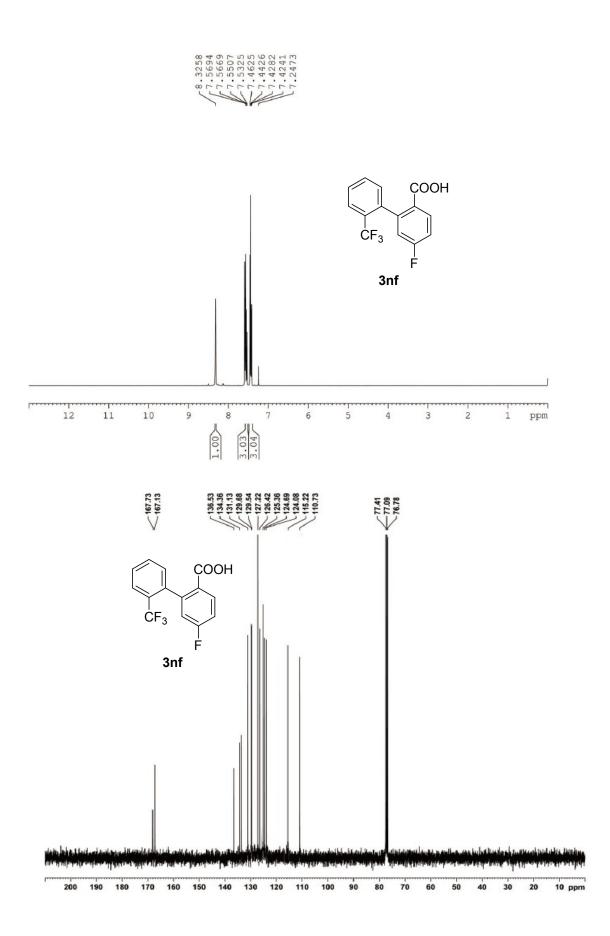


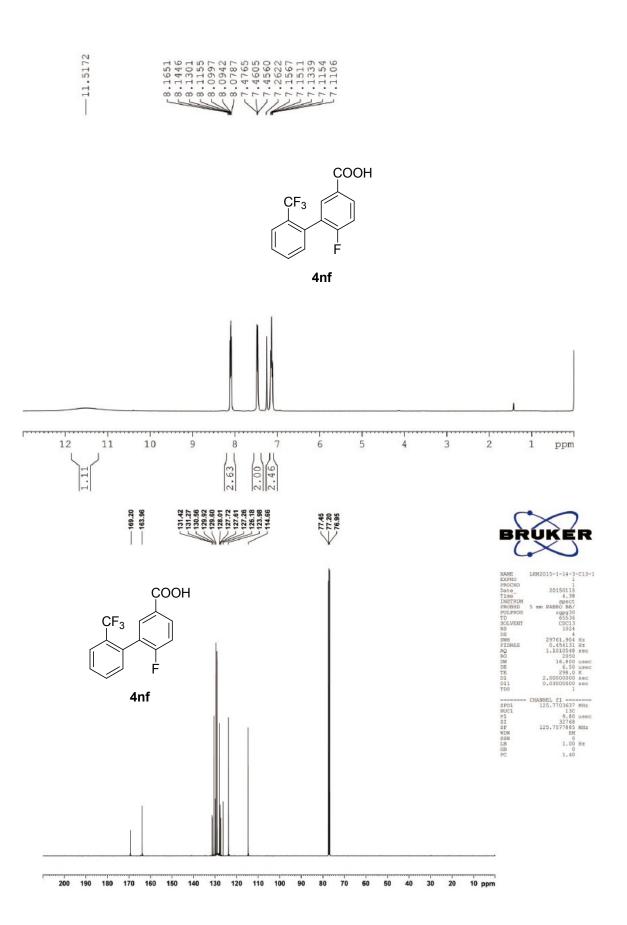


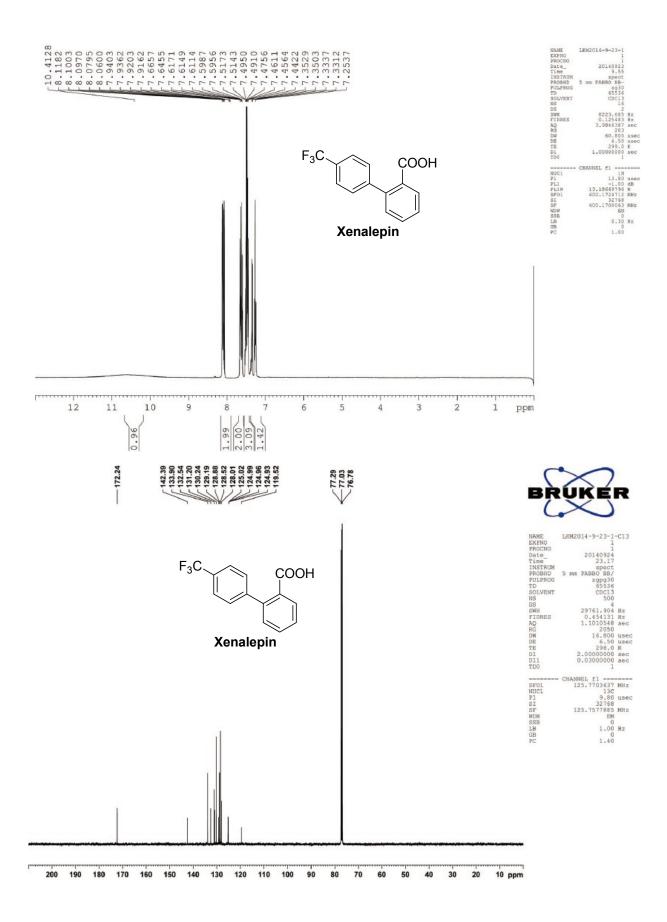


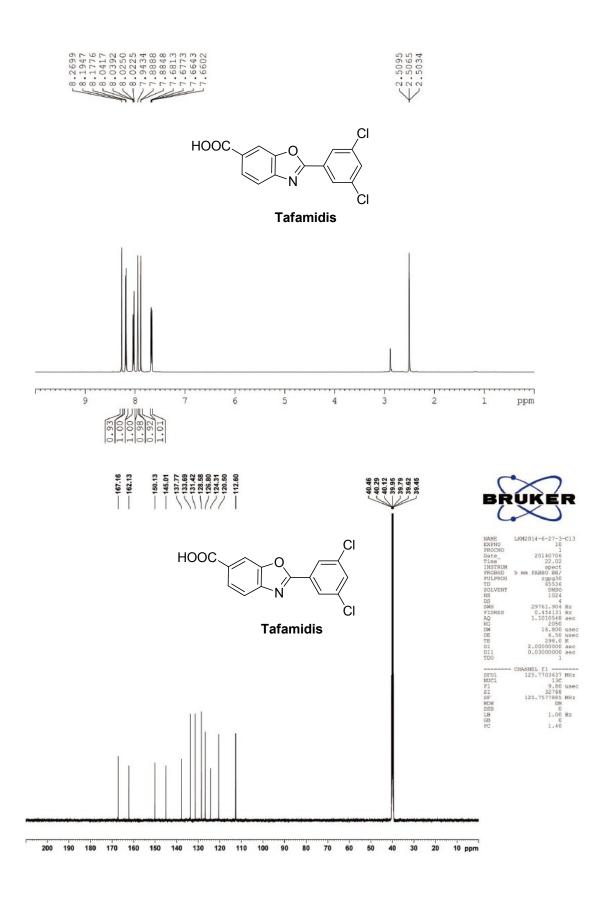
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