## Supplementary Information

# Metal-free radical C-H methylation of pyrimidinones and pyridinones with dicumyl peroxide

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#### 1. General information

All reactions were performed in air.  $^{1}$ H NMR (400 MHz or 300 MHz) and  $^{13}$ C NMR (75 MHz or 101 MHz) spectra were determined on a Varian-Inova 300 MHz or 400 MHz spectrometer with CDCl<sub>3</sub> or DMSO- $d_6$  as solvent and tetramethylsilane (TMS) as internal standard. Chemical shifts were reported in parts per million (ppm) from internal TMS ( $\delta$ ), all coupling constants (J values) were reported in Hertz (Hz). High-resolution mass spectra were recorded on a TOF machine (CI and ESI). Column chromatography was performed with 300-400 mesh silica gel using flash column techniques. All of the reagents were obtained from commercial sources and used without further purification unless otherwise noted.

## 2. Experimental procedures

General procedure for the preparation of 5-methylpyrimidin-4-ones (3) and 3-methylpyridin-2-ones (5). To 1 mmol of pyrimidin-4-ones (1) or pyridin-2-ones (4) in 2 mL of acetic acid was added dicumyl peroxide (DCP, 2) (0.81 g, 3 mmol). The mixture was stirred at 120 °C in air for 5 h. After the completion of the reaction (monitored by TLC), water (10 mL) was added, followed by extraction with ethyl acetate (10 mL  $\times$  3). The combined organic fractions were washed with aqueous saturated NaHCO<sub>3</sub> solution (15 mL  $\times$  3) and water (15 mL  $\times$  2), dried over anhydrous Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>, and concentrated under vacuum to give the crude product, which was purified by flash column chromatography (silica gel, petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 10:1) to give the corresponding products 3 or 5.

Typical procedure for the preparation of 2,6-diphenyl-5-methylpyrimidinone (3a). To a solution of 2,6-diphenylpyrimidin-4-one (1a) (0.25 g, 1 mmol) in acetic acid (2 mL), dicumyl peroxide (DCP, 2) (0.81 g, 3 mmol) was added. The mixture was stirred at 120 °C in air for 5 hours, after the completion of the reaction, water (10 mL) was added, extracted with ethyl acetate (10 mL  $\times$  3). The combined organic fractions were washed with aqueous saturated NaHCO<sub>3</sub> solution (15 mL  $\times$  3) and water (15 mL  $\times$  2), dried over anhydrous Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>, and concentrated

under vacuum to give the crude product, which was purified by flash column chromatography (silica gel, petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 10:1) to give 2,6-diphenyl-5-methyl pyrimidinone (3a) (191 mg, 73% yield).

## Procedure for scale-up preparation of 2,6-diphenyl-5-methylpyrimidinone (3a)

#### Procedure for 1 gram-scale preparation of 3a

To 2,6-diphenylpyrimidin-4-one (1a) (1.2 g, 5 mmol) in acetic acid (10 mL) was added DCP (2) (4.05 g, 15 mmol). The mixture was stirred at 120 °C in air for 5 hours. After the completion of the reaction (monitored by TLC), water (30 mL) was added, followed by extraction with ethyl acetate (20 mL  $\times$  3). The combined organic fractions were washed with aqueous saturated NaHCO<sub>3</sub> solution (30 mL  $\times$  3) and water (30 mL  $\times$  2), dried over anhydrous Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>, and concentrated under vacuum to give the crude product, which was purified by flash column chromatography (silica gel, petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 10:1) to give 2,6-diphenyl-5-methyl pyrimidinone (3a) (0.87 g, 66% yield).

#### Procedure for 10 gram-scale preparation of 3a

To 2,6-diphenylpyrimidin-4-one (1a) (10.0 g, 40 mmol) in acetic acid (80 mL) was added DCP (2) (33.2 g, 123 mmol) in portions. The mixture was stirred at 120 °C under air. After the completion of reaction (monitored by TLC), acetic acid and acetophenone by-product were recovered by distillation under reduced pressure leaving behind a residue. To the residue was added water (50 mL), followed by extraction with ethyl acetate (25 mL × 4). The combined organic fractions were washed with aqueous saturated NaHCO<sub>3</sub> solution (50 mL × 2) and water (60 mL), dried over anhydrous Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>, and concentrated under vacuum to give the crude product, which was recrystallized from ethyl acetate to afford the pure compound 3a (7.5 g, 71% yield).

### Procedure for 50 gram-scale preparation of 3a

To 2,6-diphenylpyrimidin-4-one (1a) (50.9 g, 205 mmol) in acetic acid (400 mL) was added DCP (2) (166.1 g, 615 mmol) in batches. The mixture was stirred at 120 °C under air. After the completion of reaction (monitored by TLC), acetic acid (390 mL) and acetophenone by-product (130 mL, 133.9 g, 1.12 mol) were recovered by distillation under reduced pressure leaving behind a residue. To the residue was added water (200 mL), followed by extraction with ethyl acetate (100 mL × 4). The combined organic fractions were washed with aqueous saturated NaHCO<sub>3</sub> solution (200 mL × 2) and water (200 mL), dried over anhydrous Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>, and concentrated under vacuum to give the crude product, which was recrystallized from ethyl acetate to afford the pure compound 3a (37.7 g, 70% yield).

#### 3. NMR and MS spectral data

5-Methyl-2,6-diphenylpyrimidin-4(3H)-one (3a)

Colorless solid, mp 258–260 °C, 73% yield (191 mg). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO- $d_6$ ):  $\delta$  12.85 (s, 1H), 8.17 (d, J = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 7.68 (d, J = 6.6 Hz, 2H), 7.53 (dd, J = 14.3, 6.8 Hz, 6H), 2.10 (s, 3H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  161.15, 152.97, 138.68, 132.26, 131.62, 129.11, 129.02, 128.86, 128.15, 127.45, 119.09, 12.65. HRMS (ESI-TOF) m/z: (M+H)+ Calcd for C<sub>17</sub>H<sub>15</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O 263.1184, found 263.1194.

## 3,5-Dimethyl-2,6-diphenylpyrimidin-4(3H)-one (3a')

Colorless solid, mp 128–130 °C, 87% yield (240 mg).  $^{1}$ H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  7.59 – 7.51 (m, 4H), 7.50 – 7.45 (m, 3H), 7.44 – 7.36 (m, 3H), 3.50 (s, 3H), 2.22 (s, 3H).  $^{13}$ C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  163.78, 157.60, 156.37, 137.99, 134.58, 129.61, 128.51, 128.31, 128.23, 127.83, 127.69, 118.29, 34.14, 13.09. HRMS (ESI-TOF) m/z: (M+H)+ Calcd for C<sub>18</sub>H<sub>17</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O 277.1341, found 277.1330.

## 5-Methyl-2-phenyl-6-(p-tolyl)pyrimidin-4(3H)-one (3b)

Colorless solid, mp 238–239 °C, 96% yield (265 mg). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO- $d_6$ ):  $\delta$  12.69 (s, 1H), 8.17 (d, J = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 7.64 – 7.46 (m, 3H), 7.34 (d, J = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 7.28 – 7.20 (m, 1H), 7.09 – 6.98 (m, 1H), 2.41 (s, 3H), 2.10 (s, 3H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  165.76, 160.65, 152.48, 138.58, 135.43, 131.90, 131.03, 128.64, 128.35, 128.29, 127.10, 118.20, 20.92, 12.36. HRMS (ESI-TOF) m/z: (M+H)<sup>+</sup> Calcd for C<sub>18</sub>H<sub>17</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O 277.1341, found 277.1350.

## 5-Methyl-2-phenyl-6-(o-tolyl)pyrimidin-4(3H)-one (3c)

Colorless solid, mp 197–199 °C, 82% yield (226 mg).  $^{1}$ H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  13.11 (s, 1H), 8.30 – 8.10 (m, 2H), 7.42 (d, J = 6.9 Hz, 3H), 7.28 – 6.15 (m, 4H), 2.20 (s, 3H), 1.92 (s, 3H).  $^{13}$ C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  165.45, 162.46, 152.78, 137.93, 134.97, 131.80, 131.11, 129.98, 128.33, 128.09, 127.77, 127.18, 125.28, 119.73, 19.12, 11.62. HRMS (ESI-TOF) m/z: (M+H) $^{+}$  Calcd for  $C_{18}H_{17}N_2O$  277.1341, found 277.1354.

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#### 5-Methyl-2-phenyl-6-(m-tolyl)pyrimidin-4(3H)-one (3d)

Colorless solid, mp 194–196 °C, 87% yield (226 mg). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  13.21 (s, 1H), 8.35 (dd, J = 7.3, 2.0 Hz, 2H), 7.71 – 7.43 (m, 5H), 7.38 (t, J = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.27 (d, J = 7.4 Hz, 1H), 2.46 (s, 3H), 2.26 (s, 3H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  165.81, 161.02, 152.62, 138.21, 137.40, 131.86, 131.08, 129.28, 129.17, 128.32, 127.54, 127.16, 125.72, 118.48, 21.07, 12.32. HRMS (ESI-TOF) m/z: (M+H)<sup>+</sup> Calcd for C<sub>18</sub>H<sub>17</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O 277.1341, found 277.1340.

#### 6-(3-Methoxyphenyl)-5-methyl-2-phenylpyrimidin-4(3H)-one (3e)

Colorless solid, mp 227–229 °C, 90% yield (263 mg).  $^{1}$ H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO- $d_6$ ):  $\delta$  12.74 (s, 1H), 8.44 – 7.96 (m, 2H), 7.61 – 7.51 (m, 3H), 7.44 (t, J = 7.9 Hz, 1H), 7.27 – 7.16 (m, 2H), 7.07 (ddd, J = 8.3, 2.6, 0.8 Hz, 1H), 3.84 (s, 3H), 2.09 (s, 3H).  $^{13}$ C NMR (101 MHz, DMSO- $d_6$ ):  $\delta$  158.92, 139.93, 132.56, 131.29, 129.16, 128.58, 127.54, 121.14, 118.32, 114.42, 114.24, 55.17, 12.64. HRMS (ESI-TOF) m/z: (M+H)<sup>+</sup> Calcd for C<sub>18</sub>H<sub>17</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub> 293.1290, found 293.1293.

## 6-(2-Methoxyphenyl)-2-phenylpyrimidin-4(3H)-one (3f)

Colorless solid, mp 183–184 °C, 66% yield (193 mg). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO- $d_6$ ):  $\delta$  12.73 (s, 1H), 8.11 (d, J = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 7.62 – 7.42 (m, 4H), 7.35 (dd, J = 7.4, 1.6 Hz, 1H), 7.17 (d, J = 8.3 Hz, 1H), 7.09 (t, J = 7.4 Hz, 1H), 3.81 (s, 2H), 1.82 (s, 2H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, DMSO- $d_6$ ):  $\delta$  156.30, 131.68, 130.54, 130.19, 129.61, 129.03, 128.19, 127.98, 120.83, 111.86, 55.86, 12.67. HRMS (ESI-TOF) m/z: (M+H)<sup>+</sup> Calcd for C<sub>18</sub>H<sub>17</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub> 293.1290, found 293.1291.

## 6-(4-Methoxyphenyl)-5-methyl-2-phenylpyrimidin-4(3H)-one (3g)

Colorless solid, mp 220–221 °C, 74% yield (216 mg). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  12.91 (s, 1H), 8.31 (dd, J = 7.5, 2.0 Hz, 2H), 7.73 – 7.64 (m, 2H), 7.58 – 7.49 (m, 3H), 7.04 – 6.97 (m, 2H), 3.88 (s, 3H), 2.28 (s, 3H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  166.25, 160.70, 160.28, 152.79, 132.35, 131.53, 131.10, 130.79, 128.80, 127.51, 118.16, 113.52, 55.39, 12.95. HRMS (ESI-TOF) m/z: (M+H)<sup>+</sup> Calcd for C<sub>18</sub>H<sub>17</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub> 293.1290, found 293.1293.

#### 6-(4-Bromophenyl)-5-methyl-2-phenylpyrimidin-4(3H)-one (3h)

Colorless solid, mp 202–203 °C, 75% yield (255 mg). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  13.11 (s, 1H), 8.32 (dd, J = 7.7, 1.7 Hz, 2H), 7.91 – 7.78 (m, 1H), 7.66 – 7.48 (m, 5H), 7.37 (d, J = 7.9 Hz, 1H), 2.24 (s, 3H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  165.52, 159.12, 152.89, 140.20, 131.59, 131.57, 131.53, 131.30, 129.19, 128.40, 127.24, 127.10, 121.88, 119.02, 12.22. HRMS (ESI-TOF) m/z: (M+H)<sup>+</sup> Calcd for C<sub>17</sub>H<sub>14</sub>BrN<sub>2</sub>O 341.0290, found 341.0299.

 $6\hbox{-}(3\hbox{-}Bromophenyl)\hbox{-}5\hbox{-}methyl\hbox{-}2\hbox{-}phenylpyrimidin\hbox{-}4} (3H)\hbox{-}one\ (\textbf{3i})$ 

Colorless solid, mp 205–206 °C, 76% yield (258 mg). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  12.55 (s, 1H), 8.27 (dd, J = 7.8, 1.7 Hz, 2H), 7.83 (t, J = 1.7 Hz, 1H), 7.56 (dt, J = 14.1, 5.5 Hz, 5H), 7.36 (t, J = 7.9 Hz, 1H), 2.24 (s, 3H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  165.71, 159.53, 153.26, 140.64, 132.06, 132.02, 132.01, 131.81, 129.67, 128.93, 127.71, 127.44, 122.36, 119.57, 12.73. HRMS (ESI-TOF) m/z: (M+H)<sup>+</sup> Calcd for C<sub>17</sub>H<sub>14</sub>BrN<sub>2</sub>O 341.0290, found 341.0281.

6-(4-Fluorophenyl)-5-methyl-2-phenylpyrimidin-4(3H)-one (3j)

Colorless solid, mp 258–260 °C, 76% yield (213 mg). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  12.93 (s, 1H), 8.30 (dd, J = 7.7, 1.8 Hz, 2H), 7.73 – 7.65 (m, 2H), 7.54 (t, J = 5.8 Hz, 3H), 7.18 (t, J = 8.7 Hz, 2H), 2.26 (s, 3H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  165.55, 163.90, 161.42, 159.60, 152.61, 134.20, 131.68, 131.23, 130.67 (d, J = 8 Hz), 128.40, 127.00, 118.45, 114.70 (d, J = 21 Hz), 12.34. HRMS (ESI-TOF) m/z: (M+H)<sup>+</sup> Calcd for C<sub>17</sub>H<sub>14</sub>FN<sub>2</sub>O 281.1090, found 281.1099.

 $6\hbox{-}(4\hbox{-}Chlorophenyl)\hbox{-}5\hbox{-}methyl\hbox{-}2\hbox{-}phenylpyrimidin\hbox{-}4(3H)\hbox{-}one\ (\emph{3k})$ 

Colorless solid, mp 264–267 °C, 75% yield (222 mg).  $^{1}$ H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  12.66 (s, 1H), 8.26 (dd, J = 7.9, 1.6 Hz, 2H), 7.62 (d, J = 8.5 Hz, 2H), 7.52 (dt, J = 8.8, 4.4 Hz, 3H), 7.46 (d, J = 8.5 Hz, 2H), 2.24 (s, 3H).  $^{13}$ C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  165.83, 159.93, 153.12, 137.03, 135.14, 132.06, 131.78, 130.54, 128.92, 128.42, 127.39, 119.20, 12.78. HRMS (ESI-TOF) m/z: (M+H) $^{+}$  Calcd for C<sub>17</sub>H<sub>14</sub>ClN<sub>2</sub>O 297.0795, found 297.0794.

5,6-Dimethyl-2-phenylpyrimidin-4(3H)-one (31)

Colorless solid, mp 167–168 °C, 65% yield (130 mg).  $^{1}$ H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  13.28 (s, 1H), 8.30 – 8.20 (m, 2H), 7.50 (dd, J = 5.3, 1.8 Hz, 3H), 2.40 (s, 3H), 2.12 (s, 3H).  $^{13}$ C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  164.83, 161.13, 152.52, 131.87, 130.91, 128.28, 127.08, 118.12, 21.69, 10.40. HRMS (ESI-TOF) m/z: (M+H) $^{+}$  Calcd for C<sub>12</sub>H<sub>13</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O 201.1028, found 201.1035.

#### 2,5-Dimethyl-6-phenylpyrimidin-4(3H)-one (3m)

Colorless solid, mp 165–167 °C, 63% yield (126 mg).  $^{1}$ H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  13.19 (s, 1H), 7.60 – 7.40 (m, 5H), 2.54 (d, J = 3.5 Hz, 3H), 2.14 (d, J = 3.5 Hz, 3H).  $^{13}$ C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  166.32, 161.61, 155.03, 138.50, 128.91, 128.71, 128.27, 117.94, 21.63, 12.46. HRMS (ESI-TOF) m/z: (M+H)<sup>+</sup> Calcd for C<sub>12</sub>H<sub>13</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O 201.1028, found 201.1034.

#### 3-Methyl-4,6-diphenylpyridin-2(1H)-one (5a)

Colorless solid, mp 220–222 °C, 74% yield (193 mg).  $^{1}$ H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  12.38 (s, 1H), 7.73 (m, 2H), 7.45 – 7.28 (m, 8H), 6.42 (s, 1H), 2.04 (s, 3H).  $^{13}$ C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  165.05, 151.10, 141.95, 139.34, 133.05, 129.16, 128.54, 127.95, 127.80, 127.57, 126.02, 123.87, 106.93, 13.11. HRMS (ESI-TOF) m/z: (M+H) $^{+}$  Calcd for C<sub>18</sub>H<sub>16</sub>NO 262.1232, found 262.1236.

#### 3-Methyl-6-phenyl-4-(p-tolyl)pyridin-2(1H)-one (5b)

Colorless solid, mp 241–244 °C, 67% yield (179 mg). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO- $d_6$ ):  $\delta$  11.40 (s, 1H), 7.52 – 7.30 (m, 9H), 6.24 (s, 1H), 2.47 (s, 3H), 2.11 (s, 3H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, DMSO- $d_6$ ):  $\delta$  164.33, 150.51, 142.13, 139.20, 135.59, 133.71, 130.41, 128.95, 128.86, 127.89, 127.86, 127.53, 125.62, 123.65, 109.07, 19.72, 13.08. HRMS (ESITOF) m/z: (M+H)<sup>+</sup> Calcd for C<sub>19</sub>H<sub>18</sub>NO 276.1388, found 276.1395.

## 3-Methyl-6-phenyl-4-(o-tolyl)pyridin-2(1H)-one (5c)

Colorless solid, mp 181–182 °C, 55% yield (151 mg).  $^{1}H$  NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  11.40 (s, 1H), 7.61 – 7.26 (m, 9H), 6.24 (s, 1H), 2.47 (s, 3H), 2.11 (s, 3H).  $^{13}C$  NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  164.33, 150.51, 142.13, 139.20, 135.59, 133.71, 130.41, 128.95, 128.86, 127.89, 127.86, 127.53, 125.62, 123.65, 109.07, 19.72, 13.08. HRMS (ESI-TOF) m/z: (M+H)+ Calcd for  $C_{19}H_{18}NO$  276.1388, found 276.1393.

3-Methyl-6-phenyl-4-(m-tolyl)pyridin-2(1H)-one (5d)

Colorless solid, mp 194–196 °C, 51% yield (140 mg).  $^{1}$ H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  11.29 (s, 1H), 7.60 (s, 1H), 7.54 – 7.34 (m, 7H), 7.24 (s, 1H), 6.48 (s, 1H), 2.43 (s, 3H), 2.14 (s, 3H).  $^{13}$ C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  151.44, 142.20, 139.84, 138.96, 133.50, 130.45, 129.00, 128.40, 128.27, 128.02, 126.90, 123.30, 107.07, 21.46, 13.69. HRMS (ESI-TOF) m/z: (M+H) $^{+}$  Calcd for C<sub>19</sub>H<sub>18</sub>NO 276.1388, found 276.1399.

4-(4-Methoxyphenyl)-3-methyl-6-phenylpyridin-2(1H)-one (5e)

Colorless solid, mp 231–233 °C, 79% yield (230 mg). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  12.23 (s, 1H), 7.76 (d, J = 8.8 Hz, 2H), 7.54 – 7.32 (m, 5H), 6.98 (d, J = 8.8 Hz, 2H), 6.43 (s, 1H), 3.84 (s, 3H), 2.12 (s, 3H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  165.51, 160.78, 151.64, 142.32, 139.99, 128.38, 128.27, 127.96, 127.88, 126.04, 123.29, 114.38, 106.46, 55.41, 13.56. HRMS (ESI-TOF) m/z: (M+H)<sup>+</sup> Calcd for C<sub>19</sub>H<sub>18</sub>NO<sub>2</sub> 292.1338, found 292.1346.

4-(3-Methoxyphenyl)-3-methyl-6-phenylpyridin-2(1H)-one (5f)

Colorless solid, mp 213–215 °C, 61% yield (178 mg). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  11.84 (s, 1H), 7.60 – 7.18 (m, 8H), 6.97 (dd, J = 7.9, 1.2 Hz, 1H), 6.49 (s, 1H), 3.90 (s, 3H), 2.12 (s, 3H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  165.31, 160.14, 151.41, 142.20, 139.80, 134.96, 130.08, 128.41, 128.28, 128.04, 124.58, 118.74, 115.77, 111.58, 107.38, 55.52, 13.72. HRMS (ESI-TOF) m/z: (M+H)<sup>+</sup> Calcd for C<sub>19</sub>H<sub>18</sub>NO<sub>2</sub> 292.1338, found 292.1342.

 $\hbox{\it 4-(2-Methoxyphenyl)-3-methyl-6-phenylpyridin-2(1H)-one (\bf 5g)}$ 

Colorless solid, mp 175–177 °C, 61% yield (178 mg).  $^{1}$ H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  10.22 (s, 1H), 7.55 – 7.30 (m, 7H), 7.03 (t, J = 7.5 Hz, 2H), 6.41 (s, 1H), 3.93 (s, 3H), 2.11 (s, 3H).  $^{13}$ C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  163.16, 155.97, 150.72, 139.72, 139.34, 130.73, 129.04, 127.90, 127.80, 127.50, 124.09, 120.99, 120.95, 111.22, 107.73, 55.32, 13.35. HRMS (ESI-TOF) m/z: (M+H) $^{+}$  Calcd for C<sub>19</sub>H<sub>18</sub>NO<sub>2</sub> 292.1338, found 292.1343.

4-(4-Fluorophenyl)-3-methyl-6-phenylpyridin-2(1H)-one (5h)

Colorless solid, mp 233–235 °C, 35% yield (119 mg).  $^{1}$ H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  12.22 (s, 1H), 7.90 – 7.70 (m, 2H), 7.49 – 7.33 (m, 5H), 7.16 (t, J = 8.5 Hz, 2H), 6.45 (s, 1H), 2.12 (s, 3H).  $^{13}$ C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  164.85, 162.37, 151.60, 141.50, 139.69, 129.82, 128.53 (d, J = 9 Hz), 128.45, 128.23, 128.11, 116.07 (d, J = 22 Hz), 107.30, 13.56. HRMS (ESI-TOF) m/z: (M+H)<sup>+</sup> Calcd for C<sub>18</sub>H<sub>15</sub>FNO 280.1138, found 280.1149.

#### 4-(4-Chlorophenyl)-3-methyl-6-phenylpyridin-2(1H)-one (5i)

Colorless solid, mp 252–253 °C, 62% yield (183 mg). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO- $d_6$ ):  $\delta$  11.90 (s, 1H), 7.72 (d, J = 8.5 Hz, 2H), 7.42 (ddd, J = 24.7, 16.7, 7.4 Hz, 7H), 6.41 (s, 1H), 2.06 (s, 3H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  151.54, 141.23, 139.59, 135.77, 132.01, 129.26, 128.47, 128.23, 128.15, 127.76, 124.79, 107.52, 13.63. HRMS (ESI-TOF) m/z: (M+H)<sup>+</sup> Calcd for C<sub>18</sub>H<sub>15</sub>ClNO 296.0842, found 296.0840.

## 4-(4-Bromophenyl)-3-methyl-6-phenylpyridin-2(1H)-one (5j)

Colorless solid, mp 216–217 °C, 61% yield (170 mg). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  12.15 (s, 1H), 7.67 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 7.57 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 7.50 – 7.40 (m, 3H), 7.36 (d, J = 6.8 Hz, 2H), 6.49 (s, 1H), 2.12 (s, 3H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  165.45, 150.58, 142.90, 138.98, 133.74, 132.00, 130.31, 130.16, 129.46, 126.70, 122.64, 107.09, 13.92. HRMS (ESI-TOF) m/z: (M+H)<sup>+</sup> Calcd for C<sub>18</sub>H<sub>15</sub>BrNO 340.0337, found 340.0329.

## 6-(4-Bromophenyl)-3-methyl-4-phenylpyridin-2(1H)-one (5k)

Colorless solid, mp 263–265 °C, 41% yield (139 mg).  $^1$ H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  11.79 (s, 1H), 7.85 – 7.76 (m, 2H), 7.65 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 7.56 – 7.47 (m, 3H), 7.38 – 7.26 (m, 2H), 6.48 (s, 1H), 2.16 (s, 3H).  $^{13}$ C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  164.62, 149.75, 142.07, 138.15, 132.92, 131.17, 129.48, 129.33, 128.64, 125.87, 121.82, 106.27, 13.10. HRMS (ESI-TOF) m/z: (M+H)+ Calcd for C<sub>18</sub>H<sub>15</sub>BrNO 340.0337, found 340.0341.

## $6\hbox{-}(4\hbox{-}Methoxyphenyl)\hbox{-}3\hbox{-}methyl\hbox{-}4\hbox{-}phenylpyridin\hbox{-}2(1H)\hbox{-}one\ (\textbf{5l})$

Colorless solid, mp 223–224 °C, 66% yield (192 mg). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO- $d_6$ ):  $\delta$  11.77 (s, 1H), 7.78 (d, J = 5.9 Hz, 2H), 7.48 (d, J = 15.9 Hz, 5H), 7.04 (d, J = 5.4 Hz, 2H), 6.44 (s, 1H), 3.84 (s, 3H), 1.99 (s, 3H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, DMSO- $d_6$ ):  $\delta$  163.70, 160.19, 149.94, 142.76, 139.49, 128.37, 128.28, 128.02, 127.93, 125.96, 121.70, 114.11, 105.32, 55.28, 13.51. HRMS (ESI-TOF) m/z: (M+H)<sup>+</sup> Calcd for C<sub>19</sub>H<sub>18</sub>NO<sub>2</sub> 292.1338, found 292.1345.

4,6-Bis(4-bromophenyl)-3-methylpyridin-2(1H)-one (5m)

Colorless solid, mp 260–262 °C, 33% yield (138 mg).  $^{1}$ H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO- $d_6$ ):  $\delta$  11.60 (s, 1H), 7.53 – 7.49 (m, 5H), 7.30 – 7.28 (m, 1H), 7.21 – 7.10 (m, 2H), 6.30 (s, 1H), 2.02 (s, 3H).  $^{13}$ C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  164.78, 149.91, 142.23, 138.30, 133.07, 131.32, 129.63, 129.49, 128.79, 126.03, 121.97, 106.42, 13.25. HRMS (ESI-TOF) m/z: (M+H)<sup>+</sup> Calcd for C<sub>18</sub>H<sub>14</sub>Br<sub>2</sub>NO 419.9422, found 419.9427.

6-(4-Bromophenyl)-4-(4-methoxyphenyl)-3-methylpyridin-2(1H)-one (5n)

Colorless solid, mp 251–253 °C, 74% yield (273 mg). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO- $d_6$ ):  $\delta$  11.79 (s, 1H), 7.78 (d, J = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 7.67 (d, J = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 7.41 (d, J = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 7.07 (d, J = 6.8 Hz, 2H), 6.58 (s, 1H), 3.84 (s, 3H), 2.03 (s, 3H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, DMSO- $d_6$ ):  $\delta$  163.61, 159.03, 149.55, 142.26, 133.34, 131.57, 131.31, 129.81, 128.70, 122.65, 122.28, 113.76, 107.33, 55.16, 13.65. HRMS (ESI-TOF) m/z: (M+H)<sup>+</sup> Calcd for C<sub>19</sub>H<sub>17</sub>BrNO<sub>2</sub> 370.0443, found 370.0445.

3,6-Dimethyl-4-phenylpyridin-2(1H)-one (50)

Colorless solid, mp 170–173 °C, 65% yield (129 mg). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO- $d_6$ ):  $\delta$  11.67 (s, 1H), 7.50 – 7.30 (m, 5H), 5.91 (s, 1H), 2.19 (s, 3H), 1.89 (s, 3H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, DMSO- $d_6$ ):  $\delta$  168.35, 154.56, 145.81, 144.32, 133.05, 132.76, 132.52, 125.72, 110.82, 22.93, 18.04. HRMS (ESI-TOF) m/z: (M+H)<sup>+</sup> Calcd for C<sub>13</sub>H<sub>14</sub>NO 200.1075, found 200.1080.

Propyl 6-methyl-2-oxo-1,2-dihydropyridine-4-carboxylate (5p)

Colorless solid, mp 178–179 °C, 51% yield (107 mg). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO- $d_6$ ):  $\delta$  11.88 (s, 1H), 6.14 (s, 1H), 4.23 (t, J = 6.6 Hz, 2H), 2.19 (s, 3H), 2.10 (s, 3H), 1.71 (dt, J = 11.4, 5.7 Hz, 2H), 0.97 (t, J = 7.4 Hz, 3H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, DMSO- $d_6$ ):  $\delta$  166.65, 163.35, 142.40, 139.27, 125.31, 102.17, 66.57, 21.42, 18.21, 12.90, 10.34. HRMS (ESI-TOF) m/z: (M+H)+ Calcd for C<sub>11</sub>H<sub>16</sub>NO<sub>3</sub> 210.1130, found 210.1125.

## 3-Methylquinolin-2(1H)-one (5q)

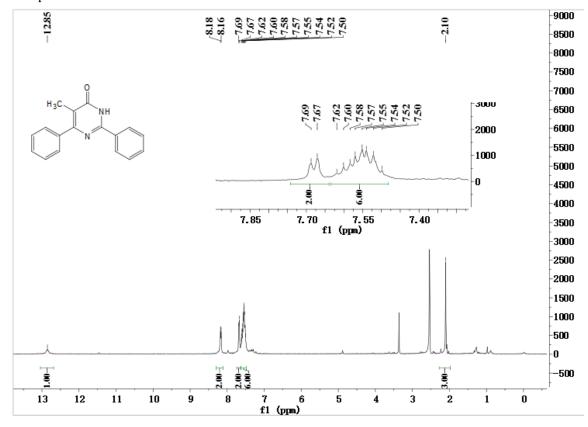
Colorless solid, mp 210–213 °C, 45% yield (72 mg). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  12.10 (s, 1H), 7.65 (s, 1H), 7.52 – 7.39 (m, 3H), 7.22 – 7.15 (m, 1H), 2.31 (d, J = 0.8 Hz, 3H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  164.70, 137.52, 137.49, 130.02, 129.27, 126.83, 122.43, 120.33, 115.68, 16.85. HRMS (ESI-TOF) m/z: (M+H)<sup>+</sup> Calcd for C<sub>10</sub>H<sub>10</sub>NO 160.0762, found 160.0757.

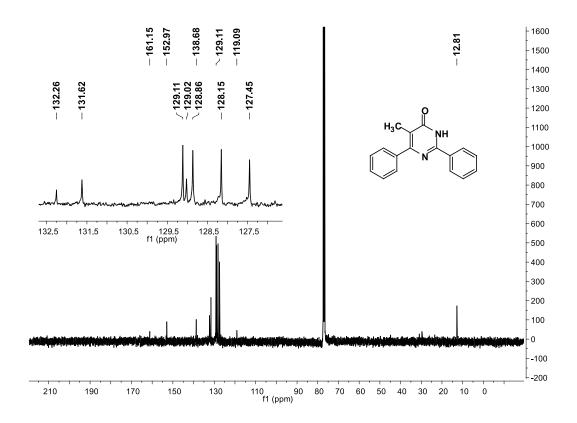
#### Methyl 3-methyl-1H-indole-2-carboxylate (5r)

Colorless solid, mp 146–148 °C, 22% yield (42 mg). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  9.51 (s, 1H), 7.71 (d, J = 8.1 Hz, 1H), 7.43 (dd, J = 15.8, 8.7 Hz, 1H), 7.34 (t, J = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.17 (t, J = 7.4 Hz, 1H), 3.97 (s, 3H), 1.29 (s, 3H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  162.32, 136.62, 127.00, 126.62, 124.95, 122.17, 120.34, 111.56, 108.40, 51.61, 29.27. MS (ESI-TOF) m/z: (M+H)<sup>+</sup> Calcd for C<sub>11</sub>H<sub>12</sub>NO<sub>2</sub> 190.1, found 190.1.

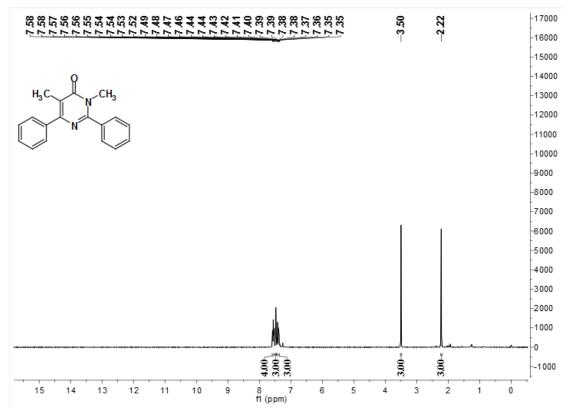
## 4. NMR spectra

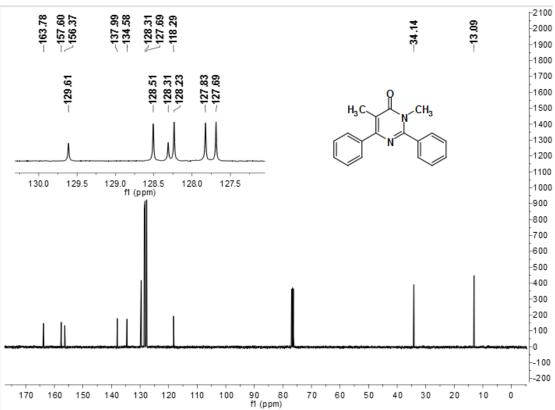
## Compound 3a



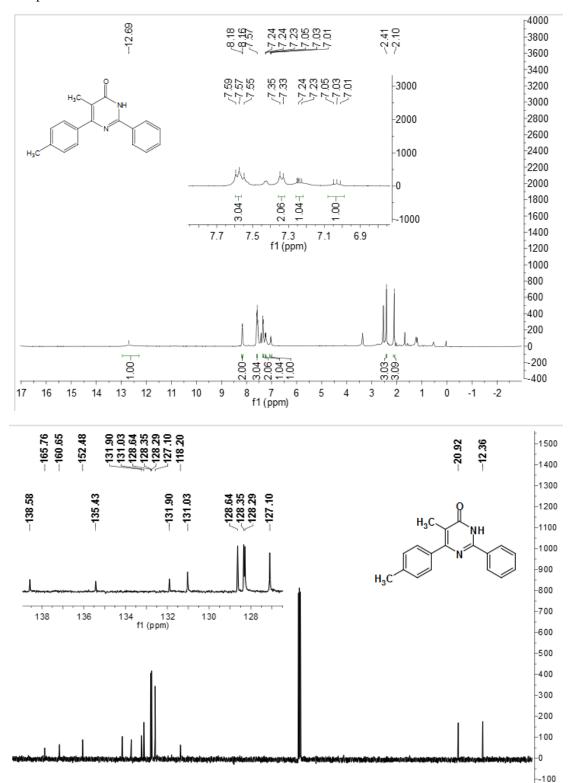


## Compound 3a'



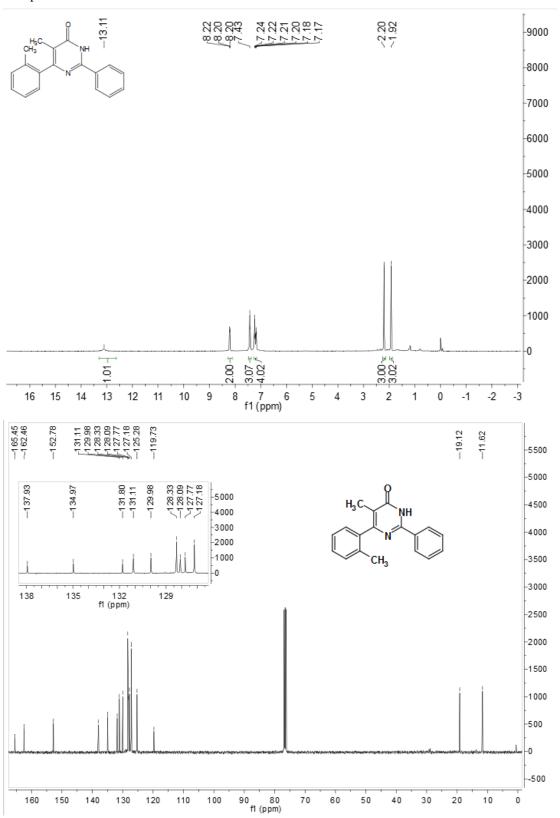


## Compound 3b

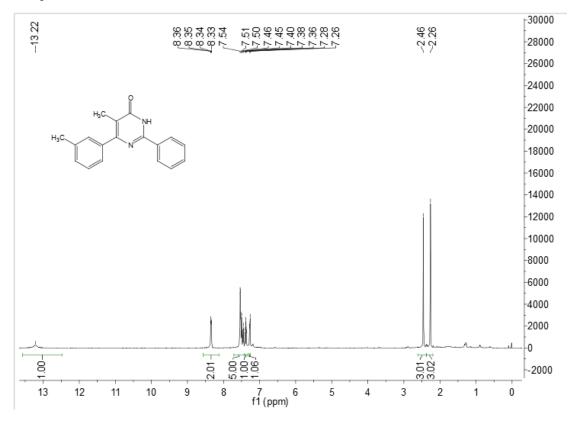


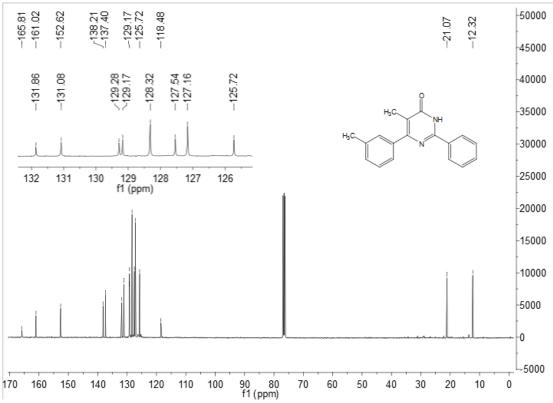
90 80 f1 (ppm) 

# Compound 3c

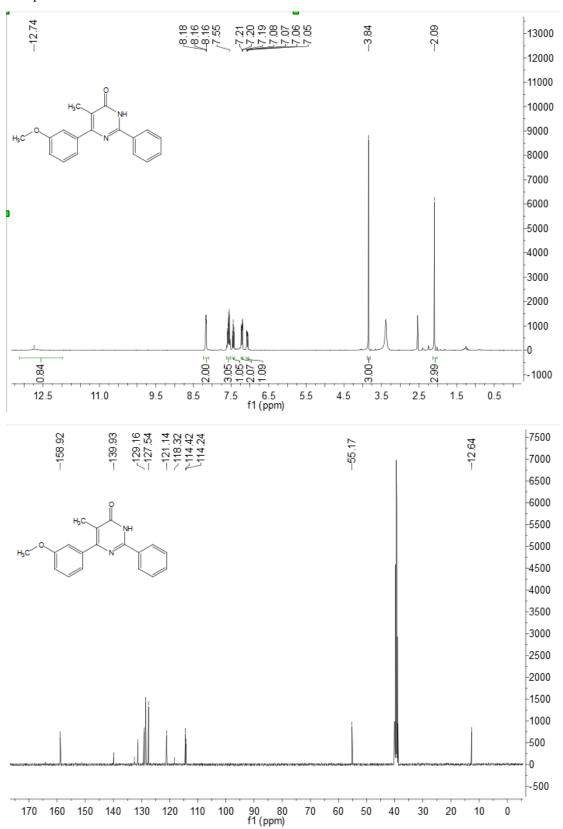


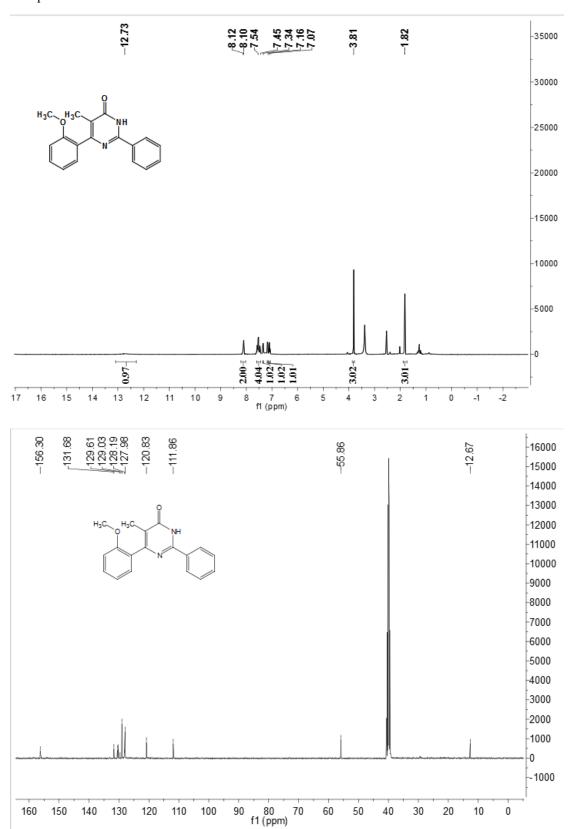
## Compound 3d

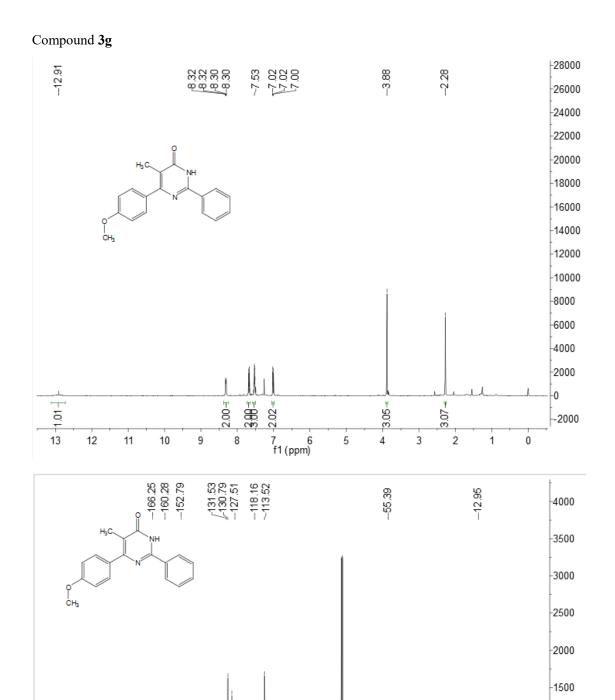




## Compound 3e





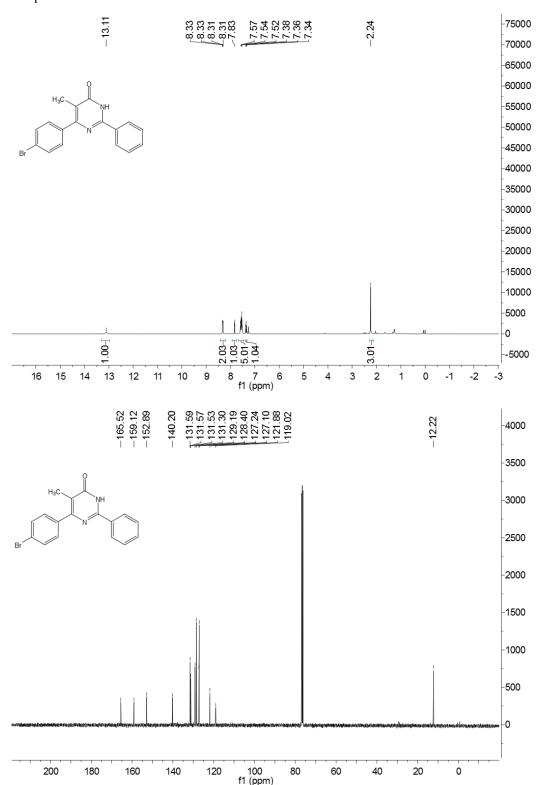


f1 (ppm)

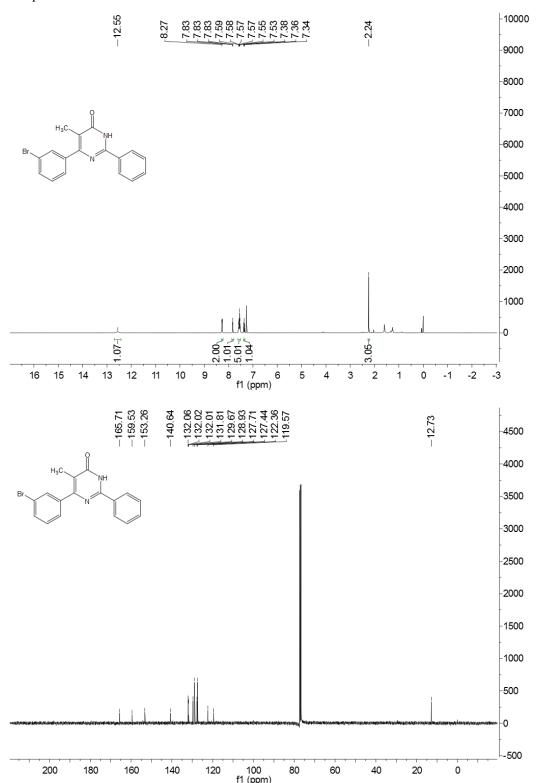
-0

-500

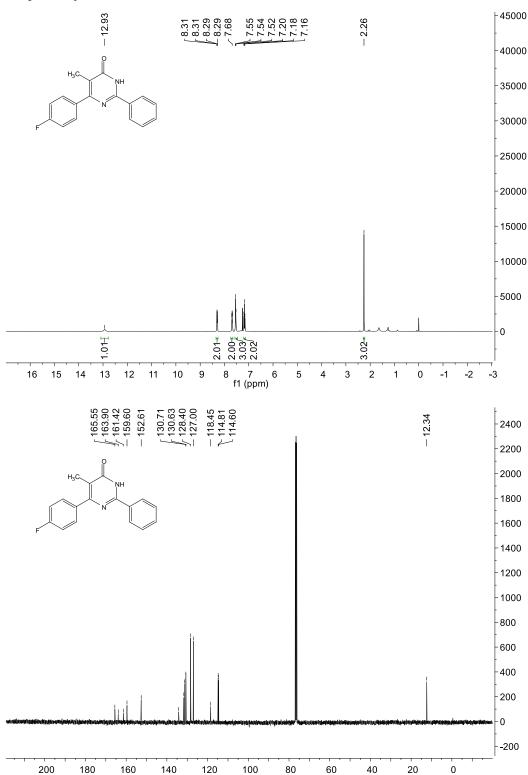
# Compound 3h







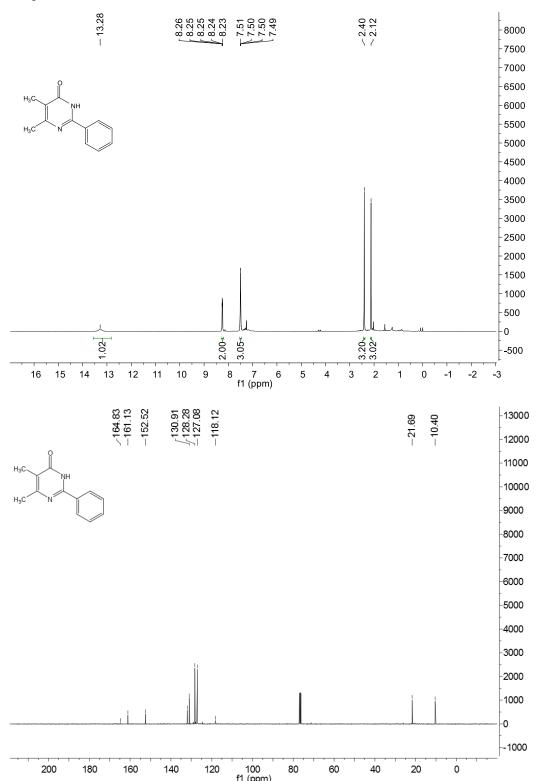




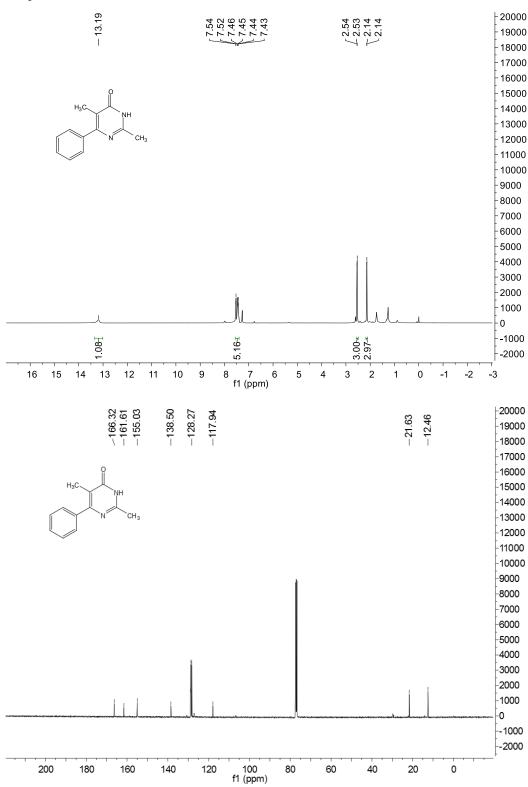




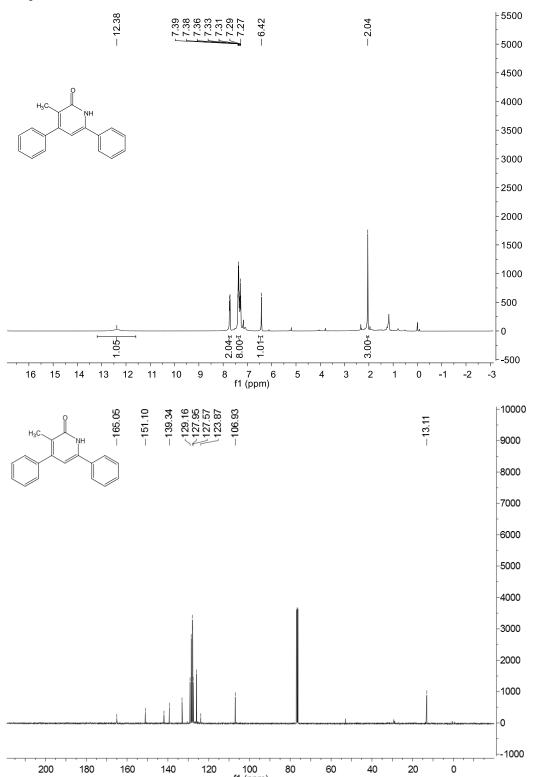




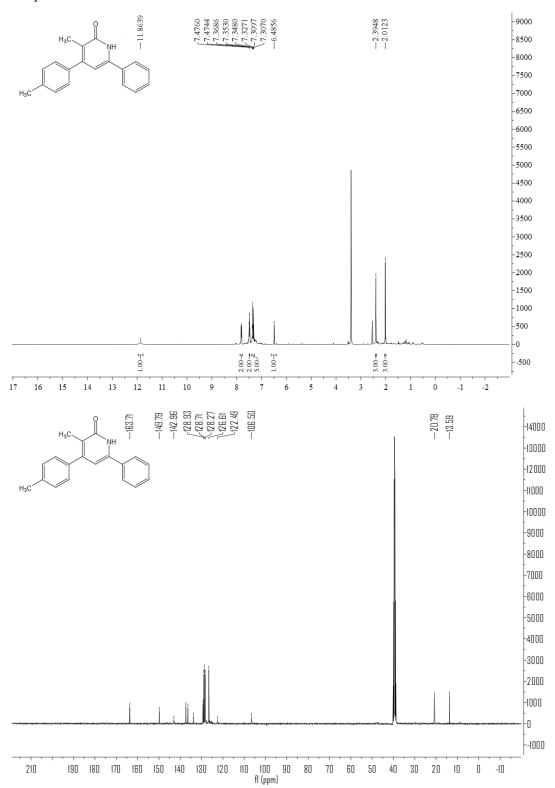




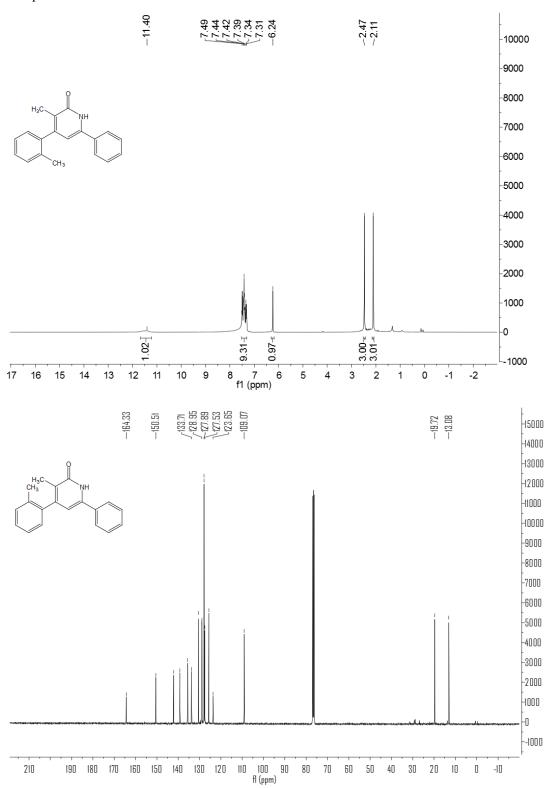




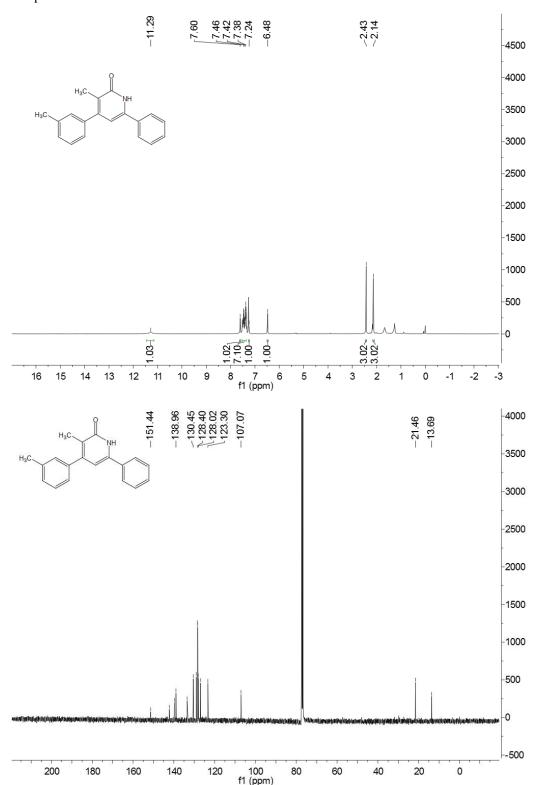
# Compound 5b



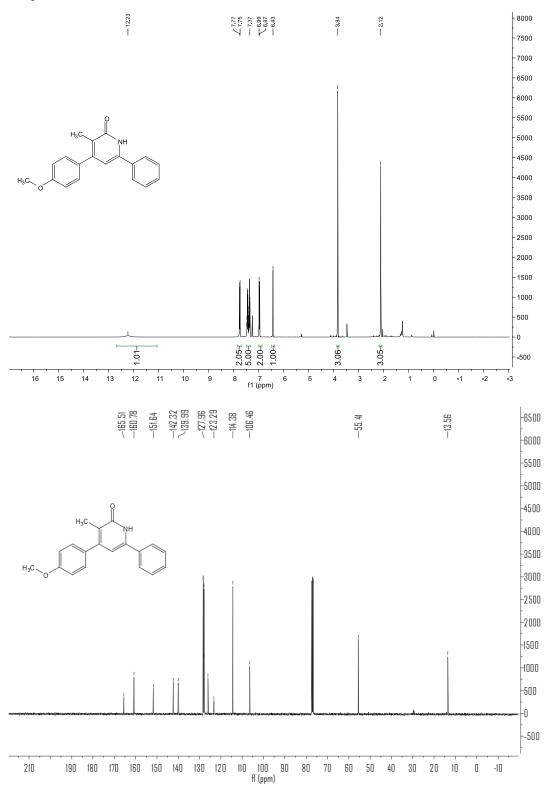
# Compound 5c



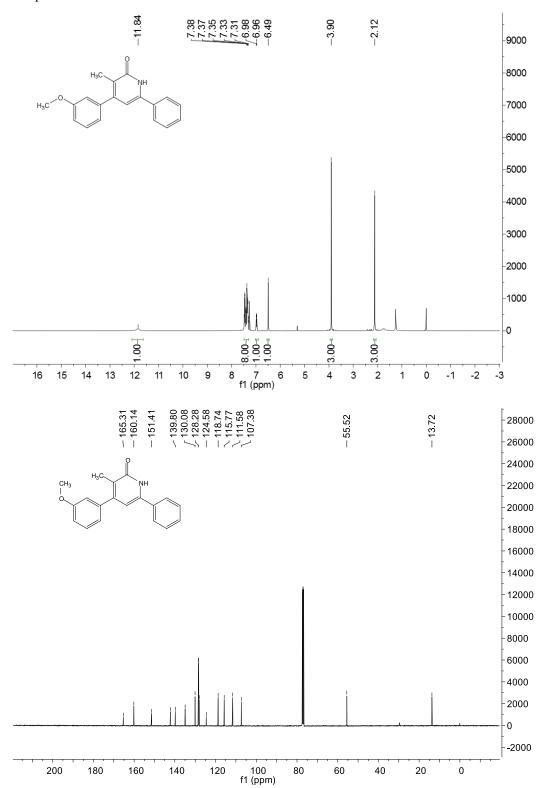
# Compound 5d



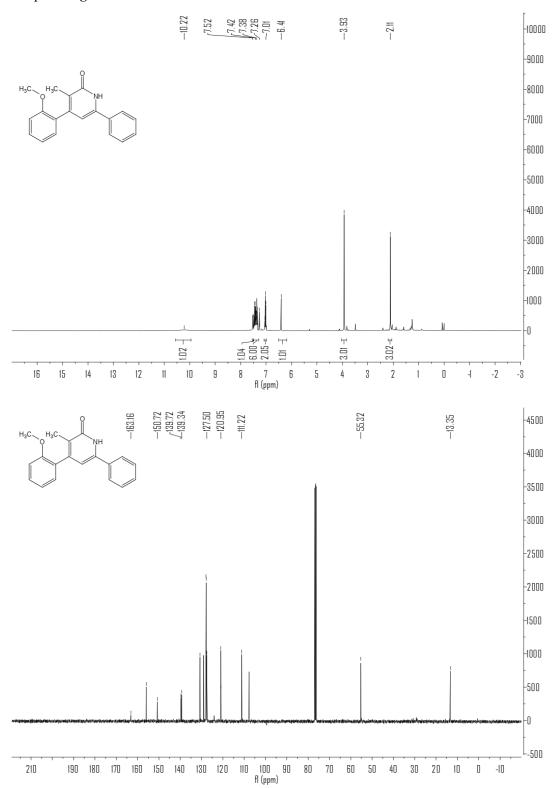




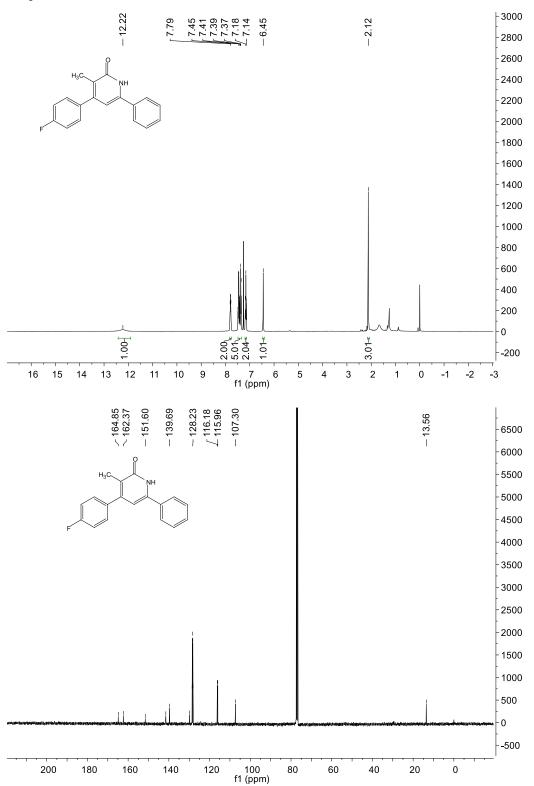
# Compound 5f



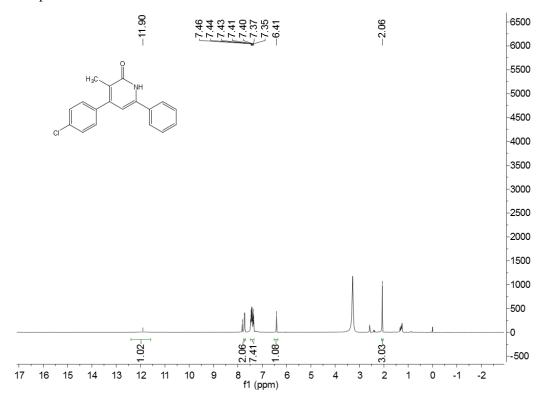
# Compound 5g

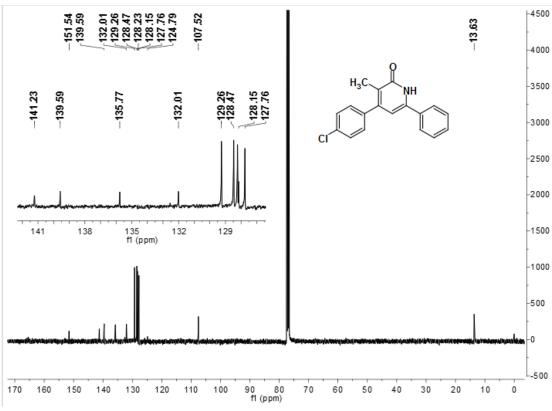




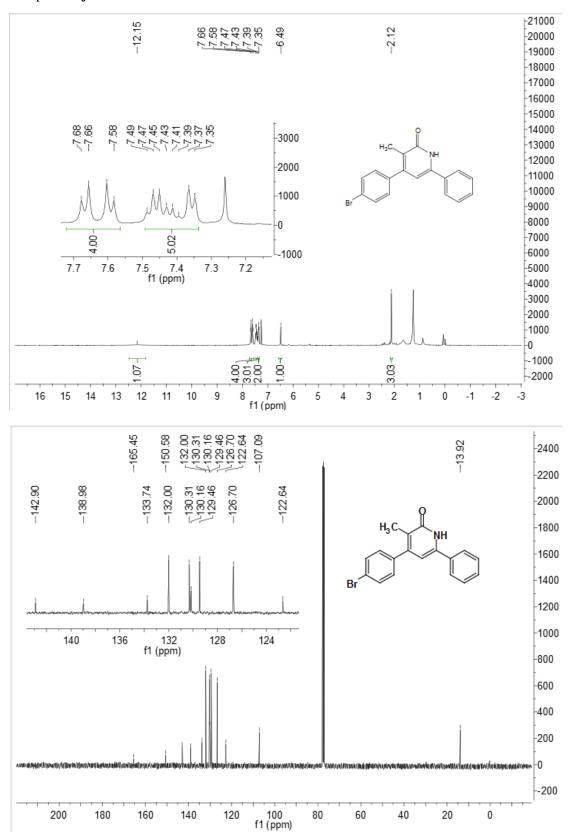


# Compound 5i

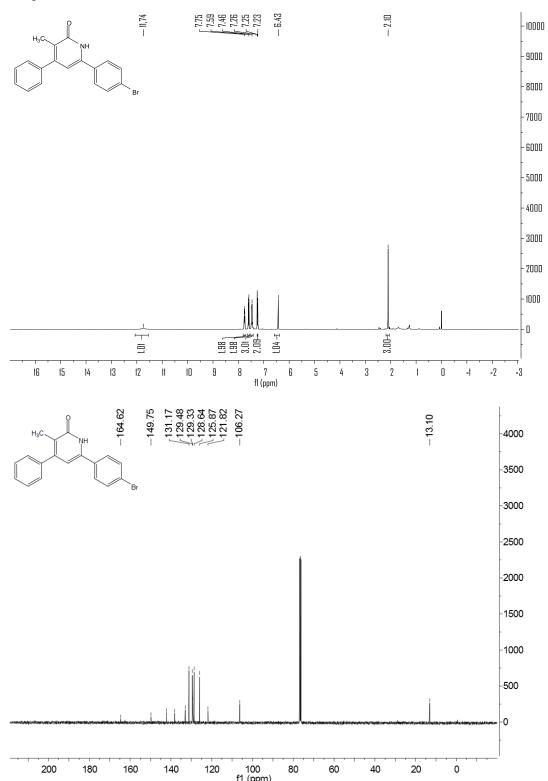




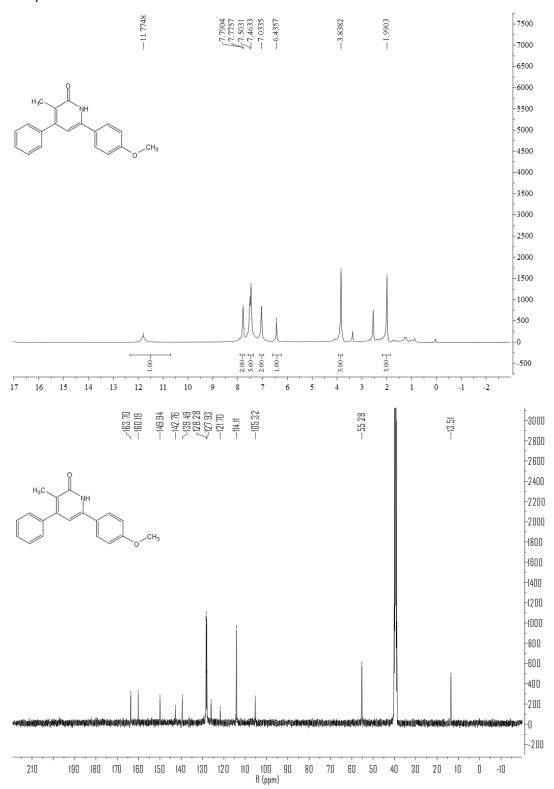
## Compound 5j



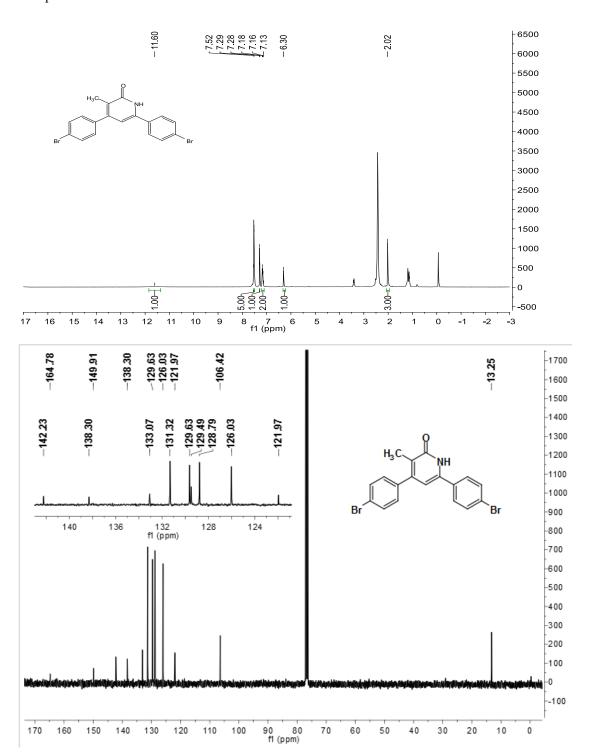
# $\text{Compound } \mathbf{5k}$



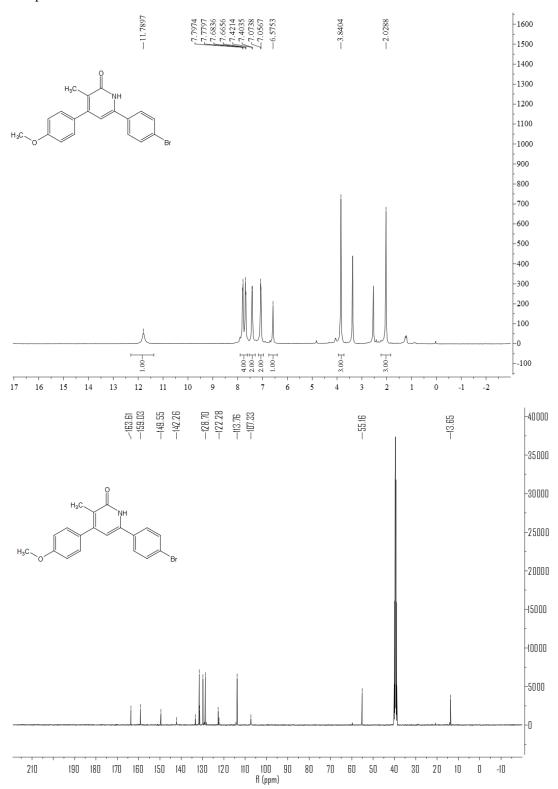
# Compound 51



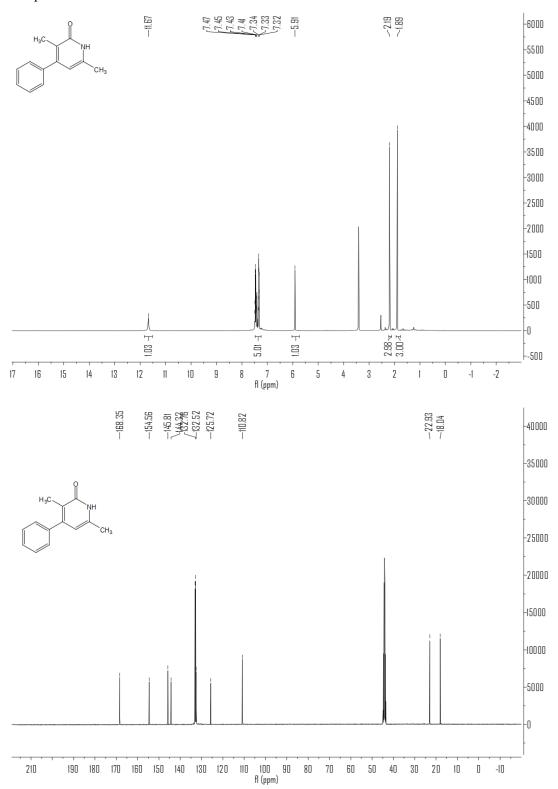
# Compound 5m



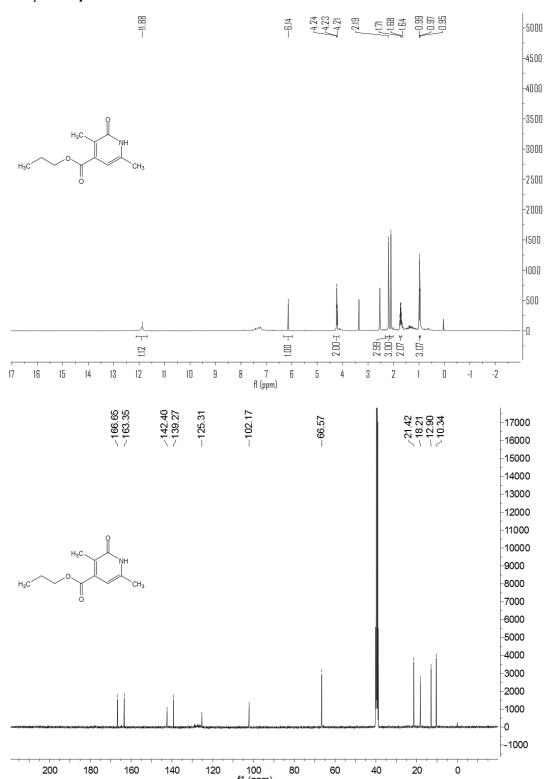
# Compound 5n



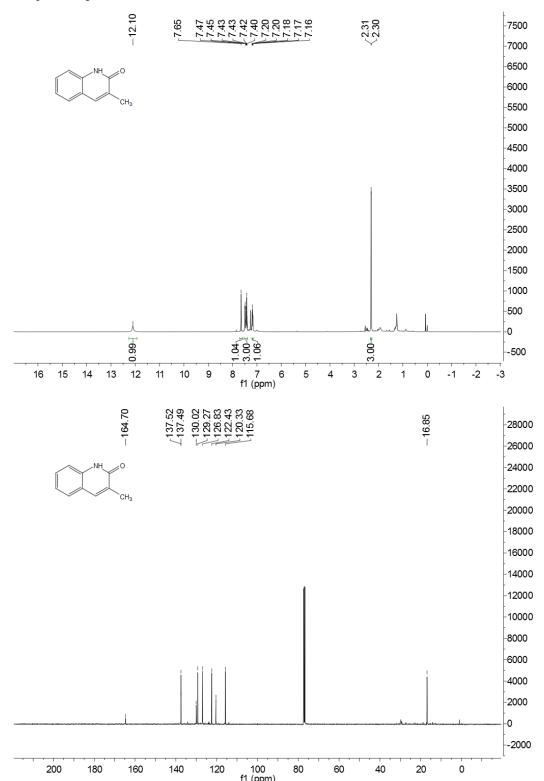
# Compound 50



# Compound 5p







# Compound 5r

