

**CuBr₂-Promoted Cyclization And Bromination of Arene-Alkynes: C-Br Bond
Formation via Reductive Elimination of Cu(III) Species**

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Electronic Supplementary Information

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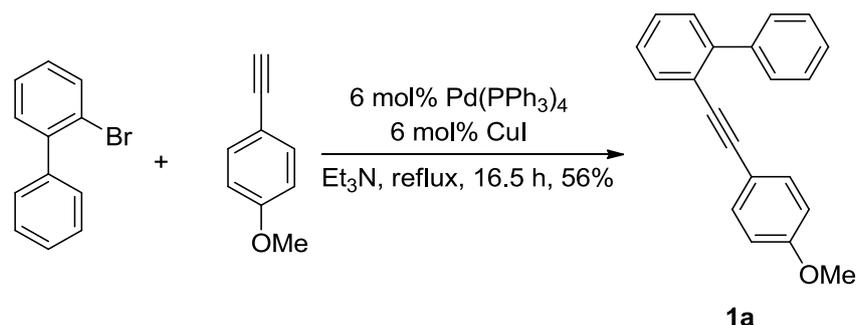
Experimental Section

General information

^1H (400 MHz) and ^{13}C (100 MHz) NMR spectra of samples in CDCl_3 were recorded on an AVANCE III 400 spectrometer. IR spectra were recorded on a Avatar 360 FT-IR spectrometer. HRMS (EI) determinations were carried out on a Water GCT CA176 spectrometer. HRMS (ESI) determinations were carried out on a Bruker Daltonics APEXIIITM ESI-FTICRMS spectrometer. Melting points were determined on a WRS-2 apparatus. X-ray crystal was carried out on a Bruker SMART CCD. Anhydrous MeNO_2 was distilled with CaSO_4 .

Typical Procedure I for the synthesis of arene-alkynes.

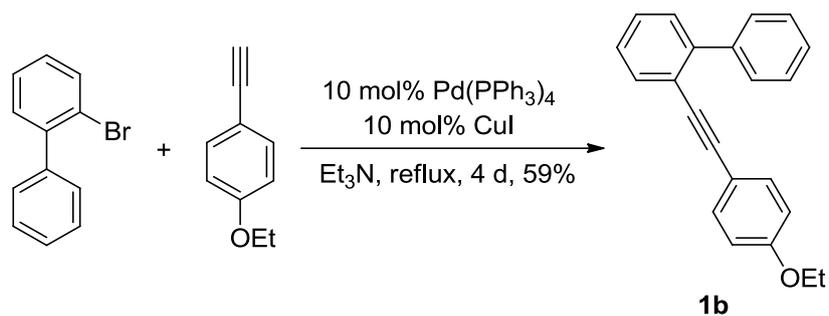
Synthesis of 2-((4-methoxyphenyl)ethynyl)-1,1'-biphenyl (**1a**)¹



2-Bromo-1,1'-biphenyl (10.35 mL, 60.0 mmol), 4-methoxyphenylacetylene (8.001 g, 60.5 mmol), $\text{Pd}(\text{PPh}_3)_4$ (4.193 g, 3.63 mmol), CuI (716 mg, 3.77 mmol), and Et_3N (160 mL) were added subsequently into a 250 mL of three-necked flask. The resulting mixture was refluxed and completed after 16.5 hours as monitored by TLC (eluent: petroleum ether). Then it was cooled to room temperature. The solvent was removed and the residue was purified by flash chromatography on silica gel (eluent: petroleum ether) to afford **1a** as a liquid (9.491 g, 56%); ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 7.66 (d, $J = 7.2$ Hz, 2 H), 7.62 (d, $J = 8.0$ Hz, 1 H), 7.51-7.20 (m, 8 H), 6.81 (d, $J = 8.8$ Hz, 2 H), 3.78 (s, 3 H).

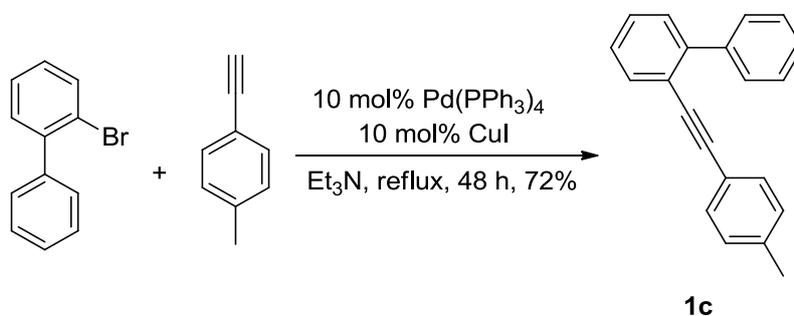
The following compounds were prepared according to Typical Procedure I.

1) 2-((4-Ethoxyphenyl)ethynyl)-1,1'-biphenyl (**1b**)



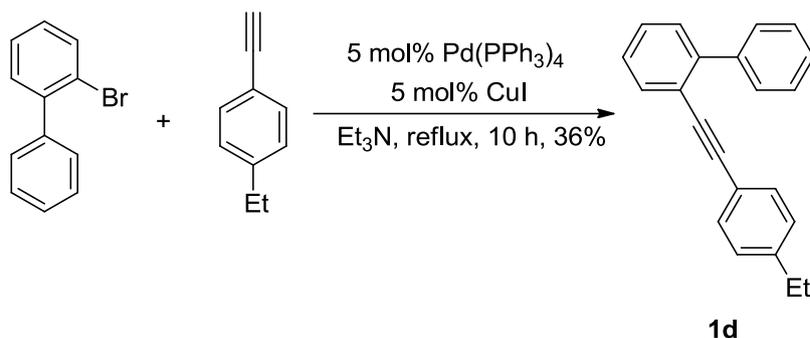
The reaction of 2-bromo-1,1'-biphenyl (3.4 mL, 19.8 mmol), 4-ethoxyphenylacetylene (4.304 g, 29.5 mmol), Pd(PPh₃)₄ (2.491 g, 2.15 mmol), CuI (381 mg, 2.00 mmol), and Et₃N (150 mL) afforded **1b** as a liquid (3.520 g, 59%). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.66 (d, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 2 H), 7.61 (d, *J* = 8.8 Hz, 1 H), 7.49-7.20 (m, 8 H), 6.79 (d, *J* = 8.8 Hz, 2 H), 3.99 (q, *J* = 6.8 Hz, 2 H), 1.38 (t, *J* = 6.8 Hz, 3 H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 162.4, 146.4, 143.4, 135.1, 134.9, 131.64, 131.62, 130.3, 130.0, 129.5, 129.1, 123.8, 117.0, 116.0, 93.0, 88.5, 62.8, 12.0; IR (neat) 1607, 1565, 1510, 1475, 1448, 1431 cm⁻¹; HRMS (EI) calcd for C₂₂H₁₈O 298.1358, found 298.1359.

2) 2-(*p*-Tolylethynyl)-1,1'-biphenyl (**1c**)¹



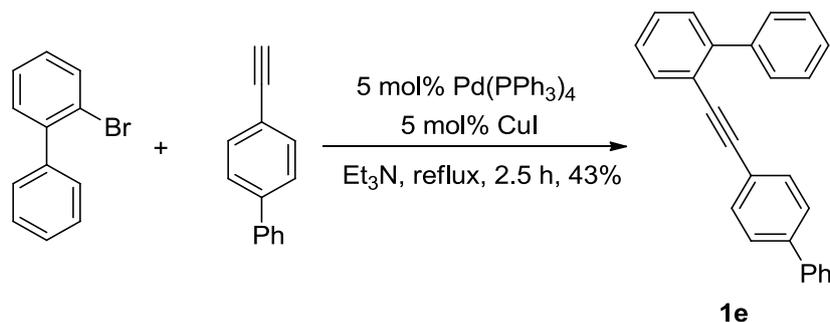
The reaction of 2-bromo-1,1'-biphenyl (3.4 mL, 19.8 mmol), 4-methylphenylacetylene (2.811 g, 24.2 mmol), Pd(PPh₃)₄ (2.491 g, 2.15 mmol), CuI (380 mg, 2.00 mmol), and Et₃N (150 mL) afforded **1c** as a liquid (3.887 g, 72%). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.69-7.58 (m, 3 H), 7.48-7.26 (m, 6 H), 7.20 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 2 H), 7.06 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2 H), 2.30 (s, 3 H).

3) 2-((4-Ethylphenyl)ethynyl)-1,1'-biphenyl (**1d**)²



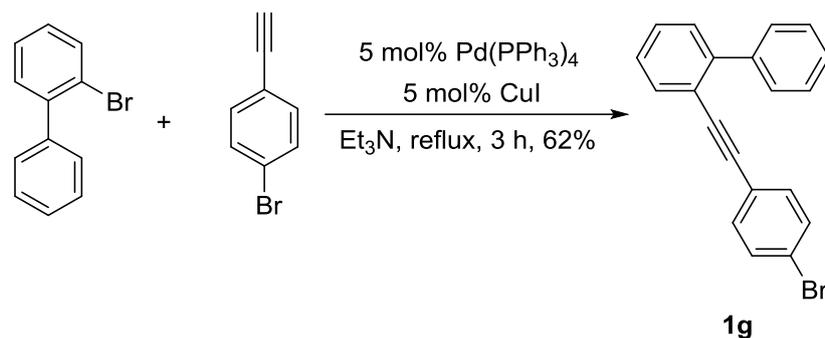
The reaction of 2-bromo-1,1'-biphenyl (8.6 mL, 50.0 mmol), 4-ethylphenylacetylene (7.5 mL, 50.7 mmol), Pd(PPh₃)₄ (2.900 g, 2.50 mmol), CuI (480 mg, 2.50 mmol), and Et₃N (150 mL) afforded **1d** as a liquid (5.115 g, 36%). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.69-7.60 (m, 3 H), 7.50-7.20 (m, 8 H), 7.11 (d, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 2 H), 2.62 (q, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 2 H), 1.21 (t, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 3 H).

4) 2-((4-Phenylphenyl)ethynyl)-1,1'-biphenyl (**1e**)



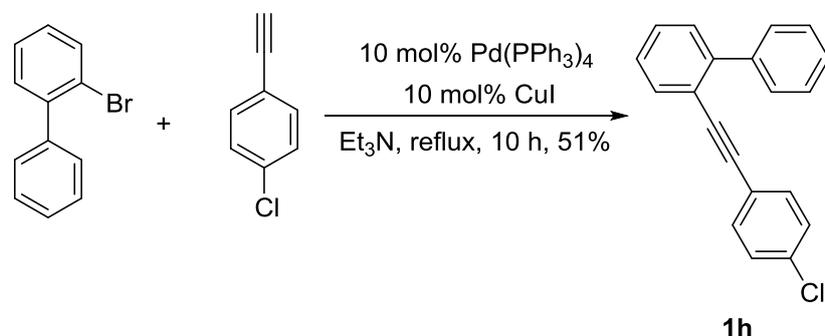
The reaction of 2-bromo-1,1'-biphenyl (4.6 mL, 26.7 mmol), 4-phenylphenylacetylene (4.700 g, 26.0 mmol), Pd(PPh₃)₄ (1.450 g, 1.25 mmol), CuI (237 mg, 1.25 mmol), and Et₃N (120 mL) afforded **1e** as a solid (3.553 g, 43%); mp 94.1-95.3 °C (dichloromethane/petroleum ether). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.74-7.28 (m, 18 H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 144.1, 140.9, 140.7, 140.5, 133.0, 131.9, 129.63, 129.56, 129.0, 128.7, 128.0, 127.7, 127.6, 127.2, 127.12, 127.08, 122.5, 121.8, 92.3, 90.3; IR (neat) 1599, 1576, 1520, 1486, 1472, 1447, 1431, 1400 cm⁻¹; HRMS (EI) calcd for C₂₆H₁₈ 330.1409, found 330.1401.

5) 2-((4-Bromophenyl)ethynyl)-1,1'-biphenyl (**1g**)



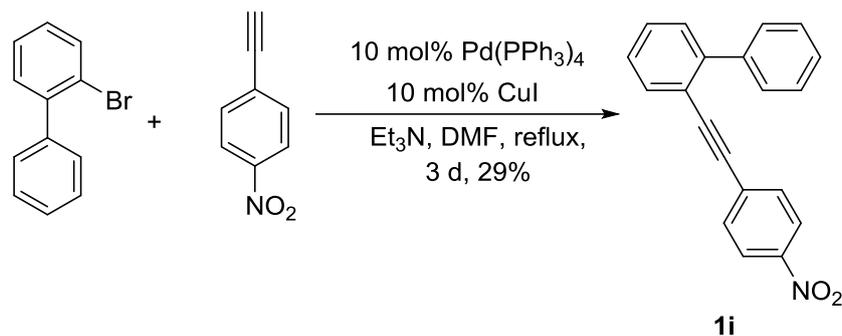
The reaction of 2-bromo-1,1'-biphenyl (0.35 mL, 2.0 mmol), 4-bromophenylacetylene (362 mg, 2.0 mmol), Pd(PPh₃)₄ (120 mg, 0.10 mmol), CuI (19 mg, 0.10 mmol), and Et₃N (50 mL) afforded **1g** as a solid (0.412 g, 62%); mp 64.2-64.7 °C (dichloromethane/petroleum ether). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.65-7.61 (m, 3 H), 7.49-7.28 (m, 8 H), 7.16 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 2 H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 144.0, 140.5, 132.8, 132.7, 131.5, 129.5, 129.3, 128.7, 127.9, 127.5, 127.1, 122.4, 122.3, 121.3, 91.1, 90.5; IR (neat) 1577, 1503, 1488, 1447, 1430 cm⁻¹; HRMS (EI) calcd for C₂₀H₁₃Br 332.0201, found 332.0199.

6) 2-((4-Chlorophenyl)ethynyl)-1,1'-biphenyl (**1h**)



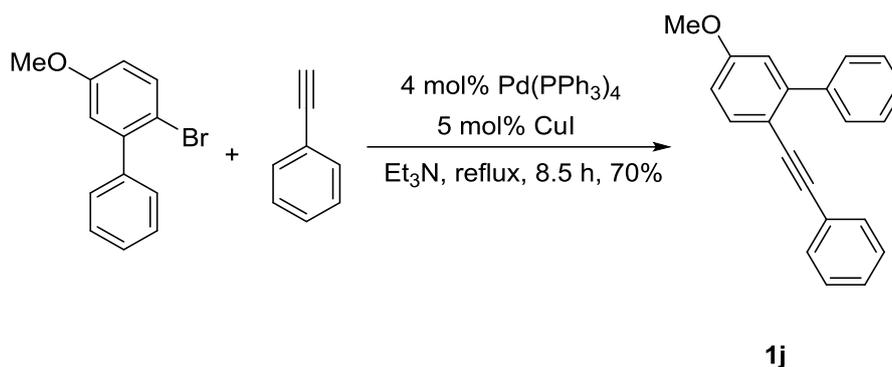
The reaction of 2-bromo-1,1'-biphenyl (3.4 mL, 19.8 mmol), 4-chlorophenylacetylene (3.801 g, 27.9 mmol), Pd(PPh₃)₄ (2.491 g, 2.15 mmol), CuI (380 mg, 2.00 mmol), and Et₃N (150 mL) afforded **1h** as a solid (2.907 g, 51%); mp 53.2-53.4 °C (dichloromethane/petroleum ether). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.68-7.55 (m, 3 H), 7.48-7.24 (m, 6 H), 7.21 (s, 4 H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 146.9, 143.2, 136.5, 135.2, 134.9, 131.7, 131.6, 130.9, 130.8, 130.1, 129.7, 129.2, 123.9, 123.2, 91.7, 90.9; IR (neat) 1487, 1472, 1447, 1432, 1394 cm⁻¹; HRMS (EI) calcd for C₂₀H₁₃Cl 288.0706, found 288.0699.

7) 2-((4-Nitrophenyl)ethynyl)-1,1'-biphenyl (**1i**)¹



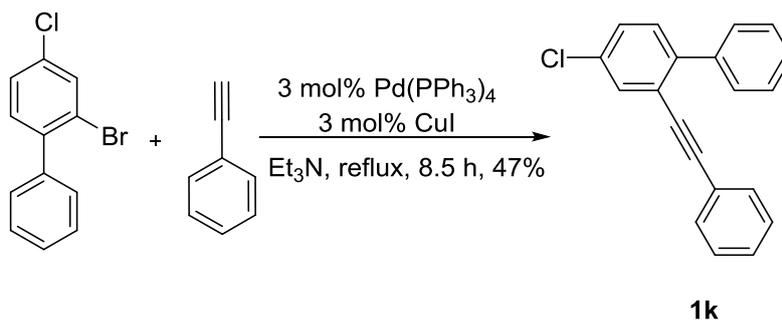
The reaction of 2-bromo-1,1'-biphenyl (3.4 mL, 20.0 mmol), 4-nitrophenylacetylene (3.531 g, 24.0 mmol), Pd(PPh₃)₄ (2.490 g, 2.00 mmol), CuI (381 mg, 2.00 mmol), Et₃N (100 mL), and DMF (50 mL) afforded **1i** as a solid (1.700 g, 29%); ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.15 (d, *J* = 8.8 Hz, 2 H), 7.69-7.60 (m, 3 H), 7.52-7.34 (m, 8 H).

8) 5-Methoxy-2-(phenylethynyl)-1,1'-biphenyl (1j)³



The reaction of 2-bromo-5-methoxy-1,1'-biphenyl (4.519 g, 17.2 mmol), phenylacetylene (2.8 mL, 25.5 mmol), Pd(PPh₃)₄ (770 mg, 0.67 mmol), CuI (170 mg, 0.89 mmol), and Et₃N (100 mL) afforded **1j** as a liquid (3.921 g, 70%); ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.69-7.63 (m, 2 H), 7.55 (dd, *J* = 8.6, 1.4 Hz, 1 H), 7.47-7.19 (m, 8 H), 7.02-6.90 (m, 1 H), 6.88-6.81 (m, 1 H), 3.80 (s, 3 H).

9) 4-Chloro-2-(phenylethynyl)-1,1'-biphenyl (1k)



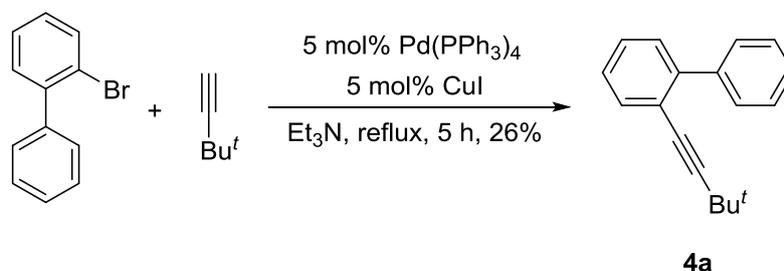
The reaction of 2-bromo-4-chloro-1,1'-biphenyl (5.424 g, 20.4 mmol), phenylacetylene (2.25 mL, 20.5 mmol), Pd(PPh₃)₄ (695 mg, 0.60 mmol), CuI (116 mg, 0.61 mmol), and Et₃N (60 mL) afforded **1k** as a liquid (2.771 g, 47%). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.67-7.58 (m, 3 H), 7.51-7.23 (m, 10 H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 145.0, 142.0, 135.2, 134.6, 133.7, 132.9, 131.4, 130.8, 130.6, 130.4, 130.1, 129.9, 125.1, 124.8, 93.9, 88.6; IR (neat) 1601, 1586, 1546, 1491, 1473, 1442, 1389 cm⁻¹; HRMS (EI) calcd for C₂₀H₁₃Cl 288.0706, found 288.0710.

10) 4-Methoxycarbonyl-2-(phenylethynyl)-1,1'-biphenyl (**1l**)



The reaction of 2-bromo-4-methoxycarbonyl-1,1'-biphenyl (3.287 g, 11.3 mmol), phenylacetylene (1.3 mL, 11.8 mmol), Pd(PPh₃)₄ (416 mg, 0.36 mmol), CuI (71 mg, 0.37 mmol), and Et₃N (40 mL) afforded **1l** as a solid (1.468 g, 42%); mp 60.6-61.3 °C (ethyl acetate/petroleum ether). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.32 (s, 1 H), 8.04 (dd, *J* = 8.0, 1.6 Hz, 1 H), 7.73-7.65 (m, 2 H), 7.53-7.24 (m, 9 H), 3.96 (s, 3 H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 166.5, 148.0, 139.7, 134.3, 131.6, 129.8, 129.5, 129.4, 129.1, 128.55, 128.46, 128.3, 128.2, 123.2, 122.1, 93.1, 88.6, 52.5; IR (neat) 1728, 1596, 1579, 1567, 1553, 1485, 1471, 1441, 1427 cm⁻¹; HRMS (ESI) calcd for C₂₂H₁₇O₂ 313.1223, found 313.1216.

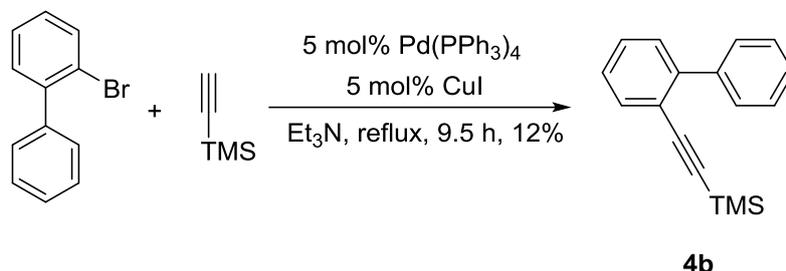
11) 2-(3,3-Dimethylbut-1-yn-1-yl)-1,1'-biphenyl (**4a**)⁴



The reaction of 2-bromo-1,1'-biphenyl (9.0 mL, 52.2 mmol), 3,3-dimethylbut-1-yne (6.2 mL, 50.4 mmol), Pd(PPh₃)₄ (2.890 g, 2.50 mmol), CuI (500 mg, 2.63 mmol), and

Et₃N (150 mL) afforded **4a** as a liquid (3.037 g, 26%). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.59 (d, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 2 H), 7.48 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 1 H), 7.42-7.15 (m, 6 H), 1.16 (s, 9 H).

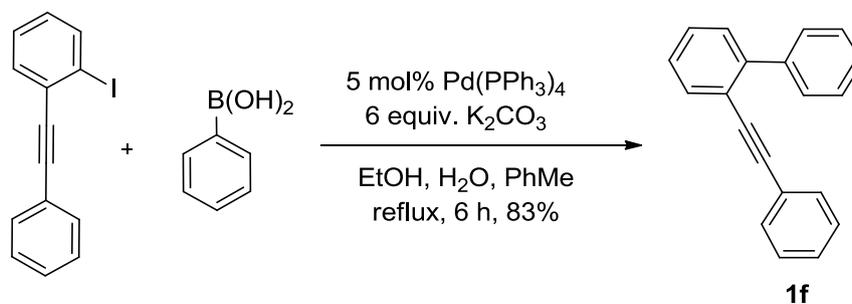
12) 2-(Trimethylsilyleth-1-yn-1-yl)-1,1'-biphenyl (**4b**)



The reaction of 2-bromo-1,1'-biphenyl (8.5 mL, 49.4 mmol), trimethylsilylacetylene (8.0 mL, 56.4 mmol), Pd(PPh₃)₄ (2.500 g, 2.20 mmol), CuI (476 mg, 2.50 mmol), and Et₃N (130 mL) afforded **4b** as a liquid (1.468 g, 12%). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.68-7.57 (m, 3 H), 7.47-7.24 (m, 6 H), 0.17 (s, 9 H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 144.4, 140.4, 133.4, 129.5, 128.8, 127.9, 127.5, 127.0, 121.6, 104.9, 97.7, -0.1; IR (neat) 1474, 1449, 1431, 1407 cm⁻¹; HRMS (ESI) calcd for C₁₇H₁₉Si 251.1251, found 251.1253.

Typical Procedure II for the synthesis of arene-alkynes.

Synthesis of 2-(phenylethynyl)-1,1'-biphenyl (**1f**)⁵

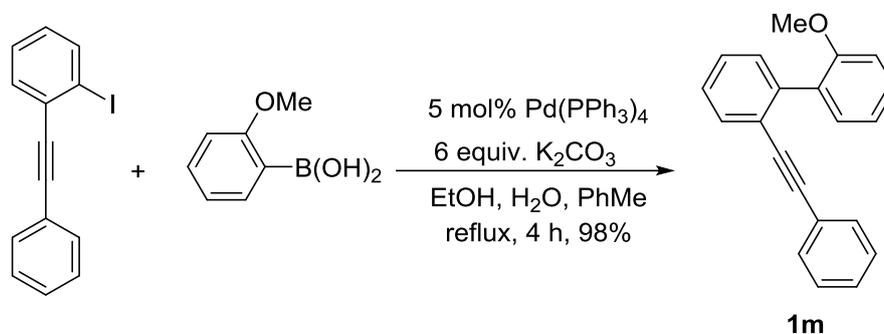


1-Iodo-2-(phenylethynyl)benzene (1.523 g, 5.0 mmol), phenylboronic acid (610 mg, 5.0 mmol), Pd(PPh₃)₄ (323 mg, 0.28 mmol), K₂CO₃ (4.159 g, 30.09 mmol), and solvent (160 mL, EtOH : H₂O : PhMe = 1 : 1 : 4.4) were added subsequently into a 250 mL of three-necked flask. The resulting mixture was refluxed and completed after 6 hours as monitored by TLC (eluent: petroleum ether). The mixture was cooled to room temperature and extracted with ethyl acetate (30 mL x 3). The combined organic layer was dried over MgSO₄. Filtration, concentration, and the residue was purified by flash column chromatography on silica gel (eluent: petroleum ether) to afford **1f** as

a liquid (1.052 g, 83%). ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 7.71-7.59 (m, 3 H), 7.51-7.12 (m, 11 H).

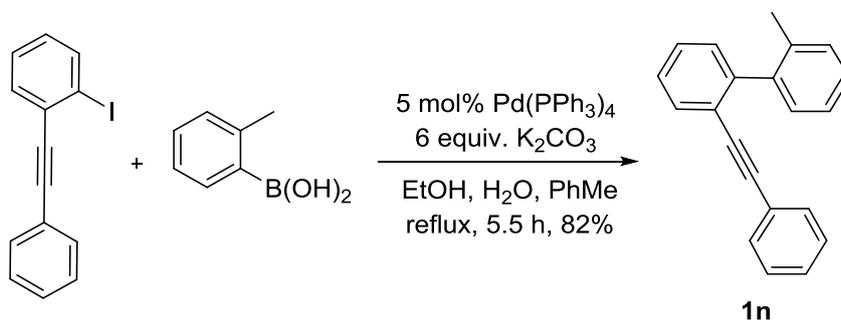
The following compounds were prepared according to Typical Procedure II.

1) 2-Methoxy-2'-(phenylethynyl)-1,1'-biphenyl (**1m**)



The reaction of 1-iodo-2-(phenylethynyl)benzene (1.204 g, 4.0 mmol), (2-methoxyphenyl)boronic acid (765 mg, 5.0 mmol), $\text{Pd}(\text{PPh}_3)_4$ (400 mg, 0.35 mmol), K_2CO_3 (4.230 g, 30.6 mmol), and solvent (160 mL, EtOH : H_2O : PhMe = 1 : 1 : 4.4) afforded **1m** as a solid (1.394 g, 98%); mp 59.7-59.9 $^\circ\text{C}$ (ethyl acetate/petroleum ether) ; ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 7.68-7.55 (m, 1 H), 7.41-7.26 (m, 5 H), 7.25-7.16 (m, 5 H), 7.07-6.96 (m, 2 H), 3.76 (s, 3 H); ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 157.1, 141.5, 132.0, 131.6, 131.5, 130.3, 130.0, 129.1, 128.3, 128.1, 128.0, 127.1, 123.7, 123.3, 120.3, 111.0, 91.8, 89.6, 55.7; IR (neat) 1595, 1580, 1500, 1488, 1459, 1438, 1427 cm^{-1} ; HRMS (EI) calcd for $\text{C}_{21}\text{H}_{16}\text{O}$ 284.1201, found 284.1202.

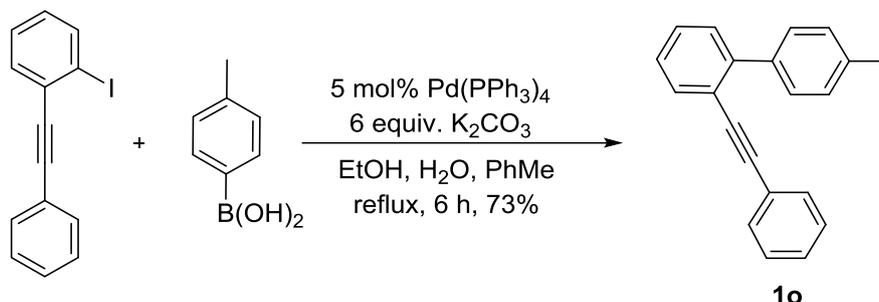
2) 2-Methyl-2'-(phenylethynyl)-1,1'-biphenyl (**1n**)



The reaction of 1-iodo-2-(phenylethynyl)benzene (1.528 g, 5.0 mmol), *o*-tolylboronic acid (680 mg, 5.0 mmol), $\text{Pd}(\text{PPh}_3)_4$ (292 mg, 0.25 mmol), K_2CO_3 (4.147 g, 30.0 mmol), and solvent (160 mL, EtOH : H_2O : PhMe = 1 : 1 : 4.4) afforded **1n** as a liquid (1.101 g, 82%); ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 7.60 (d, $J = 7.2$ Hz, 1 H), 7.32-7.10 (m,

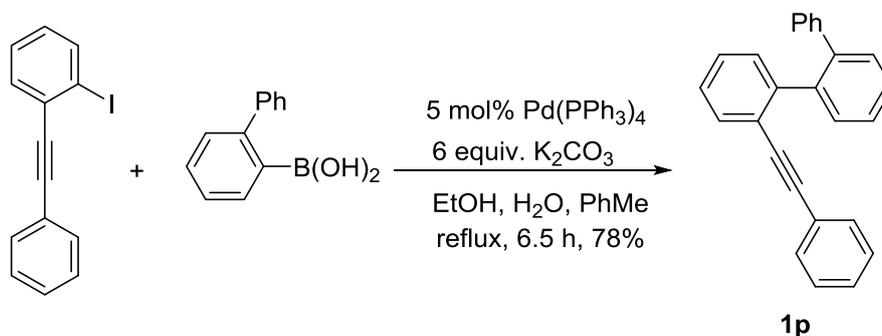
12 H), 2.21 (s, 3 H); ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 144.7, 140.7, 136.3, 131.7, 131.4, 129.9, 129.7, 129.5, 128.2, 128.1, 128.0, 127.6, 127.0, 125.3, 123.4, 122.8, 92.4, 88.9, 20.0; IR (neat) 1598, 1491, 1470, 1443 cm^{-1} ; HRMS (EI) calcd for $\text{C}_{21}\text{H}_{16}$ 268.1252, found 268.1257.

3) 4'-Methyl-2-(phenylethynyl)-1,1'-biphenyl (**1o**)⁶



The reaction of 1-iodo-2-(phenylethynyl)benzene (2.078 g, 6.8 mmol), *p*-tolylboronic acid (954 mg, 7.0 mmol), $\text{Pd(PPh}_3)_4$ (409 mg, 0.35 mmol), K_2CO_3 (5.890 g, 42.6 mmol), and solvent (210 mL, $\text{EtOH} : \text{H}_2\text{O} : \text{PhMe} = 1 : 1 : 4$) afforded **1o** as a liquid (1.324 g, 73%). ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 7.68-7.51 (m, 3 H), 7.49-7.16 (m, 10 H), 2.41 (s, 3 H).

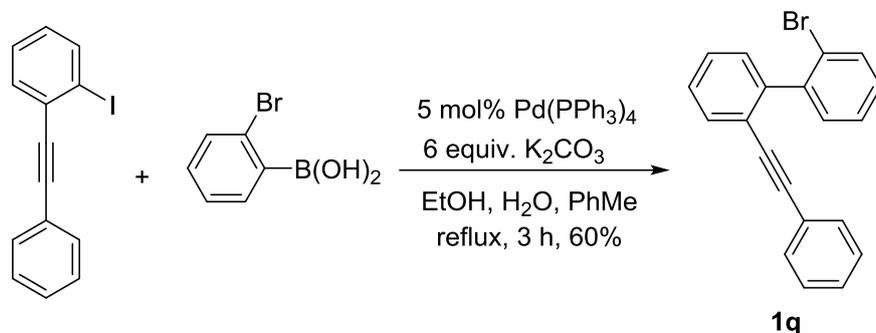
4) 2-(Phenylethynyl)-2'-phenyl-1,1'-biphenyl (**1p**)



The reaction of 1-iodo-2-(phenylethynyl)benzene (2.105 g, 6.9 mmol), (2-phenylphenyl)boronic acid (1.395 g, 7.0 mmol), $\text{Pd(PPh}_3)_4$ (405 mg, 0.35 mmol), K_2CO_3 (5.810 g, 42.0 mmol), and solvent (210 mL, $\text{EtOH} : \text{H}_2\text{O} : \text{PhMe} = 1 : 1 : 4$) afforded **1p** as a solid (1.788 g, 78%); mp 77.7-78.0 $^\circ\text{C}$ (ethyl acetate/petroleum ether). ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 7.55-7.37 (m, 5 H), 7.30-7.02 (m, 13 H); ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 144.3, 141.4, 139.4, 131.7, 131.3, 131.1, 130.6, 129.9, 129.6, 128.1, 127.9, 127.7, 127.6, 127.5, 126.7, 126.6, 126.3, 123.5, 123.0, 92.5, 89.2; IR

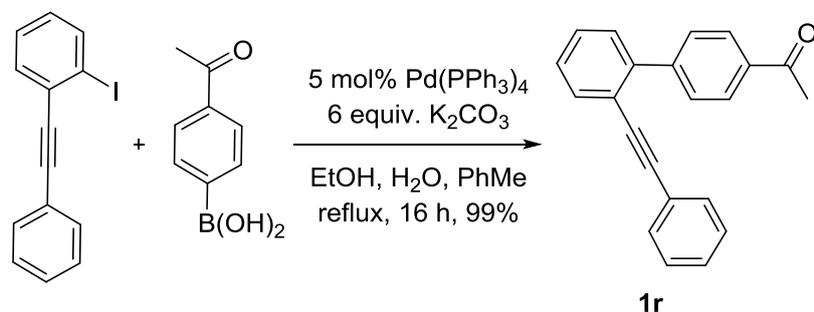
(neat) 1653, 1635, 1601, 1567, 1491, 1482, 1464, 1449, 1439, 1424 cm^{-1} ; HRMS (EI) calcd for $\text{C}_{26}\text{H}_{18}$ 330.1409, found 330.1408.

5) 2-Bromo-2'-(phenylethynyl)-1,1'-biphenyl (**1q**)⁷



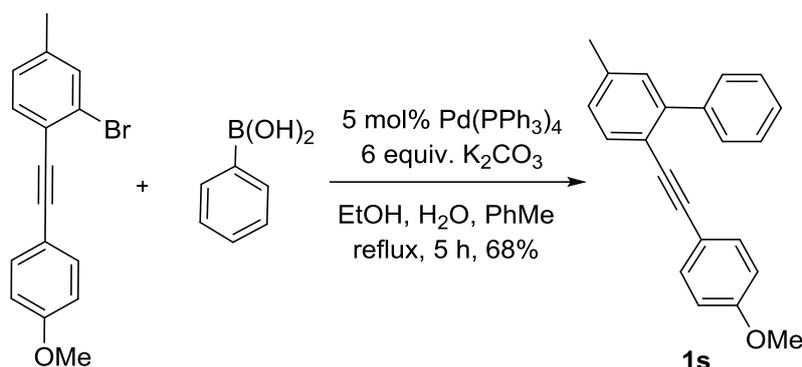
The reaction of 1-iodo-2-(phenylethynyl)benzene (1.524 g, 5.0 mmol), (2-bromophenyl)boronic acid (1.004 g, 5.0 mmol), $\text{Pd}(\text{PPh}_3)_4$ (301 mg, 0.26 mmol), K_2CO_3 (4.204 g, 30.4 mmol), and solvent (160 mL, EtOH : H_2O : PhMe = 1 : 1 : 4.4) afforded **1q** as a solid (985 mg, 60%). ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 7.71 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 1 H), 7.66-7.60 (m, 1 H), 7.44-7.12 (m, 11 H).

6) 4'-Acetyl-2-(phenylethynyl)-1,1'-biphenyl (**1r**)



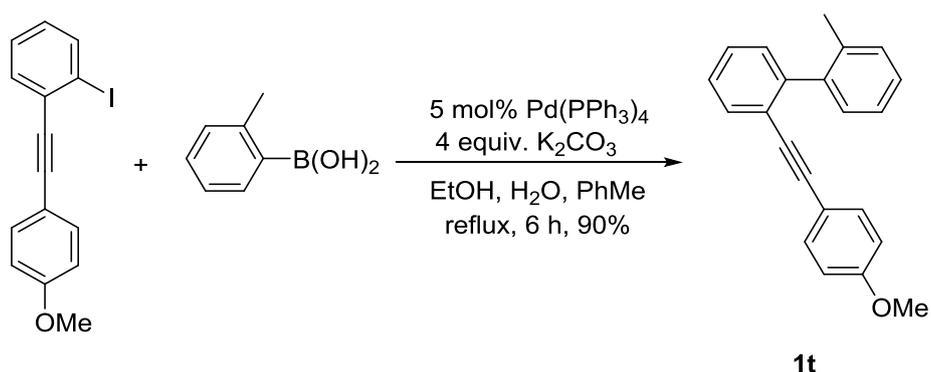
The reaction of 1-iodo-2-(phenylethynyl)benzene (1.532 g, 5.0 mmol), (4-acetylphenyl)boronic acid (823 mg, 5.0 mmol), $\text{Pd}(\text{PPh}_3)_4$ (294 mg, 0.25 mmol), K_2CO_3 (4.209 g, 30.5 mmol), and solvent (160 mL, EtOH : H_2O : PhMe = 1 : 1 : 4.4) afforded **1r** as a liquid (1.467 g, 99%). ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 8.05 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 2 H), 7.77 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 2 H), 7.67 (d, J = 7.2 Hz, 1 H), 7.49-7.20 (m, 8 H), 2.65 (s, 3 H); ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 198.2, 145.4, 142.5, 136.0, 133.1, 131.3, 129.6, 129.3, 128.6, 128.3, 128.0, 127.8, 123.1, 121.6, 92.6, 88.6, 26.7; IR (neat) 1684, 1604, 1571, 1508, 1490, 1470, 1440, 1425, 1403 cm^{-1} ; HRMS (ESI) calcd for $\text{C}_{22}\text{H}_{16}\text{ONa}$ 319.1093, found 319.1097.

7) 2-((4-Methoxyphenyl)ethynyl)-5-methyl-1,1'-biphenyl (**1s**)



The reaction of 2-bromo-1-((4-methoxyphenyl)ethynyl)-4-methylbenzene (3.001 g, 10.0 mmol), phenylboronic acid (2.442 g, 20.0 mmol), Pd(PPh₃)₄ (579 mg, 0.50 mmol), K₂CO₃ (8.391 g, 60.7 mmol), and solvent (120 mL, EtOH : H₂O : PhMe = 1 : 1 : 4) afforded **1s** as a liquid (2.011 g, 68%). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.65 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 2 H), 7.51 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1 H), 7.49-7.30 (m, 3 H), 7.29-7.15 (m, 3 H), 7.11 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1 H), 6.79 (d, *J* = 8.8 Hz, 2 H), 3.75 (s, 3 H), 2.39 (s, 3 H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 159.3, 143.5, 140.7, 138.2, 132.7, 132.5, 130.2, 129.4, 127.84, 127.77, 127.3, 118.9, 115.8, 113.9, 91.5, 88.2, 55.2, 21.4; IR (neat) 1605, 1567, 1515, 1481, 1462, 1444, 1411 cm⁻¹; HRMS (EI) calcd for C₂₂H₁₈O 298.1358, found 298.1354.

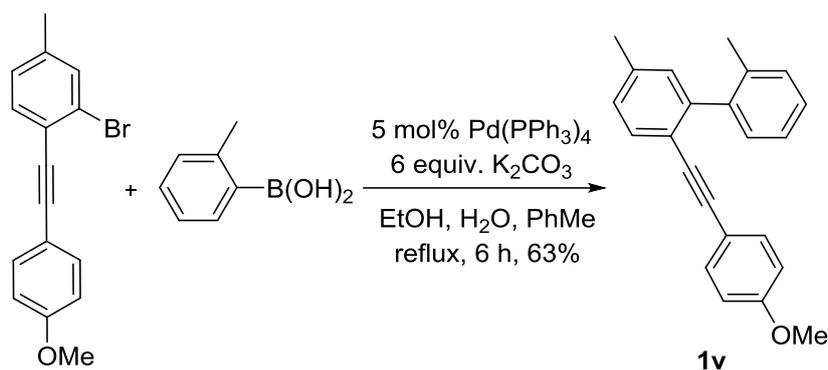
8) 2-((4-Methoxyphenyl)ethynyl)-2'-methyl-1,1'-biphenyl (**1t**)



The reaction of 1-iodo-2-((4-methoxyphenyl)ethynyl)benzene (1.000 g, 3.0 mmol), *o*-tolylboronic acid (411 mg, 3.0 mmol), Pd(PPh₃)₄ (175 mg, 0.15 mmol), K₂CO₃ (1.670 g, 12.0 mmol), and solvent (30 mL, EtOH : H₂O : PhMe = 1 : 1 : 4) afforded **1t** as a solid (801 mg, 90%); mp 60.3 °C (ethyl acetate/petroleum ether). ¹H NMR δ 7.58

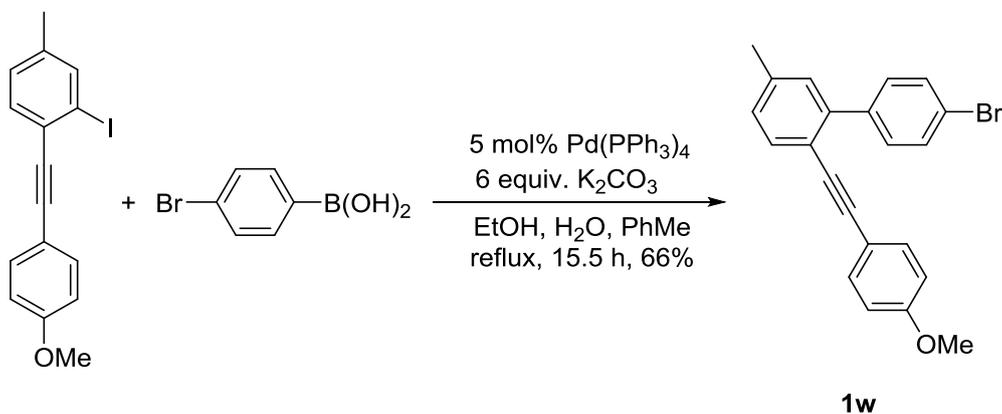
(d, $J = 7.2$ Hz, 1 H), 7.37-7.24 (m, 7 H), 7.06 (d, $J = 7.6$ Hz, 2 H), 6.75 (d, $J = 7.6$ Hz, 2 H), 3.76 (s, 3 H), 2.21 (s, 3 H); ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 159.6, 144.6, 141.1, 136.5, 132.9, 131.5, 130.0, 129.8, 129.6, 127.8, 127.6, 127.1, 125.4, 123.4, 115.7, 114.0, 92.5, 87.8, 55.4, 20.1; IR (neat) 1602, 1591, 1568, 1510, 1463, 1440 cm^{-1} ; HRMS (ESI) calcd for $\text{C}_{22}\text{H}_{19}\text{O}$ 299.1430, found 299.1429.

9) 2-((4-Methoxyphenyl)ethynyl)-2',5-dimethyl-1,1'-biphenyl (1v)



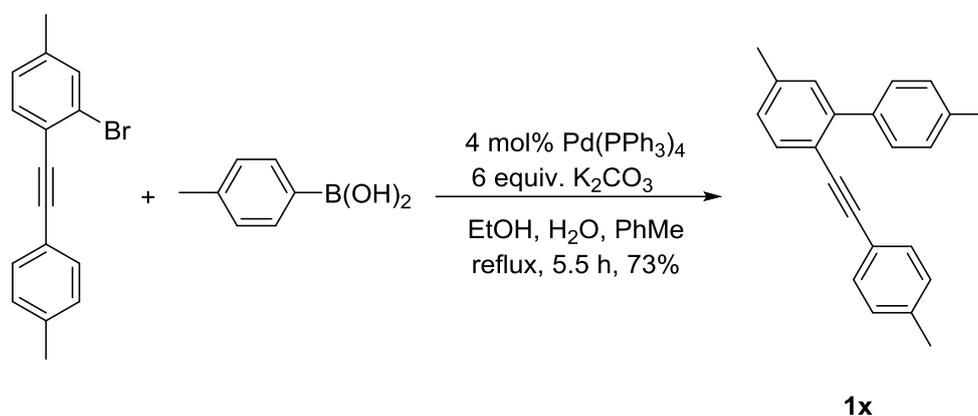
The reaction of 2-bromo-1-((4-methoxyphenyl)ethynyl)-4-methylbenzene (3.000 g, 10.0 mmol), *o*-tolylboronic acid (2.700 g, 19.9 mmol), $\text{Pd}(\text{PPh}_3)_4$ (582 mg, 0.50 mmol), K_2CO_3 (8.292 g, 60.0 mmol), and solvent (120 mL, $\text{EtOH} : \text{H}_2\text{O} : \text{PhMe} = 1 : 1 : 4$) afforded **1v** as a liquid (1.714 g, 63%). ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 7.47 (d, $J = 8.0$ Hz, 1 H), 7.32-7.19 (m, 4 H), 7.17-7.00 (m, 4 H), 6.74 (d, $J = 8.8$ Hz, 2 H), 3.75 (s, 3 H), 2.39 (s, 3 H), 2.21 (s, 3 H); ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 159.3, 144.4, 141.0, 137.8, 136.3, 132.7, 131.2, 130.2, 129.8, 129.6, 127.8, 127.3, 125.2, 120.2, 115.7, 113.8, 91.5, 87.7, 55.2, 21.5, 20.0; IR (neat) 1605, 1567, 1514, 1454, 1440 cm^{-1} ; HRMS (EI) calcd for $\text{C}_{23}\text{H}_{20}\text{O}$ 312.1514, found 312.1517.

10) 4'-Bromo-2-((4-methoxyphenyl)ethynyl)-5-methyl-1,1'-biphenyl (1w)



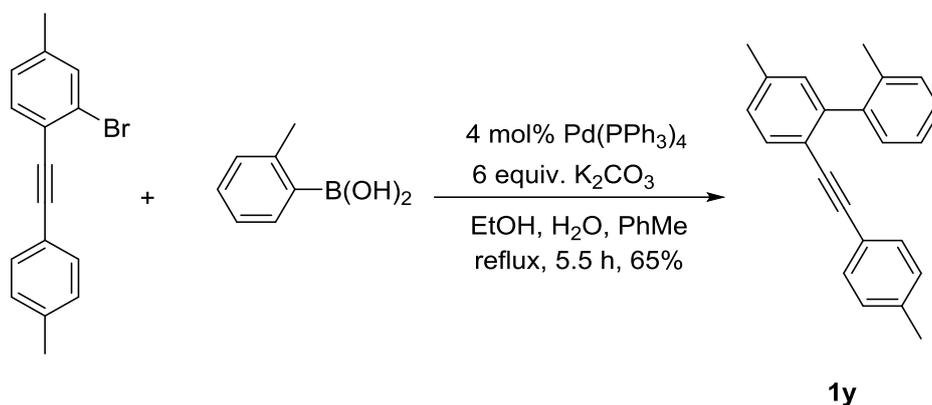
The reaction of 2-iodo-1-((4-methoxyphenyl)ethynyl)-4-methylbenzene (3.000 g, 10.0 mmol), (4-bromophenyl)boronic acid (2.400 g, 12.0 mmol), Pd(PPh₃)₄ (579 mg, 0.50 mmol), K₂CO₃ (8.293 g, 60.0 mmol), and solvent (120 mL, EtOH : H₂O : PhMe = 1 : 1 : 4) afforded **1w** as a liquid (2.477 g, 66%). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.59-7.42 (m, 5 H), 7.31-7.10 (m, 4 H), 6.82 (dd, *J* = 6.8, 2.0 Hz, 2 H), 3.78 (s, 3 H), 2.38 (s, 3 H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 159.5, 142.0, 139.7, 138.4, 132.7, 131.0, 130.9, 130.0, 128.2, 121.5, 118.8, 115.5, 114.0, 91.9, 87.7, 55.2, 21.4; IR (neat) 1602, 1563, 1510, 1496, 1482, 1459, 1437, 1411 cm⁻¹; HRMS (EI) calcd for C₂₂H₁₇BrO 376.0463, found 376.0459.

11) 4',5-Dimethyl-2-(*p*-tolylethynyl)-1,1'-biphenyl (1x**)**



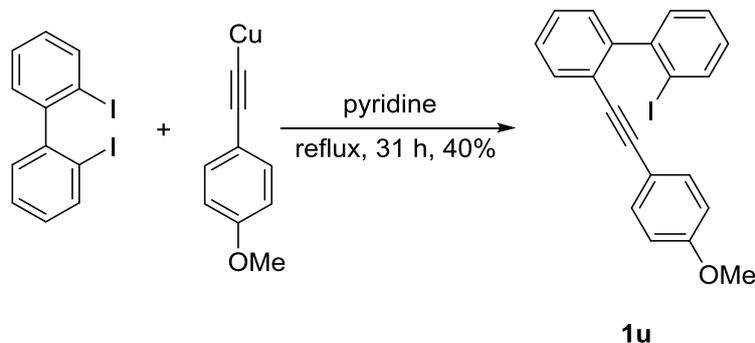
The reaction of 2-bromo-4-methyl-1-(*p*-tolylethynyl)benzene (4.277 g, 15.0 mmol), *p*-tolylboronic acid (2.050 g, 15.1 mmol), Pd(PPh₃)₄ (690 mg, 0.60 mmol), K₂CO₃ (12.500 g, 90.4 mmol), and solvent (230 mL, EtOH : H₂O : PhMe = 1 : 1 : 4) afforded **1x** as a solid (3.267 g, 73%); mp 67.9-68.1 °C (dichloromethane/petroleum ether). ¹H NMR δ 7.57 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2 H), 7.51 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1 H), 7.31-7.20 (m, 5 H), 7.13-7.05 (m, 3 H), 2.41 (s, 3 H), 2.39 (s, 3 H), 2.32 (s, 3 H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 143.6, 138.5, 138.1, 137.9, 137.1, 132.9, 131.3, 130.4, 129.3, 129.1, 128.7, 127.8, 120.8, 118.8, 91.7, 89.2, 21.65, 21.62, 21.4; IR (neat) 1604, 1510, 1491, 1449 cm⁻¹; HRMS (EI) calcd for C₂₃H₂₀ 296.1565, found 296.1563.

12) 2',5-Dimethyl-2-(*p*-tolylethynyl)-1,1'-biphenyl (1y**)**



The reaction of 2-bromo-4-methyl-1-(*p*-tolylethynyl)benzene (4.200 g, 14.7 mmol), *o*-tolylboronic acid (2.040 g, 15.0 mmol), Pd(PPh₃)₄ (700 mg, 0.61 mmol), K₂CO₃ (12.322 g, 89.2 mmol), and solvent (230 mL, EtOH : H₂O : PhMe = 1 : 1 : 4) afforded **1y** as a solid (2.922 g, 65%); mp 67.8-68.6 °C (dichloromethane/petroleum ether). ¹H NMR δ 7.48 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1 H), 7.31-7.20 (m, 4 H), 7.14 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 1 H), 7.09 (s, 1 H), 7.02 (s, 4 H), 2.39 (s, 3 H), 2.29 (s, 3 H), 2.21 (s, 3 H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 144.7, 141.1, 138.1, 138.0, 136.5, 131.6, 131.3, 130.4, 129.9, 129.7, 129.0, 127.9, 127.5, 125.3, 120.6, 120.2, 91.9, 88.6, 21.65, 21.59, 20.2; IR (neat) 1653, 1635, 1601, 1513, 1476, 1446 cm⁻¹; HRMS (EI) calcd for C₂₃H₂₀ 296.1565, found 296.1568.

Synthesis of 2-iodo-2'-((4-methoxyphenyl)ethynyl)-1,1'-biphenyl (**1u**)

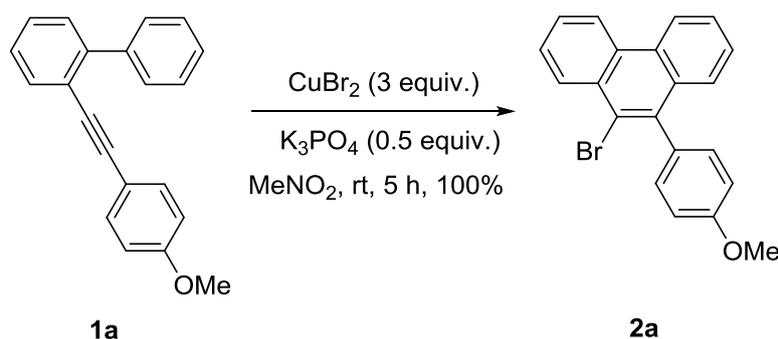


To a 250 mL three necked flask was added 2,2'-diiodo-1,1'-biphenyl (4.150 g, 10.2 mmol), copper(I) (4-methoxyphenyl)ethyn-1-ide (2.000 g, 10.0 mmol), and pyridine (100 mL). After degassing 30 min with argon, the mixture was refluxed for 31 h under argon atmosphere. The solvent was removed under reduced pressure. Purification by silica gel chromatography (eluent: petroleum ether : ethyl acetate = 80:1) afforded **1u** as a solid (1.200 g, 40%); mp 99.6 °C (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate); ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.95 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1 H), 7.61-7.55 (m, 1 H), 7.43-7.30 (m, 4 H),

7.27-7.21 (m, 1 H), 7.13-7.00 (m, 3 H), 6.74 (d, $J = 8.8$ Hz, 2 H), 3.72 (s, 3 H); ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 159.4, 146.5, 145.8, 138.7, 132.7, 131.3, 130.3, 129.3, 128.9, 127.7, 127.61, 127.56, 123.0, 115.3, 113.8, 99.5, 93.1, 87.1, 55.2; IR (neat) 1952, 1924, 1583, 1558, 1491, 1458, 1443, 1427 cm^{-1} ; HRMS (ESI) calcd for $\text{C}_{21}\text{H}_{16}\text{IO}$ 411.0246, found 411.0241.

Typical Procedure III for reactions under Condition A.

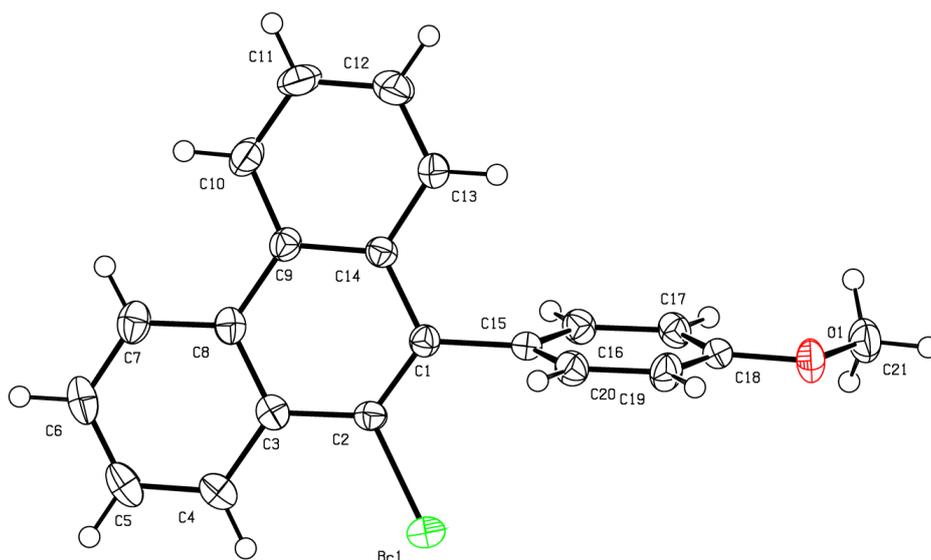
Synthesis of 9-bromo-10-(4-methoxyphenyl)phenanthrene (2a)



1a (57 mg, 0.20 mmol), CuBr_2 (134 mg, 0.60 mmol), K_3PO_4 (21 mg, 0.10 mmol), and anhydrous nitromethane (3 mL) were added subsequently to a 25 mL of dry glass reaction tube which was equipped with a magnetic stirrer. The mixture was stirred at rt. The reaction was completed after 5 h as monitored by TLC (eluent: petroleum ether : ethyl acetate = 80:1). The resulting reaction mixture was filtered. Then, the solvent was removed and the residue was purified by flash column chromatography on silica gel (eluent: petroleum ether : ethyl acetate = 100:1) to afford **2a** as a solid (72 mg, 100%); mp 155.6-156.8 $^\circ\text{C}$ (dichloromethane/petroleum ether). ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 8.72-8.66 (m, 2 H), 8.54-8.48 (m, 1 H), 7.71-7.57 (m, 3 H), 7.49-7.40 (m, 2 H), 7.27-7.20 (m, 2 H), 7.09-7.04 (m, 2 H), 3.90 (s, 3 H); ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 159.2, 139.5, 133.4, 133.1, 131.3, 131.0, 130.6, 129.8, 129.1, 128.1, 127.8, 127.5, 127.1, 126.9, 124.3, 122.75, 122.73, 113.9, 55.4; IR (neat) 1613, 1525, 1510, 1485, 1461, 1439, 1415 cm^{-1} ; HRMS (EI) calcd for $\text{C}_{21}\text{H}_{15}\text{BrO}$ 362.0306, found 362.0301.

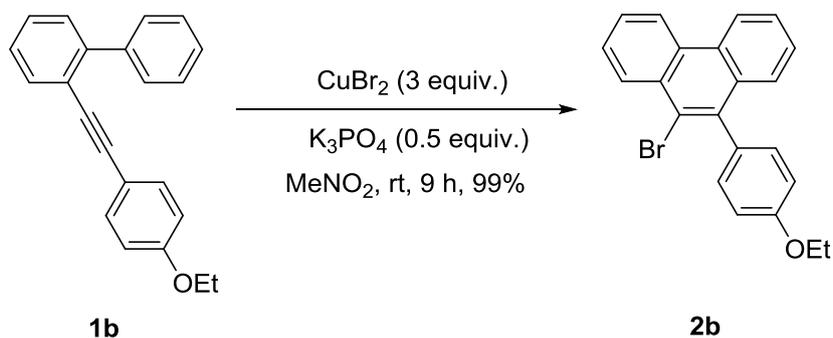
Crystal data for **2a**: $\text{C}_{21}\text{H}_{15}\text{BrO}$, MW = 363.24, Triclinic, space group P -1, mo_50201d_0m, final R indices [$I > 2\sigma(I)$], R1 = 0.0340, wR2 = 0.0695, a = 9.2828(11) \AA , b = 9.4782(12) \AA , c = 10.3493(12) \AA , $\alpha = 113.833(2)^\circ$, $\beta = 108.559(2)^\circ$

α , $\gamma = 91.384(2)^\circ$, $V = 777.26(16) \text{ \AA}^3$, $T = 296(2) \text{ K}$, $Z = 2$, reflections collected / unique: 5582 / 3665 [$R(\text{int}) = 0.0576$], parameters 209. Supplementary crystallographic data have been deposited at the Cambridge Crystallographic Data Center. CCDC: 1438272.



The following compounds were prepared according to Typical Procedure III.

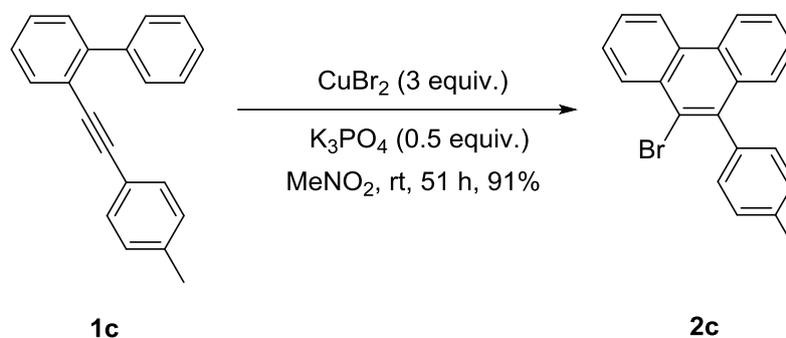
1) 9-Bromo-10-(4-ethoxyphenyl)phenanthrene (**2b**)



The reaction of **1b** (60 mg, 0.20 mmol), CuBr_2 (135 mg, 0.60 mmol), K_3PO_4 (21 mg, 0.10 mmol), and anhydrous nitromethane (3 mL) afforded **2b** as a solid (76 mg, 99%); mp 133.4–133.7 °C (dichloromethane/petroleum ether). ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 8.74–8.67 (m, 2 H), 8.57–8.50 (m, 1 H), 7.73–7.61 (m, 3 H), 7.49–7.42 (m, 2 H), 7.26–7.21 (m, 2 H), 7.09–7.02 (m, 2 H), 4.14 (q, $J = 7.2 \text{ Hz}$, 2 H), 1.48 (t, $J = 7.2 \text{ Hz}$, 3 H); ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 158.6, 139.6, 133.3, 133.1, 131.3, 131.1, 130.7,

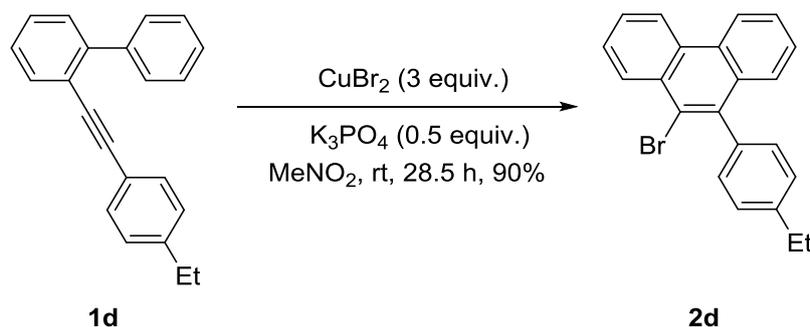
129.8, 129.1, 128.2, 127.8, 127.5, 127.1, 126.9, 124.3, 122.8, 114.4, 63.6, 15.1; IR (neat) 1607, 1568, 1524, 1507, 1481, 1447, 1418 cm^{-1} ; HRMS (EI) calcd for $\text{C}_{22}\text{H}_{17}\text{BrO}$ 376.0463, found 376.0469.

2) 9-Bromo-10-(4-methylphenyl)phenanthrene (2c)



The reaction of **1c** (54 mg, 0.20 mmol), CuBr_2 (134 mg, 0.60 mmol), K_3PO_4 (20 mg, 0.10 mmol), and anhydrous nitromethane (3 mL) afforded **2c** as a solid (63 mg, 91%); mp 151.7-152.6 $^\circ\text{C}$ (dichloromethane/petroleum ether). ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 8.72-8.65 (m, 2 H), 8.55-8.48 (m, 1 H), 7.72-7.65 (m, 2 H), 7.64-7.57 (m, 1 H), 7.45-7.40 (m, 2 H), 7.34 (d, $J = 7.6$ Hz, 2 H), 7.25-7.18 (m, 2 H), 2.48 (s, 3 H); ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 139.9, 138.2, 137.5, 132.9, 131.1, 130.7, 130.0, 129.8, 129.3, 129.1, 128.1, 127.8, 127.5, 127.1, 126.9, 123.8, 122.8, 21.6; IR (neat) 1566, 1506, 1481, 1444, 1419, 1401, 1377 cm^{-1} ; HRMS (EI) calcd for $\text{C}_{21}\text{H}_{15}\text{Br}$ 346.0357, found 346.0360.

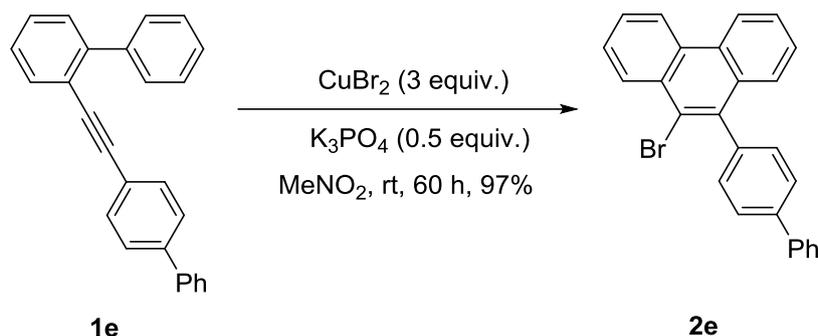
3) 9-Bromo-10-(4-ethylphenyl)phenanthrene (2d)



The reaction of **1d** (56 mg, 0.20 mmol), CuBr_2 (133 mg, 0.60 mmol), K_3PO_4 (21 mg, 0.10 mmol), and anhydrous nitromethane (3 mL) afforded **2d** as a solid (65 mg, 90%); mp 134.2-134.6 $^\circ\text{C}$ (dichloromethane/petroleum ether). ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 8.76-8.68 (m, 2 H), 8.56-8.49 (m, 1 H), 7.74-7.58 (m, 3 H), 7.47-7.35 (m, 4 H), 7.25

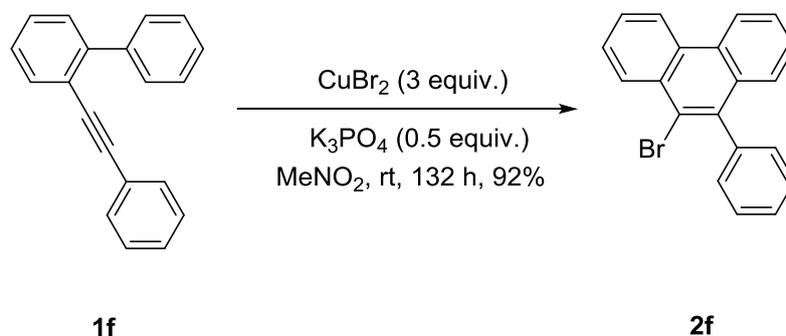
(d, $J = 8.0$ Hz, 2 H), 2.80 (q, $J = 7.6$ Hz, 2 H), 1.36 (t, $J = 7.6$, 3 H); ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 143.8, 139.9, 138.4, 133.0, 131.1, 130.7, 130.0, 129.8, 129.1, 128.2, 128.0, 127.8, 127.5, 127.1, 126.9, 123.8, 122.8, 28.9, 15.5; IR (neat) 1566, 1559, 1505, 1483, 1458, 1444, 1419 cm^{-1} ; HRMS (EI) calcd for $\text{C}_{22}\text{H}_{17}\text{Br}$ 360.0514, found 360.0518.

4) 9-Bromo-10-(4-phenylphenyl)phenanthrene (2e)



The reaction of **1e** (66 mg, 0.20 mmol), CuBr_2 (134 mg, 0.60 mmol), K_3PO_4 (21 mg, 0.10 mmol), and anhydrous nitromethane (3 mL) afforded **2e** as a solid (79 mg, 97%); mp 209.5-210.3 $^\circ\text{C}$ (dichloromethane/petroleum ether). ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 8.75-8.67 (m, 2 H), 8.57-8.50 (m, 1 H), 7.81-7.62 (m, 7 H), 7.51-7.35 (m, 7 H); ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 140.8, 140.6, 140.1, 139.5, 132.7, 131.1, 130.6, 129.8, 129.1, 129.0, 128.1, 127.9, 127.60, 127.57, 127.3, 127.2, 127.0, 123.77, 122.81, 122.78; IR (neat) 1600, 1580, 1564, 1483, 1444, 1417, 1399 cm^{-1} ; HRMS (EI) calcd for $\text{C}_{26}\text{H}_{17}\text{Br}$ 408.0514, found 408.0512.

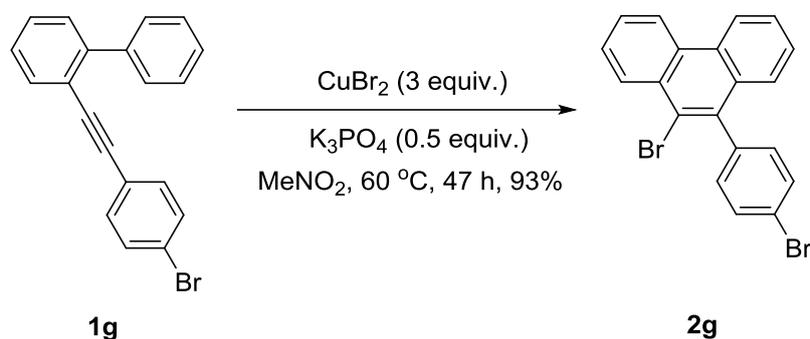
5) 9-Bromo-10-phenylphenanthrene (2f)⁸



The reaction of **1f** (51 mg, 0.20 mmol), CuBr_2 (133 mg, 0.60 mmol), K_3PO_4 (21 mg, 0.10 mmol), and anhydrous nitromethane (3 mL) afforded **2f** as a solid (61 mg, 92%). ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 8.75-8.66 (m, 2 H), 8.55-8.49 (m, 1 H), 7.74-7.30 (m,

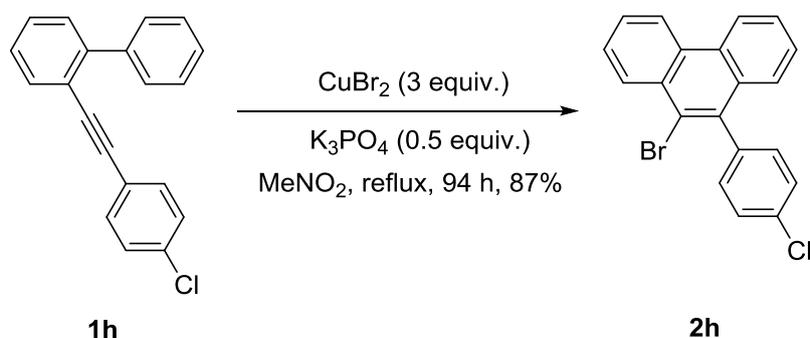
10 H).

6) 9-Bromo-10-(4-bromophenyl)phenanthrene (2g)



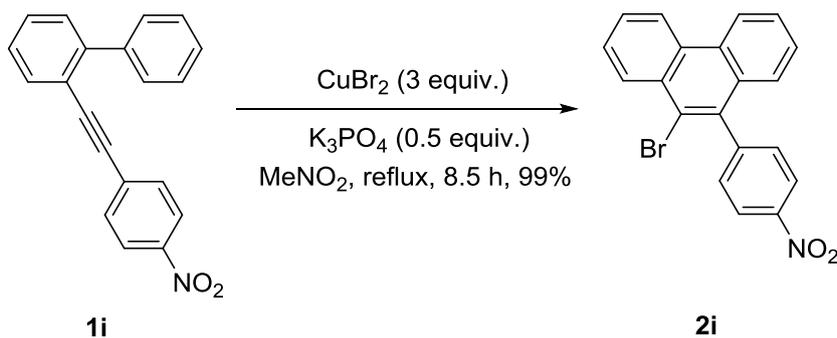
The reaction of **1g** (67 mg, 0.20 mmol), CuBr_2 (134 mg, 0.60 mmol), K_3PO_4 (21 mg, 0.10 mmol), and anhydrous nitromethane (3 mL) afforded **2g** as a solid (77 mg, 93%); mp $207.3\text{-}207.9\text{ }^\circ\text{C}$ (dichloromethane/petroleum ether). ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 8.78-8.70 (m, 2 H), 8.55-8.49 (m, 1 H), 7.80-7.63 (m, 5 H), 7.47 (t, $J = 7.6$ Hz, 1 H), 7.39 (d, $J = 8.2$ Hz, 1 H), 7.23 (d, $J = 8.4$ Hz, 2 H); ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 139.8, 138.4, 132.2, 131.8, 131.7, 131.0, 130.3, 129.7, 129.0, 127.8, 127.7, 127.6, 127.2, 127.0, 123.6, 122.8, 122.7, 121.9; IR (neat) 1595, 1567, 1558, 1485, 1443, 1415 cm^{-1} ; HRMS (EI) calcd for $\text{C}_{20}\text{H}_{12}\text{Br}_2$ 409.9306, found 409.9307.

7) 9-Bromo-10-(4-chlorophenyl)phenanthrene (2h)



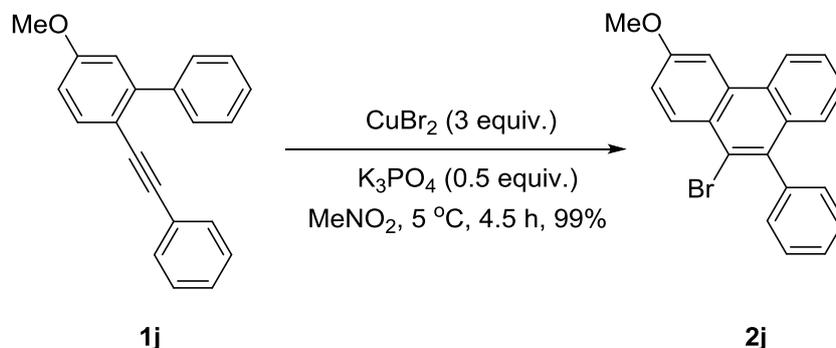
The reaction of **1h** (58 mg, 0.20 mmol), CuBr_2 (134 mg, 0.60 mmol), K_3PO_4 (21 mg, 0.10 mmol), and anhydrous nitromethane (3 mL) afforded **2h** as a solid (64 mg, 87%); mp $207.1\text{-}207.2\text{ }^\circ\text{C}$ (dichloromethane/petroleum ether). ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 8.76-8.70 (m, 2 H), 8.55-8.48 (m, 1 H), 7.77-7.62 (m, 3 H), 7.55-7.22 (m, 6 H); ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 139.5, 138.6, 133.9, 132.5, 131.6, 131.2, 130.5, 129.9, 129.1, 128.9, 128.0, 127.80, 127.77, 127.3, 127.2, 123.9, 122.9, 122.8; IR (neat) 1558, 1481, 1442, 1418 cm^{-1} ; HRMS (EI) calcd for $\text{C}_{20}\text{H}_{12}\text{BrCl}$ 365.9811, found 365.9819.

8) 9-Bromo-10-(4-nitrophenyl)phenanthrene (**2i**)



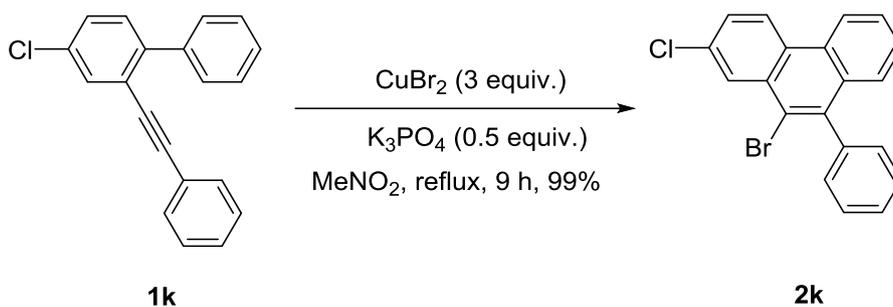
The reaction of **1i** (60 mg, 0.20 mmol), CuBr₂ (134 mg, 0.60 mmol), K₃PO₄ (21 mg, 0.10 mmol), and anhydrous nitromethane (3 mL) afforded **2i** as a solid (75 mg, 99%); mp 192.6-193.0 °C (dichloromethane/petroleum ether). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.76 (d, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 2 H), 8.55-8.48 (m, 1 H), 8.45-8.39 (m, 2 H), 7.82-7.65 (m, 3 H), 7.57-7.43 (m, 3 H), 7.25 (s, 1 H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 147.9, 147.7, 137.5, 131.8, 131.5, 131.3, 130.2, 129.9, 129.1, 128.2, 127.6, 127.5, 127.2, 124.7, 124.0, 123.4, 123.1, 122.9; IR (neat) 1597, 1515, 1485, 1445 cm⁻¹; HRMS (EI) calcd for C₂₀H₁₂BrNO₂ 377.0051, found 377.0058.

9) 10-Bromo-3-methoxy-9-phenylphenanthrene (**2j**)



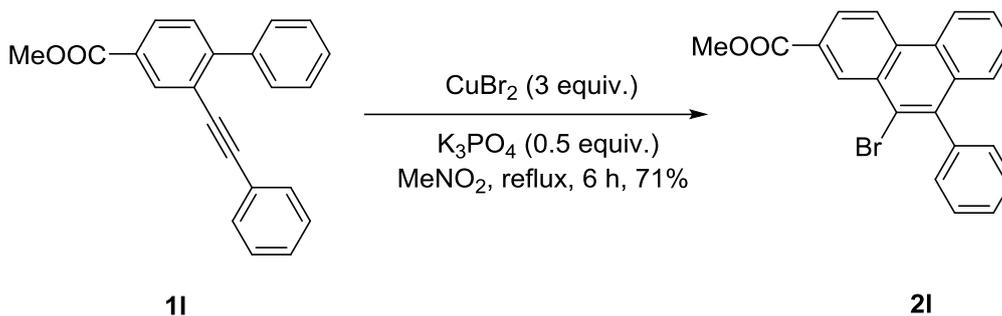
The reaction of **1j** (57 mg, 0.20 mmol), CuBr₂ (134 mg, 0.60 mmol), K₃PO₄ (21 mg, 0.10 mmol), and anhydrous nitromethane (3 mL) afforded **2j** as a solid (72 mg, 99%); mp 157.3-157.9 °C (dichloromethane/petroleum ether). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.62-7.55 (m, 2 H), 7.51-7.20 (m, 8 H), 7.11-6.91 (m, 2 H), 3.88 (s, 3 H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 160.1, 142.7, 140.7, 140.6, 131.9, 131.1, 129.1, 128.9, 128.8, 128.4, 128.1, 127.8, 119.9, 118.8, 115.5, 113.4, 55.6; IR (neat) 1599, 1562, 1490, 1477, 1457, 1443 cm⁻¹; HRMS (ESI) calcd for C₂₁H₁₆BrO 363.0379, found 363.0373.

10) 10-Bromo-2-chloro-9-phenylphenanthrene (**2k**)



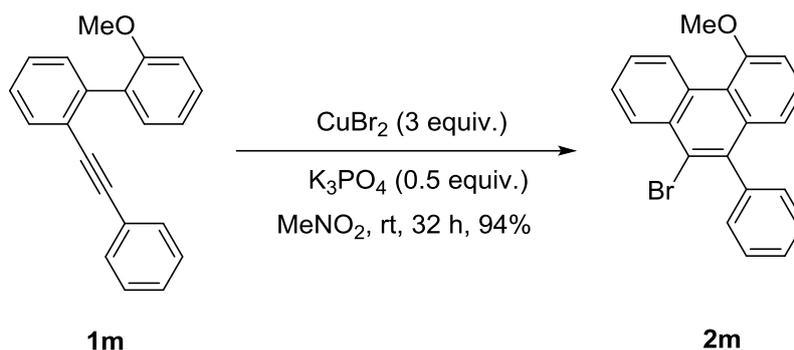
The reaction of **1k** (58 mg, 0.20 mmol), CuBr_2 (134 mg, 0.60 mmol), K_3PO_4 (21 mg, 0.10 mmol), and anhydrous nitromethane (3 mL) afforded **2k** as a solid (73 mg, 99%); mp 121.4-121.7 °C (dichloromethane/petroleum ether). ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 8.62 (d, $J = 8.8$ Hz, 2 H), 8.52 (d, $J = 2.0$ Hz, 1 H), 7.69-7.28 (m, 9 H); ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 141.1, 140.8, 134.0, 132.6, 131.8, 130.0, 129.43, 129.40, 128.6, 128.4, 128.2, 128.0, 127.5, 127.4, 124.5, 122.7, 122.2; IR (neat) 1603, 1576, 1494, 1478, 1445 1421 cm^{-1} ; HRMS (EI) calcd for $\text{C}_{20}\text{H}_{12}\text{BrCl}$ 365.9811, found 365.9812.

11) 10-Bromo-2-(methoxycarbonyl)-9-phenylphenanthrene (**2l**)



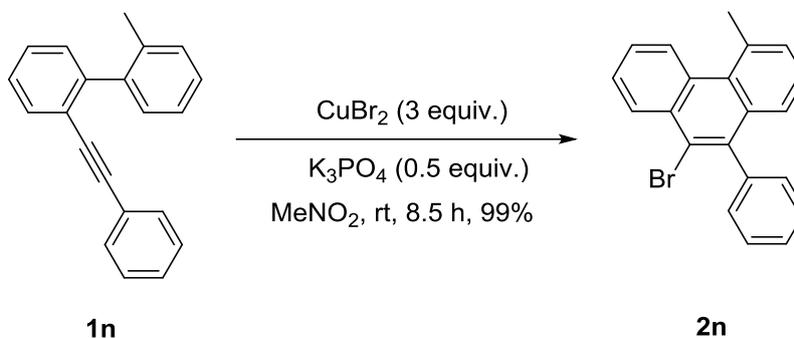
The reaction of **1l** (62 mg, 0.20 mmol), CuBr_2 (134 mg, 0.60 mmol), K_3PO_4 (21 mg, 0.10 mmol), and anhydrous nitromethane (3 mL) afforded **2l** as a solid (55 mg, 71%); mp 198.2-200.3 °C (dichloromethane/petroleum ether). ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 9.21 (s, 1 H), 8.77-8.68 (m, 2 H), 8.30 (dd, $J = 8.8, 1.6$ Hz, 1 H), 7.71-7.30 (m, 8 H), 4.02 (s, 3 H); ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 196.5, 167.0, 140.8, 134.1, 133.6, 131.4, 130.3, 130.0, 129.23, 129.20, 128.7, 128.3, 128.2, 128.0, 127.5, 127.3, 123.8, 123.4, 123.2, 52.5; IR (neat) 1708, 1560, 1497, 1429 cm^{-1} ; HRMS (EI) calcd for $\text{C}_{22}\text{H}_{15}\text{BrO}_2$ 390.0255, found 390.0246.

12) 9-Bromo-4-methoxy-10-phenylphenanthrene (**2m**)



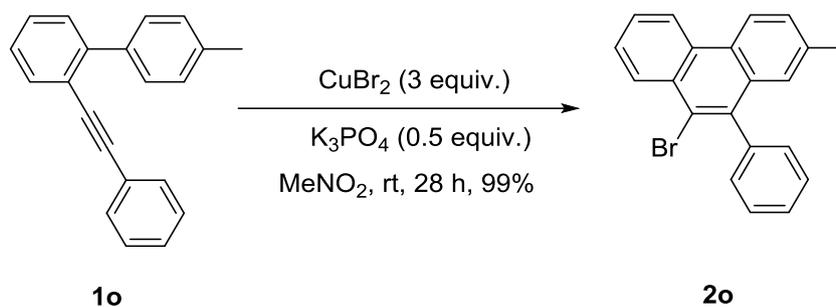
The reaction of **1m** (57 mg, 0.20 mmol), CuBr_2 (134 mg, 0.60 mmol), K_3PO_4 (21 mg, 0.10 mmol), and anhydrous nitromethane (3 mL) afforded **2m** as a solid (68 mg, 94%); mp 163.5-164.6 °C (dichloromethane/petroleum ether). ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 9.80-9.72 (m, 1 H), 8.62-8.55 (m, 1 H), 7.74-7.65 (m, 2 H), 7.55-7.46 (m, 3 H), 7.41-7.28 (m, 3 H), 7.17 (dd, $J = 8.0, 0.8$ Hz, 1 H), 7.05 (dd, $J = 8.4, 1.2$ Hz, 1 H), 4.14 (s, 3 H); ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 158.7, 142.1, 139.7, 135.0, 131.2, 130.8, 130.1, 128.7, 128.6, 128.5, 127.7, 127.3, 127.2, 126.8, 125.0, 121.1, 109.1, 56.1; IR (neat) 1603, 1566, 1523, 1491, 1483, 1448, 1430 cm^{-1} ; HRMS (EI) calcd for $\text{C}_{21}\text{H}_{15}\text{BrO}$ 362.0306, found 362.0310.

13) 9-Bromo-4-methyl-10-phenylphenanthrene (**2n**)



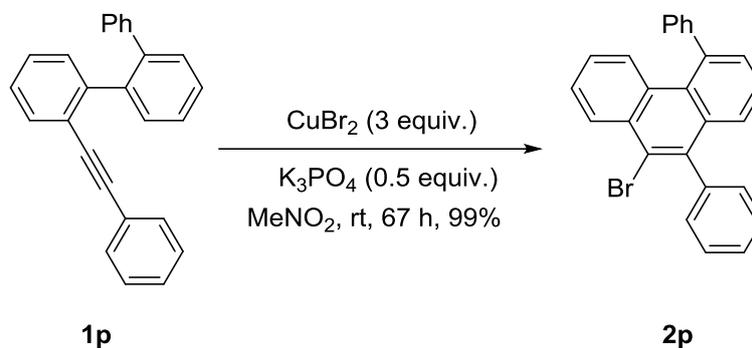
The reaction of **1n** (54 mg, 0.20 mmol), CuBr_2 (134 mg, 0.60 mmol), K_3PO_4 (21 mg, 0.10 mmol), and anhydrous nitromethane (3 mL) afforded **2n** as a liquid (69 mg, 99%). ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 8.88-8.81 (m, 1 H), 8.63-8.56 (m, 1 H), 7.75-7.63 (m, 2 H), 7.59-7.44 (m, 4 H), 7.37-7.26 (m, 4 H), 3.16 (s, 3 H); ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 142.0, 135.2, 132.3, 131.7, 131.5, 130.15, 130.13, 128.8, 128.6, 127.74, 127.71, 127.2, 126.7, 126.23, 126.18, 123.8, 27.5; IR (neat) 1586, 1570, 1493, 1483, 1446 cm^{-1} ; HRMS (EI) calcd for $\text{C}_{21}\text{H}_{15}\text{Br}$ 346.0357, found 346.0356.

14) 9-Bromo-2-methyl-10-phenylphenanthrene (**2o**)



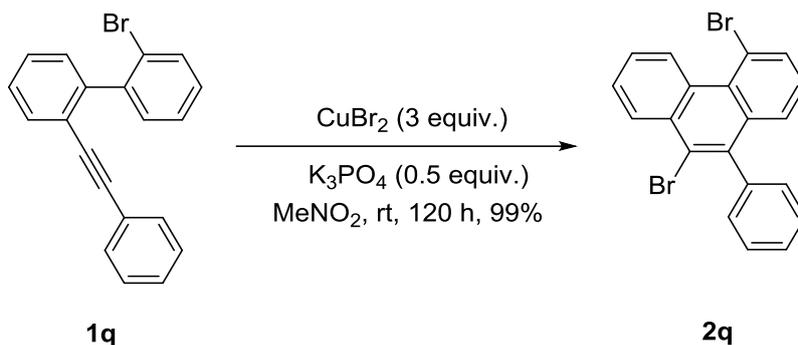
The reaction of **1o** (54 mg, 0.20 mmol), CuBr₂ (134 mg, 0.60 mmol), K₃PO₄ (21 mg, 0.10 mmol), and anhydrous nitromethane (3 mL) afforded **2o** as a solid (70 mg, 99%); mp 90.9-91.5 °C (dichloromethane/petroleum ether). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.69-8.62 (m, 1 H), 8.57 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 1 H), 8.52-8.46 (m, 1 H), 7.72-7.27 (m, 8 H), 7.16 (s, 1 H), 2.37 (s, 3 H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 141.3, 137.1, 132.8, 131.1, 130.2, 129.0, 128.7, 128.6, 128.5, 127.8, 127.7, 127.53, 127.49, 127.4, 126.7, 123.8, 122.7, 122.6, 21.8; IR (neat) 1615, 1578, 1564, 1495, 1477, 1442, 1426 cm⁻¹; HRMS (EI) calcd for C₂₁H₁₅Br 346.0357, found 346.0360.

15) 9-Bromo-4-phenyl-10-phenylphenanthrene (**2p**)



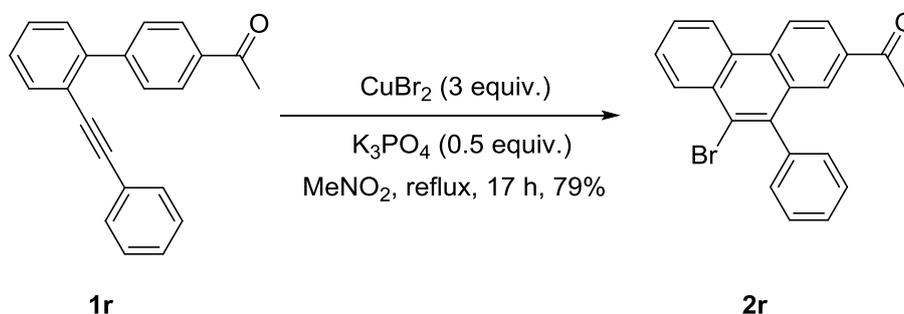
The reaction of **1p** (66 mg, 0.20 mmol), CuBr₂ (134 mg, 0.60 mmol), K₃PO₄ (21 mg, 0.10 mmol), and anhydrous nitromethane (3 mL) afforded **2p** as a solid (81 mg, 99%); mp 192.3-192.7 °C (dichloromethane/petroleum ether). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.48 (dd, *J* = 8.4, 1.2 Hz, 1 H), 7.81 (dd, *J* = 8.8, 0.8 Hz, 1 H), 7.59-7.32 (m, 14 H), 7.16-7.08 (m, 1 H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 145.3, 141.6, 140.4, 139.8, 134.2, 131.5, 131.3, 131.1, 130.2, 129.3, 129.1, 128.9, 128.6, 128.5, 128.4, 127.8, 127.7, 127.3, 126.1, 125.5, 124.3; IR (neat) 1600, 1581, 1564, 1490, 1475, 1442 cm⁻¹; HRMS (EI) calcd for C₂₆H₁₇Br 408.0514, found 408.0509.

16) 4,9-Dibromo-10-phenylphenanthrene (**2q**)



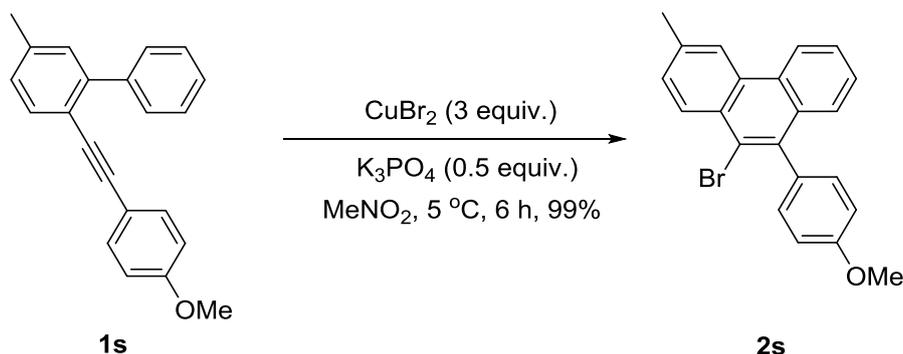
The reaction of **1q** (67 mg, 0.20 mmol), CuBr_2 (134 mg, 0.60 mmol), K_3PO_4 (21 mg, 0.10 mmol), and anhydrous nitromethane (3 mL) afforded **2q** as a liquid (82 mg, 99%). ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 9.92-9.84 (m, 1 H), 8.60-8.52 (m, 1 H), 7.97 (dd, $J = 7.6, 1.2$ Hz, 1 H), 7.79-7.66 (m, 2 H), 7.59-7.46 (m, 3 H), 7.43-7.16 (m, 4 H); ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 141.2, 139.5, 135.5, 134.9, 131.5, 130.4, 130.1, 128.7, 128.6, 128.4, 128.0, 127.2, 126.9, 126.0, 125.1, 119.4; IR (neat) 1603, 1585, 1553, 1494, 1476, 1445, 1425, 1378 cm^{-1} ; HRMS (EI) calcd for $\text{C}_{20}\text{H}_{12}\text{Br}_2$ 409.9306, found 409.9309.

17) 4-Acetyl-9-bromo-10-phenylphenanthrene (**2r**)



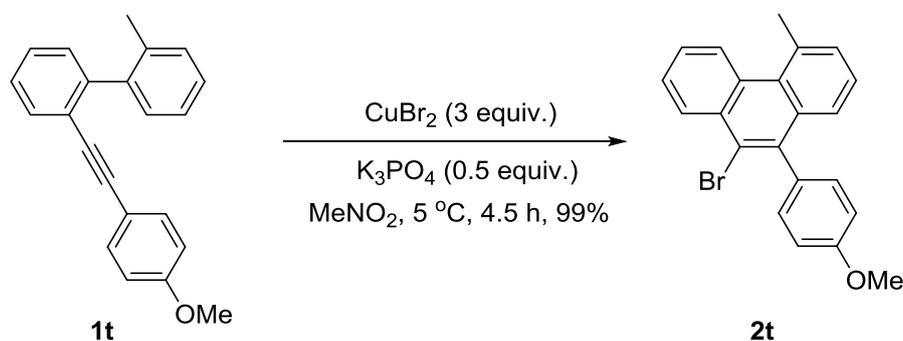
The reaction of **1r** (59 mg, 0.20 mmol), CuBr_2 (133 mg, 0.60 mmol), K_3PO_4 (21 mg, 0.10 mmol), and anhydrous nitromethane (3 mL) afforded **2r** as a solid (59 mg, 79%); mp 146.3-146.8 $^\circ\text{C}$ (dichloromethane/petroleum ether). ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 8.83-8.71 (m, 2 H), 8.60-8.53 (m, 1 H), 8.21 (dd, $J = 8.4, 1.8$ Hz, 1 H), 8.09-8.03 (m, 1 H), 7.83-7.73 (m, 2 H), 7.62-7.50 (m, 3 H), 7.39-7.31 (m, 2 H), 4.31 (s, 3 H); ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 191.1, 140.1, 133.4, 132.3, 132.2, 131.8, 130.3, 130.15, 130.07, 129.4, 128.8, 128.5, 128.4, 128.2, 125.8, 125.0, 123.7, 123.6, 30.8; IR (neat) 1680, 1601, 1568, 1524, 1491, 1473, 1440 cm^{-1} ; HRMS (EI) calcd for $\text{C}_{22}\text{H}_{15}\text{BrO}$ 374.0306, found 374.0301.

18) 10-Bromo-9-(4-methoxyphenyl)-3-methylphenanthrene (2s)



The reaction of **1s** (60 mg, 0.20 mmol), CuBr_2 (133 mg, 0.60 mmol), K_3PO_4 (21 mg, 0.10 mmol), and anhydrous nitromethane (3 mL) afforded **2s** as a solid (75 mg, 99%); mp $139.2\text{--}140.3^\circ\text{C}$ (dichloromethane/petroleum ether). ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 8.68 (d, $J = 8.4$ Hz, 1 H), 8.50 (s, 1 H), 8.39 (d, $J = 8.4$ Hz, 1 H), 7.65–7.40 (m, 4 H), 7.28–7.20 (m, 2 H), 7.11–7.02 (m, 2 H), 3.91 (s, 3 H), 2.64 (s, 3 H); ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 159.2, 138.5, 137.4, 133.6, 133.2, 131.4, 131.1, 129.5, 129.0, 128.7, 128.1, 127.0, 126.7, 124.2, 122.7, 122.5, 113.9, 55.4, 22.0; IR (neat) 1608, 1520, 1506, 1492, 1456, 1439, 1425 cm^{-1} ; HRMS (EI) calcd for $\text{C}_{22}\text{H}_{17}\text{BrO}$ 376.0463, found 376.0458.

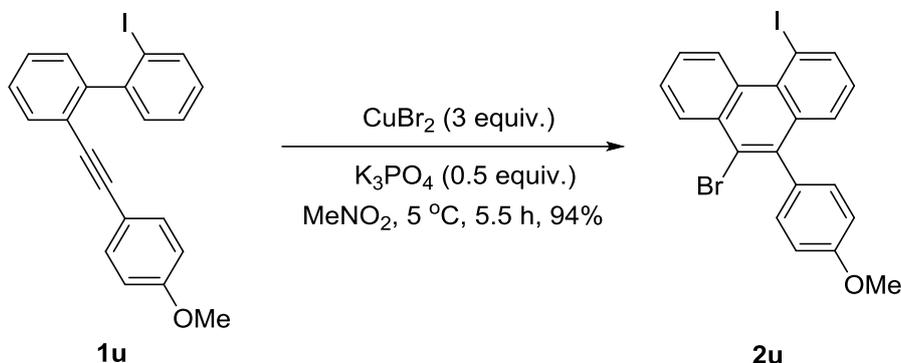
19) 9-Bromo-10-(4-methoxyphenyl)-4-methylphenanthrene (2t)



The reaction of **1t** (60 mg, 0.20 mmol), CuBr_2 (134 mg, 0.60 mmol), K_3PO_4 (21 mg, 0.10 mmol), and anhydrous nitromethane (3 mL) afforded **2t** as a solid (75 mg, 99%); mp $166.1\text{--}166.8^\circ\text{C}$ (dichloromethane/petroleum ether). ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 8.85–8.77 (m, 1 H), 8.62–8.53 (m, 1 H), 7.72–7.61 (m, 2 H), 7.52–7.44 (m, 1 H), 7.39–7.26 (m, 2 H), 7.27–7.17 (m, 2 H), 7.10–7.00 (m, 2 H), 3.90 (s, 3 H), 3.12 (s, 3 H); ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 159.1, 140.0, 135.2, 134.6, 134.3, 132.2, 131.6, 131.5, 131.3, 130.1, 128.9, 127.7, 127.1, 126.7, 126.1, 124.4, 113.9, 55.4, 27.4; IR (neat)

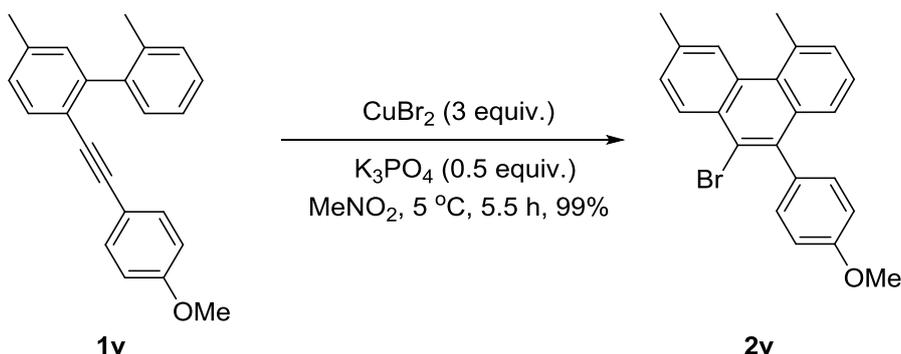
1607, 1558, 1505, 1478, 1458, 1449, 1436 cm^{-1} ; HRMS (EI) calcd for $\text{C}_{22}\text{H}_{17}\text{BrO}$ 376.0463, found 376.0467.

20) 9-Bromo-4-iodo-10-(4-methoxyphenyl)phenanthrene (2u)



The reaction of **1u** (82 mg, 0.20 mmol), CuBr_2 (134 mg, 0.60 mmol), K_3PO_4 (21 mg, 0.10 mmol), and anhydrous nitromethane (3 mL) afforded **2u** as a solid (92 mg, 94%); mp 161.3-161.4 °C (dichloromethane/petroleum ether). ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 9.79-9.70 (m, 1 H), 8.50 (dd, $J = 8.4, 1.6$ Hz, 1 H), 8.32 (dd, $J = 7.6, 1.2$ Hz, 1 H), 7.74-7.66 (m, 2 H), 7.43 (dd, $J = 8.0, 1.2$ Hz, 1 H), 7.28-7.15 (m, 2 H), 7.13-6.97 (m, 3 H), 3.91 (s, 3 H); ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 159.3, 142.6, 139.1, 135.0, 133.2, 131.5, 131.3, 131.1, 130.8, 128.7, 128.6, 128.4, 127.4, 127.0, 125.3, 125.1, 114.1, 89.7, 55.4; IR (neat) 1610, 1577, 1553, 1515, 1503, 1475 cm^{-1} ; HRMS (EI) calcd for $\text{C}_{21}\text{H}_{14}\text{BrIO}$ 487.9273, found 487.9274.

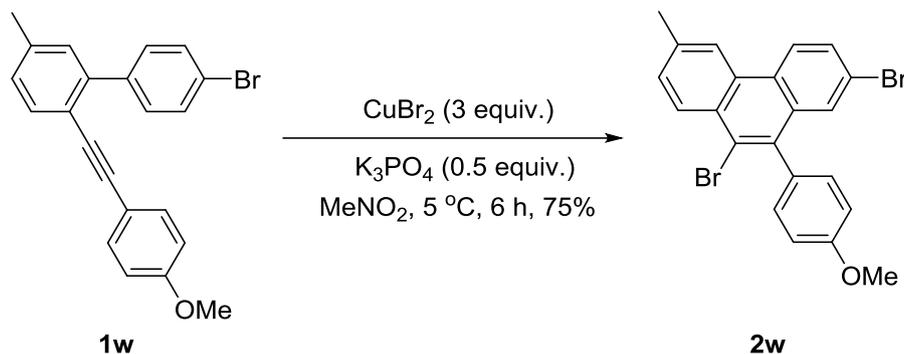
21) 10-Bromo-9-(4-methoxyphenyl)-3,5-dimethylphenanthrene (2v)



The reaction of **1v** (62 mg, 0.20 mmol), CuBr_2 (134 mg, 0.60 mmol), K_3PO_4 (22 mg, 0.10 mmol), and anhydrous nitromethane (3 mL) afforded **2v** as a solid (78 mg, 99%); mp 148.6-148.9 °C (dichloromethane/petroleum ether). ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 8.62 (s, 1 H), 8.46 (d, $J = 8.4$ Hz, 1 H), 7.56-7.42 (m, 2 H), 7.37-7.18 (m, 4 H),

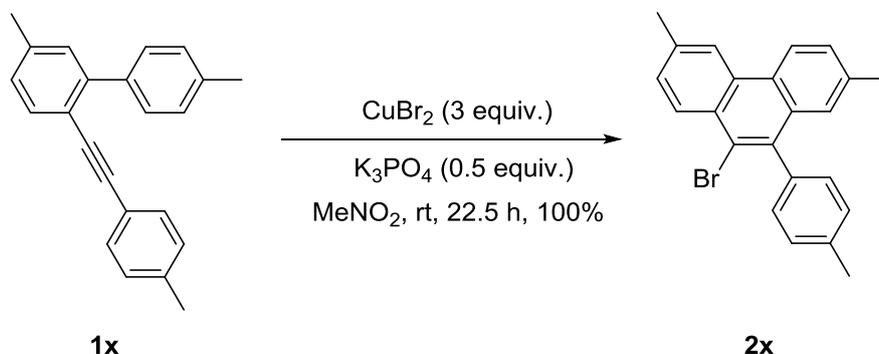
7.09-7.02 (m, 2 H), 3.91 (s, 3 H), 3.14 (s, 3 H), 2.64 (s, 3 H); ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 159.1, 139.0, 135.8, 135.1, 134.7, 134.3, 132.3, 131.40, 131.35, 129.9, 129.5, 128.7, 128.6, 127.7, 126.6, 126.0, 124.3, 113.9, 55.4, 27.5, 22.2; IR (neat) 1607, 1519, 1507, 1488, 1439, 1461, 1439 cm^{-1} ; HRMS (EI) calcd for $\text{C}_{23}\text{H}_{19}\text{BrO}$ 390.0619, found 390.0623.

22) 2,9-Dibromo-10-(4-methoxyphenyl)-6-methylphenanthrene (2w)



The reaction of **1w** (75 mg, 0.20 mmol), CuBr_2 (133 mg, 0.60 mmol), K_3PO_4 (21 mg, 0.10 mmol), and anhydrous nitromethane (3 mL) afforded **2w** as a solid (68 mg, 75%); mp 168.8-169.1 °C (dichloromethane/petroleum ether). ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 8.49 (d, $J = 8.8$ Hz, 1 H), 8.43-8.32 (m, 2 H), 7.69-7.62 (m, 1 H), 7.58-7.48 (m, 2 H), 7.27-7.17 (m, 2 H), 7.06 (d, $J = 8.4$ Hz, 2 H), 3.92 (s, 3 H), 2.63 (s, 3 H); ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 159.3, 137.8, 137.5, 134.5, 132.7, 131.3, 130.5, 130.2, 129.9, 129.8, 129.2, 128.6, 128.2, 125.6, 124.5, 122.4, 121.3, 114.1, 55.4, 22.0; IR (neat) 1611, 1590, 1515, 1507, 1483, 1455 cm^{-1} ; HRMS (EI) calcd for $\text{C}_{22}\text{H}_{16}\text{Br}_2\text{O}$ 453.9568, found 453.9566.

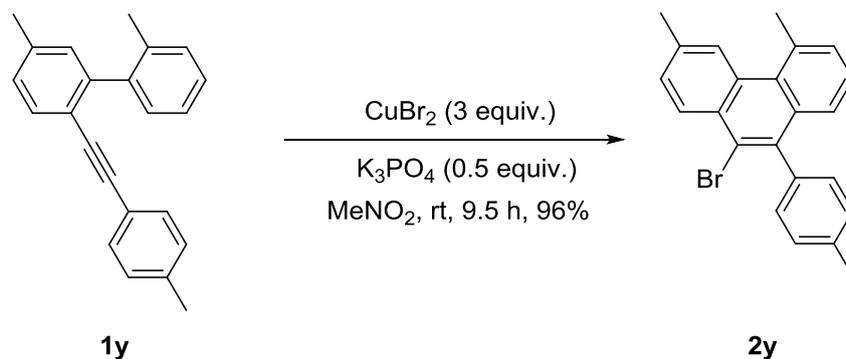
23) 9-Bromo-2,6-dimethyl-10-(*p*-tolyl)phenanthrene (2x)



The reaction of **1x** (59 mg, 0.20 mmol), CuBr_2 (134 mg, 0.60 mmol), K_3PO_4 (21 mg, 0.10 mmol), and anhydrous nitromethane (3 mL) afforded **2x** as a solid (75 mg,

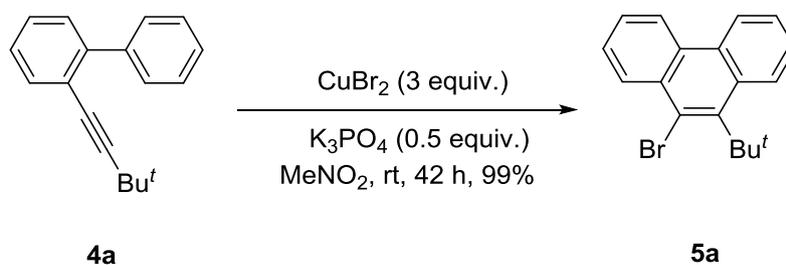
100%); mp 149.9-150.0 °C (dichloromethane/petroleum ether). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.54 (d, *J* = 8.8 Hz, 1 H), 8.43 (s, 1 H), 8.35 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 1 H), 7.49-7.37 (m, 2 H), 7.33 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2 H), 7.23-7.16 (m, 3 H), 2.61 (s, 3 H), 2.48 (s, 3 H), 2.36 (s, 3 H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 138.4, 137.3, 137.2, 136.8, 133.1, 131.1, 130.1, 129.2, 129.0, 128.9, 128.5, 128.3, 127.5, 123.8, 122.7, 122.3, 22.0, 21.8, 21.6; IR (neat) 1616, 1583, 1567, 1510, 1488, 1455 cm⁻¹; HRMS (EI) calcd for C₂₃H₁₉Br 374.0670, found 374.0665.

24) 10-Bromo-3,5-dimethyl-9-(*p*-tolyl)phenanthrene (2y)



The reaction of **1y** (59 mg, 0.20 mmol), CuBr₂ (134 mg, 0.60 mmol), K₃PO₄ (21 mg, 0.10 mmol), and anhydrous nitromethane (3 mL) afforded **2y** as a solid (72 mg, 96%); mp 162.6-163.6 °C (dichloromethane/petroleum ether). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.61 (s, 1 H), 8.45 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 1 H), 7.52-7.41 (m, 2 H), 7.36-7.24 (m, 4 H), 7.23-7.16 (m, 2 H), 3.12 (s, 3 H), 2.62 (s, 3 H), 2.48 (s, 3 H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 139.3, 139.0, 137.3, 135.8, 135.1, 134.5, 132.3, 131.4, 130.1, 129.9, 129.5, 129.2, 128.7, 128.6, 127.7, 126.6, 126.0, 123.9, 27.5, 22.2, 21.6; IR (neat) 1616, 1592, 1558, 1525, 1507, 1488, 1443 cm⁻¹; HRMS (EI) calcd for C₂₃H₁₉Br 374.0670, found 374.0663.

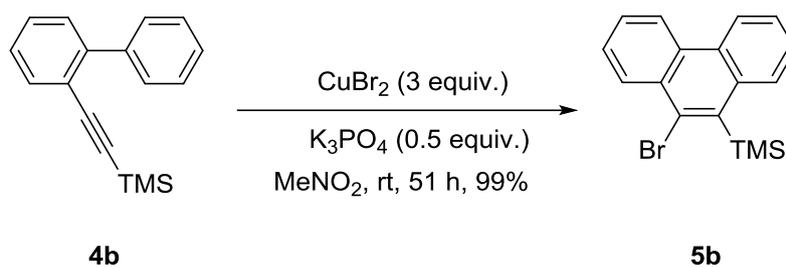
25) 9-Bromo-10-(*tert*-butyl)phenanthrene (5a)



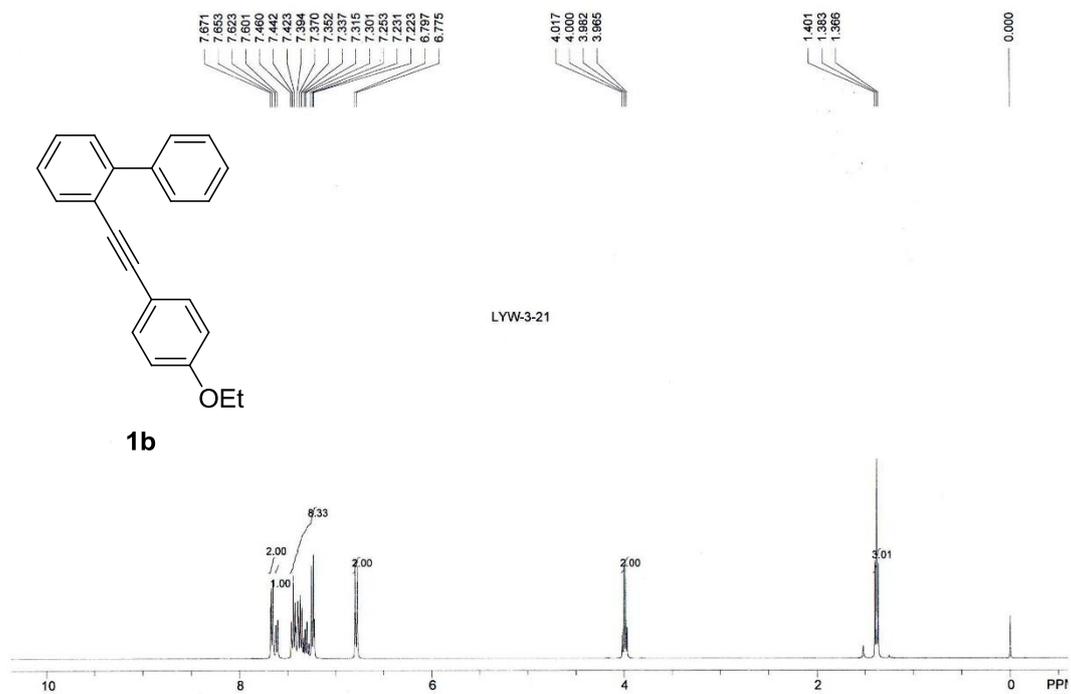
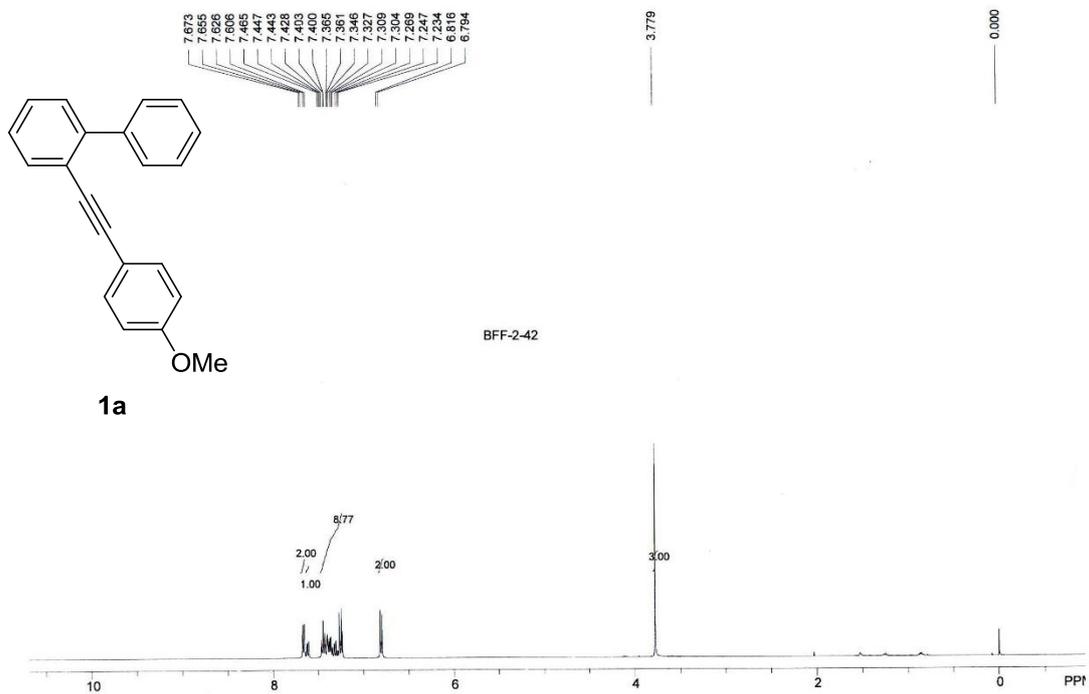
The reaction of **4a** (47 mg, 0.20 mmol), CuBr₂ (134 mg, 0.60 mmol), K₃PO₄ (21 mg,

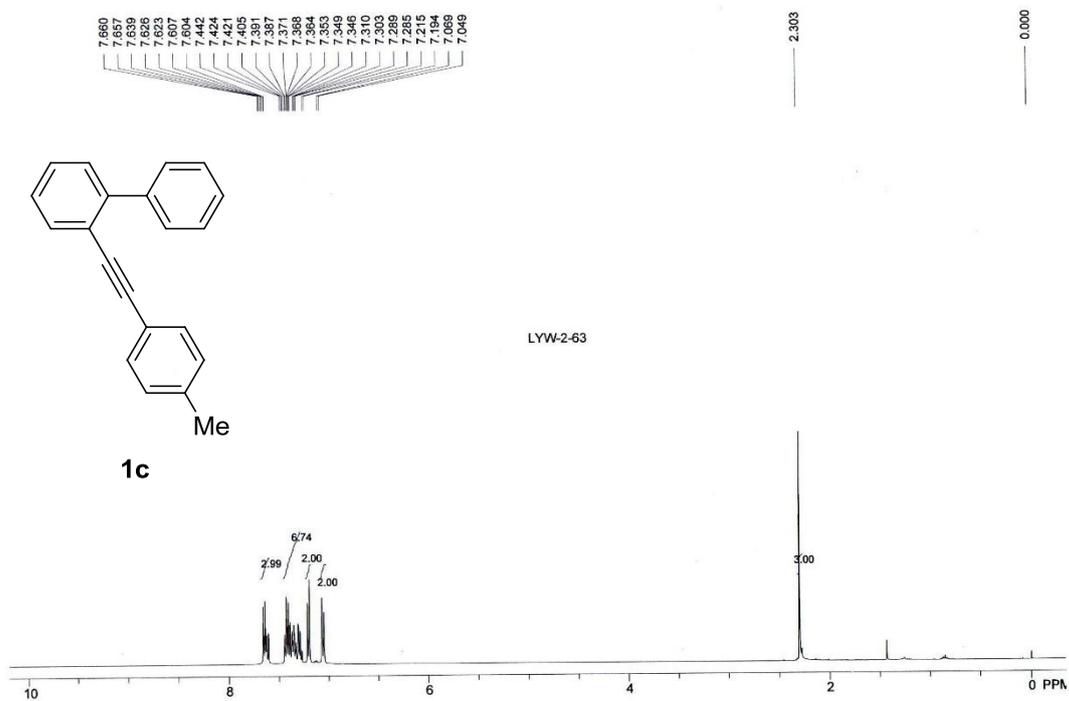
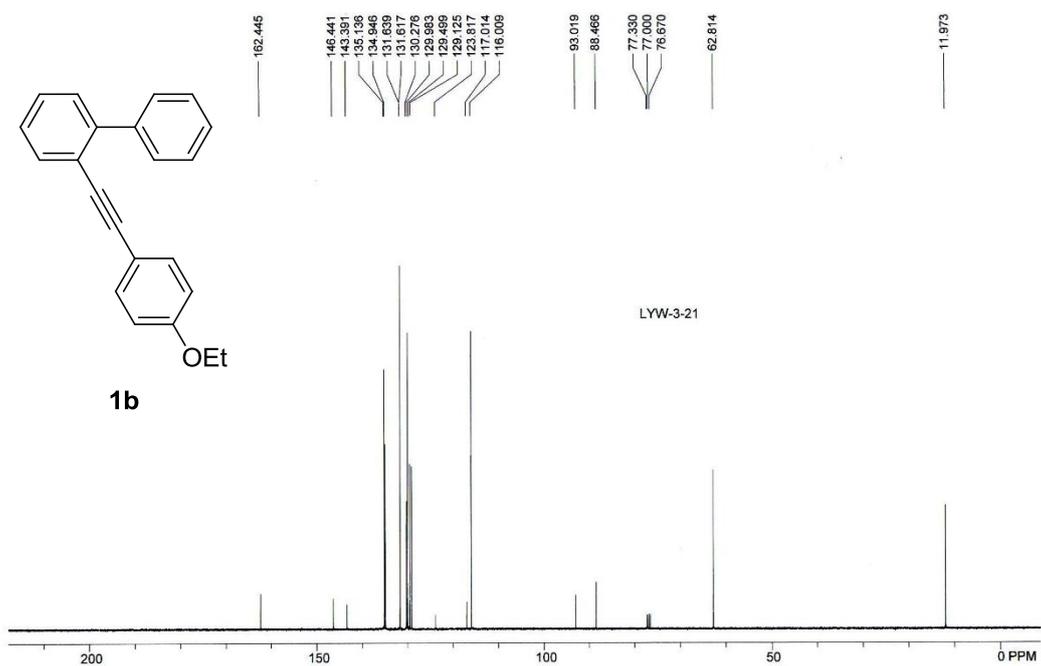
0.10 mmol), and anhydrous nitromethane (3 mL) afforded **5a** as a solid (62 mg, 99%); mp 68.3-69.3 °C (dichloromethane/petroleum ether). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.61-7.54 (m, 2 H), 7.45-7.30 (m, 6 H), 0.83 (s, 9 H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 141.8, 140.6, 140.3, 140.2, 130.5, 130.2, 129.29, 129.28, 128.4, 127.6, 127.0, 122.8, 43.1, 31.0; IR (neat) 1598, 1558, 1500, 1473, 1446, 1427 cm⁻¹; HRMS (ESI) calcd for C₁₈H₁₇Br 312.0514, found 312.0517.

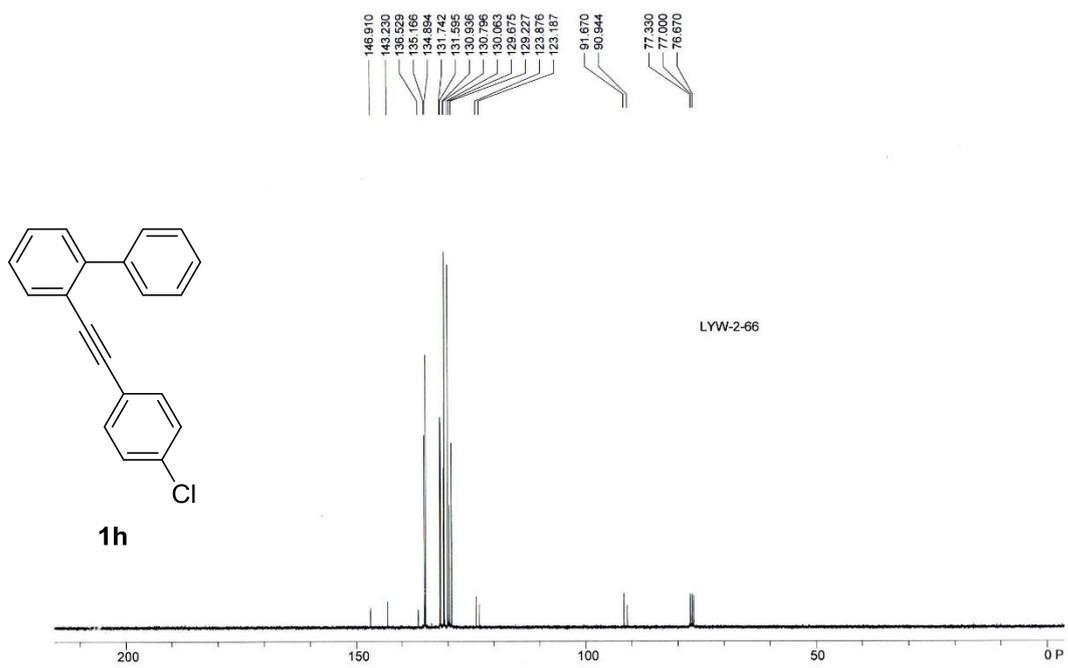
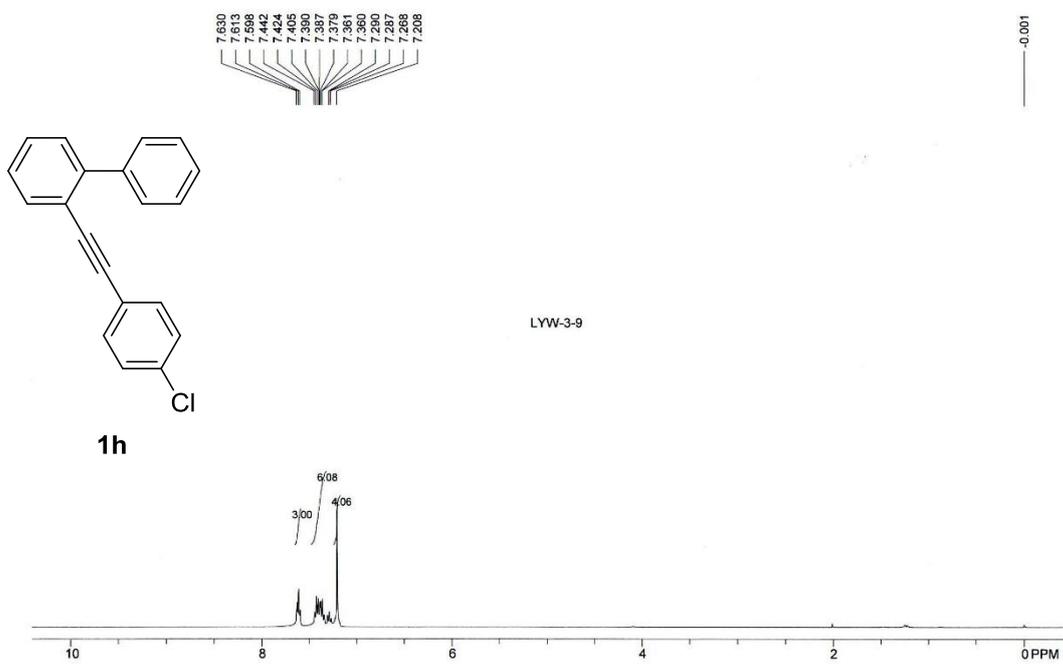
26) 9-Bromo-10-trimethylsilylphenanthrene (**5b**)



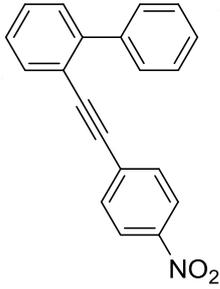
The reaction of **4b** (50 mg, 0.20 mmol), CuBr₂ (133 mg, 0.60 mmol), K₃PO₄ (21 mg, 0.10 mmol), and anhydrous nitromethane (3 mL) afforded **5b** as a liquid (65 mg, 99%). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.55-7.48 (m, 2 H), 7.47-7.32 (m, 6 H), -0.18 (s, 9 H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 143.4, 142.8, 142.1, 135.4, 135.3, 132.9, 132.8, 132.1, 131.5, 130.6, 129.8, 129.4, -3.9; IR (neat) 1585, 1561, 1469, 1445, 1428, 1403 cm⁻¹; HRMS (ESI) calcd for C₁₇H₁₇BrSi 328.0283, found 328.0290.



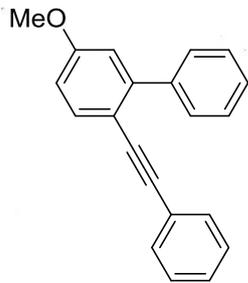
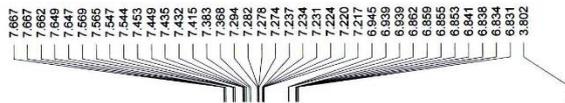
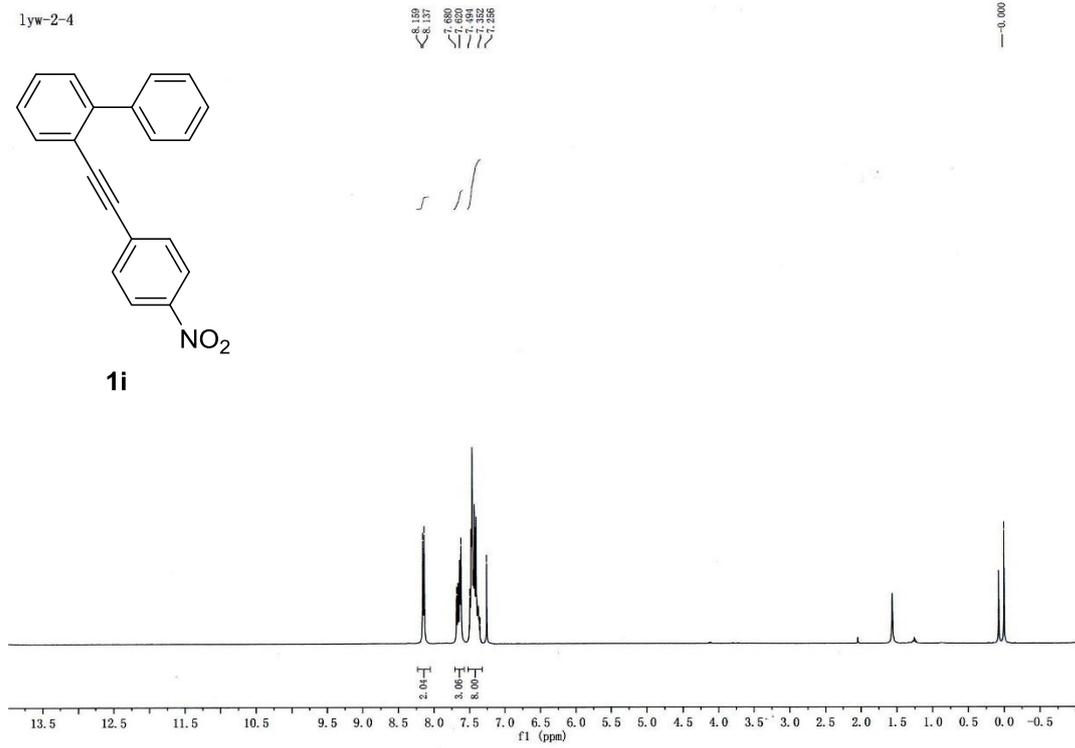




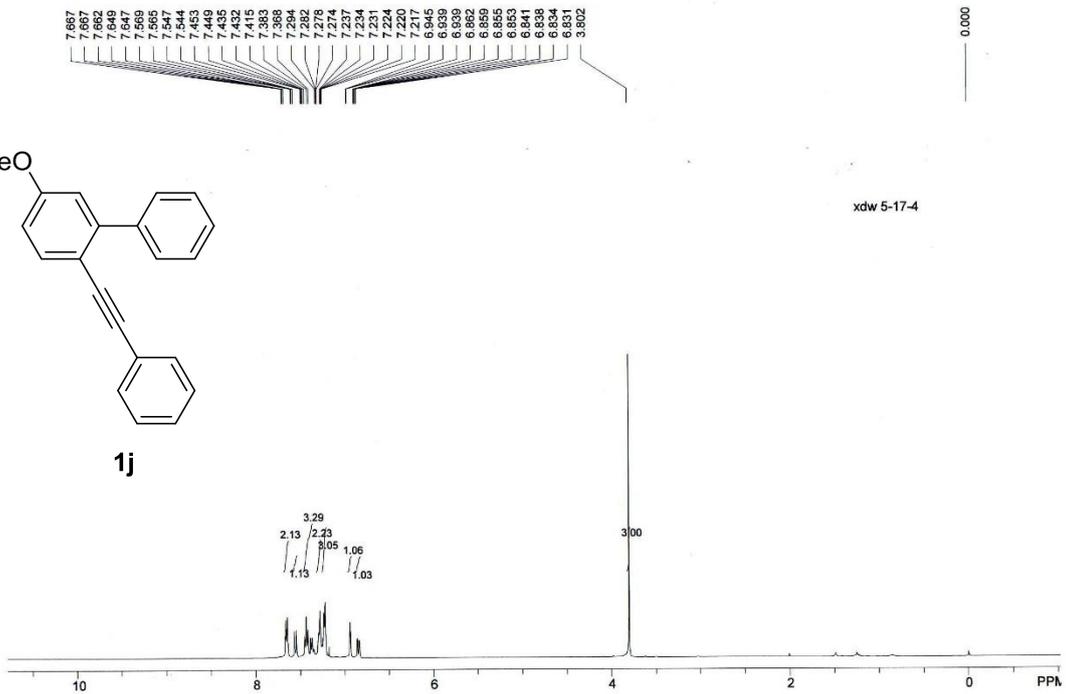
1yw-2-4

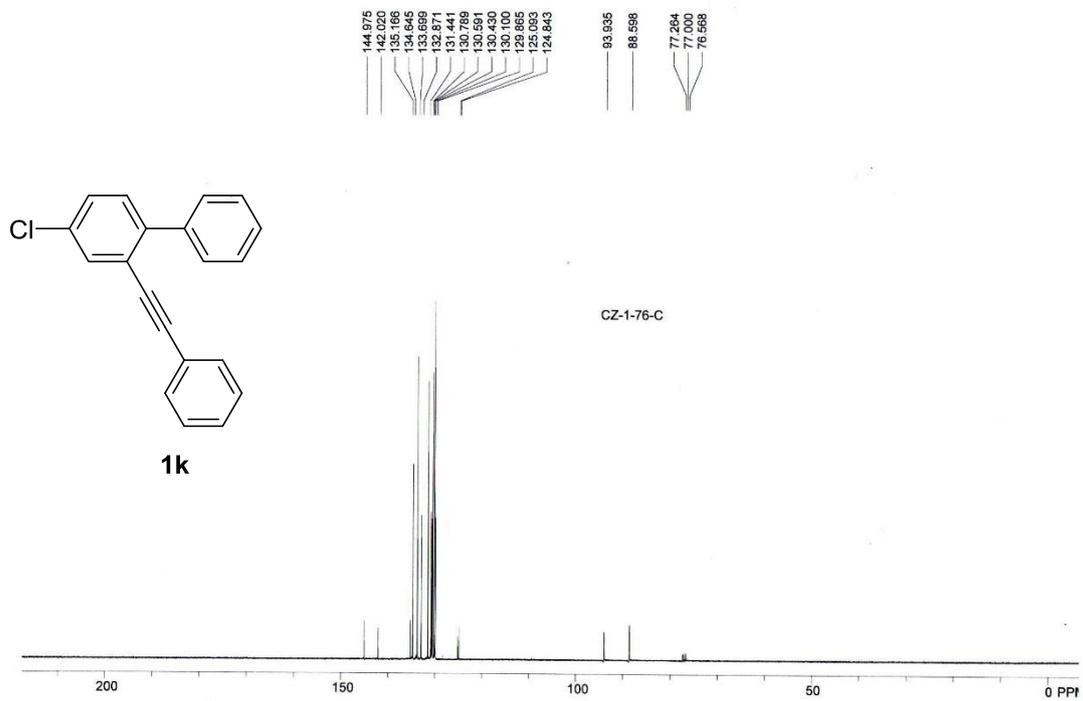
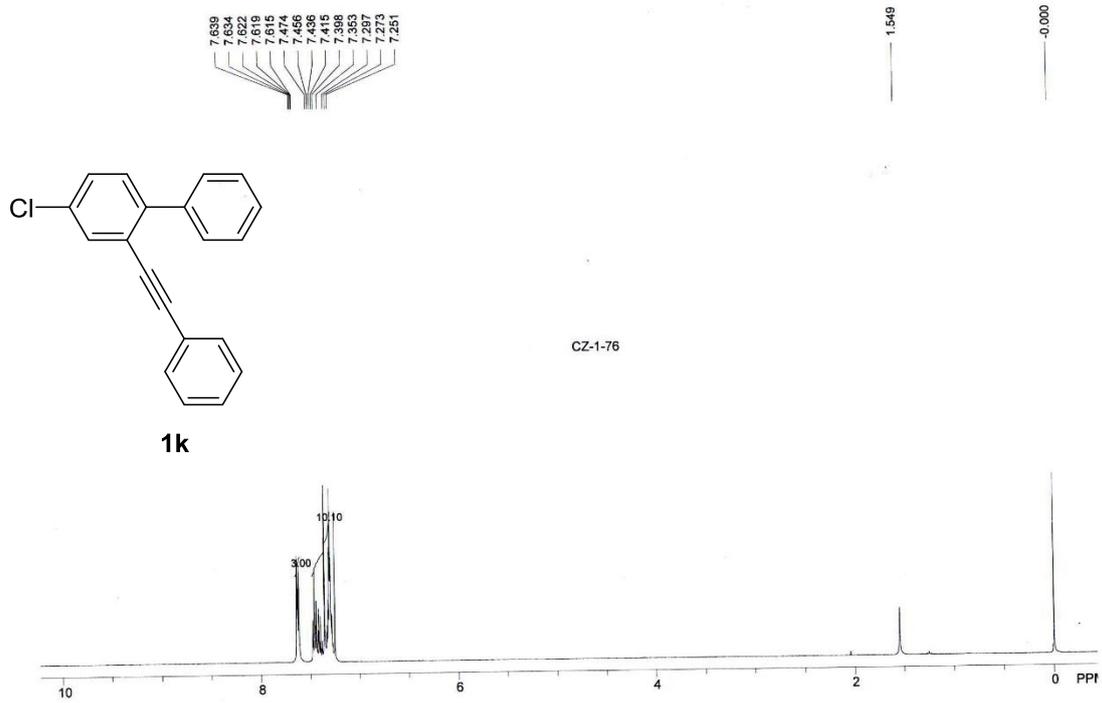


1i

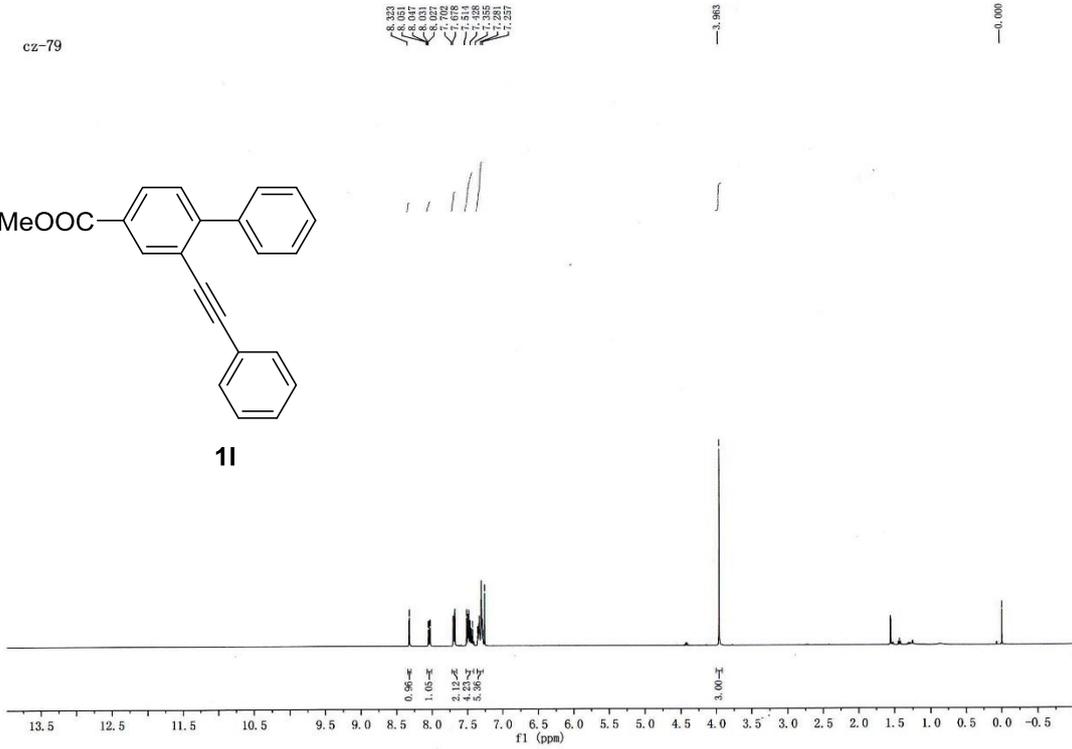
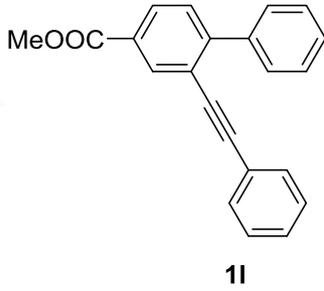


1j

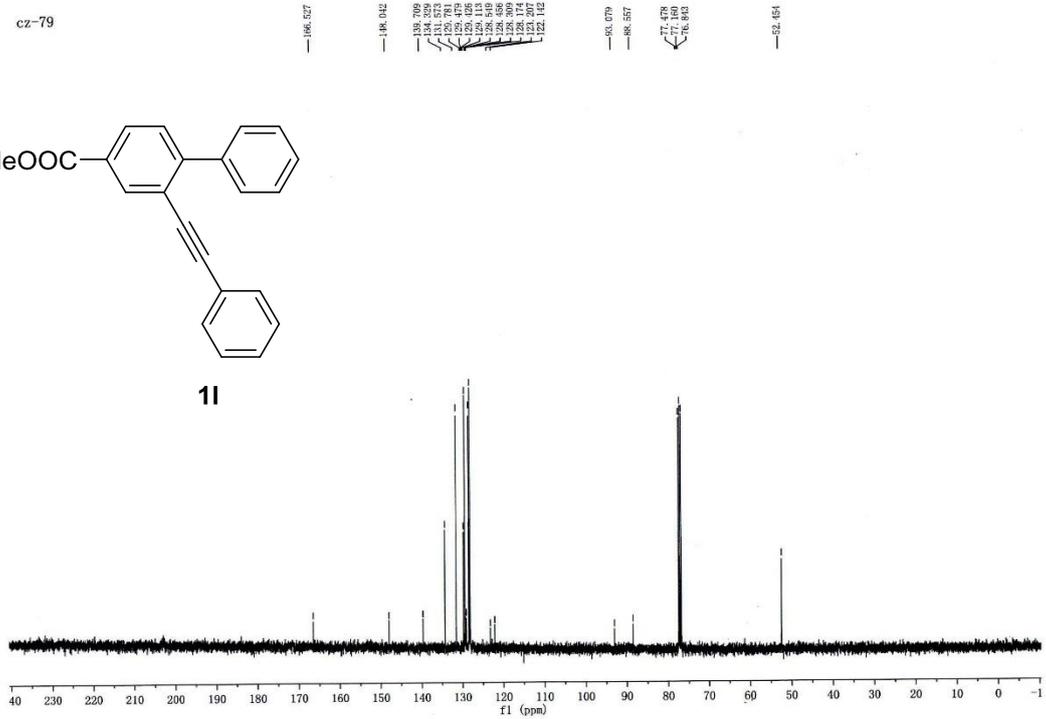
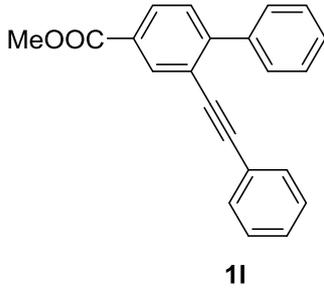


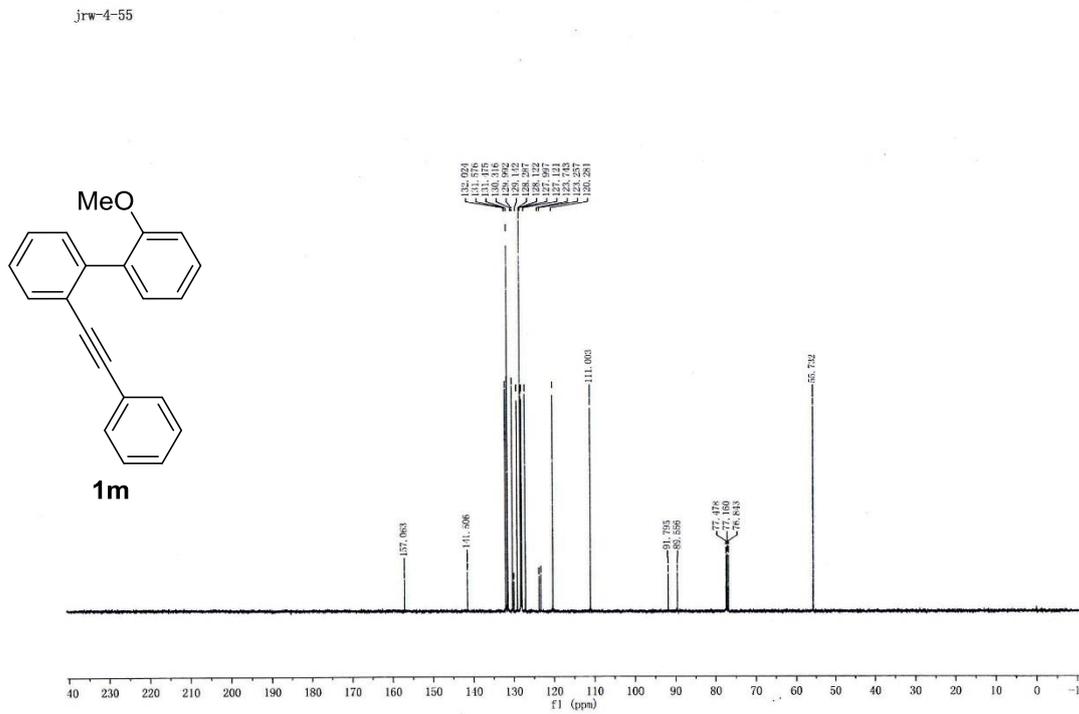
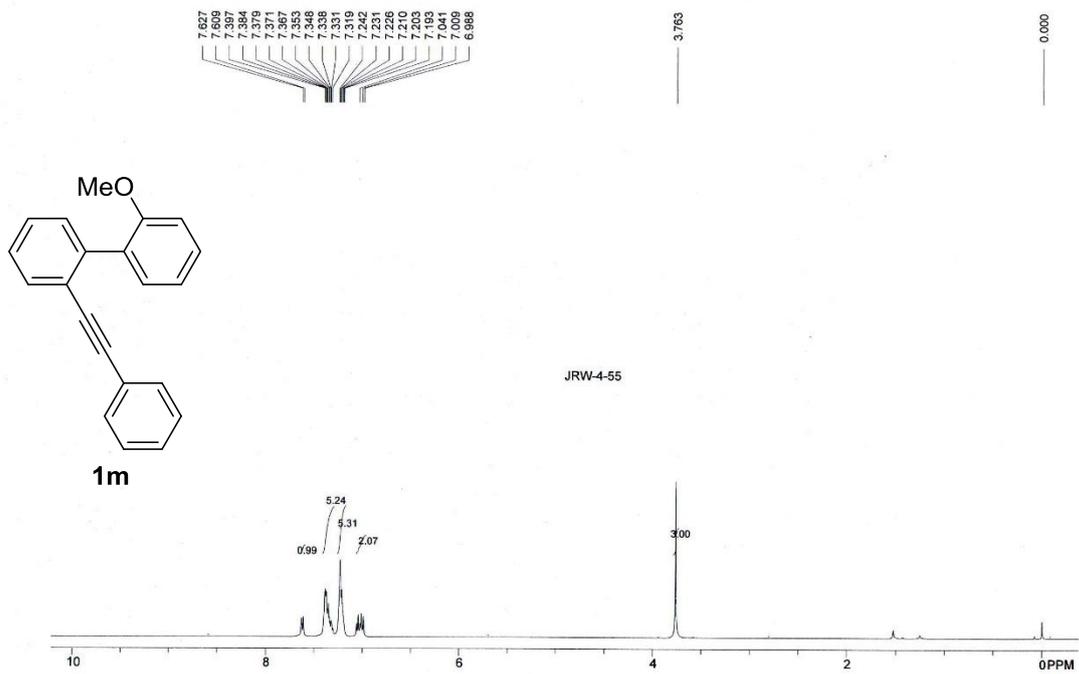


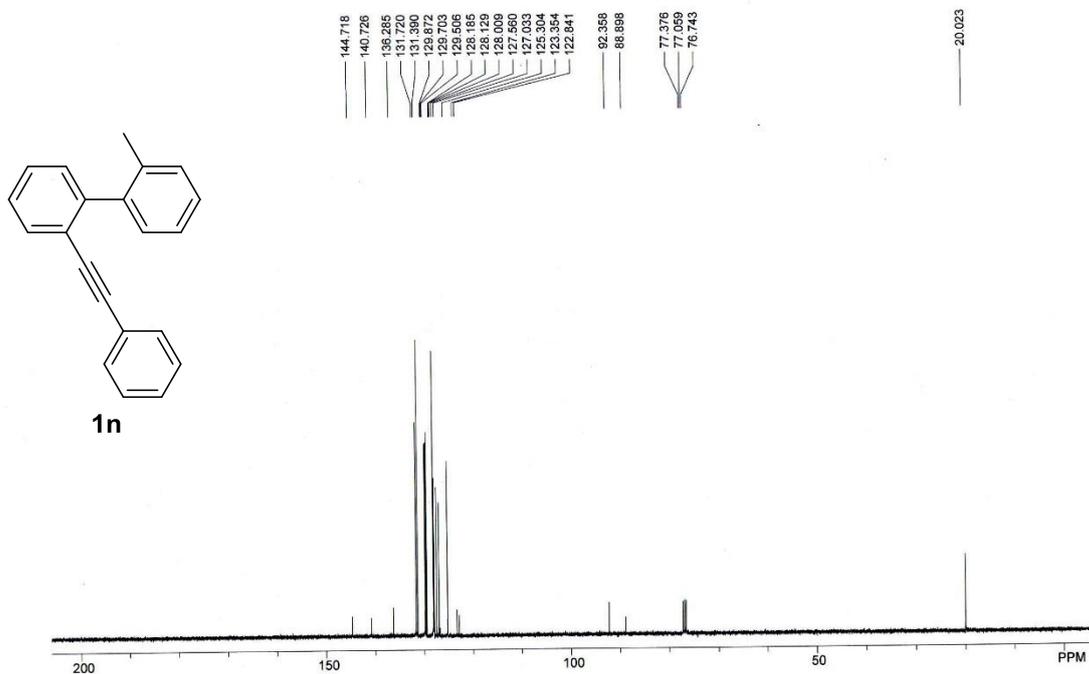
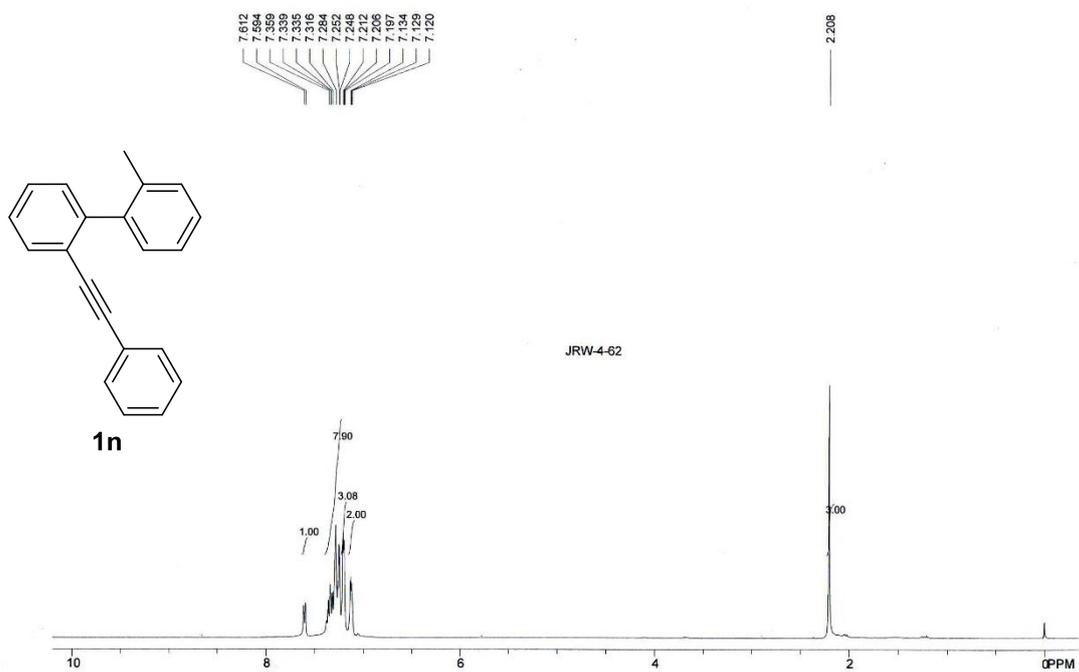
cz-79

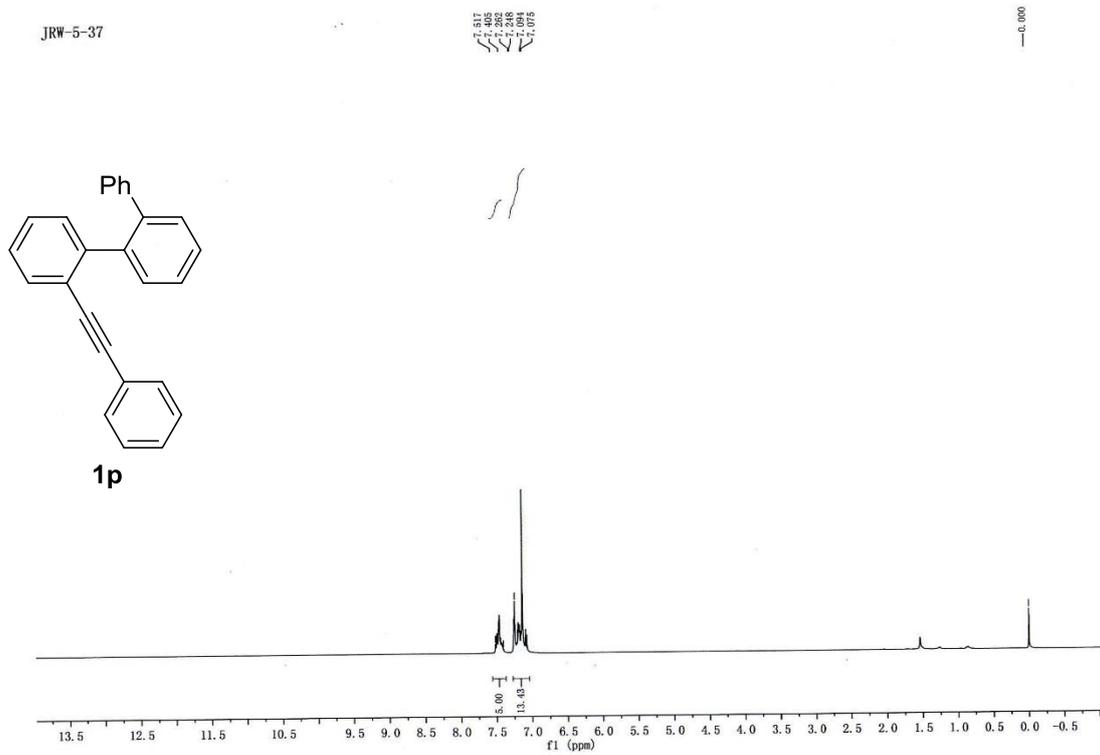
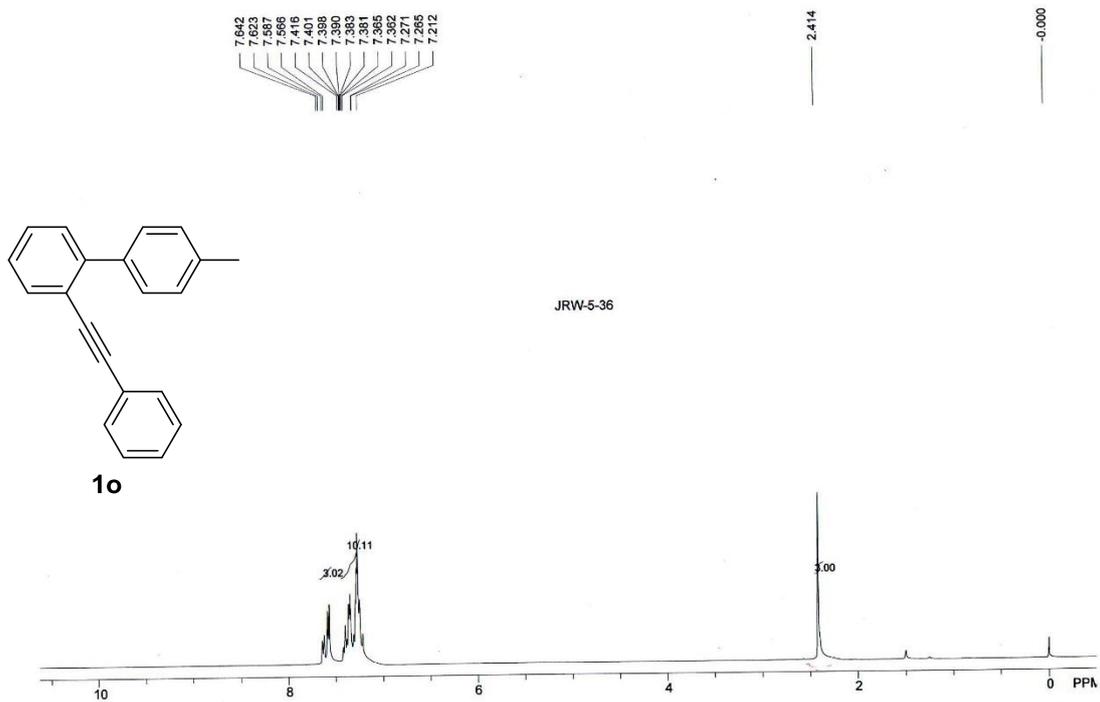


cz-79



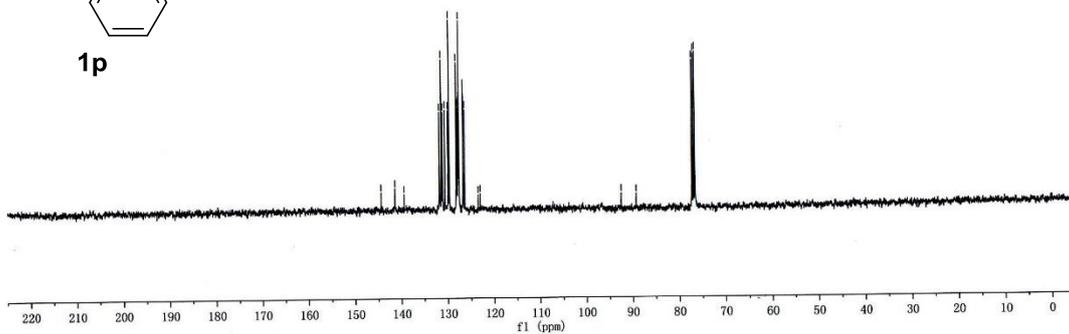
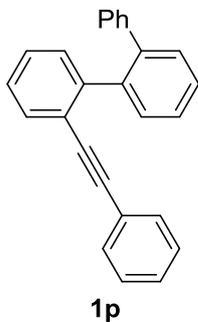






JRW-5-37

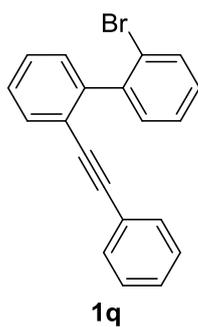
144.302
139.382
131.745
131.055
130.372
129.632
128.138
127.747
127.543
126.869
126.637
125.487
123.023
-92.536
-88.243
77.288
76.850



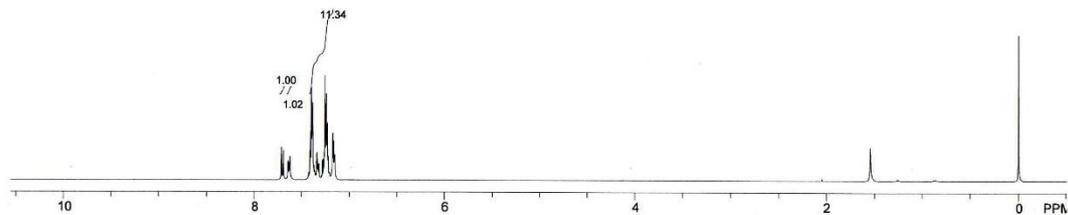
7.713
7.693
7.643
7.628
7.620
7.423
7.409
7.394
7.382
7.374
7.264
7.240
7.161
7.150

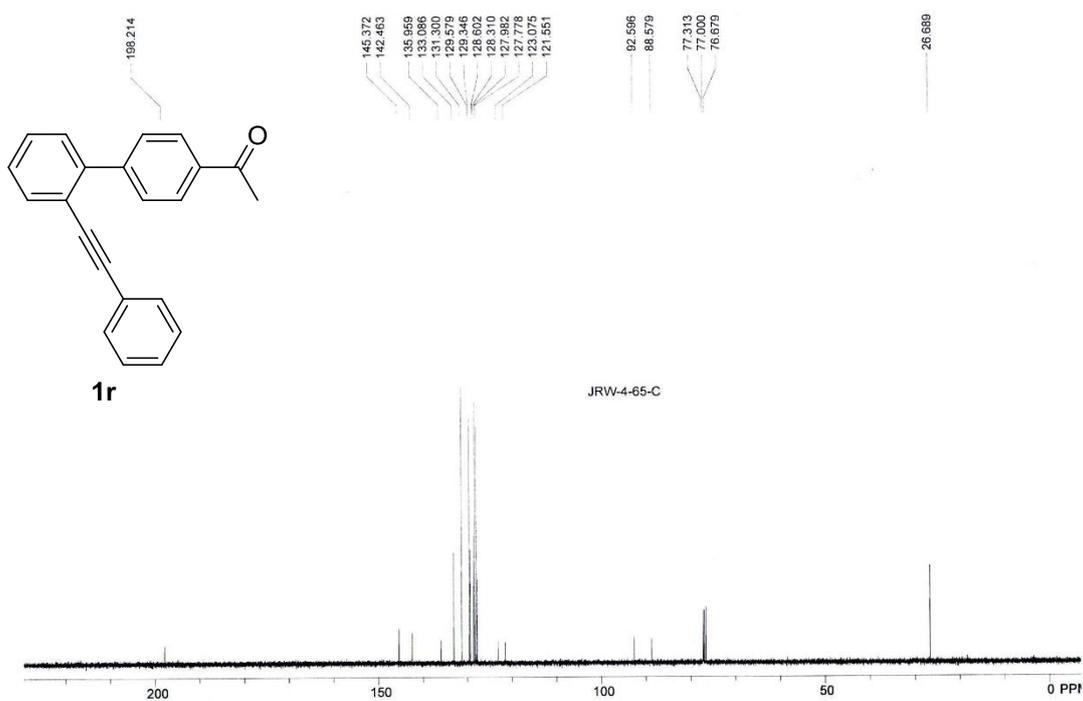
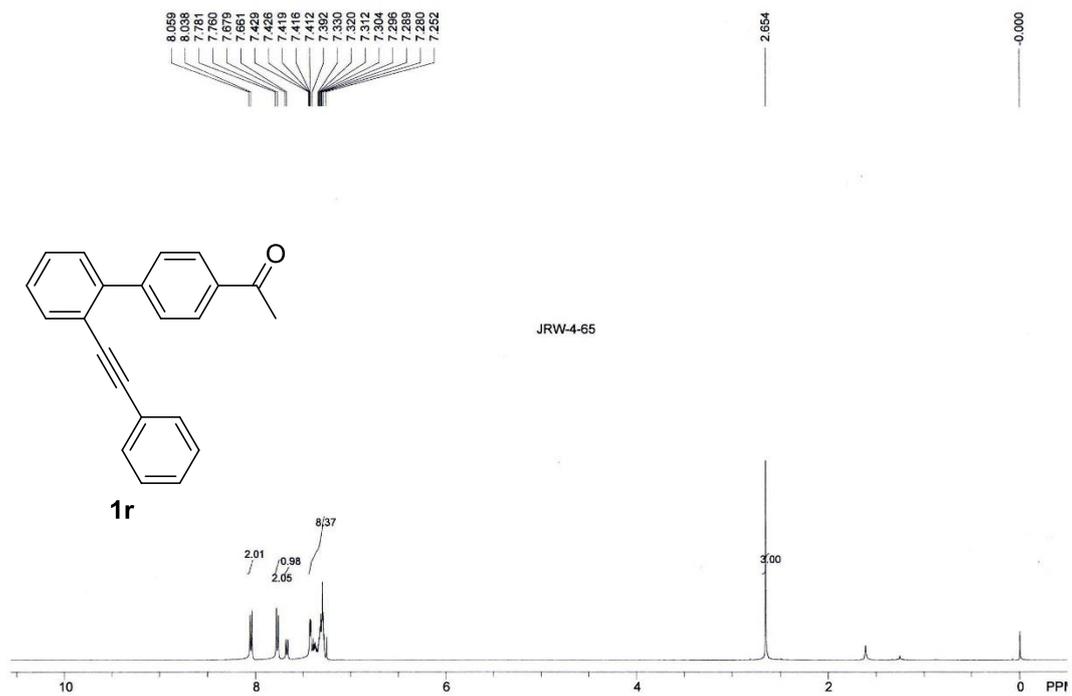
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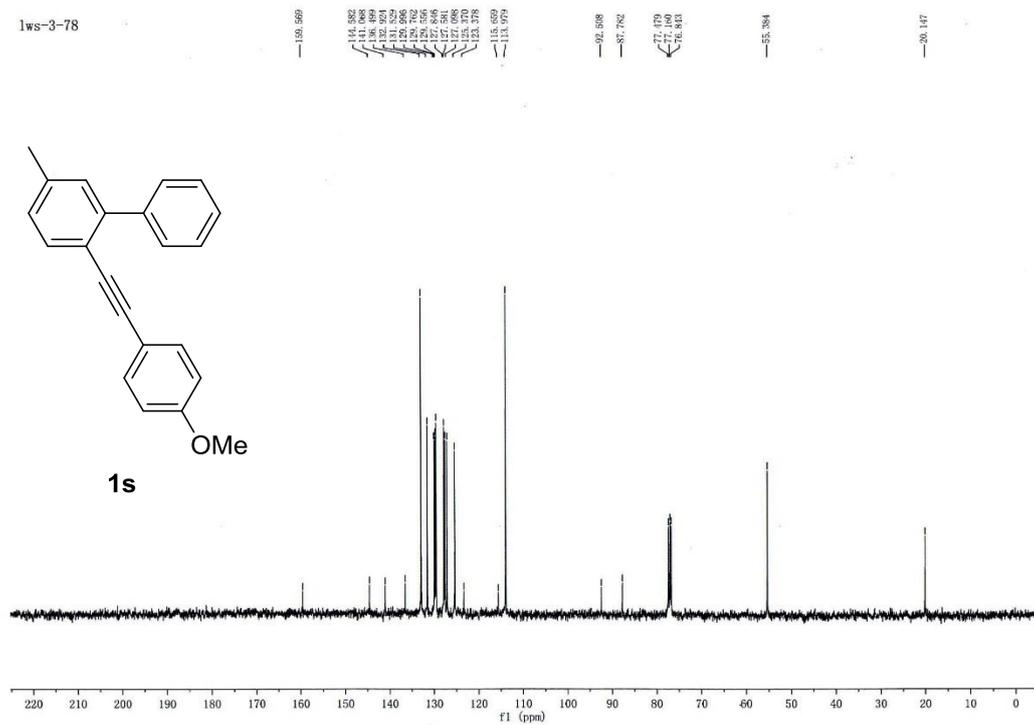
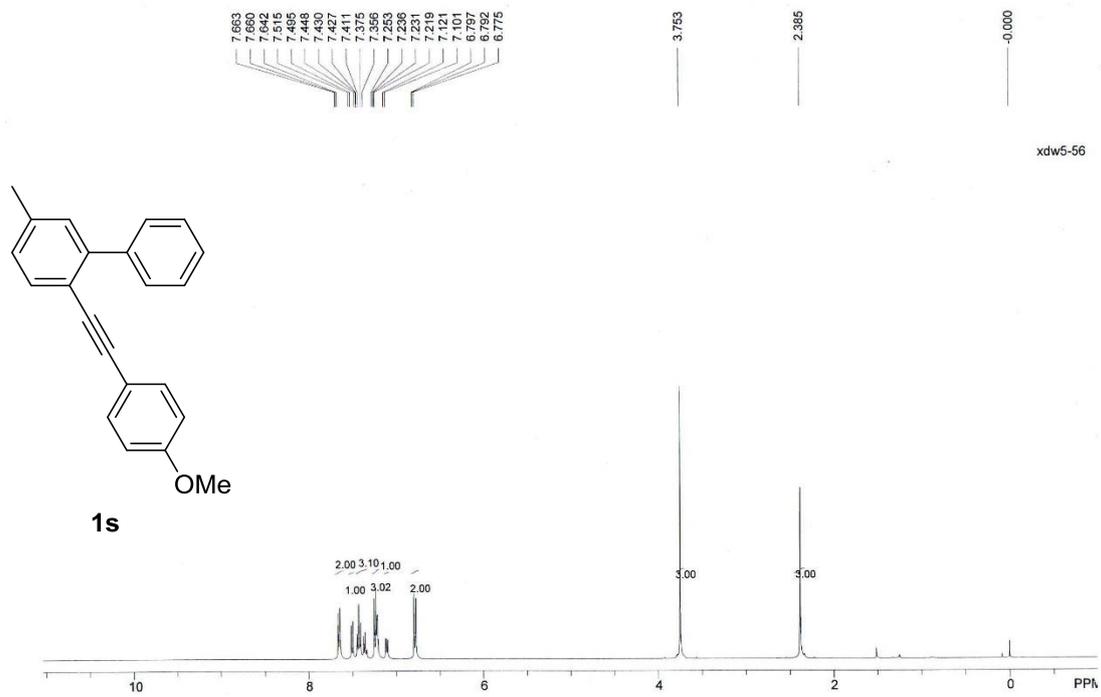
-0.000



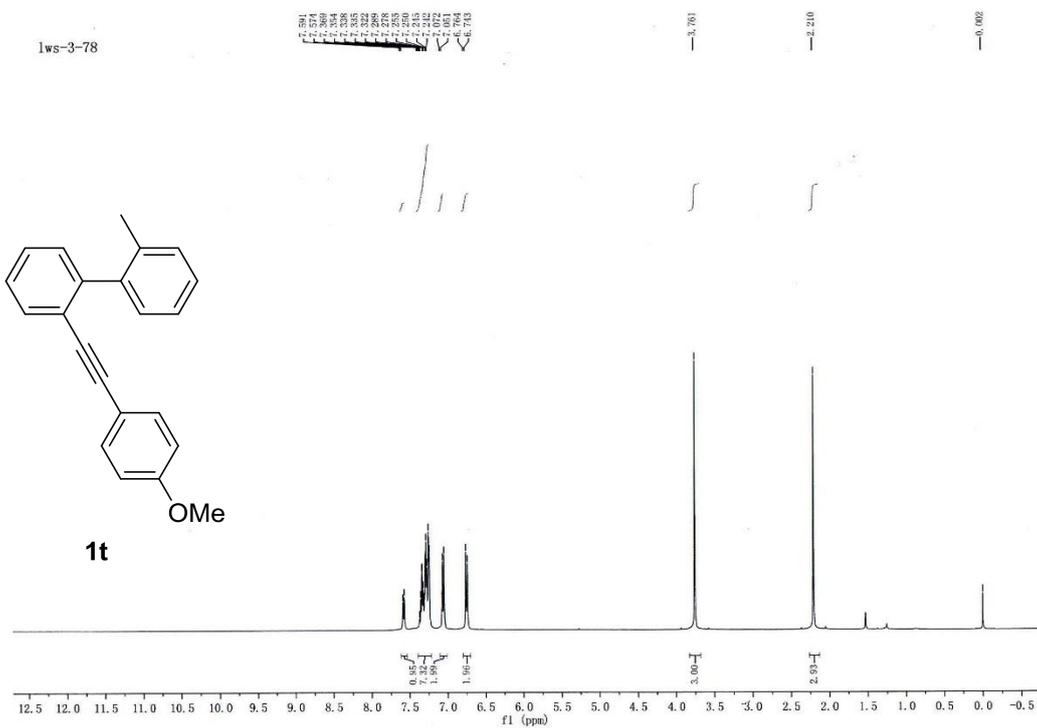
JRW-4-61



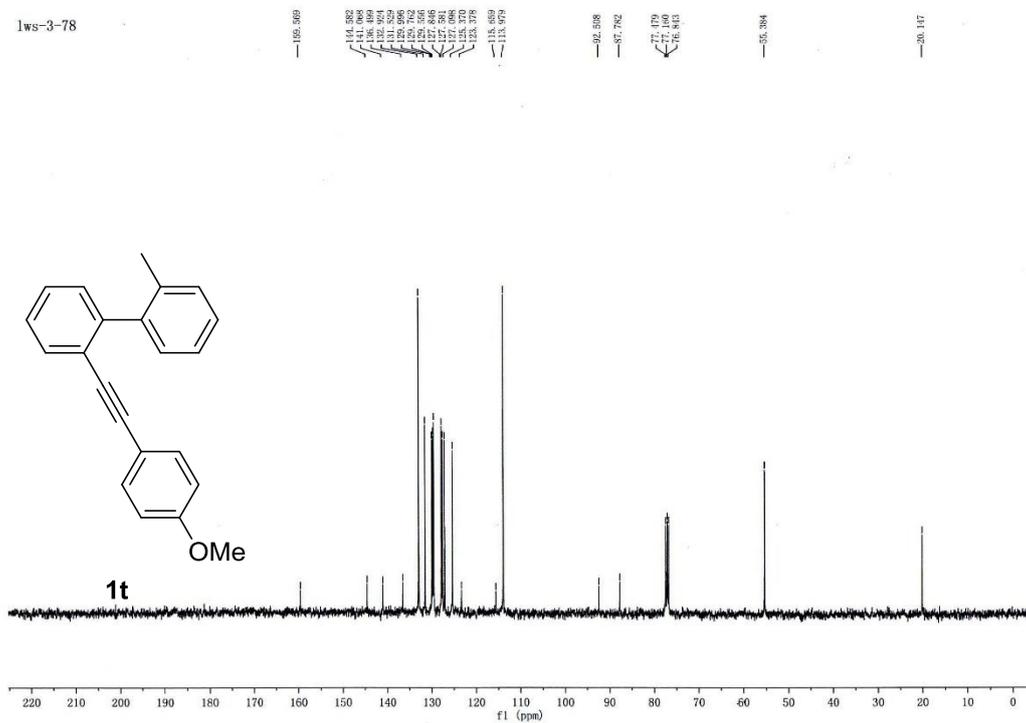


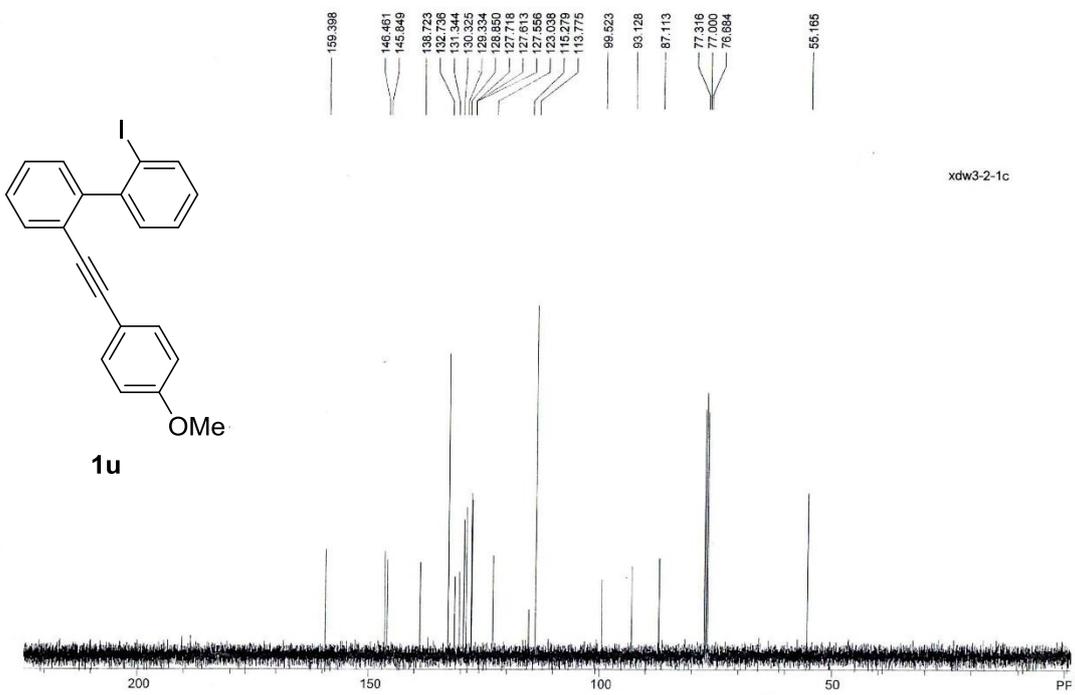
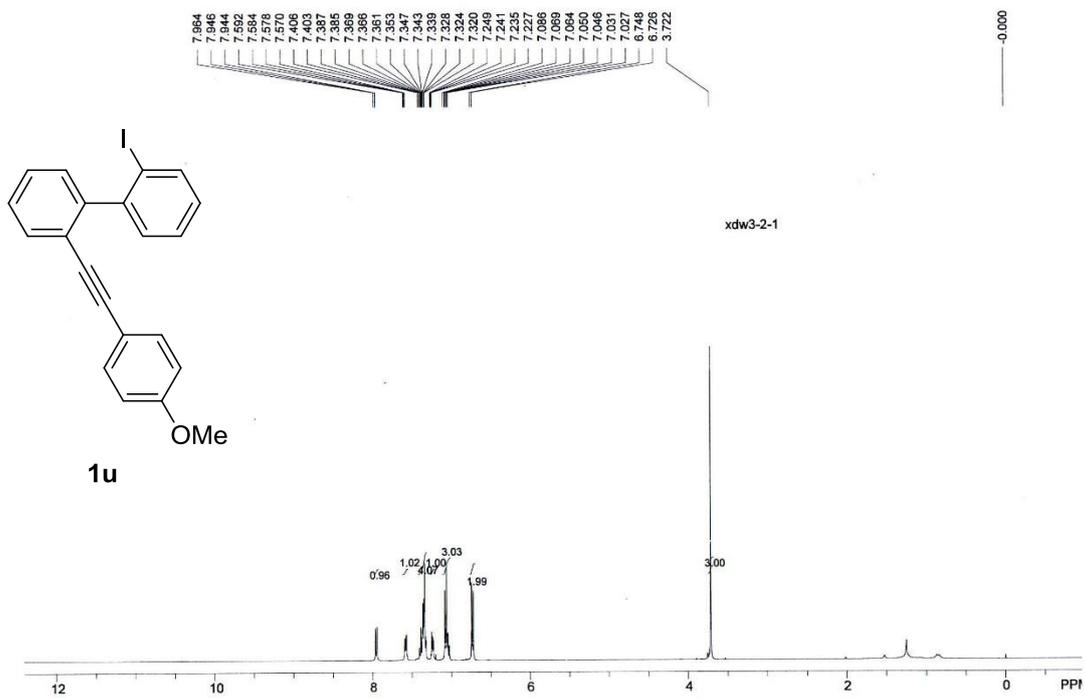


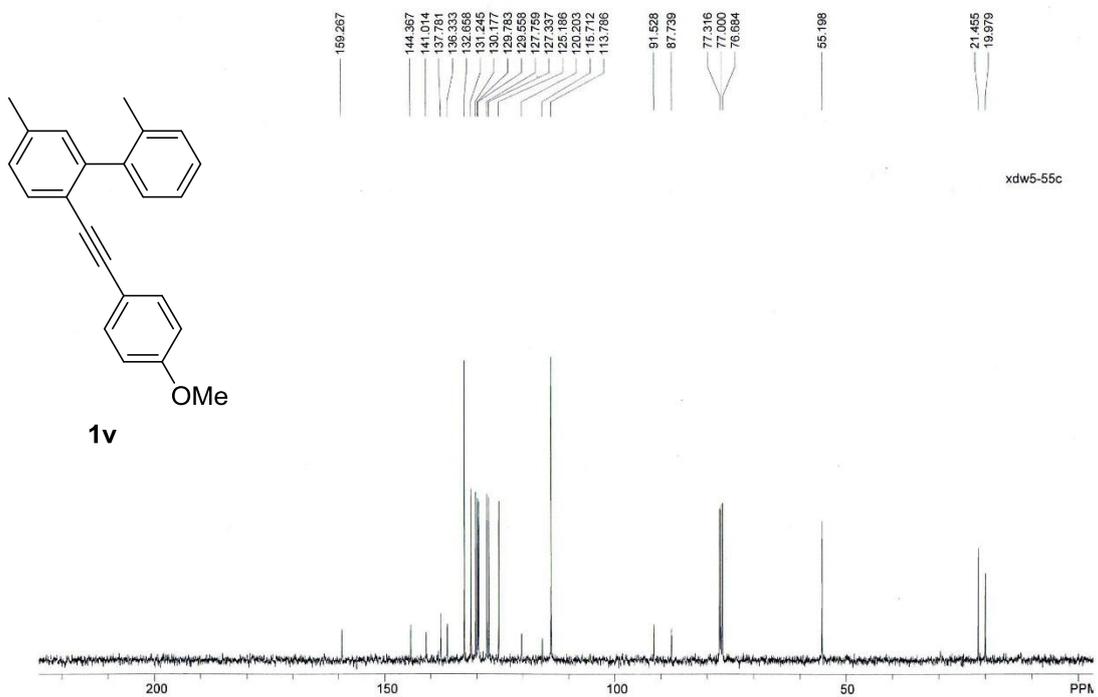
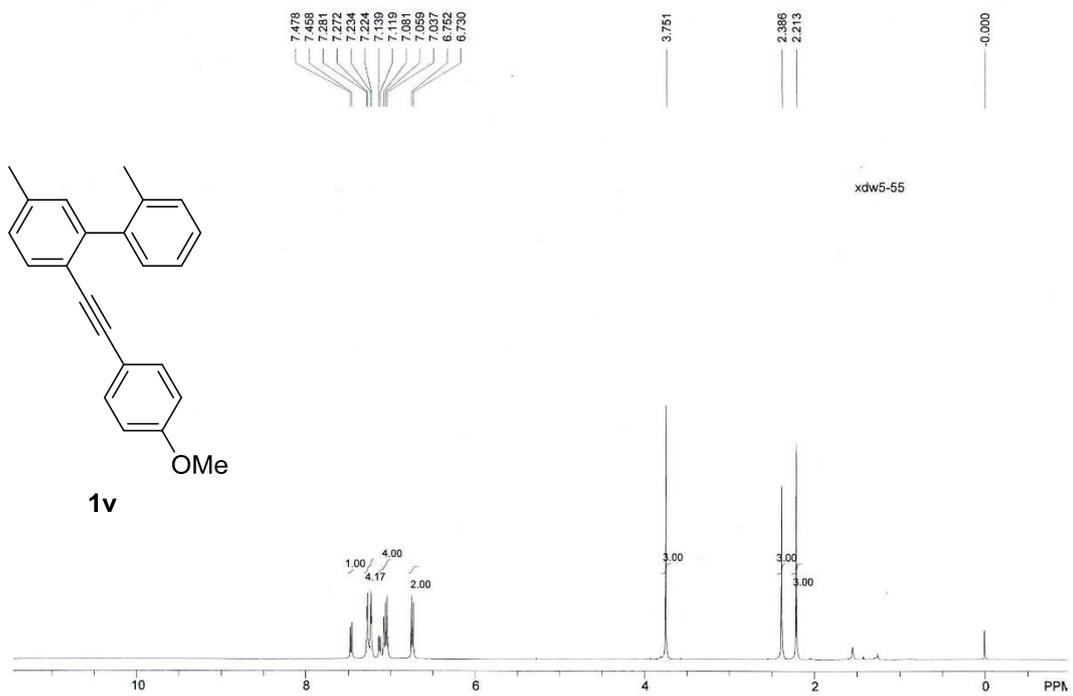
lws-3-78

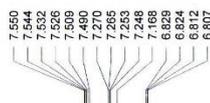


lws-3-78







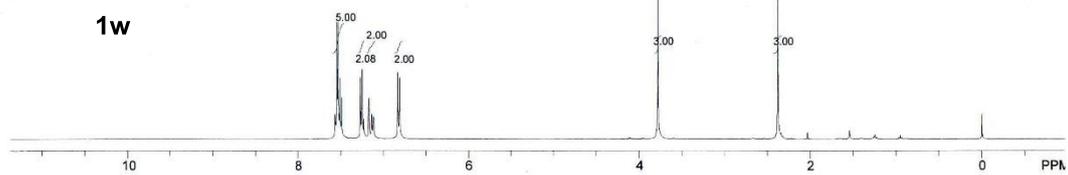
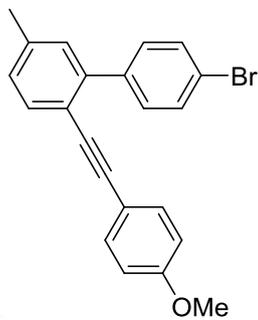


3.781

2.383

0.000

xdw5-58



158.482

142.048

138.651

137.896

137.096

131.006

130.915

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128.209

121.539

118.770

118.682

118.682

91.872

87.732

77.323

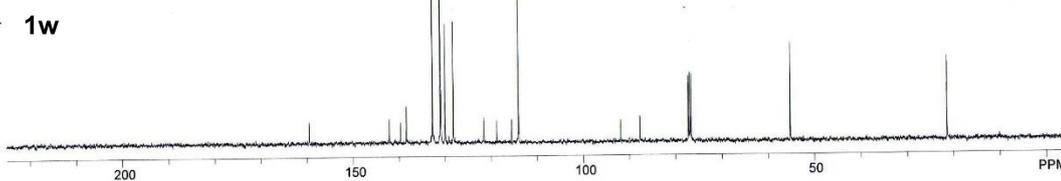
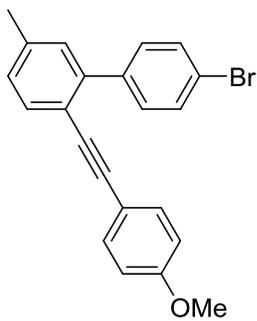
77.004

76.684

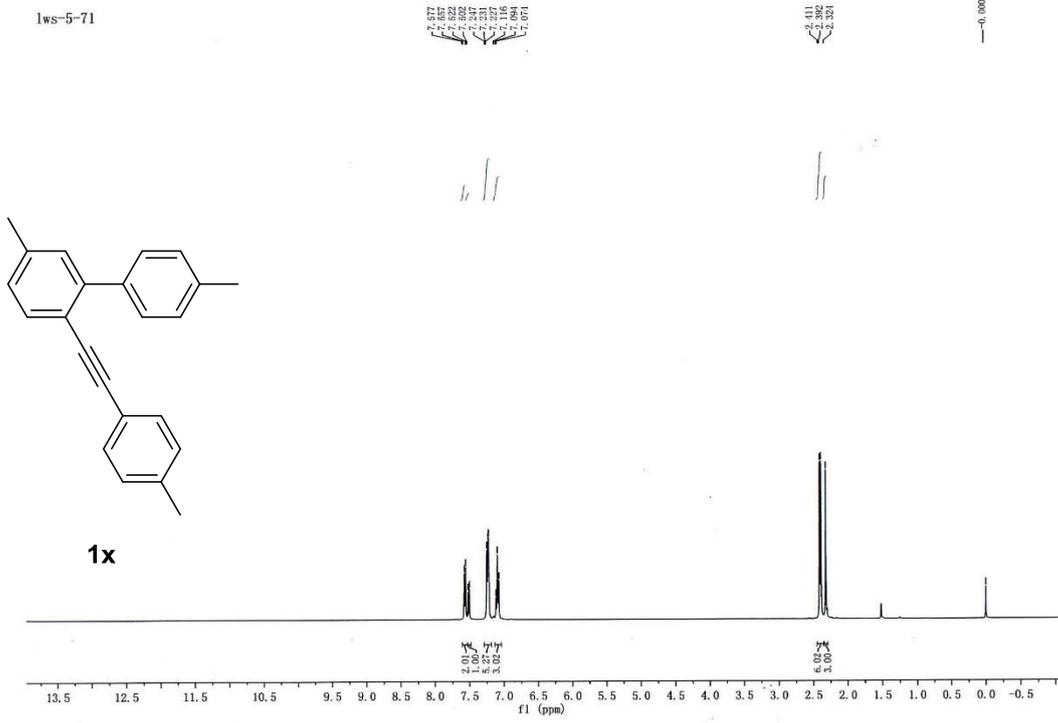
55.233

21.420

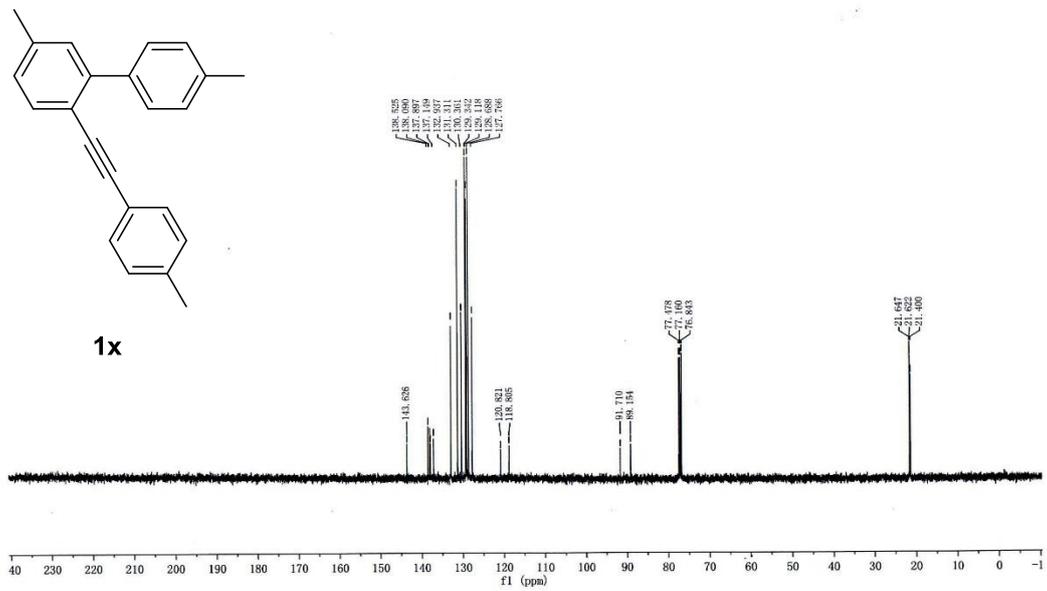
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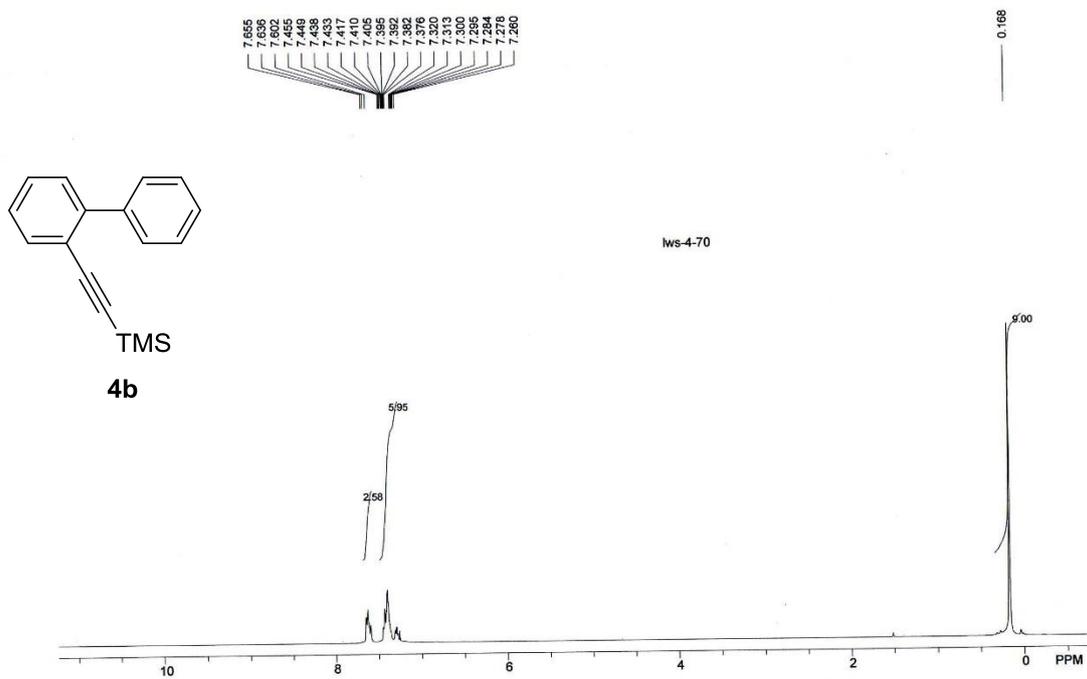
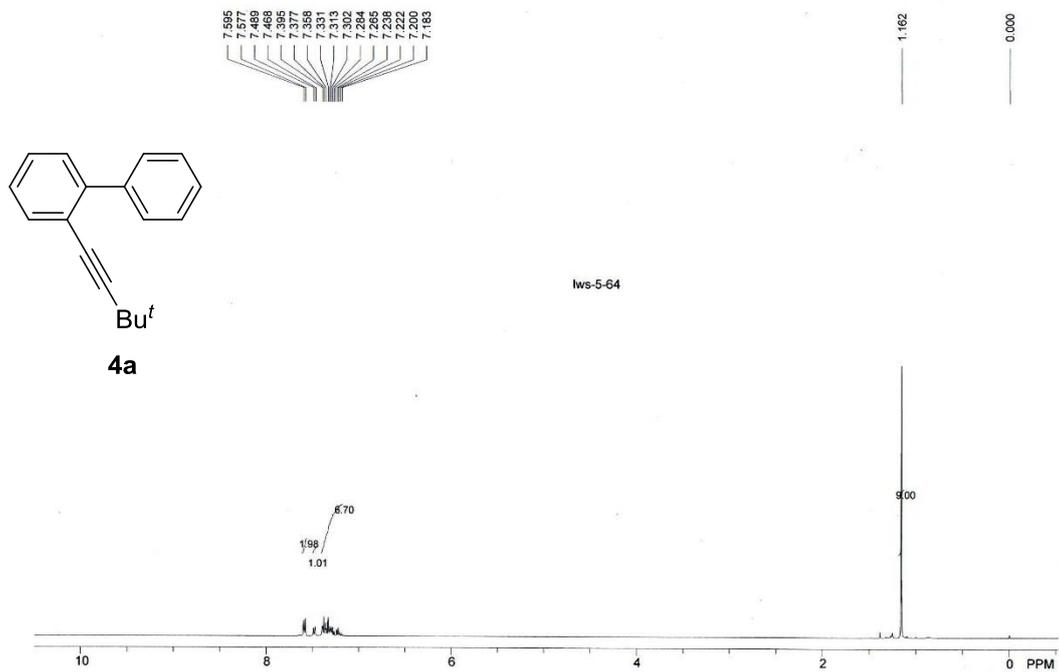


lws-5-71

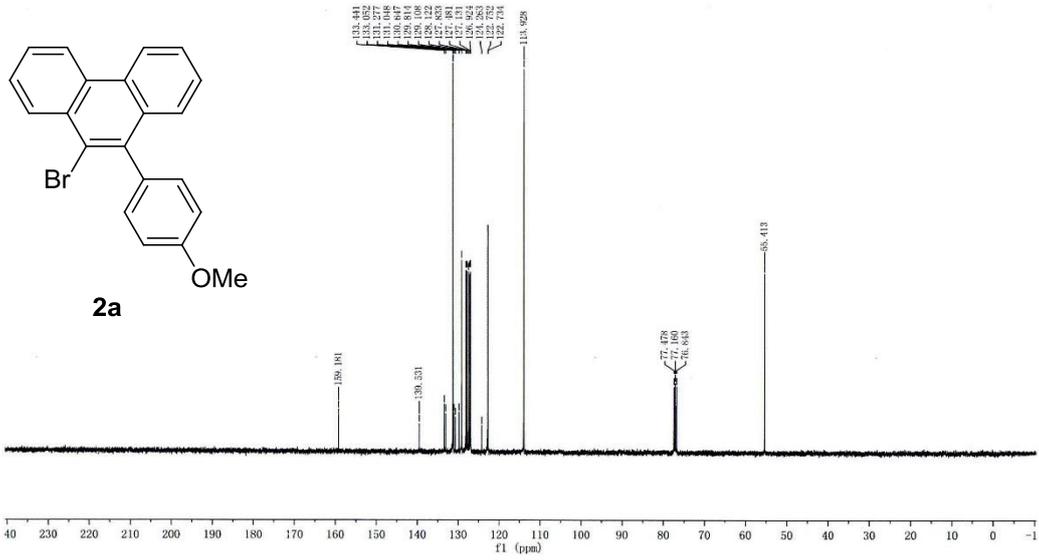


lws-5-71

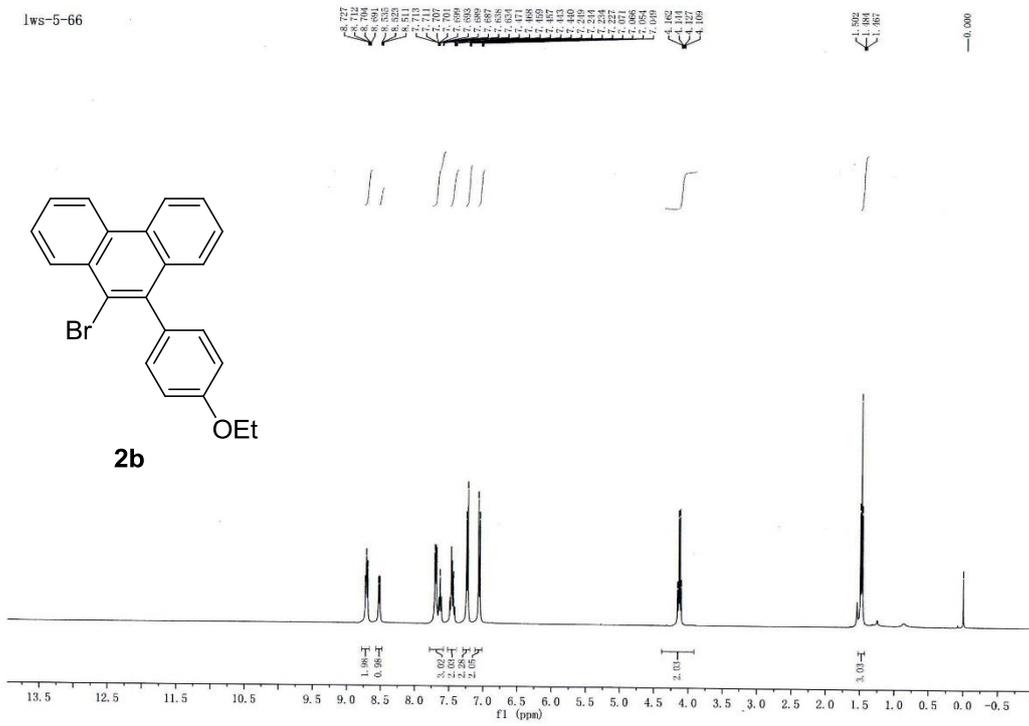




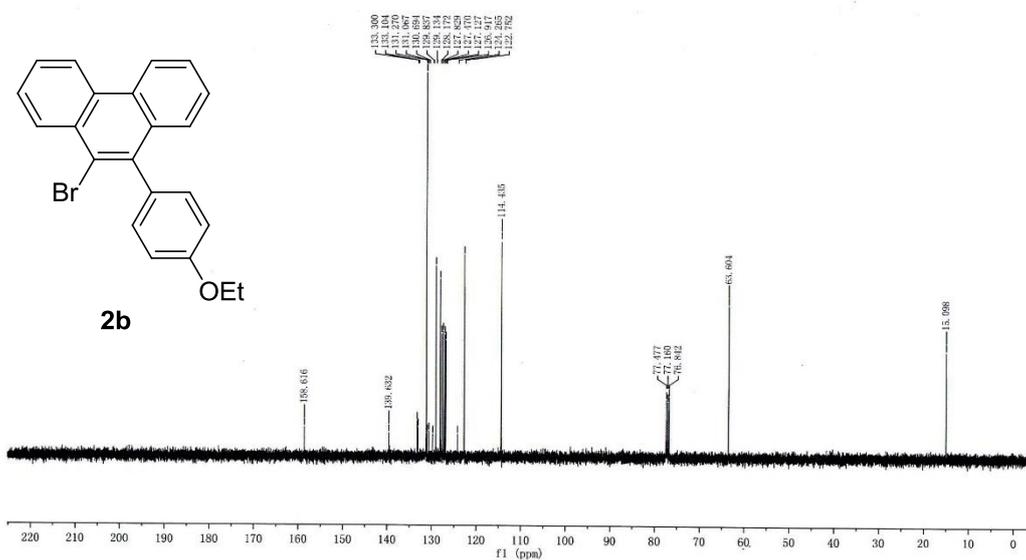
lws-4-78



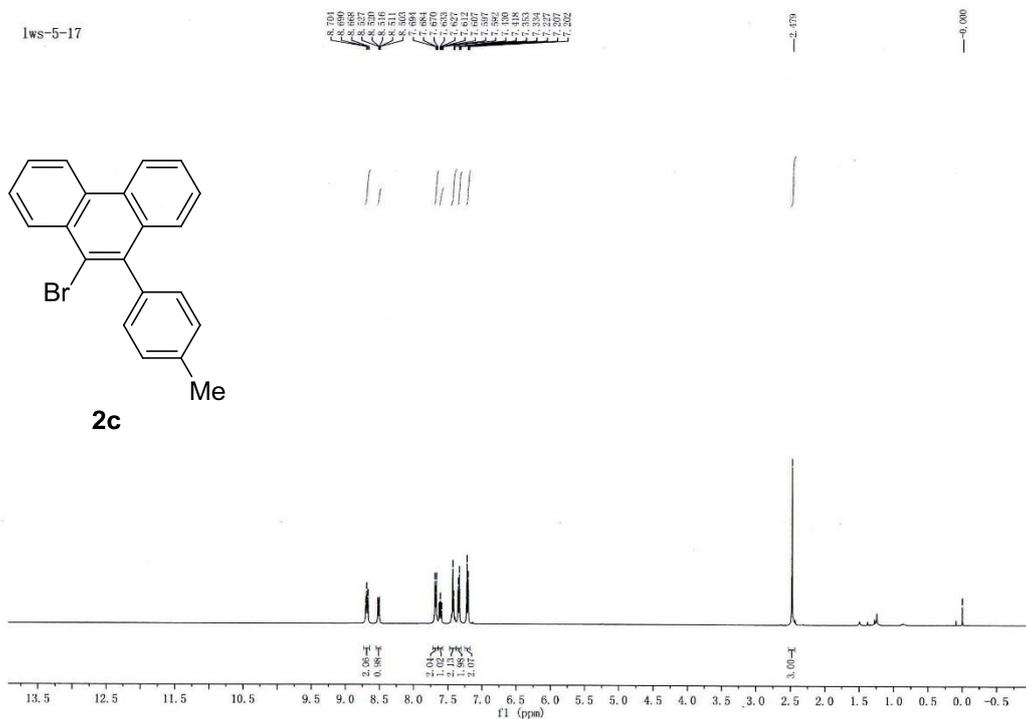
lws-5-66



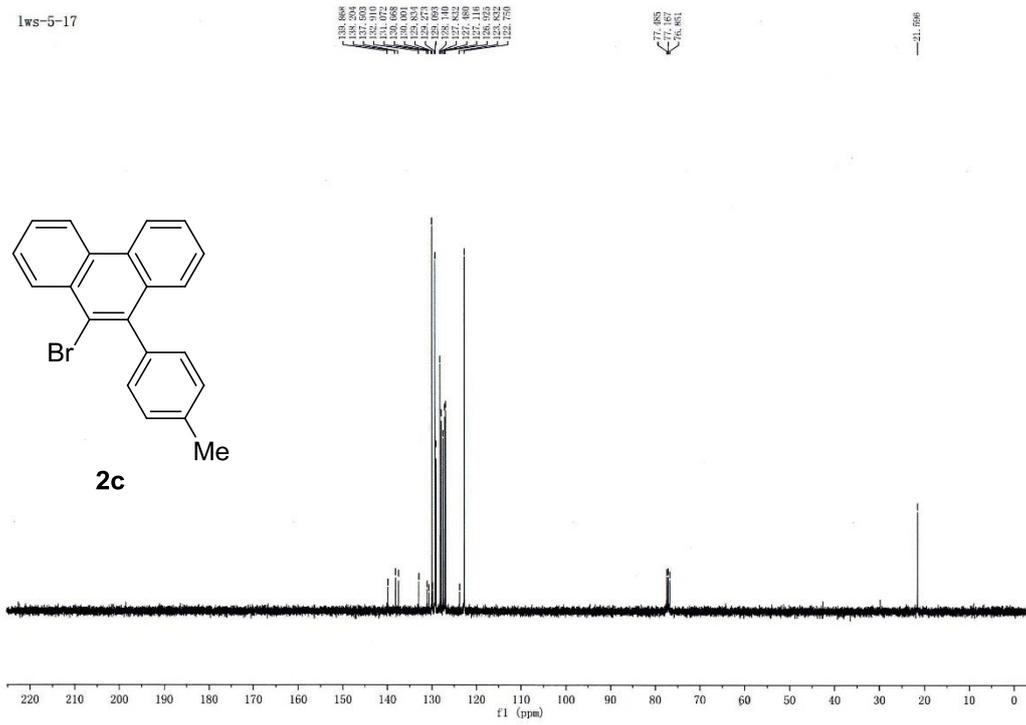
lws-5-66



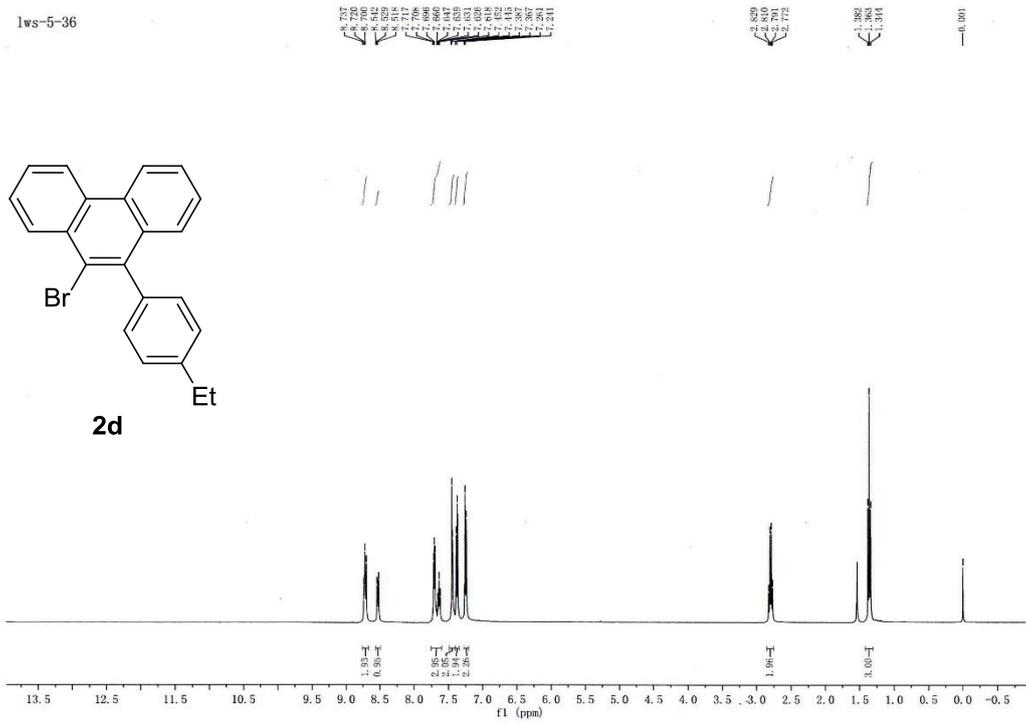
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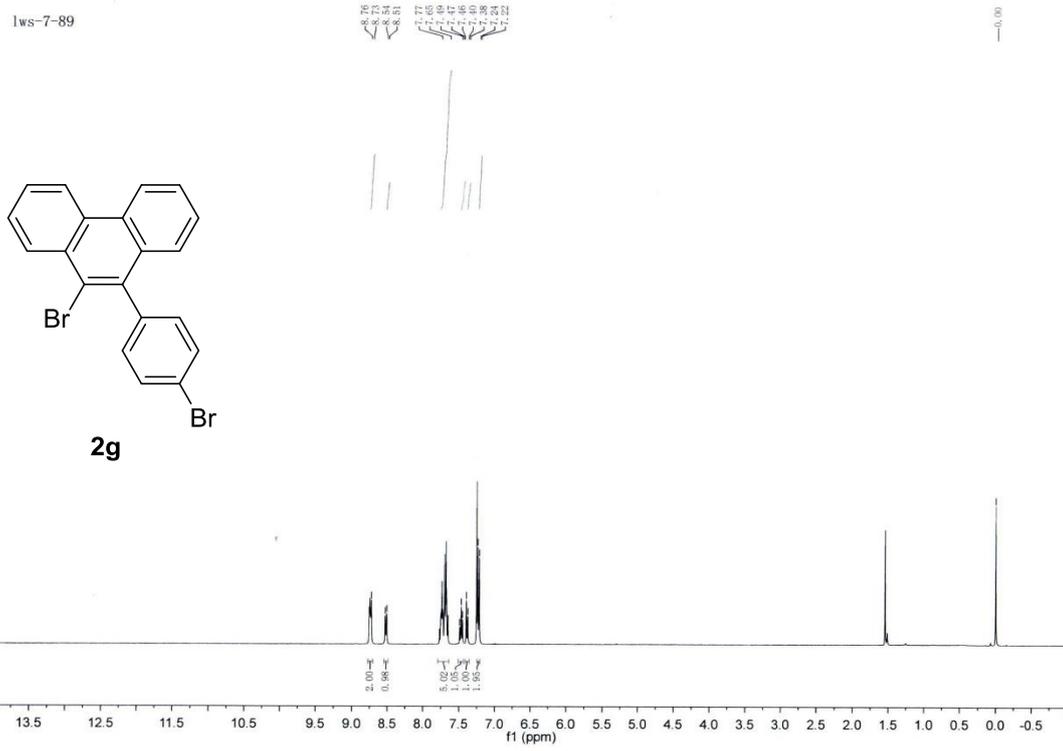
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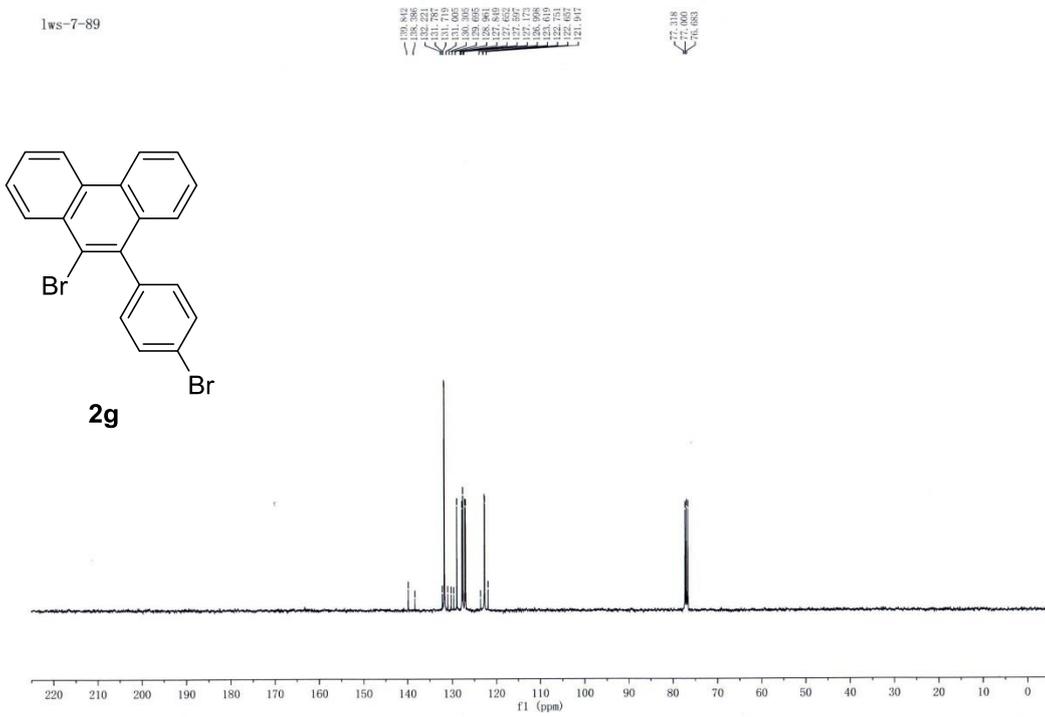
lws-5-36



lws-7-89



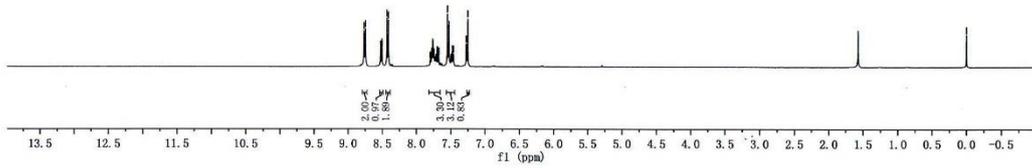
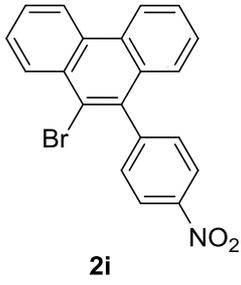
lws-7-89



lws-6-54

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8.528
8.524
8.504
8.494
8.413
7.999
7.849
7.895
7.262

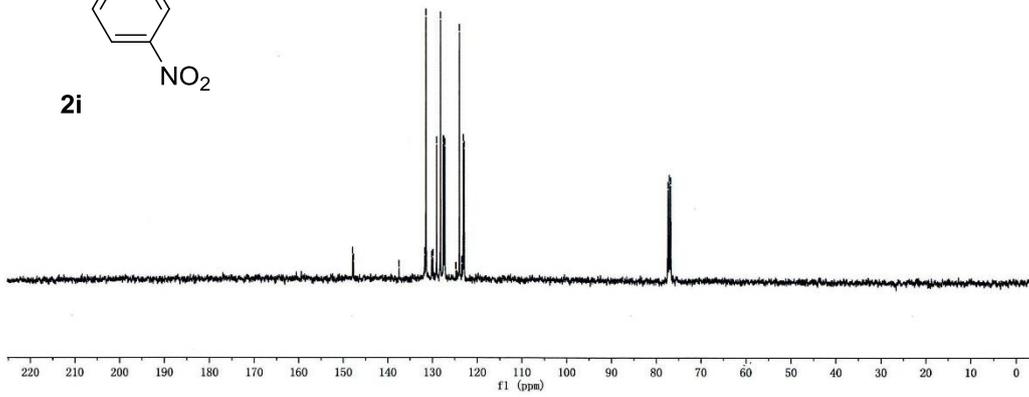
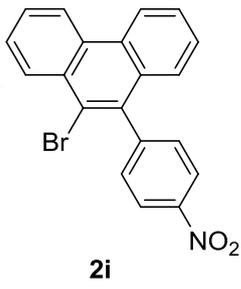
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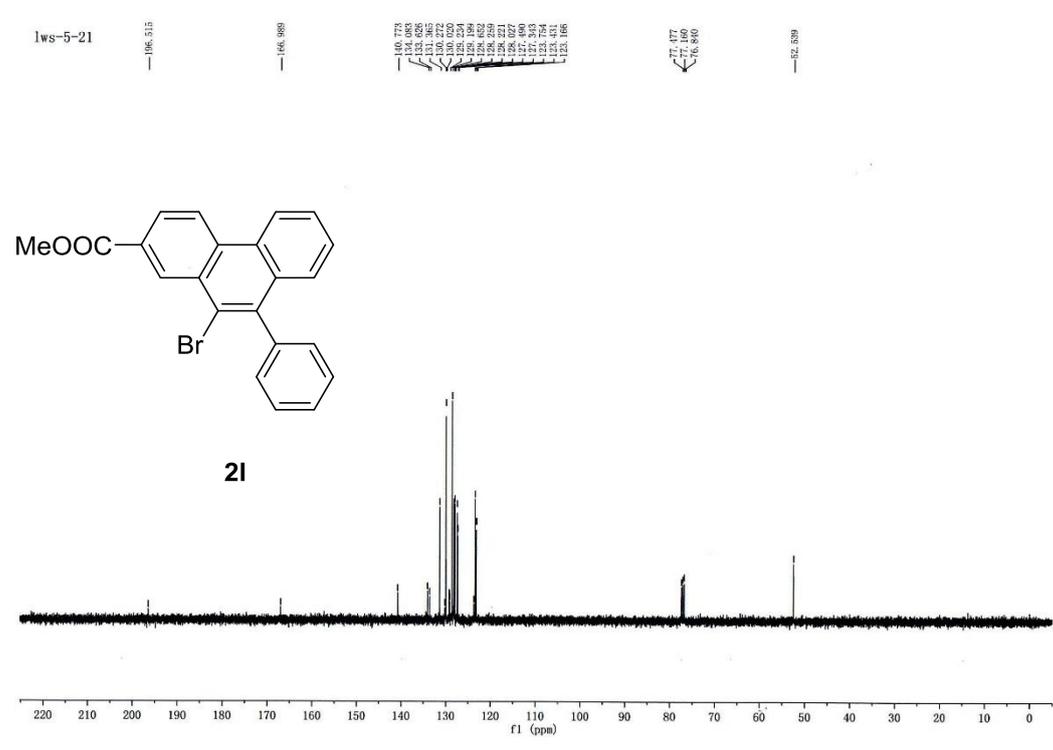
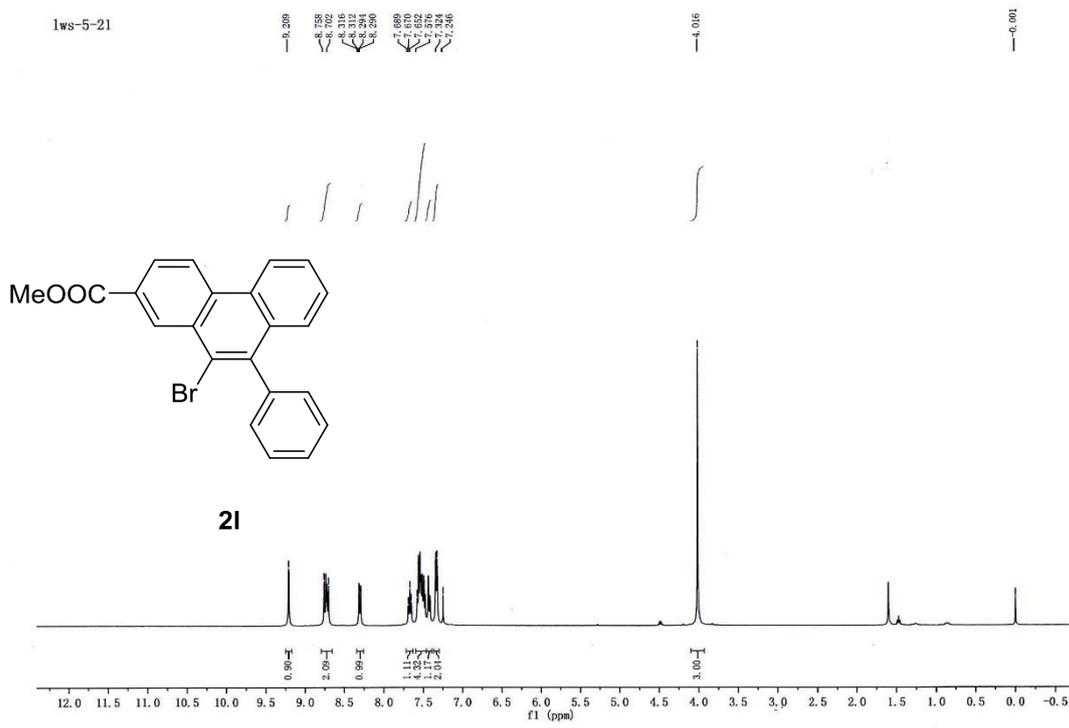


lws-6-54

147.981
147.712
137.810
131.785
131.415
130.229
129.994
129.984
129.827
127.769
127.298
125.691
125.691
122.811

77.170
76.841



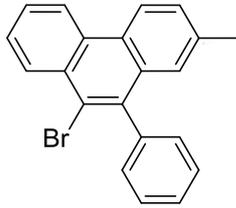


lws-5-34

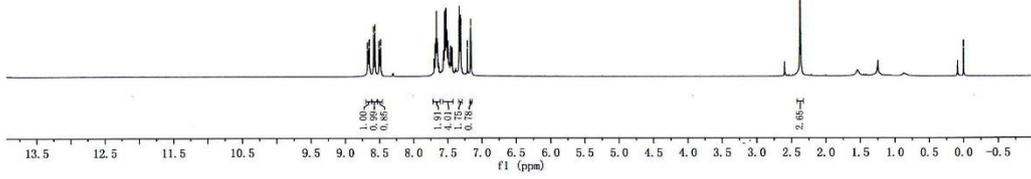
8.670
8.647
8.622
8.603
8.581
7.686
7.307
7.183

-2.374

-0.000



2o

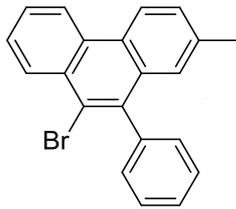


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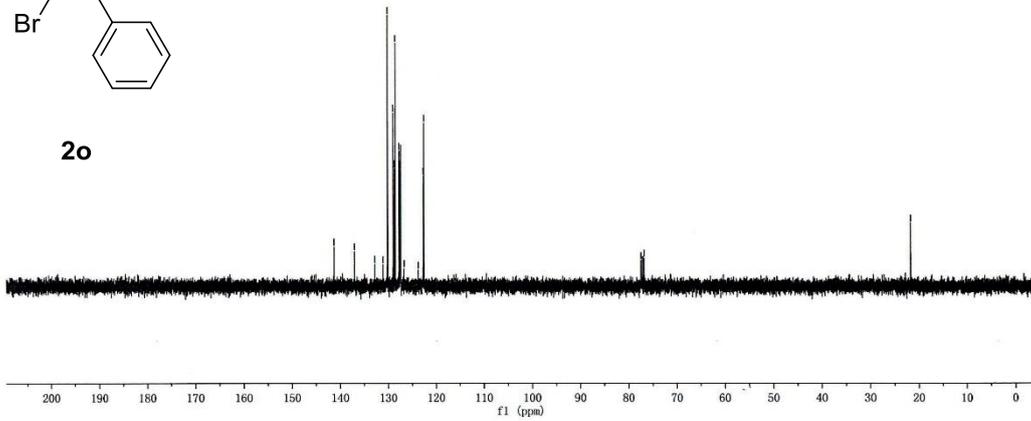
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131.874
131.830
131.830
130.131
129.629
129.629
128.617
128.617
127.707
127.707
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126.713
122.891
122.891

77.482
77.482
77.482

-21.782



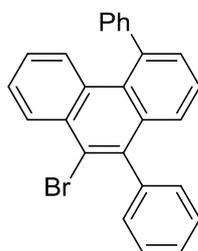
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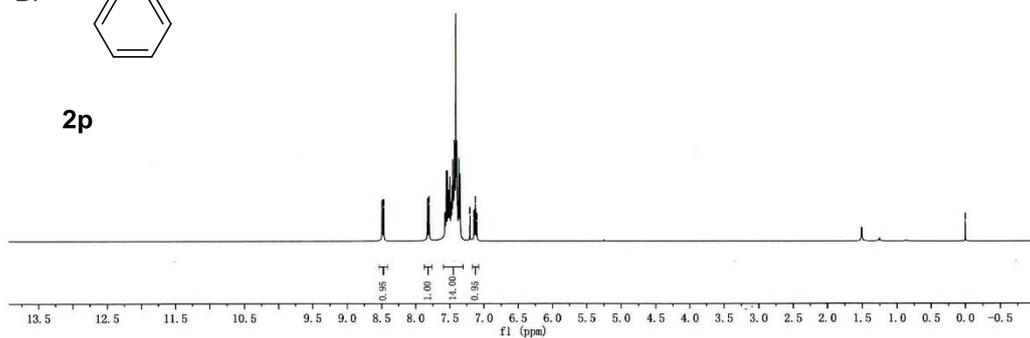
lws-6-45

8.488
8.488
8.467
8.467
8.254
8.254
8.062
8.062
7.970
7.970
7.949
7.949
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7.853
7.819
7.819
7.792
7.792

0.000



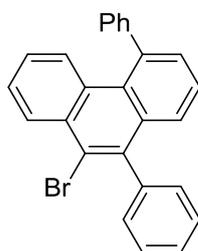
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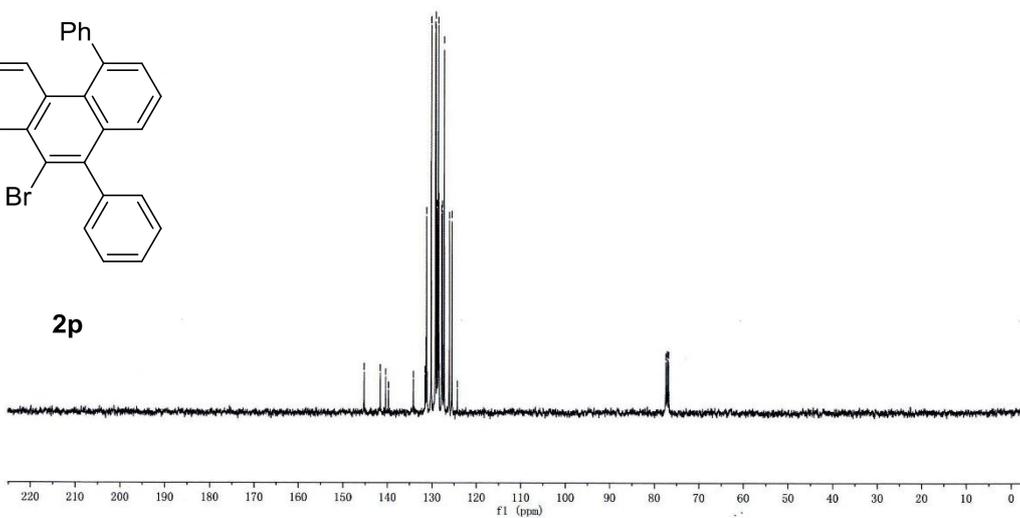
lws-6-45

145.985
141.617
140.441
139.212
138.599
138.127
138.290
138.135
138.086
137.820
136.514
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137.829
137.696
136.105
137.309
137.251

77.077
77.100
76.943



2p

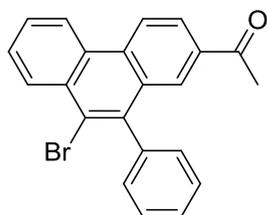


lws-5-28-2

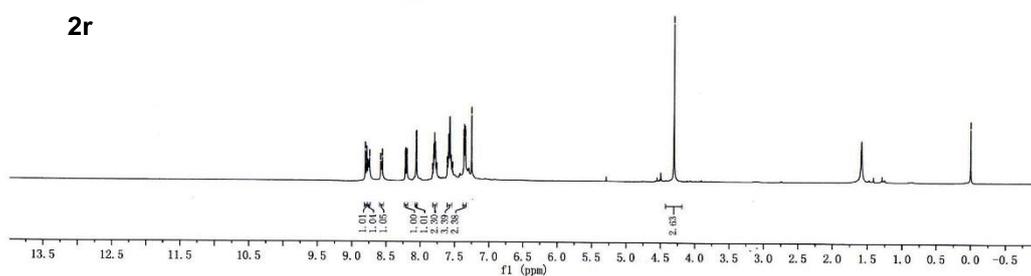
8.794
8.581
8.223
8.219
8.187
8.069
7.822
7.607
7.532
7.362
7.347
7.255

4.306

0.000



2r



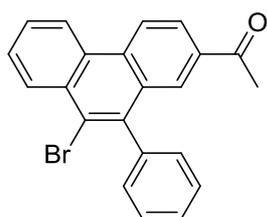
lws-5-28-2

191.054

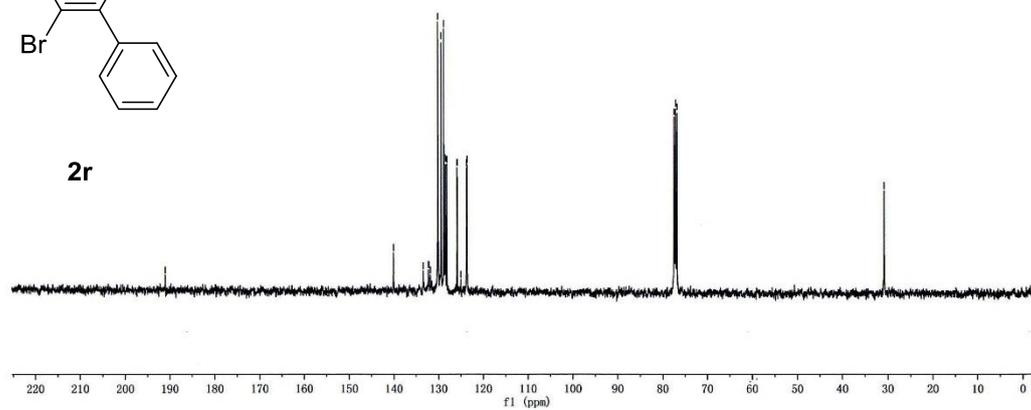
135.413
132.400
131.862
130.292
130.072
129.807
128.803
128.184
125.820
125.718
122.574

77.06
77.160
76.843

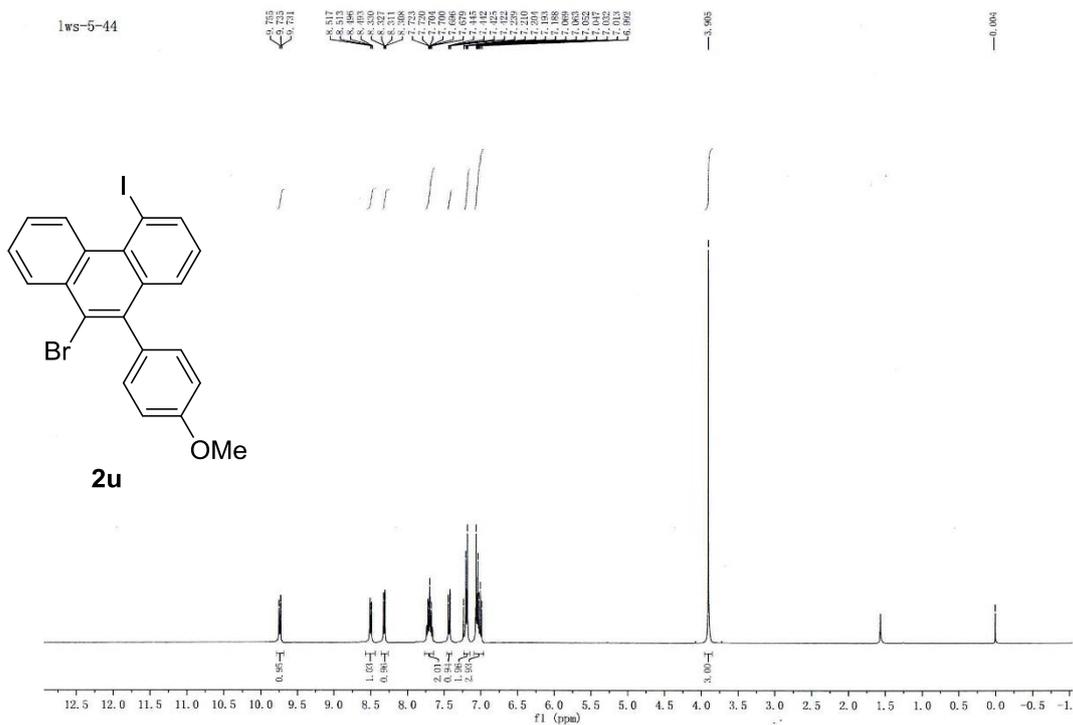
30.840



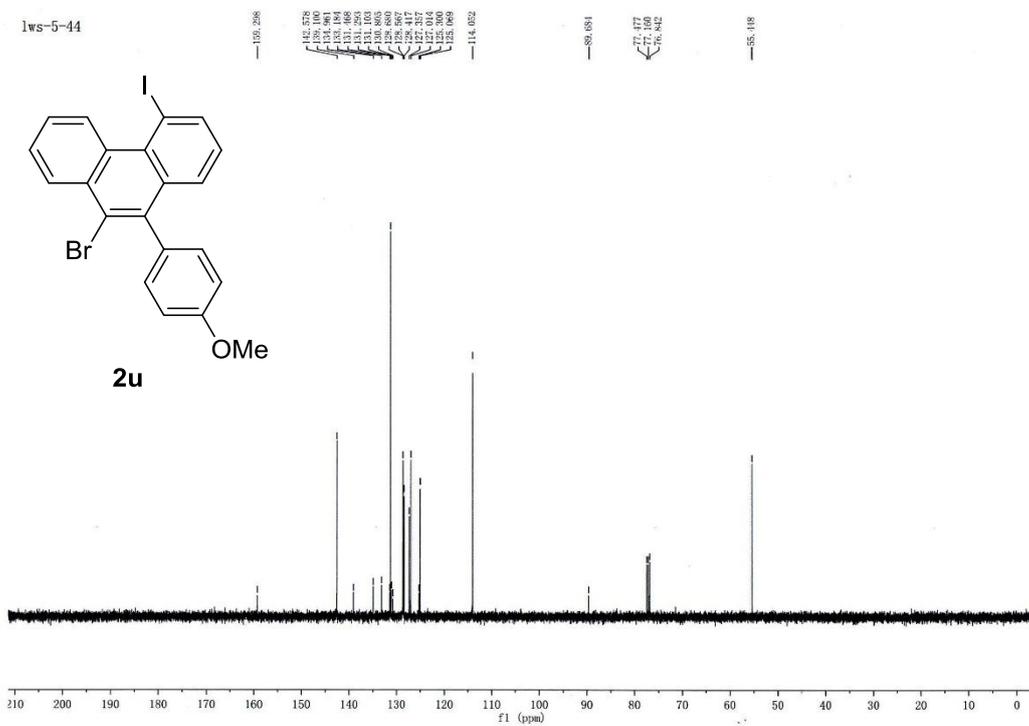
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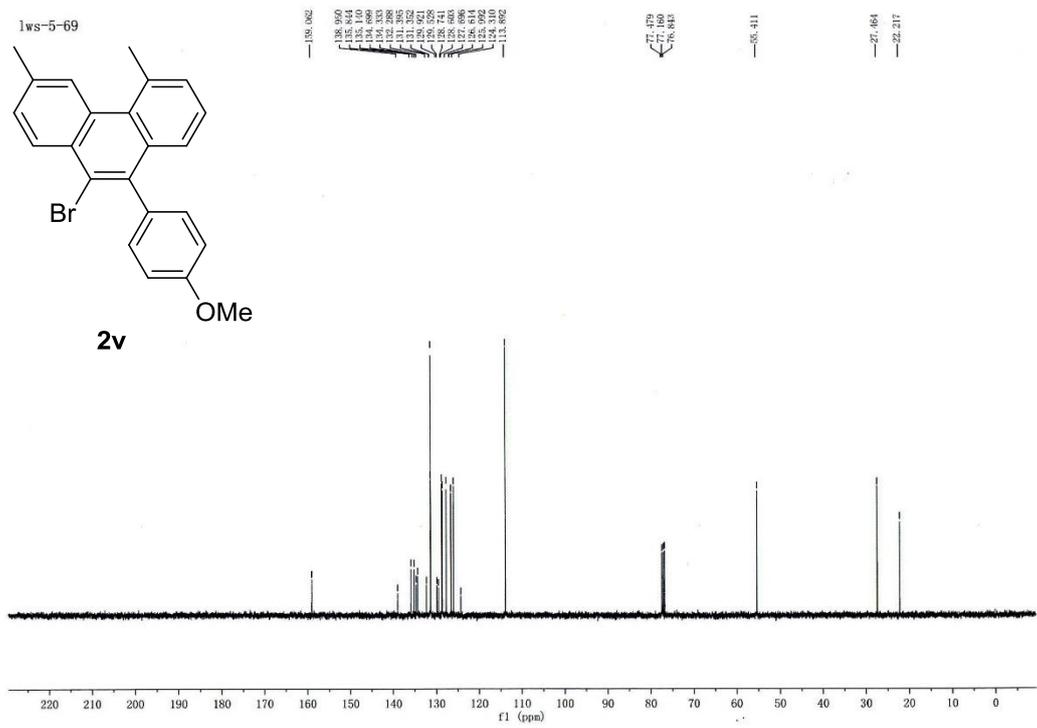
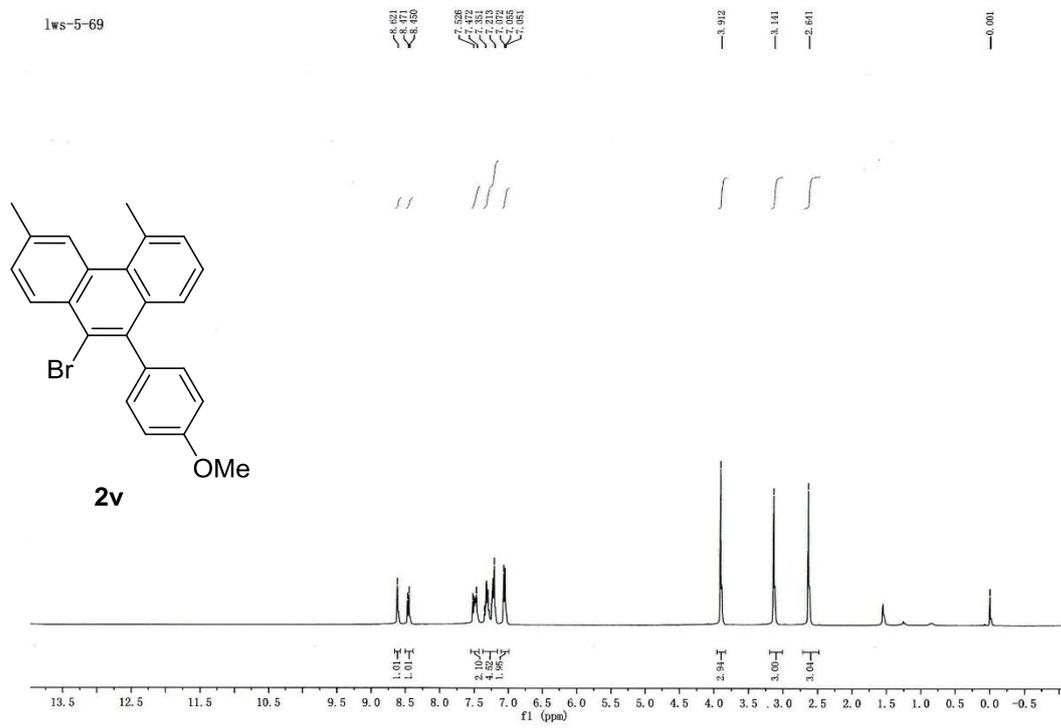


lws-5-44

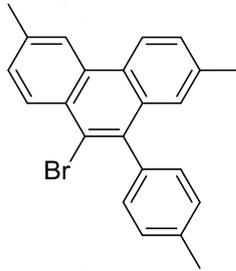


lws-5-44

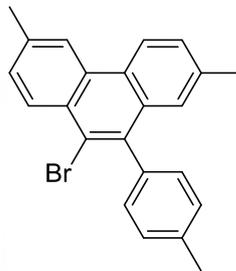
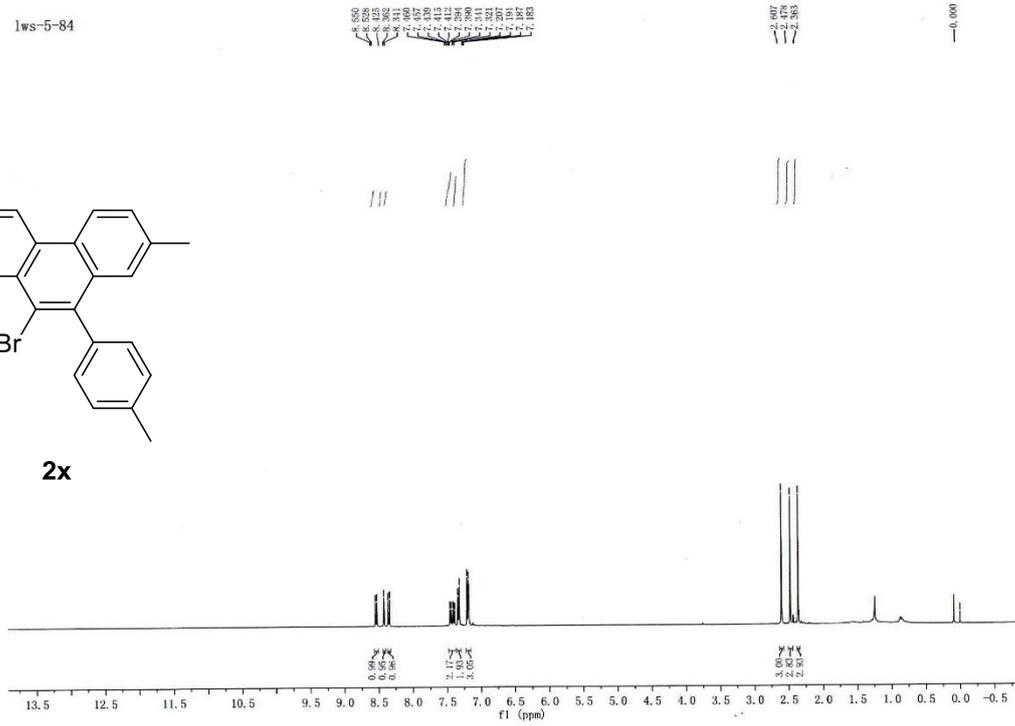




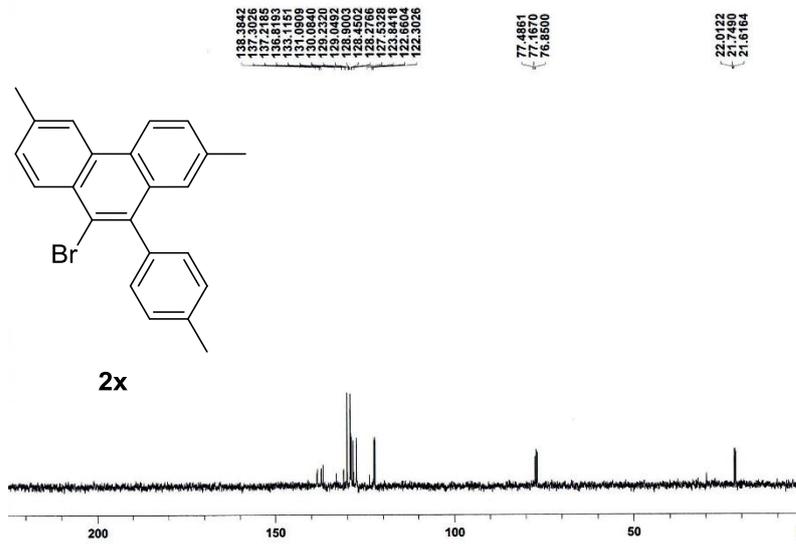
lws-5-84



2x



2x



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