

Supporting Information

Copper-Catalyzed Direct Alkylation of Heteroarenes

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General Information.

All reactions were carried out in oven-dried glassware under an argon atmosphere employing standard techniques in handling air-sensitive materials.

All solvents were reagent grade. 1,4-Dioxane (99.5%, Extra Dry over Molecular Sieve, AcroSeal) was purchased from ACROS Organics and used as supplied. Ethanol, absolute was purchased from Fischer Chemical and distilled over magnesium/iodine.

Copper(I) iodide (99,999% purity) and tris(2-pyridylmethyl)amine (>98.0% purity) were respectively purchased from Aldrich and TCI and used as supplied. All other reagents were used as supplied.

Reactions were magnetically stirred and monitored by thin layer chromatography using Merck-Kiesegel 60F₂₅₄ plates. Flash chromatography was performed with silica gel 60 (particle size 35-70 µm) supplied by Merck. Yields refer to chromatographically and spectroscopically pure compounds unless otherwise stated.

Proton NMR spectra were recorded using an internal deuterium lock at ambient temperature on Bruker 300 MHz spectrometer. Internal reference of δ_H 7.26 was used for CDCl₃. Data are presented as follows: chemical shift (in ppm on the δ scale relative to δ_{TMS} = 0), multiplicity (s = singlet, d = doublet, t = triplet, q = quartet, quint. = quintuplet, sext. = sextuplet, sept. = septuplet, m = multiplet, br. = broad, app. = apparent), coupling constant (J/Hz) and integration. Resonances that are either partially or fully obscured are denoted obscured (obs.). Carbon-13 NMR spectra were recorded at 75 MHz using CDCl₃ (δ_C 77.16) as internal reference. Fluorine-19 NMR spectra were recorder at 377 MHz using C₆F₆ (δ_F - 164.92) as external reference.

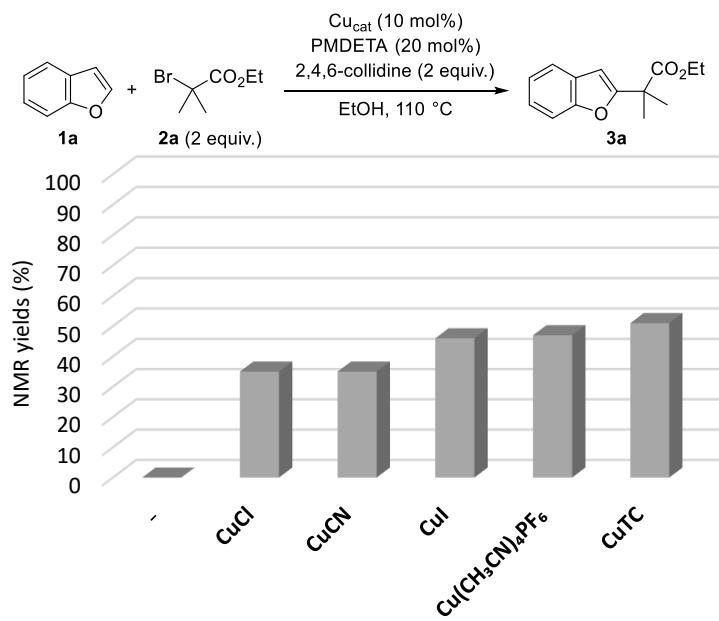
Optical rotations were recorded on an Atago AP-100 automatic polarimeter at 589 nm and reported as follows: [α]_D²⁵, concentration (c in g/100 mL), and solvent. Melting points were recorded on a Stuart Scientific Analogue SMP11. Infrared spectra were recorded on a Bruker Alpha (ATR). High-resolution mass-spectra were obtained on Agilent QTOF 6520.

Optimization of the Reaction Conditions:

General procedure:

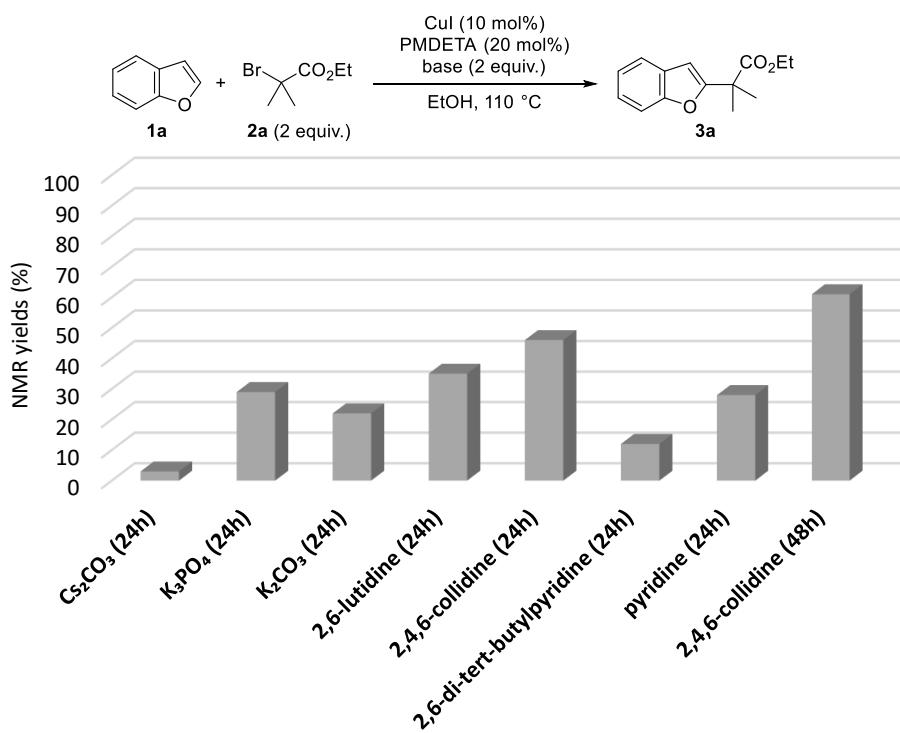
A 15 mL pressure tube was charged with the copper source (0.1 mmol). If solids, the base (2.0 mmol) and/or the ligand (0.2 mmol) were added at this stage. The tube was fitted with a rubber septum, evacuated under high vacuum and backfilled with argon before adding the solvent (1.6 mL), benzofuran (110 μ L, 1.0 mmol) and ethyl α -bromoisobutyrate (290 μ L, 2.0 mmol). If liquids, the base (2.0 mmol) and/or the ligand (0.2 mmol) were added at this stage. The rubber septum was replaced by Teflon-coated screw cap and the mixture was heated at 110 °C for 24 or 48 hours. The brownish suspension was cooled to room temperature, filtered over a plug of silica gel (washed with EtOAc) and concentrated. The yields were determined by NMR spectroscopy using benzyl acetate as an internal standard.

Optimization of the copper source:



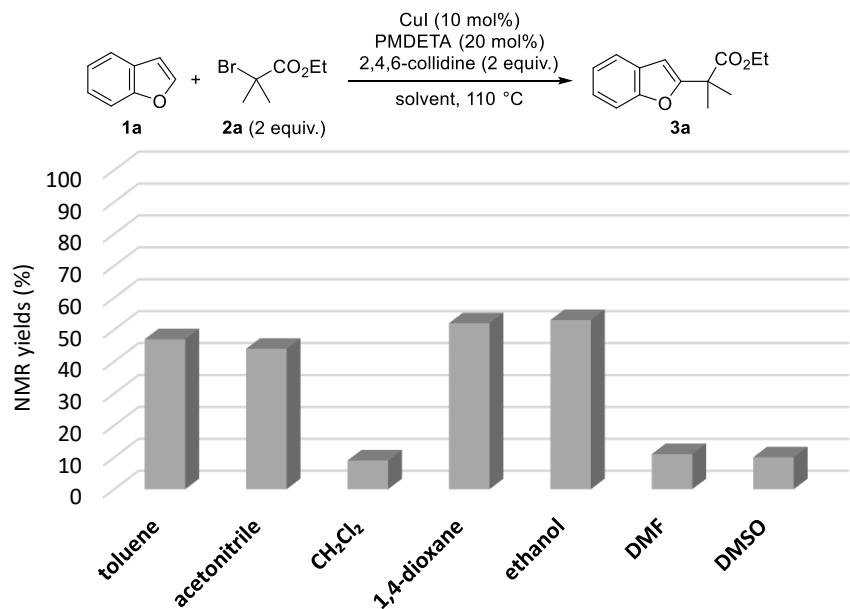
Optimization of the copper source. Reactions performed using **1a** (1.0 mmol), **2a** (2.0 mmol), copper source (10 mol%), PMDETA (20 mol%), 2,4,6-collidine (2 equiv.) in ethanol (1.6 mL) at 110 °C for 48h. Yields determined by NMR spectroscopy using benzyl acetate as an internal standard. PMDETA: *N,N,N',N'',N'''-pentamethyldiethylenetriamine*.

Optimization of the base:



Optimization of the base. Reactions performed using **1a** (1.0 mmol), **2a** (2.0 mmol), copper iodide (10 mol%), PMDETA (20 mol%), base (2 equiv.) in ethanol (1.6 mL) at 110 °C for 24 or 48 h. Yields determined by NMR spectroscopy using benzyl acetate as an internal standard. PMDETA: *N,N,N',N'',N''*-pentamethyldiethylenetriamine.

Optimization of the solvent:



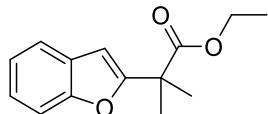
Optimization of the solvent. Reactions performed using **1a** (1.0 mmol), **2a** (2.0 mmol), copper iodide (10 mol%), PMDETA (20 mol%), 2,4,6-collidine (2 equiv.) in solvent (1.6 mL) at 110 °C for 48 h. Yields determined by NMR spectroscopy using benzyl acetate as an internal standard. PMDETA: *N,N,N',N'',N''*-pentamethyldiethylenetriamine.

Experimental Procedure and Characterization Data:

Alkylation of Heteroarenes

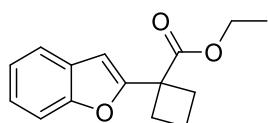
General procedure:

A 15 mL pressure tube was charged with copper(I) iodide (10 mg, 50 µmol) and tris(2-pyridylmethyl)amine (29 mg, 0.1 mmol). If solids, the heteroarene (0.5 mmol) and/or the alkyl halide (1.0 mmol) were added at this stage. The tube was fitted with a rubber septum, evacuated under high vacuum and backfilled with argon before adding anhydrous 1,4-dioxane or distilled ethanol (0.8 mL). If liquids, the heteroarene (0.5 mmol) and/or the alkyl halide (1.0 mmol) were added at this stage. 2,4,6-Collidine (130 µL, 1.0 mmol) was finally added and the rubber septum was replaced by Teflon-coated screw cap before heating the reaction mixture at the appropriate temperature (110 °C or 150 °C) for 48 hours. The brownish suspension was cooled to room temperature, filtered over a plug of silica gel (washed with EtOAc) and concentrated. The crude residue was finally purified by flash column chromatography over silica gel.



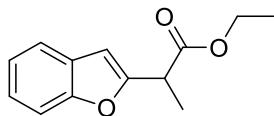
3a

Ethyl 2-(benzofuran-2-yl)-2-methylpropanoate 3a. Yield: 81% (1,4-dioxane or EtOH, 110 °C, 187 mg, 805 µmol). Solvent system for flash column chromatography: petroleum ether/EtOAc: 95/5; Yellow oil; ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 7.59 (d, J = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.50 (d, J = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 7.28 (app. quint. d, J = 7.5 and 1.8 Hz, 2H), 6.61 (s, 1H), 4.22 (q, J = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 1.72 (s, 6H), 1.27 (t, J = 7.1 Hz, 3H); ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 174.4, 160.9, 154.8, 128.5, 123.9, 122.7, 120.8, 111.2, 101.8, 61.3, 44.0, 24.5, 14.2; IR (ATR): ν_{max} 2982, 1733, 1454, 1385, 1252, 1143, 1084, 804, 751 cm⁻¹; ESIHRMS *m/z* calcd for C₁₄H₁₇O₃ [M+H]⁺ 233.1172, found 233.1180.



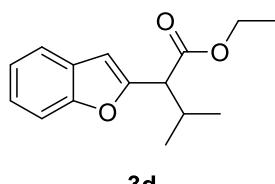
3b

Ethyl 1-(benzofuran-2-yl)cyclobutane-1-carboxylate 3b. Yield: 93% (1,4-dioxane, 110 °C, 226 mg, 925 µmol). Solvent system for flash column chromatography: petroleum ether/EtOAc: 95/5; Yellow oil; ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 7.57 (d, J = 7.1 Hz, 1H), 7.49 (d, J = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.26 (app. quint. d, J = 7.4 and 1.8 Hz, 2H), 6.66 (s, 1H), 4.24 (q, J = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 2.95-2.78 (m, 2H), 2.71-2.56 (m, 2H), 2.21-2.02 (m, 2H), 1.28 (t, J = 7.1 Hz, 3H); ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 173.6, 158.9, 155.1, 128.6, 123.9, 122.7, 120.8, 111.2, 102.7, 61.4, 48.1, 30.8, 16.7, 14.2; IR (ATR): ν_{max} 2953, 1730, 1454, 1250, 1211, 1100, 751 cm⁻¹; ESIHRMS m/z calcd for C₁₅H₁₇O₃ [M+H]⁺ 245.1172, found 245.1172.

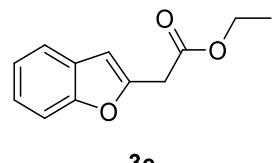


3c

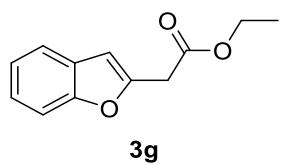
Ethyl 2-(benzofuran-2-yl)propanoate 3c. Yield: 76% from ethyl-2-bromopropionate (1,4-dioxane, 110 °C, 166 mg, 760 µmol) and 54% from ethyl-2-chloropropionate (1,4-dioxane, 110 °C, 58 mg, 266 µmol). Solvent system for flash column chromatography: petroleum ether/EtOAc: 95/5; Colorless oil; ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 7.56 (d, J = 7.4 Hz, 1H), 7.48 (d, J = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.26 (app. quint. d, J = 7.7 and 2.0 Hz, 2H), 6.61 (s, 1H), 4.23 (q, J = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 3.98 (q, J = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 1.66 (d, J = 7.3 Hz, 3H), 1.29 (t, J = 7.1 Hz, 3H); ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 172.2, 156.6, 154.8, 128.5, 124.0, 122.8, 120.8, 111.2, 103.1, 61.4, 40.1, 15.9, 14.2; IR (ATR): ν_{max} 2985, 1737, 1455, 1254, 1186, 1067, 1024, 941, 751 cm⁻¹; ESIHRMS m/z calcd for C₁₃H₁₅O₃ [M+H]⁺ 219.1016, found 219.1015.



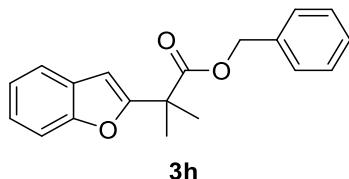
Ethyl 2-(benzofuran-2-yl)-3-methylbutanoate 3d. Yield: 87% (1,4-dioxane, 110 °C, 215 mg, 873 µmol). Solvent system for flash column chromatography: petroleum ether/EtOAc: 95/5; Yellow oil; ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 7.55 (d, J = 7.1 Hz, 1H), 7.48 (d, J = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 7.24 (app. quint. d, J = 7.1 and 1.8 Hz, 2H), 6.68 (s, 1H), 4.28-4.15 (m, 2H), 3.57 (d, J = 9.3 Hz, 1H), 2.54 (d. sept., J = 9.3 and 6.7 Hz, 1H), 1.28 (t, J = 7.1 Hz, 3H), 1.09 (d, J = 6.6 Hz, 3H), 0.96 (d, J = 6.7 Hz, 3H); ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 171.3, 154.9, 154.8, 128.6, 123.9, 122.8, 120.8, 111.2, 104.6, 61.1, 53.6, 31.0, 21.0, 20.4, 14.3; IR (ATR): ν_{max} 2965, 1737, 1454, 1187, 1131, 1031, 750 cm⁻¹; ESIHRMS *m/z* calcd for C₁₅H₁₉O₃ [M+H]⁺ 247.1329, found 247.1331.



Ethyl 2-(benzofuran-2-yl)-3,3-dimethylbutanoate 3e. Yield: 33% (EtOH, 110 °C, 41 mg, 166 µmol). Solvent system for flash column chromatography: petroleum ether/dichloromethane: 90/10; White solid; Mp: 60 °C; ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 7.53 (d, J = 7.0 Hz, 1H), 7.45 (d, J = 7.9 Hz, 1H), 7.22 (app. quint. d, J = 7.4 and 0.8 Hz, 2H), 6.75 (s, 1H), 3.74 (s, 1H), 3.71 (s, 3H), 1.09 (s, 9H); ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 171.4, 154.6, 154.1, 128.6, 123.4, 122.8, 120.8, 111.2, 105.6, 56.1, 51.9, 35.3, 28.1; IR (ATR): ν_{max} 2956, 1732, 1474, 1242, 1152, 1131, 755, 747 cm⁻¹; ESIHRMS *m/z* calcd for C₁₅H₁₉O₃ [M+H]⁺ 247.1329, found 247.1333.

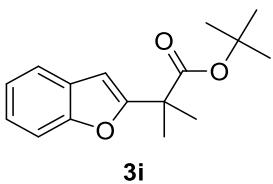


Ethyl 2-(benzofuran-2-yl)acetate 3g. Yield: 4% (1,4-dioxane, 110 °C, 9 mg, 44 µmol). Solvent system for flash column chromatography: petroleum ether/EtOAc: 95/5; Yellow oil; ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 7.52 (d, J = 6.9 Hz, 1H), 7.45 (d, J = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 7.23 (app. quint. d, J = 7.5 and 1.4 Hz, 2H), 6.63 (s, 1H), 4.22 (q, J = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 3.83 (s, 2H), 1.28 (t, J = 7.1 Hz, 3H); ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 169.0, 155.0, 150.9, 128.7, 124.1, 122.8, 120.9, 111.2, 105.2, 61.6, 34.9, 14.3; This compound has been previously reported.¹

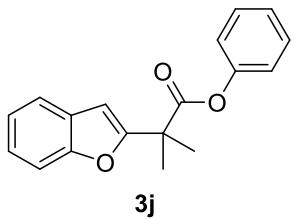


Benzyl 2-(benzofuran-2-yl)-2-methylpropanoate 3h. Yield: 62% (1,4-dioxane, 110 °C, 92 mg, 312 µmol). Solvent system for flash column chromatography: petroleum ether/dichloromethane: 80/20; Colorless oil; ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 7.58 (d, J = 7.4 Hz, 1H), 7.49 (d, J = 7.7 Hz, 1H), 7.37-7.23 (m, 7H), 6.61 (d, J = 0.9 Hz, 1H), 5.21 (s, 2H), 1.74 (s, 6H); ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 174.2, 160.6, 154.9, 136.1, 128.6, 128.5, 128.1, 127.7, 124.0, 122.7, 120.9, 111.2, 102.0, 66.8, 44.2, 24.5; IR (ATR): ν_{max} 2966, 1736, 1454, 1253, 1139, 1083, 797, 750, 697 cm⁻¹; ESIHRMS m/z calcd for C₁₉H₁₉O₃ [M+H]⁺ 295.1329, found 295.1329.

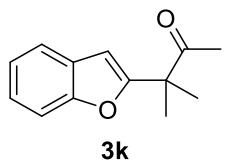
¹ Ramella, V.; He, Z.; Daniliuc, C. G.; Studer, A. *Eur. J. Org. Chem.* **2016**, 2268.



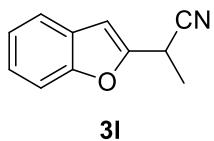
tert-Butyl 2-(benzofuran-2-yl)-2-methylpropanoate 3i. Yield: 58% (EtOH, 110 °C, 76 mg, 292 µmol). Solvent system for flash column chromatography: petroleum ether/EtOAc: 95/5; White solid; Mp: 52 °C; ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 7.57 (d, J = 7.0 Hz, 1H), 7.49 (d, J = 7.3 Hz, 1H), 7.26 (app. quint. d, J = 7.3 and 1.9 Hz, 2H), 6.57 (s, 1H), 1.66 (s, 6H), 1.46 (s, 9H); ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 173.6, 161.5, 154.8, 128.6, 123.7, 122.6, 120.8, 111.1, 101.5, 81.1, 44.8, 28.0, 24.6, ; IR (ATR): ν_{max} 2979, 1723, 1454, 1367, 1254, 1139, 847, 752 cm⁻¹; ESIHRMS *m/z* calcd for C₁₆H₂₁O₃ [M+H]⁺ 261.1485, found 261.1483.



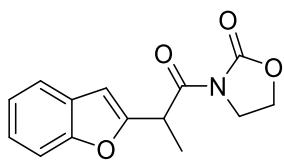
Phenyl 2-(benzofuran-2-yl)-2-methylpropanoate 3j. Yield: 79% (1,4-dioxane, 110 °C, 111 mg, 396 µmol). Solvent system for flash column chromatography: petroleum ether/EtOAc: 95/5; White solid; Mp: 54 °C; ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 7.59 (d, J = 7.1 Hz, 1H), 7.52 (d, J = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.43-7.20 (m, 5H), 7.07 (d, J = 7.5 Hz, 2H), 6.70 (d, J = 0.8 Hz, 1H), 1.84 (s, 6H); ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 173.1, 160.2, 155.0, 151.0, 129.5, 128.5, 126.0, 124.1, 122.9, 121.5, 121.0, 111.3, 102.2, 44.4, 24.6; IR (ATR): ν_{max} 2991, 1750, 1488, 1455, 1256, 1232, 1190, 1163, 1127, 1084, 814, 744, 716, 691 cm⁻¹; ESIHRMS *m/z* calcd for C₁₈H₁₇O₃ [M+H]⁺ 281.1172, found 281.1174.



3-(Benzofuran-2-yl)-3-methylbutan-2-one 3k. Yield: 78% (EtOH, 110 °C, 79 mg, 391 µmol). Solvent system for flash column chromatography: pentane/Et₂O: 90/10; Colorless oil; ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 7.57 (d, *J* = 6.8 Hz, 1H), 7.46 (d, *J* = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 7.26 (app. quint. d, *J* = 7.4 and 1.9 Hz, 2H), 6.63 (s, 1H), 2.08 (s, 3H), 1.58 (s, 6H); ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 208.7, 161.2, 155.0, 128.5, 124.2, 122.9, 120.9, 111.3, 102.6, 49.7, 25.8, 23.3; IR (ATR): ν_{max} 2980, 1717, 1455, 1354, 1254, 1171, 1126, 1082, 940, 804, 752, 742 cm⁻¹; ESIHRMS *m/z* calcd for C₁₃H₁₅O₂ [M+H]⁺ 203.1067, found 203.1071.

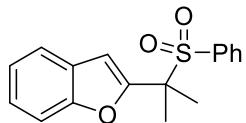


2-(Benzofuran-2-yl)propanenitrile 3l. Yield: 42% (1,4-dioxane, 110 °C, 36 mg, 210 µmol). Solvent system for flash column chromatography: petroleum ether/EtOAc: 80/20; Yellow oil; ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 7.56 (d, *J* = 7.3 Hz, 1H), 7.48 (d, *J* = 7.9 Hz, 1H), 7.32 (td, *J* = 7.3 and 1.5 Hz, 1H), 7.25 (td, *J* = 7.5 and 1.4 Hz, 1H), 6.72 (t, *J* = 0.93 Hz, 1H), 4.13 (qd, *J* = 7.2 and 0.9 Hz, 1H), 1.77 (d, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 3H); ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 155.2, 151.8, 127.8, 124.9, 123.3, 121.3, 119.1, 111.4, 104.0, 25.8, 17.6; IR (ATR): ν_{max} 1454, 1255, 1173, 1082, 1010, 943, 813, 751 cm⁻¹; ESIHRMS *m/z* calcd for C₁₀H₉O [M-CN]⁺ 145.0648, found 145.0646.



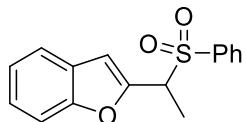
3-[2-(Benzofuran-2-yl)propanoyl]oxazolidin-2-one 3m. Yield: 60% (1,4-dioxane, 110 °C, 78 mg, 301 µmol). Solvent system for flash column chromatography: petroleum ether/dichloromethane:

35/65; Yellow oil; ^1H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 7.56 (d, $J = 7.1$ Hz, 1H), 7.48 (d, $J = 7.5$ Hz, 1H), 7.21 (app. quint. d, $J = 7.9$ and 1.7 Hz, 2H), 6.69 (s, 1H), 5.40 (q, $J = 7.0$ Hz, 1H), 4.51-4.36 (m, 2H), 4.14-4.02 (m, 2H), 1.68 (t, $J = 7.1$ Hz, 3H); ^{13}C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 172.1, 155.9, 154.9, 153.2, 128.4, 124.0, 122.8, 120.9, 111.3, 104.2, 62.1, 43.0, 38.0, 15.8; IR (ATR): ν_{max} 2989, 1176, 1702, 1455, 1386, 1364, 1252, 1221, 1116, 1009, 753 cm^{-1} ; ESIHRMS m/z calcd for $\text{C}_{14}\text{H}_{14}\text{NO}_4$ [M+H] $^+$ 260.0917, found 260.0917.



3o

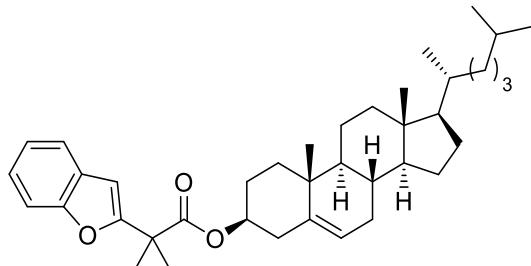
2-[2-(Phenylsulfonyl)propan-2-yl]benzofuran 3o. Yield: 58% (EtOH, 110 °C, 175 mg, 583 μmol). Solvent system for flash column chromatography: petroleum ether/dichloromethane: 60/40; White solid; Mp: 102 °C; ^1H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 7.58-7.48 (m, 4H), 7.38-7.29 (m, 3H), 7.23 (app. quint. d, $J = 6.7$ and 1.4 Hz, 2H), 6.66 (d, $J = 0.7$ Hz, 1H), 1.84 (s, 6H); ^{13}C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 154.8, 154.0, 135.5, 133.8, 130.2, 128.5, 127.9, 125.0, 123.1, 121.3, 111.4, 107.3, 64.1, 20.9; IR (ATR): ν_{max} 1448, 1300, 1159, 1129, 1074, 765, 754, 727, 689, 620 cm^{-1} ; ESIHRMS m/z calcd for $\text{C}_{17}\text{H}_{16}\text{O}_2\text{SNa}$ [M+Na] $^+$ 323.0712, found 323.0711.



3p

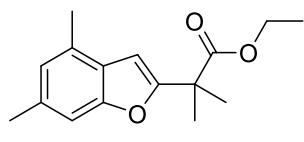
2-[1-(Phenylsulfonyl)ethyl]benzofuran 3p. Yield: 47% (EtOH, 110 °C, 67 mg, 234 μmol). Solvent system for flash column chromatography: petroleum ether/dichloromethane: 50/50; White solid; Mp: 88 °C; ^1H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 7.67 (d, $J = 8.0$ Hz, 2H), 7.60 (tt, $J = 7.6$ and 1.1 Hz, 1H), 7.51 (d, $J = 7.2$ Hz, 1H), 7.42 (t, $J = 8.2$ Hz, 2H), 7.34-7.29 (m, 1H), 7.23 (app. quint. d, $J = 7.2$ and 1.4 Hz, 2H), 6.65 (s, 1H), 4.52 (q, $J = 7.3$ Hz, 1H), 1.81 (d, $J = 7.3$ Hz, 3H); ^{13}C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 154.9, 150.2, 136.9, 134.0, 129.3, 129.0, 127.8, 125.0, 123.2, 121.3, 111.4, 107.6, 61.0,

12.8; IR (ATR): ν_{max} 1448, 1317, 1151, 1070, 1044, 808, 760, 732, 686, 649 cm⁻¹; ESIHRMS *m/z* calcd for C₁₆H₁₈NO₃S [M+NH₄]⁺ 304.1002, found 304.1001.



3q

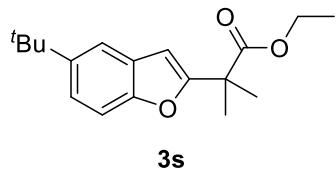
Cholestyl 2-(benzofuran-2-yl)-2-methylpropanoate 3q. Yield: 51% (EtOH, 110 °C, 133 mg, 232 μmol). Solvent system for flash column chromatography: petroleum ether/dichloromethane: 90/10; White solid; Mp: 122 °C; $[\alpha]_D^{25}$ - 14 (c 1.0, CHCl₃); ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 7.53 (d, *J* = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 7.45 (d, *J* = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 7.23 (app. quint. d, *J* = 7.4 and 1.6 Hz, 2H), 6.55 (s, 1H), 5.41-5.34 (m, 1H), 4.66 (sept., *J* = 4.6 Hz, 1H), 2.37-2.21 (m, 2H), 2.09-1.93 (m, 2H), 1.92-1.77 (m, 3H), 1.66 (s, 6H), 1.62-0.91 (m, 21H), 0.99 (s, 3H), 0.93 (obs. d, *J* = 6.5 Hz, 3H), 0.89 (d, *J* = 6.6 Hz, 3H), 0.88 (d, *J* = 6.6 Hz, 3H), 0.68 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 173.7, 161.0, 154.8, 139.7, 128.5, 123.8, 122.8, 122.6, 120.8, 111.1, 101.7, 74.8, 56.7, 56.2, 50.1, 44.2, 42.4, 39.8, 39.6, 37.9, 37.0, 36.7, 36.3, 35.9, 32.0, 32.0, 28.4, 28.1, 27.6, 24.6, 24.4, 24.0, 23.0, 22.7, 21.1, 19.5, 18.8, 12.0; IR (ATR): ν_{max} 2938, 1739, 1467, 1253, 1153, 1082, 1002, 920, 805, 749, 733 cm⁻¹; ESIHRMS *m/z* calcd for C₃₉H₆₀NO₃ [M+H]⁺ 590.4568, found 590.4554.



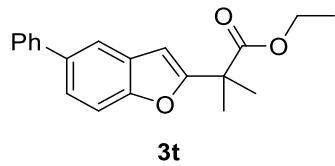
3r

Ethyl 2-(4,6-dimethylbenzofuran-2-yl)-2-methylpropanoate 3r. Yield: 78% (EtOH, 110 °C, 102 mg, 392 μmol). Solvent system for flash column chromatography: petroleum ether/EtOAc: 95/5; Colorless oil; ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 7.10 (s, 1H), 6.85 (s, 1H), 6.53 (d, *J* = 0.9 Hz, 1H), 4.17 (q, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 2.48 (s, 3H), 2.43 (s, 3H), 1.66 (s, 6H), 1.23 (t, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 3H); ¹³C NMR (75 MHz,

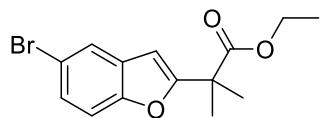
CDCl₃): δ 174.6, 159.7, 155.1, 134.0, 130.2, 125.7, 124.4, 108.9, 100.2, 61.3, 44.0, 24.6, 21.7, 18.6, 14.2; IR (ATR): ν_{max} 2982, 1733, 1469, 1292, 1249, 1147, 1128, 1054, 1026, 837, 802, 757 cm⁻¹; ESIHRMS *m/z* calcd for C₁₆H₂₁O₃ [M+H]⁺ 261.1485, found 261.1484.



Ethyl 2-[5-(*tert*-butyl)benzofuran-2-yl]-2-methylpropanoate 3s. Yield: 85% (EtOH, 110 °C, 122 mg, 423 μmol). Solvent system for flash column chromatography: petroleum ether/EtOAc: 95/5; Pale yellow oil; ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 7.56 (d, *J* = 1.9 Hz, 1H), 7.39 (d, *J* = 8.7 Hz, 1H), 7.33 (dd, *J* = 8.7 and 1.9 Hz, 1H), 6.54 (s, 1H), 4.17 (q, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 1.66 (s, 6H), 1.39 (s, 9H), 1.23 (t, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 3H); ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 174.4, 161.0, 153.1, 145.7, 128.2, 121.7, 117.1, 110.5, 101.9, 61.3, 44.1, 34.8, 32.0, 24.6, 14.2; IR (ATR): ν_{max} 2963, 1734, 1477, 1254, 1148, 1089, 1026, 808, 752 cm⁻¹; ESIHRMS *m/z* calcd for C₁₈H₂₅O₃ [M+H]⁺ 289.1798, found 289.1798.

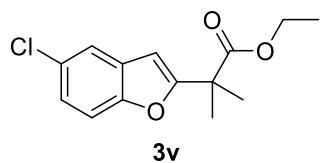


Ethyl 2-methyl-2-(5-phenylbenzofuran-2-yl)propanoate 3t. Yield: 74% (EtOH, 110 °C, 114 mg, 370 μmol). Solvent system for flash column chromatography: petroleum ether/EtOAc: 95/5; White solid; Mp: 76 °C; ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 7.72 (t, *J* = 1.2 Hz, 1H), 7.61 (d, *J* = 7.0 Hz, 2H), 7.51-7.41 (m, 4H), 7.35 (tt, *J* = 7.3 and 1.3 Hz, 1H), 6.60 (s, 1H), 4.18 (q, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 1.68 (s, 6H), 1.23 (t, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 3H); ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 174.4, 161.7, 154.5, 141.9, 136.5, 129.1, 128.8, 127.6, 126.9, 123.6, 119.4, 111.3, 102.1, 61.4, 44.2, 24.6, 14.2; IR (ATR): ν_{max} 2989, 1733, 1462, 1241, 1140, 1085, 1027, 814, 761, 699 cm⁻¹; ESIHRMS *m/z* calcd for C₂₀H₂₁O₃ [M]⁺ 309.1485, found 309.1486.



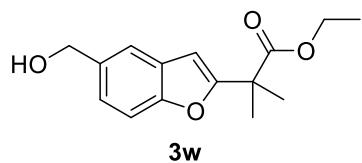
3u

Ethyl 2-(5-bromobenzofuran-2-yl)-2-methylpropanoate 3u. Yield: 79% (1,4-dioxane, 110 °C, 245 mg, 787 µmol). Solvent system for flash column chromatography: petroleum ether/EtOAc: 95/5; Yellow oil; ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 7.63 (d, *J* = 1.7 Hz, 1H), 7.37-7.29 (m, 2H), 6.49 (s, 1H), 4.16 (q, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 1.64 (s, 6H), 1.20 (t, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 3H); ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 174.1, 162.3, 153.6, 130.5, 126.8, 123.5, 115.7, 112.6, 101.5, 61.5, 44.1, 24.5, 14.2; IR (ATR): ν_{max} 2982, 1733, 1444, 1252, 1145, 1088, 1025, 798, 673 cm⁻¹; ESIHRMS *m/z* calcd for C₁₄H₁₆O₃Br [M+H]⁺ 311.0277, found 311.0280.



3v

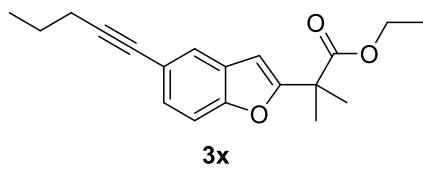
Ethyl 2-(5-chlorobenzofuran-2-yl)-2-methylpropanoate 3v. Yield: 76% (EtOH, 110 °C, 102 mg, 382 µmol). Solvent system for flash column chromatography: petroleum ether/EtOAc: 95/5; Colorless oil; ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 7.48 (d, *J* = 2.1 Hz, 1H), 7.34 (d, *J* = 8.7 Hz, 1H), 7.19 (dd, *J* = 8.7 and 2.2 Hz, 1H), 6.50 (d, *J* = 0.8 Hz, 1H), 4.16 (q, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 1.64 (s, 6H), 1.20 (t, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 3H); ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 174.1, 162.5, 153.2, 129.9, 128.3, 124.1, 120.5, 112.1, 101.6, 61.5, 44.2, 24.5, 14.2; IR (ATR): ν_{max} 2983, 1733, 1446, 1257, 1145, 1089, 865, 799, 697 cm⁻¹; ESIHRMS *m/z* calcd for C₁₄H₁₆O₃Cl [M+H]⁺ 267.0782, found 267.0783.



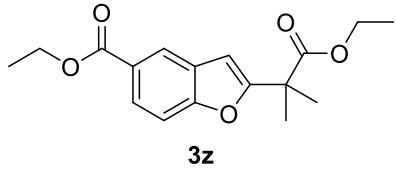
3w

Ethyl 2-[5-(hydroxymethyl)benzofuran-2-yl]-2-methylpropanoate 3w. Yield: 72% (EtOH, 110 °C, 3 equiv. of ethyl α-bromoisobutyrate during 72h, 51 mg, 194 µmol). Solvent system for flash

column chromatography: petroleum ether/dichloromethane: 85/15; Yellow oil; ^1H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 7.52 (app. s, 1H), 7.41 (d, J = 8.1 Hz, 1H), 7.25 (dd, J = 8.2 and 1.8 Hz, 1H), 6.53 (d, J = 0.8 Hz, 1H), 4.74 (s, 2H), 4.15 (q, J = 7.4 Hz, 2H), 1.73 (br. s, 1H), 1.64 (s, 6H), 1.19 (t, J = 7.1 Hz, 3H); ^{13}C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 174.4, 161.5, 154.5, 135.5, 128.7, 123.4, 119.6, 111.2, 101.9, 65.8, 61.4, 44.1, 24.5, 14.2; IR (ATR): ν_{max} 3335, 2982, 1732, 1474, 1445, 1257, 1148, 1088, 1024, 808, 772 cm^{-1} ; ESIHRMS m/z calcd for $\text{C}_{15}\text{H}_{19}\text{O}_4$ [M+H] $^+$ 263.1278, found 263.1282.

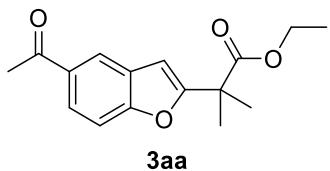


Ethyl 2-methyl-2-[5-(pent-1-yn-1-yl)benzofuran-2-yl]propanoate 3x. Yield: 66% (EtOH, 110 °C, 98 mg, 328 μmol). Solvent system for flash column chromatography: petroleum ether/dichloromethane: 95/5; Pale yellow oil; ^1H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 7.56 (d, J = 1.1 Hz, 1H), 7.33 (d, J = 8.5 Hz, 1H), 7.28 (dd, J = 8.5 and 1.6 Hz, 1H), 6.49 (d, J = 0.7 Hz, 1H), 4.15 (q, J = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 2.39 (t, J = 7.0 Hz, 2H), 1.64 (obs. app. sext, J = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 1.63 (s, 6H), 1.20 (t, J = 7.1 Hz, 3H), 1.06 (t, J = 7.4 Hz, 3H); ^{13}C NMR (150 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 174.3, 161.7, 154.1, 128.6, 127.7, 124.1, 118.5, 111.1, 101.7, 88.6, 81.1, 61.4, 44.1, 24.5, 22.5, 21.6, 14.2, 13.7; IR (ATR): ν_{max} 2965, 1734, 1467, 1254, 1218, 1142, 1087, 1026, 810 cm^{-1} ; ESIHRMS m/z calcd for $\text{C}_{19}\text{H}_{23}\text{O}_3$ [M+H] $^+$ 299.1642, found 299.1643.

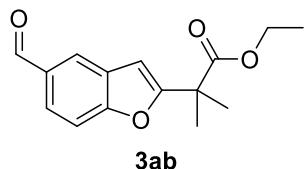


Ethyl 2-(1-ethoxy-2-methyl-1-oxopropan-2-yl)benzofuran-5-carboxylate 3z. Yield: 71% (EtOH, 110 °C, 35 mg, 354 μmol). Solvent system for flash column chromatography: petroleum ether/EtOAc: 95/5; White solid; Mp: 44 °C; ^1H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 8.26 (d, J = 1.3 Hz, 1H),

7.98 (dd, J = 8.6 and 1.7 Hz, 1H), 7.44 (d, J = 8.6 Hz, 1H), 6.60 (d, J = 0.8 Hz, 1H), 4.39 (q, J = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 4.16 (q, J = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 1.65 (s, 6H), 1.41 (t, J = 7.1 Hz, 3H), 1.20 (t, J = 7.1 Hz, 3H); ^{13}C NMR (150 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 174.1, 167.0, 162.4, 157.4, 128.5, 125.8, 125.5, 123.3, 111.0, 102.4, 61.5, 61.0, 44.1, 24.5, 14.5, 14.2; IR (ATR): ν_{max} 2974, 1733, 1713, 1445, 1299, 1276, 1246, 1168, 1147, 1090, 1029, 765 cm^{-1} ; ESIHRMS m/z calcd for $\text{C}_{17}\text{H}_{21}\text{O}_5$ [M+H] $^+$ 305.1384, found 305.1389.

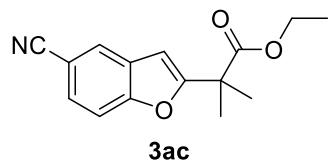


Ethyl 2-(5-acetylbenzofuran-2-yl)-2-methylpropanoate 3aa. Yield: 64% (EtOH, 110 °C, 88 mg, 321 μmol). Solvent system for flash column chromatography: petroleum ether/EtOAc: 95/5; White solid; Mp: 64 °C; ^1H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 8.17 (d, J = 1.0 Hz, 1H), 7.92 (dd, J = 8.6 and 1.5 Hz, 1H), 7.47 (d, J = 8.6 Hz, 1H), 6.62 (s, 1H), 4.16 (q, J = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 2.65 (s, 3H), 1.66 (s, 6H), 1.20 (t, J = 7.1 Hz, 3H); ^{13}C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 197.8, 174.1, 162.6, 157.5, 132.7, 128.6, 124.8, 122.2, 111.2, 102.5, 61.5, 44.2, 26.9, 24.5, 14.2; IR (ATR): ν_{max} 2986, 1738, 1677, 1595, 1441, 1270, 1254, 1168, 1145, 1087, 1021, 811 cm^{-1} ; ESIHRMS m/z calcd for $\text{C}_{16}\text{H}_{19}\text{O}_4$ [M+H] $^+$ 275.1278, found 275.1280.



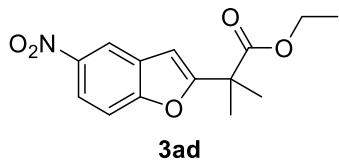
Ethyl 2-(5-formylbenzofuran-2-yl)-2-methylpropanoate 3ab. Yield: 46% (EtOH, 110 °C, 60 mg, 230 μmol). Solvent system for flash column chromatography: petroleum ether/EtOAc: 95/5; Colorless oil; ^1H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 10.04 (s, 1H), 8.07 (d, J = 1.1 Hz, 1H), 7.82 (dd, J = 8.5 and 1.5 Hz, 1H), 7.55 (d, J = 8.5 Hz, 1H), 6.66 (s, 1H), 4.16 (q, J = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 1.66 (s, 6H), 1.20 (t, J = 7.1 Hz, 3H); ^{13}C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 192.0, 174.0, 163.1, 158.3, 132.2, 129.1, 125.8, 124.0,

111.9, 102.5, 61.6, 44.2, 24.5, 14.2; IR (ATR): ν_{max} 2983, 1732, 1695, 1445, 1302, 1266, 1148, 1113, 1024, 813, 790 cm⁻¹; ESIHRMS *m/z* calcd for C₁₅H₁₇O₄ [M+H]⁺ 261.1121, found 261.1116.



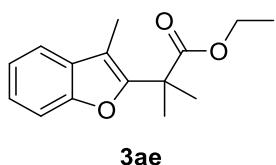
3ac

Ethyl 2-(5-cyanobenzofuran-2-yl)-2-methylpropanoate 3ac. Yield: 47% (EtOH, 110 °C, 61mg, 237 μmol). Solvent system for flash column chromatography: petroleum ether/EtOAc: 95/5; White solid; Mp: 42 °C; ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 7.86 (dd, *J* = 1.3 and 0.9 Hz, 1H), 7.54-7.50 (m, 2H), 6.61 (d, *J* = 0.5 Hz, 1H), 4.16 (q, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 1.66 (s, 6H), 1.20 (t, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 3H); ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 173.9, 163.6, 156.6, 129.3, 127.8, 126.0, 119.8, 112.5, 106.7, 102.0, 61.7, 44.3, 24.5, 14.3; IR (ATR): ν_{max} 2985, 2227, 1732, 1590, 1467, 1445, 1269, 1254, 1148, 1086, 1024, 816 cm⁻¹; ESIHRMS *m/z* calcd for C₁₅H₁₆NO₃ [M+H]⁺ 258.1125, found 258.1129.

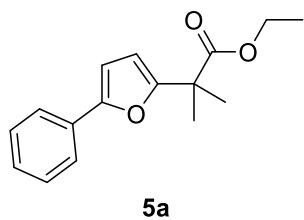


3ad

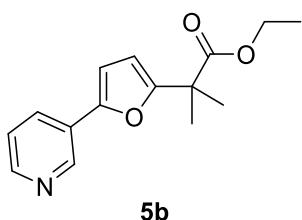
Ethyl 2-methyl-2-(5-nitrobenzofuran-2-yl)propanoate 3ad. Yield: 19% (EtOH, 110 °C, 26 mg, 94 μmol). Solvent system for flash column chromatography: petroleum ether/EtOAc: 98/2; Brown solid; Mp: 45 °C; ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 8.45 (d, *J* = 2.3 Hz, 1H), 8.19 (dd, *J* = 9.0 and 2.4 Hz, 1H), 7.51 (d, *J* = 9.0 Hz, 1H), 6.69 (d, *J* = 0.9 Hz, 1H), 4.17 (q, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 1.67 (s, 6H), 1.21 (t, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 3H); ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 173.8, 164.4, 157.7, 144.2, 128.9, 120.0, 117.4, 111.5, 102.9, 61.7, 44.3, 24.4, 14.2; IR (ATR): ν_{max} 2977, 1728, 1593, 1350, 1264, 1148, 1070, 925, 810 cm⁻¹; ESIHRMS *m/z* calcd for C₁₄H₁₆NO₅ [M+H]⁺ 278.1023, found 278.1022.



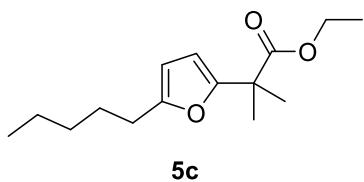
Ethyl 2-methyl-2-(3-methylbenzofuran-2-yl)propanoate 3ae. Yield: 74% (1,4-dioxane, 110 °C, 183 mg, 743 µmol). Solvent system for flash column chromatography: petroleum ether/EtOAc: 95/5; Pale yellow oil; ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 7.52-7.38 (m, 2H), 7.32-7.19 (m, 2H), 4.21 (q, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 2.21 (s, 3H), 1.70 (s, 6H), 1.24 (t, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 3H); ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 175.1, 154.2, 153.1, 131.0, 123.7, 122.2, 118.9, 110.9, 109.7, 61.3, 44.4, 25.0, 14.2, 8.3; IR (ATR): ν_{max} 2982, 1732, 1455, 1247, 1147, 1097, 745 cm⁻¹; ESIHRMS *m/z* calcd for C₁₅H₁₉O₃ [M+H]⁺ 247.1329, found 247.1329.



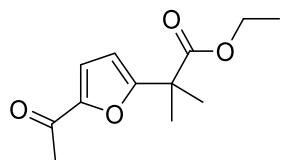
Ethyl 2-methyl-2-(5-phenylfuran-2-yl)propanoate 5a. Yield: 84% (1,4-dioxane, 110 °C, 218 mg, 844 µmol). Solvent system for flash column chromatography: petroleum ether/EtOAc: 90/10; Colorless oil; ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 7.64 (d, *J* = 7.4 Hz, 2H), 7.37 (t, *J* = 7.4 Hz, 2H), 7.23 (t, *J* = 7.3 Hz, 1H), 6.58 (d, *J* = 3.2 Hz, 1H), 6.23 (d, *J* = 3.3 Hz, 1H), 4.16 (q, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 1.62 (s, 6H), 1.22 (t, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 3H); ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 174.8, 157.4, 152.9, 131.1, 128.7, 127.2, 123.7, 107.0, 105.7, 61.2, 43.8, 24.7, 14.2; IR (ATR): ν_{max} 2982, 1731, 1249, 1150, 1119, 1026, 759, 692 cm⁻¹; ESIHRMS *m/z* calcd for C₁₆H₁₉O₃ [M+H]⁺ 259.1329, found 259.1330.



Ethyl 2-methyl-2-[5-(pyridin-3-yl)furan-2-yl]propanoate 5b. Yield: 93% (EtOH, 110 °C, 120 mg, 463 µmol). Solvent system for flash column chromatography: petroleum ether/EtOAc: 70/30; Yellow oil; ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 8.86 (dd, *J* = 2.2 and 0.8 Hz, 1H), 8.43 (dd, *J* = 4.8 and 1.6 Hz, 1H), 7.84 (ddd, *J* = 8.0, 2.2 and 1.7 Hz, 1H), 7.24 (ddd, *J* = 8.0, 4.8 and 0.8 Hz, 1H), 6.64 (d, *J* = 3.4 Hz, 1H), 6.24 (d, *J* = 3.4 Hz, 1H), 4.13 (q, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 1.58 (s, 6H), 1.19 (t, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 3H); ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 174.5, 158.5, 149.9, 148.0, 145.3, 130.5, 127.0, 123.5, 107.2, 107.1, 61.2, 43.7, 24.6, 14.1; IR (ATR): ν_{max} 2982, 1730, 1486, 1250, 1151, 1115, 1024, 787, 707 cm⁻¹; ESIHRMS *m/z* calcd for C₁₅H₁₈NO₃ [M+H]⁺ 260.1281, found 260.1281.

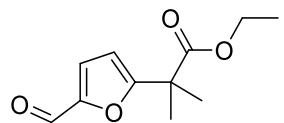


Ethyl 2-methyl-2-(5-pentylfuran-2-yl)propanoate 5c. Yield: 54% (EtOH, 110 °C, 68 mg, 269 µmol). Solvent system for flash column chromatography: petroleum ether/EtOAc: 95/5; Colorless oil; ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 6.00 (d, *J* = 3.1 Hz, 1H), 5.87 (d, *J* = 3.1 Hz, 1H), 4.12 (q, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 2.56 (t, *J* = 7.4 Hz, 2H), 1.66-1.55 (m, 2H), 1.52 (s, 6H), 1.37-1.26 (m, 4H), 1.20 (t, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 3H), 0.86 (t, *J* = 6.9 Hz, 3H); ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 175.2, 155.8, 155.7, 105.1, 105.0, 61.0, 43.5, 31.4, 28.1, 27.9, 24.6, 22.5, 14.2, 14.1; IR (ATR): ν_{max} 2933, 1734, 1468, 1252, 1150, 1119, 1022, 782 cm⁻¹; ESIHRMS *m/z* calcd for C₁₅H₂₅O₃ [M+H]⁺ 253.1798, found 253.1809.



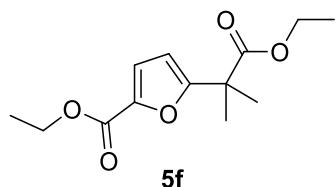
5d

Ethyl 2-(5-acetyl furan-2-yl)-2-methylpropanoate 5d. Yield: 68% (EtOH, 110 °C, 77 mg, 340 µmol). Solvent system for flash column chromatography: petroleum ether/EtOAc: 80/20; Yellow oil; ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 7.09 (d, *J* = 3.5 Hz, 1H), 6.29 (d, *J* = 3.5 Hz, 1H), 4.11 (q, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 2.40 (s, 3H), 1.56 (s, 6H), 1.18 (t, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 3H); ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 186.5, 173.8, 162.2, 152.0, 118.1, 108.1, 61.4, 44.1, 25.9, 24.4, 14.1; IR (ATR): ν_{max} 2984, 1732, 1677, 1513, 1366, 1250, 1153, 1024, 803, 628 cm⁻¹; ESIHRMS *m/z* calcd for C₁₂H₁₇O₄ [M+H]⁺ 225.1121, found 225.1121.



5e

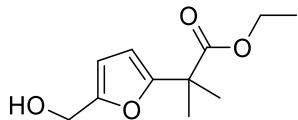
Ethyl 2-(5-formyl furan-2-yl)-2-methylpropanoate 5e. Yield: 70% (EtOH, 110 °C, 73 mg, 350 µmol). Solvent system for flash column chromatography: petroleum ether/EtOAc: 85/15; Yellow oil; ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 9.57 (s, 1H), 7.18 (d, *J* = 3.6 Hz, 1H), 6.38 (d, *J* = 3.3 Hz, 1H), 4.14 (q, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 1.60 (s, 6H), 1.20 (t, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 3H); ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 177.7, 173.7, 164.4, 152.3, 122.2, 108.6, 61.6, 44.3, 24.5, 14.1; IR (ATR): ν_{max} 2984, 1732, 1681, 1515, 1388, 1249, 1152, 1087, 1026, 805, 764 cm⁻¹; ESIHRMS *m/z* calcd for C₁₁H₁₅O₄ [M+H]⁺ 211.0965, found 211.0970.



5f

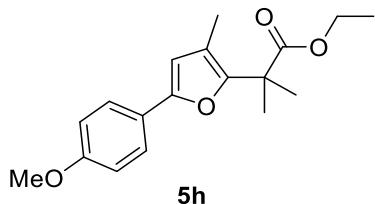
Ethyl 5-(1-ethoxy-2-methyl-1-oxopropan-2-yl)furan-2-carboxylate 5f. Yield: 53% (EtOH, 110 °C, 68 mg, 267 µmol). Solvent system for flash column chromatography: petroleum ether/EtOAc:

90/10; Colorless oil; ^1H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 7.09 (d, J = 3.4 Hz, 1H), 6.26 (d, J = 3.5 Hz, 1H), 4.33 (q, J = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 4.14 (q, J = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 1.60 (s, 6H), 1.35 (t, J = 7.1 Hz, 3H), 1.21 (t, J = 7.1 Hz, 3H); ^{13}C NMR (150 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 174.1, 162.0, 158.9, 143.9, 118.7, 107.5, 61.5, 60.8, 44.1, 24.6, 14.5, 14.2; IR (ATR): ν_{max} 2984, 1729, 1519, 1301, 1252, 1152, 1136, 1023, 762 cm^{-1} ; ESIHRMS m/z calcd for $\text{C}_{13}\text{H}_{19}\text{O}_5$ [M+H] $^+$ 255.1227, found 255.1223



5g

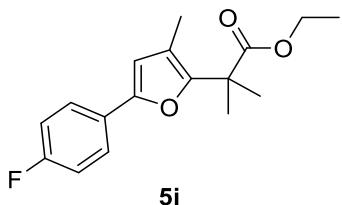
Ethyl 2-(5-(hydroxymethyl)furan-2-yl)-2-methylpropanoate 5g. Yield: 40% (EtOH , 110 °C, 42 mg, 198 μmol). Solvent system for flash column chromatography: petroleum ether/ EtOAc : 70/30; Yellow oil; ^1H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 6.20 (d, J = 3.2 Hz, 1H), 6.09 (d, J = 3.2 Hz, 1H), 4.55 (s, 2H), 4.13 (q, J = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 1.91 (br. s, 1H), 1.54 (s, 6H), 1.20 (t, J = 7.1 Hz, 3H); ^{13}C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 174.9, 157.8, 153.3, 108.5, 105.7, 61.2, 57.7, 43.7, 24.6, 14.2; IR (ATR): ν_{max} 3427, 2982, 1731, 1386, 1253, 1151, 1115, 1020, 859, 791 cm^{-1} ; ESIHRMS m/z calcd for $\text{C}_{11}\text{H}_{17}\text{O}_4$ [M+H] $^+$ 213.1121, found 213.1118.



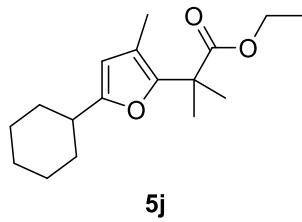
5h

Ethyl 2-[5-(4-methoxyphenyl)-3-methylfuran-2-yl]-2-methylpropanoate 5h. Yield: 93% (1,4-dioxane, 110 °C, 141 mg, 466 μmol). Solvent system for flash column chromatography: petroleum ether/ EtOAc : 95/5; White solid; Mp: 50 °C; ^1H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 7.53 (d, J = 8.8 Hz, 2H), 6.89 (d, J = 8.8 Hz, 2H), 6.30 (s, 1H), 4.18 (q, J = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 3.81 (s, 3H), 2.02 (s, 3H), 1.63 (s, 6H), 1.23 (d, J = 7.1 Hz, 3H); ^{13}C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 175.4, 158.8, 150.5, 150.1, 124.9, 124.2, 116.4, 114.1, 108.5, 61.1, 55.4, 44.1, 24.9, 14.3, 10.9; IR (ATR): ν_{max} 2979, 1732, 1500, 1246,

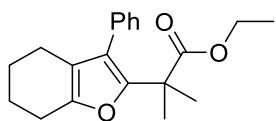
1181, 1147, 1115, 1027, 837, 804 cm⁻¹; ESIHRMS *m/z* calcd for C₁₈H₂₃O₄ [M+H]⁺ 303.1591, found 303.1591.



Ethyl 2-[5-(4-fluorophenyl)-3-methylfuran-2-yl]-2-methylpropanoate 5i. Yield: 86% (1,4-dioxane, 110 °C, 99 mg, 340 µmol). Solvent system for flash column chromatography: petroleum ether/EtOAc: 95/5; Colorless oil; ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 7.55 (dd, *J* = 8.9 and 5.3 Hz, 2H), 7.04 (*t*, *J* = 8.8 Hz, 2H), 6.37 (s, 1H), 4.18 (q, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 2.02 (s, 3H), 1.63 (s, 6H), 1.23 (*t*, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 3H); ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 175.3, 162.0 (d, *J* = 244.7 Hz), 150.3 (d, *J* = 98.2 Hz), 127.5 (d, *J* = 3.0 Hz), 125.1 (d, *J* = 7.5 Hz), 116.6, 115.8, 115.5, 109.7, 61.2, 44.2, 24.9, 14.3, 10.9; ¹⁹F NMR (376 MHz, CDCl₃): δ -118.25 (m); IR (ATR): ν_{max} 2982, 1731, 1497, 1230, 1149, 1095, 1026, 837, 811 cm⁻¹; ESIHRMS *m/z* calcd for C₁₇H₂₀O₃F [M+H]⁺ 291.1391, found 291.1390.

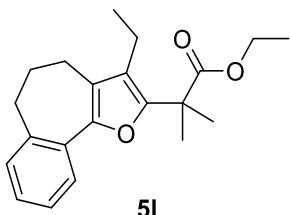


Ethyl 2-(5-cyclohexyl-3-methylfuran-2-yl)-2-methylpropanoate 5j. Yield: 73% (EtOH, 110 °C, 101 mg, 363 µmol). Solvent system for flash column chromatography: petroleum ether/EtOAc: 95/5; Colorless oil; ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 5.70 (s, 1H), 4.14 (q, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 2.60-2.46 (m, 1H), 2.02-1.96 (m, 2H), 1.94 (s, 3H), 1.85-1.60 (m, 3H), 1.54 (s, 6H), 1.41-1.24 (m, 5H), 1.22 (*t*, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 3H); ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 175.7, 157.7, 148.6, 114.3, 107.6, 60.9, 44.1, 37.1, 31.5, 26.3, 26.0, 25.0, 14.3, 10.9; IR (ATR): ν_{max} 2929, 1732, 1449, 1252, 1147, 1027, 780, 733 cm⁻¹; ESIHRMS *m/z* calcd for C₁₇H₂₇O₃ [M+H]⁺ 279.1955, found 279.1953.



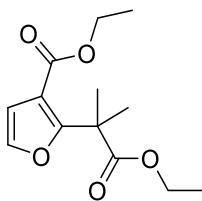
5k

Ethyl 2-methyl-2-(3-phenyl-4,5,6,7-tetrahydrobenzofuran-2-yl)propanoate 5k. Yield: 76% (1,4-dioxane, 110 °C, 119 mg, 381 µmol). Solvent system for flash column chromatography: petroleum ether/EtOAc: 95/5; Pale yellow oil; ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 7.37-7.29 (m, 2H), 7.28-7.25 (m, 1H), 7.24-7.18 (m, 2H), 3.78 (q, J = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 2.60 (tt, J = 6.1 and 1.6 Hz, 2H), 2.19 (tt, J = 6.0 and 1.6 Hz, 2H), 7.90-1.78 (m, 2H), 1.75-1.64 (m, 2H), 1.47 (s, 6H), 1.08 (t, J = 7.1 Hz, 3H); ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 175.4, 149.7, 148.3, 134.3, 130.0, 128.0, 126.9, 121.4, 118.7, 60.9, 44.4, 26.0, 23.2, 23.1 (2C), 21.3, 14.1; IR (ATR): ν_{max} 2934, 1732, 1444, 1249, 1173, 1144, 1106, 1027, 759, 702 cm⁻¹; ESIHRMS *m/z* calcd for C₂₀H₂₅O₃ [M+H]⁺ 313.1798, found 313.1799.



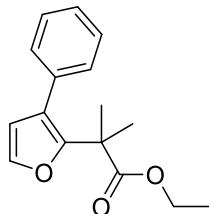
5l

Ethyl 2-(3-ethyl-5,6-dihydro-4H-benzo[6,7]cyclohepta[1,2-b]furan-2-yl)-2-methylpropanoate 5l. Yield: 70% (EtOH, 110 °C, 92 mg, 282 µmol). Solvent system for flash column chromatography: petroleum ether/EtOAc: 95/5; Colorless oil; ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 7.80 (d, J = 7.7 Hz, 1H), 7.23 (dt, J = 8.1 and 4.3 Hz, 1H), 7.10 (m, 2H), 4.19 (q, J = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 2.93-2.85 (m, 2H), 2.69 (t, J = 6.4 Hz, 2H), 2.39 (q, J = 7.5 Hz, 2H), 2.06-1.95 (m, 2H), 1.67 (s, 6H), 1.26 (t, J = 7.1 Hz, 3H), 1.11 (t, J = 7.6 Hz, 3H); ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 175.6, 149.8, 145.4, 138.7, 130.6, 129.3, 126.2, 126.1, 124.8, 123.7, 123.0, 61.1, 44.2, 26.3, 25.3 (2C), 24.7, 16.9, 14.5, 14.2; IR (ATR): ν_{max} 2977, 2932, 1730, 1445, 1254, 1147, 1095, 1026, 761, 733 cm⁻¹; ESIHRMS *m/z* calcd for C₂₁H₂₇O₃ [M+H]⁺ 327.1955, found 327.1956.

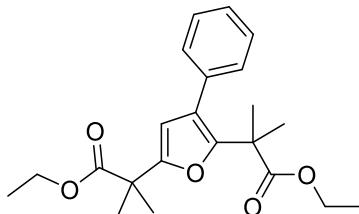


5m

Ethyl 2-(1-ethoxy-2-methyl-1-oxopropan-2-yl)furan-3-carboxylate 5m. Yield: 54% (EtOH, 110 °C, 3 equiv. of ethyl α-bromoisobutyrate during 72h, 69 mg, 271 µmol). Solvent system for flash column chromatography: petroleum ether/EtOAc: 95/5; Colorless oil; ¹H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 7.27 (d, *J* = 1.9 Hz, 1H), 6.72 (d, *J* = 1.9 Hz, 1H), 4.24 (q, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 4.12 (q, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 1.60 (s, 6H), 1.31 (t, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 3H), 1.17 (t, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 3H); ¹³C NMR (150 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 174.9, 163.4, 163.1, 140.0, 113.1, 111.9, 61.1, 60.5, 45.1, 24.6, 14.4, 14.2; IR (ATR): ν_{max} 2984, 1737, 1716, 1514, 1298, 1247, 1192, 1159, 1060, 1034, 736 cm⁻¹; ESIHRMS *m/z* calcd for C₁₃H₁₉O₅ [M+H]⁺ 255.1227, found 255.1231.



5n

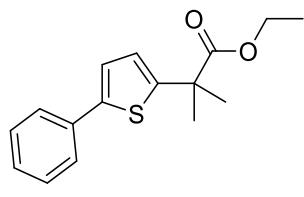


5n'

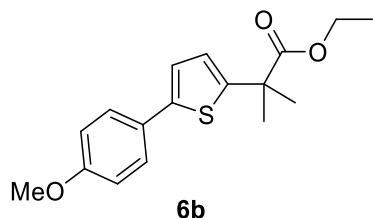
Ethyl 2-methyl-2-(3-phenylfuran-2-yl)propanoate 5n and diethyl 2,2'-(3-phenylfuran-2,5-diyl)bis(2-methylpropanoate) 5n'. Two separable compounds are obtained.

- **Ethyl 2-methyl-2-(3-phenylfuran-2-yl)propanoate 5n (faster eluting compound).** Yield: 29% (EtOH, 110 °C, 38 mg, 147 µmol). Solvent system for flash column chromatography: petroleum ether/EtOAc: 95/5; Colorless oil; ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 7.38-7.23 (m, 6H), 6.36 (d, *J* = 1.8 Hz, 1H), 3.82 (q, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 1.52 (s, 6H), 1.06 (t, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 3H); ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 175.2, 151.7, 139.9, 134.9, 129.4, 128.1, 127.1, 121.6, 113.9, 61.1, 44.4, 25.7, 14.0; IR (ATR): ν_{max} 2983, 1731, 1515, 1446, 1257, 1145, 1027, 893, 766, 745, 700 cm⁻¹; ESIHRMS *m/z* calcd for C₁₆H₁₉O₃ [M+H]⁺ 259.1329, found 259.1329.

- **Diethyl 2,2'-(3-phenylfuran-2,5-diyl)bis(2-methylpropanoate) 5n'** (*slower eluting compound*). Yield: 39% (EtOH, 110 °C, 72 mg, 193 µmol). Solvent system for flash column chromatography: petroleum ether/EtOAc: 90/10; Colorless oil; ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 7.35-7.21 (m, 5H), 6.09 (s, 1H), 4.15 (q, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 3.77 (q, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 1.55 (s, 6H), 1.48 (s, 6H), 1.23 (t, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 3H), 1.03 (t, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 3H); ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 175.1, 174.8, 154.7, 150.3, 135.0, 129.3, 128.0, 126.9, 121.8, 108.9, 61.1, 61.0, 44.4, 43.5, 25.7, 24.5, 14.3, 14.0; IR (ATR): ν_{max} 2982, 1731, 1469, 1386, 1254, 1147, 1027, 766, 701 cm⁻¹; ESIHRMS *m/z* calcd for C₂₂H₂₉O₅ [M+H]⁺ 373.2010, found 373.2011.

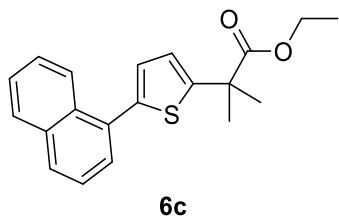


Ethyl 2-methyl-2-(5-phenylthiophen-2-yl)propanoate 6a. Yield: 83% (1,4-dioxane, 150 °C, 114 mg, 415 µmol). Solvent system for flash column chromatography: petroleum ether/EtOAc: 95/5; Pale yellow oil; ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 7.57 (m, 2H), 7.36 (t, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 7.26 (tt, *J* = 7.5 and 1.4 Hz, 1H), 7.15 (d, *J* = 3.7 Hz, 1H), 6.93 (d, *J* = 3.7 Hz, 1H), 4.17 (q, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 1.69 (s, 6H), 1.25 (t, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 3H); ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 175.3, 148.9, 143.0, 134.5, 128.9, 127.4, 125.7, 124.7, 122.6, 61.4, 45.0, 27.6, 14.2; IR (ATR): ν_{max} 2978, 1727, 1250, 1144, 1027, 756, 690 cm⁻¹; ESIHRMS *m/z* calcd for C₁₆H₁₉O₂S [M+H]⁺ 275.1100, found 275.1101.

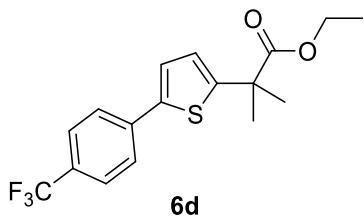


Ethyl 2-[5-(4-methoxyphenyl)thiophen-2-yl]-2-methylpropanoate 6b. Yield: 65% (1,4-dioxane, 150 °C, 99 mg, 325 µmol). Solvent system for flash column chromatography: petroleum ether/EtOAc: 95/5; White solid; Mp: 47 °C; ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 7.49 (d, *J* = 8.8 Hz, 2H),

7.02 (d, $J = 3.7$ Hz, 1H), 6.89 (d, $J = 8.9$ Hz, 2H), 6.88 (d, $J = 3.7$ Hz, 1H), 4.16 (q, $J = 7.1$ Hz, 2H), 3.82 (s, 3H), 1.67 (s, 6H), 1.25 (t, $J = 7.1$ Hz, 3H); ^{13}C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 175.4, 159.2, 147.9, 143.0, 127.5, 127.0, 124.6, 121.5, 114.3, 61.3, 55.4, 45.0, 27.6, 14.2; IR (ATR): ν_{max} 2981, 1721, 1509, 1265, 1245, 1180, 1158, 1031, 826, 802 cm^{-1} ; ESIHRMS m/z calcd for $\text{C}_{17}\text{H}_{21}\text{O}_3\text{S} [\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$ 305.1206, found 305.1207.

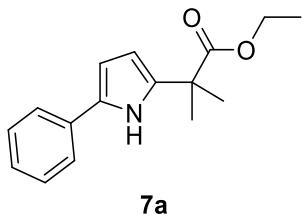


Ethyl 2-methyl-2-[5-(naphthalen-1-yl)thiophen-2-yl]propanoate 6c. Yield: 62% (1,4-dioxane, 150 °C, 82 mg, 308 μmol). Solvent system for flash column chromatography: petroleum ether/EtOAc: 97/3; Colorless oil; ^1H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 8.34-8.26 (m, 1H), 7.94-7.82 (m, 2H), 7.60-7.45 (m, 4H), 7.10 (d, $J = 3.6$ Hz, 1H), 7.04 (d, $J = 3.6$ Hz, 1H), 4.22 (q, $J = 7.1$ Hz, 2H), 1.75 (s, 6H), 1.29 (t, $J = 7.1$ Hz, 3H); ^{13}C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 175.4, 149.6, 140.5, 134.0, 132.6, 131.8, 128.4, 128.4, 128.1, 126.9, 126.5, 126.1, 125.9, 125.3, 124.0, 61.4, 45.1, 27.7, 14.2; IR (ATR): ν_{max} 2979, 1728, 1471, 1391, 1255, 1144, 1022, 797, 775 cm^{-1} ; ESIHRMS m/z calcd for $\text{C}_{20}\text{H}_{21}\text{O}_2\text{S} [\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$ 325.1257, found 325.1258.

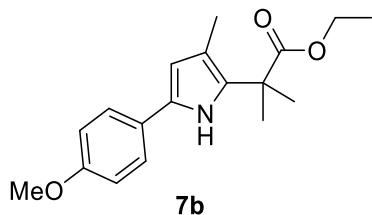


Ethyl 2-methyl-2-[5-(4-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl)thiophen-2-yl]propanoate 6d. Yield: 55% (1,4-dioxane, 150 °C, 94 mg, 274 μmol). Solvent system for flash column chromatography: petroleum ether/EtOAc: 98/2; Colorless oil; ^1H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 7.66 (d, $J = 8.4$ Hz, 2H), 7.60 (d, $J = 8.4$ Hz, 2H), 7.23 (d, $J = 3.8$ Hz, 1H), 6.96 (d, $J = 3.8$ Hz, 1H), 4.17 (q, $J = 7.1$ Hz, 2H), 1.69 (s, 6H), 1.25 (t, $J = 7.1$ Hz, 3H); ^{13}C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 175.1, 150.6, 141.1, 137.9, 129.1 (q, J

= 32.3 Hz), 125.9 (q, J = 3.8 Hz), 125.7, 125.1, 124.3 (q, J = 270.1 Hz), 124.0, 61.5, 45.1, 27.6, 14.2; ^{19}F NMR (376 MHz, CDCl_3): δ -62.56 (s); IR (ATR): ν_{max} 2960, 1729, 1324, 1254, 1123, 1068, 1015, 839, 803 cm^{-1} ; ESIHRMS m/z calcd for $\text{C}_{17}\text{H}_{18}\text{O}_2\text{SF}_3$ [M+H] $^+$ 343.0974, found 343.0979.

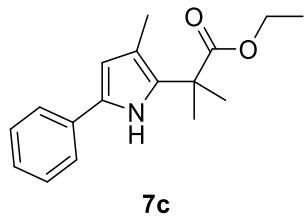


Ethyl 2-methyl-2-(5-phenyl-1*H*-pyrrol-2-yl)propanoate 7a. Yield: 53% (EtOH, 150 °C, 57 mg, 221 μmol). Solvent system for flash column chromatography: petroleum ether/EtOAc: 95/5 + 1% Et_3N ; Beige solid; Mp: 48 °C; ^1H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 8.91 (br. s, 1H), 7.47 (m, 2H), 7.36 (t, J = 7.3 Hz, 2H), 7.19 (tt, J = 7.3 and 1.2 Hz, 1H), 6.41 (dd, J = 3.4 and 2.9 Hz, 1H), 6.10 (dd, J = 3.5 and 2.7 Hz, 1H), 4.19 (q, J = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 1.61 (s, 6H), 1.29 (t, J = 7.1 Hz, 3H); ^{13}C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 176.2, 135.8, 132.9, 132.0, 129.0, 126.2, 123.8, 106.5, 105.6, 61.4, 42.5, 26.3, 14.3; IR (ATR): ν_{max} 3355, 2986, 2930, 1704, 1509, 1261, 1165, 1022, 774, 757, 695 cm^{-1} ; ESIHRMS m/z calcd for $\text{C}_{16}\text{H}_{20}\text{NO}_2$ [M+H] $^+$ 258.1489, found 258.1486.



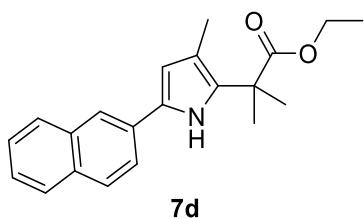
Ethyl 2-[5-(4-methoxyphenyl)-3-methyl-1*H*-pyrrol-2-yl]-2-methylpropanoate 7b. Yield: 58% (EtOH, 110 °C, 88 mg, 292 μmol). Solvent system for flash column chromatography: petroleum ether/EtOAc: 90/10 + 1% Et_3N ; Yellow solid; Mp: 82 °C; ^1H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 8.27 (br. s, 1H), 7.35 (d, J = 8.8 Hz, 2H), 6.89 (d, J = 8.8 Hz, 2H), 6.15 (d, J = 3.0 Hz, 1H), 4.18 (q, J = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 3.82 (s, 3H), 2.12 (s, 3H), 1.64 (s, 6H), 1.25 (t, J = 7.1 Hz, 3H); ^{13}C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 176.1, 158.1, 129.2, 129.1, 126.0, 125.0, 116.4, 114.4, 108.8, 61.2, 55.4, 43.1, 25.8, 14.3, 12.8; IR (ATR):

ν_{max} 3395, 2977, 1725, 1521, 1243, 1176, 1144, 1028, 821 cm⁻¹; ESIHRMS *m/z* calcd for C₁₈H₂₄NO₃ [M+H]⁺ 302.1751, found 302.1751.



7c

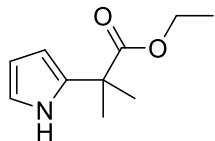
Ethyl 2-methyl-2-(3-methyl-5-phenyl-1*H*-pyrrol-2-yl)propanoate 7c. Yield: 62% (EtOH, 110 °C, 84 mg, 309 μmol). Solvent system for flash column chromatography: petroleum ether/EtOAc: 95/5 + 1% Et₃N; Pale yellow solid; Mp: 35 °C; ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 8.40 (br. s, 1H), 7.44 (m, 2H), 7.35 (t, *J* = 7.4 Hz, 2H), 7.17 (tt, *J* = 7.3 and 1.3 Hz, 1H), 6.29 (d, *J* = 3.0 Hz, 1H), 4.19 (q, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 2.14 (s, 3H), 1.65 (s, 6H), 1.26 (t, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 3H); ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 176.0, 132.8, 130.1, 129.1, 128.9, 125.9, 123.5, 116.7, 109.9, 61.3, 43.1, 25.7, 14.3, 12.8; IR (ATR): ν_{max} 3365, 2978, 1704, 1511, 1253, 1149, 1024, 795, 759, 694 cm⁻¹; ESIHRMS *m/z* calcd for C₁₇H₂₂NO₂ [M+H]⁺ 272.1645, found 272.1649.



7d

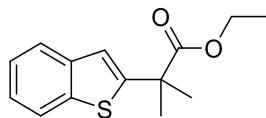
Ethyl 2-methyl-2-[3-methyl-5-(naphthalen-2-yl)-1*H*-pyrrol-2-yl]propanoate 7d. Yield: 52% (EtOH, 110 °C, 83 mg, 258 μmol). Solvent system for flash column chromatography: petroleum ether/EtOAc: 95/5 + 1% Et₃N; Blue solid; Mp: 99 °C; ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 8.56 (br. s, 1H), 7.82 (s, 1H), 7.81-7.77 (m, 3H), 7.62 (dd, *J* = 8.6 and 1.9 Hz, 1H), 7.47 (td, *J* = 6.9 and 1.5 Hz, 1H), 7.40 (td, *J* = 8.2 and 1.6 Hz, 1H), 6.42 (d, *J* = 2.9 Hz, 1H), 4.21 (q, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 2.17 (s, 3H), 1.70 (s, 6H), 1.28 (t, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 3H); ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 176.0, 134.0, 132.0, 130.6, 130.2, 129.1, 128.6, 127.8, 127.7, 126.5, 125.3, 123.1, 120.4, 116.9, 110.7, 61.3, 43.2, 25.8, 14.3, 12.9;

IR (ATR): ν_{max} 3371, 2983, 1710, 1627, 1251, 1145, 1023, 832, 809, 745 cm^{-1} ; ESIHRMS m/z calcd for $\text{C}_{21}\text{H}_{24}\text{NO}_2$ [M+H]⁺ 322.1802, found 322.1800.



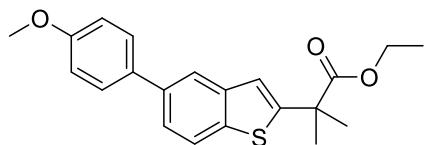
7e

Ethyl 2-methyl-2-(1*H*-pyrrol-2-yl)propanoate 7e. Yield: 24% (EtOH, 110 °C, 22 mg, 121 μmol). Solvent system for flash column chromatography: petroleum ether/EtOAc: 90/10; Colorless oil; ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 8.64 (br. s, 1H), 6.74 (app. td, J = 2.7 and 1.6 Hz, 1H), 6.12 (dd, J = 6.1 and 2.8 Hz, 1H), 6.07-6.02 (m, 1H), 4.15 (q, J = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 1.57 (s, 6H), 1.25 (t, J = 7.1 Hz, 3H); ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 176.2, 134.7, 117.7, 108.0, 104.6, 61.3, 42.3, 26.2, 14.2; IR (ATR): ν_{max} 3350, 2975, 1694, 1475, 1388, 1267, 1163, 1148, 1126, 1020, 799, 734 cm^{-1} ; ESIHRMS m/z calcd for $\text{C}_{10}\text{H}_{16}\text{NO}_2$ [M+H]⁺ 182.1176, found 182.1174.



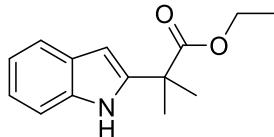
8a

Ethyl 2-(benzo[b]thiophen-2-yl)-2-methylpropanoate 8a. Yield: 44% (1,4-dioxane, 150 °C, 55 mg, 221 μmol). Solvent system for flash column chromatography: petroleum ether/EtOAc: 95/5. Pale yellow oil; ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 7.78 (d, J = 7.3 Hz, 1H), 7.71 (d, J = 7.4 Hz, 1H), 7.31 (app. quint. d, J = 7.2 and 1.4 Hz, 2H), 7.18 (s, 1H), 4.18 (q, J = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 1.73 (s, 6H), 1.25 (t, J = 7.1 Hz, 3H); ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 175.1, 150.2, 139.7, 139.4, 124.3, 124.1, 123.4, 122.2, 120.3, 61.5, 45.4, 27.5, 14.2; IR (ATR): ν_{max} 2980, 1729, 1458, 1386, 1248, 1144, 1026, 746.4 cm^{-1} ; ESIHRMS m/z calcd for $\text{C}_{14}\text{H}_{17}\text{O}_2\text{S}$ [M+H]⁺ 249.0944, found 249.0946.



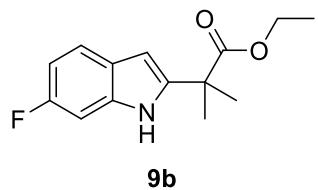
8b

Ethyl 2-[5-(4-methoxyphenyl)benzo[b]thiophen-2-yl]-2-methylpropanoate 8b. Yield: 41% (1,4-dioxane, 150 °C, 73 mg, 221 µmol). Solvent system for flash column chromatography: petroleum ether/EtOAc: 95/5. White solid; Mp: 40 °C; ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 7.87 (d, J = 1.4 Hz, 1H), 7.81 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 7.57 (d, J = 8.8 Hz, 2H), 7.50 (dd, J = 8.4 and 1.8 Hz, 1H), 7.22 (s, 1H), 7.01 (d, J = 8.8 Hz, 2H), 4.19 (q, J = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 3.87 (s, 3H), 1.75 (s, 6H), 1.26 (t, J = 7.1 Hz, 3H); ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 175.0, 159.1, 150.9, 140.3, 137.9, 137.5, 134.1, 128.4, 123.5, 122.4, 121.3, 120.5, 114.4, 61.5, 55.5, 45.5, 27.5, 14.2; IR (ATR): ν_{max} 2980, 1752, 1600, 1455, 1222, 1141, 1038, 1018, 854, 810 cm⁻¹; ESIHRMS *m/z* calcd for C₂₁H₂₃O₃S [M+H]⁺ 355.1362, found 355.1358.

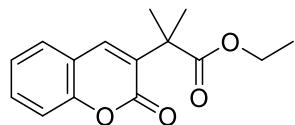


9a

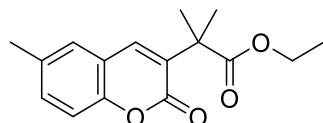
Ethyl 2-(1H-indol-2-yl)-2-methylpropanoate 9a. Yield: 24% (1,4-dioxane, 150 °C, 14 mg, 61 µmol). Solvent system for flash column chromatography: petroleum ether/dichloromethane: 65/35; White solid; Mp: 113 °C; ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 8.59 (br. s, 1H), 7.56 (d, J = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 7.34 (dd, J = 8.1 and 0.8 Hz, 1H), 7.16 (td, J = 7.9 and 1.1 Hz, 1H), 7.08 (td, J = 7.9 and 1.2 Hz, 1H), 6.38 (dd, J = 2.1 and 0.8 Hz, 1H), 4.18 (q, J = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 1.68 (s, 6H), 1.26 (t, J = 7.1 Hz, 3H); ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 175.8, 141.7, 136.3, 128.1, 121.9, 120.4, 119.9, 110.9, 99.1, 61.6, 43.0, 26.0, 14.2; IR (ATR): ν_{max} 3360, 2979, 1697, 1270, 1155, 1019, 788, 778, 751, 734, 712 cm⁻¹; ESIHRMS *m/z* calcd for C₁₄H₁₈NO₂ [M+H]⁺ 232.1332, found 232.1330.



Ethyl 2-(6-fluoro-1*H*-indol-2-yl)-2-methylpropanoate 9b. Yield: 30% (1,4-dioxane, 150 °C, 38 mg, 152 µmol). Solvent system for flash column chromatography: petroleum ether/dichloromethane: 60/40; White solid; Mp: 127 °C; ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 8.64 (br. s, 1H), 7.45 (dd, *J* = 8.6 and 5.4 Hz, 1H), 7.02 (dd, *J* = 9.7 and 2.2 Hz, 1H), 7.85 (ddd, *J* = 9.7, 8.6 and 2.3 Hz, 1H), 6.34 (dd, *J* = 2.2 and 0.9 Hz, 1H), 4.18 (q, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 1.66 (s, 6H), 1.27 (t, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 3H); ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 175.8, 159.9 (d, *J* = 235.5 Hz), 142.1 (d, *J* = 3.8 Hz), 136.2 (d, *J* = 12.0 Hz), 124.5, 120.0 (d, *J* = 10.5 Hz), 108.5 (d, *J* = 24.8 Hz), 99.0, 97.3 (d, *J* = 26.2 Hz), 61.7, 43.0, 26.0, 14.2; ¹⁹F NMR (376 MHz, CDCl₃): δ -124.55 (m); IR (ATR): ν_{max} 3350, 2975, 1699, 1505, 1456, 1267, 1244, 1155, 1141, 1021, 853, 807, 713 cm⁻¹; ESIHRMS *m/z* calcd for C₁₄H₁₇FNO₂ [M+H]⁺ 250.1238, found 250.1240.

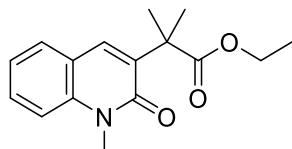


Ethyl 2-methyl-2-(2-oxo-2*H*-chromen-3-yl)propanoate 10a. Yield: 77% (EtOH, 110 °C, 100 mg, 384 µmol). Solvent system for flash column chromatography: dichloromethane; White solid; Mp: 75 °C; ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 7.59 (s, 1H), 7.49 (td, *J* = 7.4 and 1.6 Hz, 2H), 7.33-7.24 (m, 2H), 4.14 (q, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 1.55 (s, 6H), 1.18 (t, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 3H); ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 175.5, 160.4, 153.2, 136.6, 133.5, 131.1, 127.9, 124.5, 119.2, 116.5, 61.2, 44.8, 24.7, 14.1; IR (ATR): ν_{max} 2979, 1781, 1723, 1704, 1273, 1223, 1175, 1138, 1032, 1015, 758 cm⁻¹; ESIHRMS *m/z* calcd for C₁₅H₁₇O₄ [M+H]⁺ 261.1121, found 261.1124.



10b

Ethyl 2-methyl-2-(6-methyl-2-oxo-2H-chromen-3-yl)propanoate 10b. Yield: 59% (EtOH, 110 °C, 80 mg, 294 µmol). Solvent system for flash column chromatography: dichloromethane; White solid; Mp: 79 °C; ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 7.53 (s, 1H), 7.31-7.26 (m, 2H), 7.22-7.17 (m, 1H), 4.13 (q, J = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 2.39 (s, 3H), 1.54 (s, 6H), 1.18 (t, J = 7.1 Hz, 3H); ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 175.5, 160.6, 151.3, 136.6, 134.1, 133.3, 132.1, 127.7, 119.0, 116.2, 61.1, 44.7, 24.7, 20.8, 14.1; IR (ATR): ν_{max} 2982, 1705, 1584, 1472, 1274, 1221, 1178, 1157, 1131, 1026, 818, 785 cm⁻¹; ESIHRMS *m/z* calcd for C₁₆H₁₉O₄ [M+H]⁺ 275.1278, found 275.1277.



11

Ethyl 2-methyl-2-(1-methyl-2-oxo-1,2-dihydroquinolin-3-yl)propanoate 11. Yield: 48% (1,4-dioxane, 150 °C, 65 mg, 234 µmol). Solvent system for flash column chromatography: petroleum ether/EtOAc: 70/30; White solid; Mp: 117 °C; ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 7.61 (s, 1H), 7.60-7.49 (m, 2H), 7.33 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 7.23 (td, J = 7.7 and 1.0 Hz, 1H), 4.15 (q, J = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 3.71 (s, 3H), 1.56 (s, 6H), 1.19 (t, J = 7.1 Hz, 3H); ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 176.5, 161.2, 139.3, 137.7, 132.9, 130.0, 128.8, 122.1, 120.5, 113.9, 60.7, 44.9, 29.8, 25.0, 14.2; IR (ATR): ν_{max} 2979, 1728, 1642, 1593, 1473, 1378, 1255, 1163, 1140, 751 cm⁻¹; ESIHRMS *m/z* calcd for C₁₆H₂₀NO₃ [M+H]⁺ 274.1438, found 274.1437.

Experimental Procedure: Gram Scale Synthesis of **3a**

General procedure:

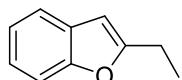
An oven dried 250 mL flask equipped with a condenser and fitted with a rubber septum was charged with copper(I) iodide (403 mg, 2.1 mmol) and tris(2-pyridylmethyl)amine (1.23 g, 4.2 mmol). The flask was evacuated under high vacuum and backfilled with argon before adding anhydrous 1,4-dioxane (67 mL), benzofuran (4.7 mL, 42.3 mmol), ethyl α -bromoisobutyrate (12.4 mL, 84.6 mmol) and 2,4,6-collidine (11.2 mL, 84.6 mL). The reaction mixture was then heated at reflux for 96h. The brownish suspension was cooled to room temperature, filtered over a plug of silica gel (washed with EtOAc) and concentrated. The crude residue was finally purified by flash column chromatography over silica gel (petroleum ether/dichloromethane: 95/5 then 75/25) to afford the desired product **3a** as yellow oil (4.0 g, 17.2 mmol, 41%).

Experimental Procedure and Characterization Data:

Reductive Desulfonylation of **3o** and **3p**

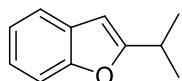
General procedure:

The reductive desulfonylation of **3o** and **3p** was performed based on a previously reported procedure.² KH₂PO₄ (15 equiv.) and 5% Na/Hg amalgam (20 equiv.) were added to a dry solution of **3o** or **3p** (1 equiv.) in distilled MeOH (12.5 mL/mmol). The mixture was vigorously stirred at room temperature until completion (monitored by TLC), filtered over a plug of Celite® (washed with MeOH) and concentrated under vacuum. The crude residue was finally purified by flash column chromatography over silica gel.



4

2-Ethylbenzofuran 4. Yield: 79% (23 mg, 157 µmol). Solvent system for flash column chromatography: pentane; Volatile colorless oil; ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 7.51-7.46 (m, 1H), 7.44-7.38 (m, 1H), 7.23-7.14 (m, 2H), 6.38 (d, J = 1.0 Hz, 1H), 2.80 (qd, J = 7.6 and 1.0 Hz, 1H), 1.34 (t, J = 7.5 Hz, 3H); ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 161.1, 154.8, 129.1, 123.2, 122.5, 120.3, 110.8, 101.1, 21.9, 12.1; This compound has been previously reported.³



4'

2-Isopropylbenzofuran 4'. Yield: 69% (22 mg, 137 µmol). Solvent system for flash column chromatography: pentane; Volatile colorless oil; ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 7.51-7.46 (m, 1H), 7.44-7.38 (m, 1H), 7.24-7.14 (m, 2H), 6.36 (app. t, J = 1.0 Hz, 1H), 3.08 (sept. d, J = 6.9 and 0.9 Hz,

² Karoyan, P.; Chassaing, G. *Tetrahedron Lett.* **2002**, *43*, 1221.

³ Lee, D.-H.; Kwon, K.-H.; Yi, C. S. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **2012**, *134*, 7325.

1H), 1.35 (d, J = 6.9 Hz, 6H); ^{13}C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 165.1, 154.7, 129.0, 123.2, 122.4, 120.4, 110.9, 99.8, 28.4, 21.1; This compound has been previously reported.⁴

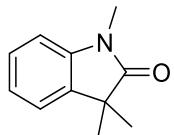
⁴ Ortega, N.; Urban, S.; Beiring, B.; Glorius, F. *Angew. Chem. Int. Ed.* **2012**, *51*, 1710.

Experimental Procedure and Characterization Data:

Intramolecular Alkylation of α -Bromoacetanilides to Indolones

General procedure:

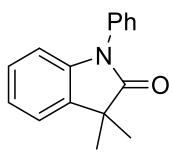
A 15 mL pressure tube was charged with the α -bromoacetanilide (0.5 mmol), copper(I) iodide (10 mg, 50 μ mol) and tris(2-pyridylmethyl)amine (29 mg, 0.1 mmol). The tube was fitted with a rubber septum, evacuated under high vacuum and backfilled with argon. Distilled ethanol (0.8 mL) and 2,4,6-collidine (130 μ L, 1.0 mmol) were next added. The rubber septum was replaced by Teflon-coated screw cap and the mixture was heated at 110 °C for 48 hours. The brownish suspension was cooled to room temperature, filtered over a plug of silica gel (washed with EtOAc) and concentrated. The crude residue was finally purified by flash column chromatography over silica gel.



13a

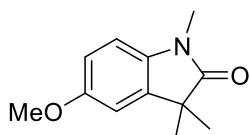
1,3,3-Trimethylindolin-2-one 13a. Yield: 80% (EtOH, 110 °C, 70 mg, 399 μ mol). Solvent system for flash column chromatography: petroleum ether/EtOAc: 85/15; White solid; ^1H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 7.25 (td, *J* = 7.7 and 1.3 Hz, 1H), 7.19 (dd, *J* = 7.3 and 0.8 Hz, 1H), 7.05 (td, *J* = 7.5 and 0.9 Hz, 1H), 6.83 (d, *J* = 7.7 Hz, 1H), 3.20 (s, 3H), 1.36 (s, 6H); ^{13}C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 181.4, 142.7, 135.9, 127.7, 122.5, 122.3, 108.1, 44.2, 26.2, 24.4; This compound has been previously reported.⁵

⁵ Liu, C.; Liu, D.; Zhang, W.; Zhou, L.; Lei, A. *Org. Lett.* **2013**, *15*, 6166.



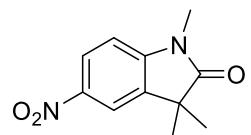
13b

3,3-Dimethyl-1-phenylindolin-2-one 13b. Yield: 84% (EtOH, 110 °C, 100 mg, 421 µmol). Solvent system for flash column chromatography: petroleum ether/EtOAc: 95/5; White solid; ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 7.57-7.49 (m, 2H), 7.47-7.39 (m, 3H), 7.29 (dd, *J* = 7.1 and 0.9 Hz, 1H), 7.20 (td, *J* = 7.7 and 1.4 Hz, 1H), 7.11 (td, *J* = 7.4 and 1.1 Hz, 1H), 6.86 (d, *J* = 7.3 Hz, 1H), 1.51 (s, 6H); ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 180.8, 142.6, 135.7, 134.8, 129.6, 127.9, 127.7, 126.6, 123.0, 122.7, 109.5, 44.4, 24.9; This compound has been previously reported.⁵



13c

5-Methoxy-1,3,3-trimethylindolin-2-one 13c. Yield: 78% (EtOH, 110 °C, 80 mg, 390 µmol). Solvent system for flash column chromatography: petroleum ether/EtOAc: 85/15; White solid; ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 6.81 (d, *J* = 2.3 Hz, 1H), 6.75 (d, *J* = 2.3 Hz, 1H), 6.74 (s, 1H), 3.79 (s, 3H), 3.17 (s, 3H), 1.34 (s, 6H); ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 181.1, 156.1, 137.3, 136.2, 111.6, 110.1, 108.3, 55.9, 44.7, 26.3, 24.5; This compound has been previously reported.⁵

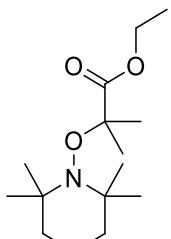


13d

1,3,3-Trimethyl-5-nitroindolin-2-one 13d. Yield: 65% (EtOH, 110 °C, 72 mg, 327 µmol). Solvent system for flash column chromatography: petroleum ether/EtOAc: 90/10; Yellow solid; ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 8.23 (dd, *J* = 8.6 and 2.3 Hz, 1H), 8.08 (d, *J* = 2.2 Hz, 1H), 6.92 (d, *J* = 8.6 Hz,

1H), 3.27 (s, 3H), 1.41 (s, 6H); ^{13}C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 181.3, 148.5, 143.5, 136.5, 125.3, 118.4, 107.7, 44.3, 26.7, 24.2; This compound has been previously reported.⁵

Experimental Procedure and Characterization Data:
Radical Trapping Experiments



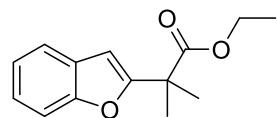
14

Ethyl 2-methyl-2-[(2,2,6,6-tetramethylpiperidin-1-yl)oxy]propanoate 14. A 15 mL pressure tube was charged with TEMPO (156 mg, 1.0 mmol), copper(I) iodide (19 mg, 0.1 mmol) and tris(2-pyridylmethyl)amine (58 mg, 0.2 mmol). The tube was fitted with a rubber septum, evacuated under high vacuum and backfilled with argon. Dry 1,4-dioxane (1.6 mL), benzofuran (110 μ L, 1.0 mmol), ethyl α -bromoisobutyrate (290 μ L, 2.0 mmol) and 2,4,6-collidine (260 μ L, 2.0 mmol) were next added. The rubber septum was replaced by Teflon-coated screw cap and the mixture was heated at 110 °C for 48 hours. The brownish suspension was cooled to room temperature, filtered over a plug of silica gel (washed with EtOAc) and concentrated. The crude residue was finally purified by flash column chromatography over silica gel (petroleum ether/AcOEt 95/5) yielding the adduct **13** as a colorless oil (120 mg, 442 μ mol, 44%). 1 H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 4.23 (q, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 1.52 (s, 12H), 1.35 (t, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 3H), 1.20 (s, 6H), 1.06 (s, 6H); 13 C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 176.1, 81.2, 60.7, 59.6, 40.7, 33.6, 24.6, 20.6, 17.2, 14.3; This compound has been previously reported.⁶

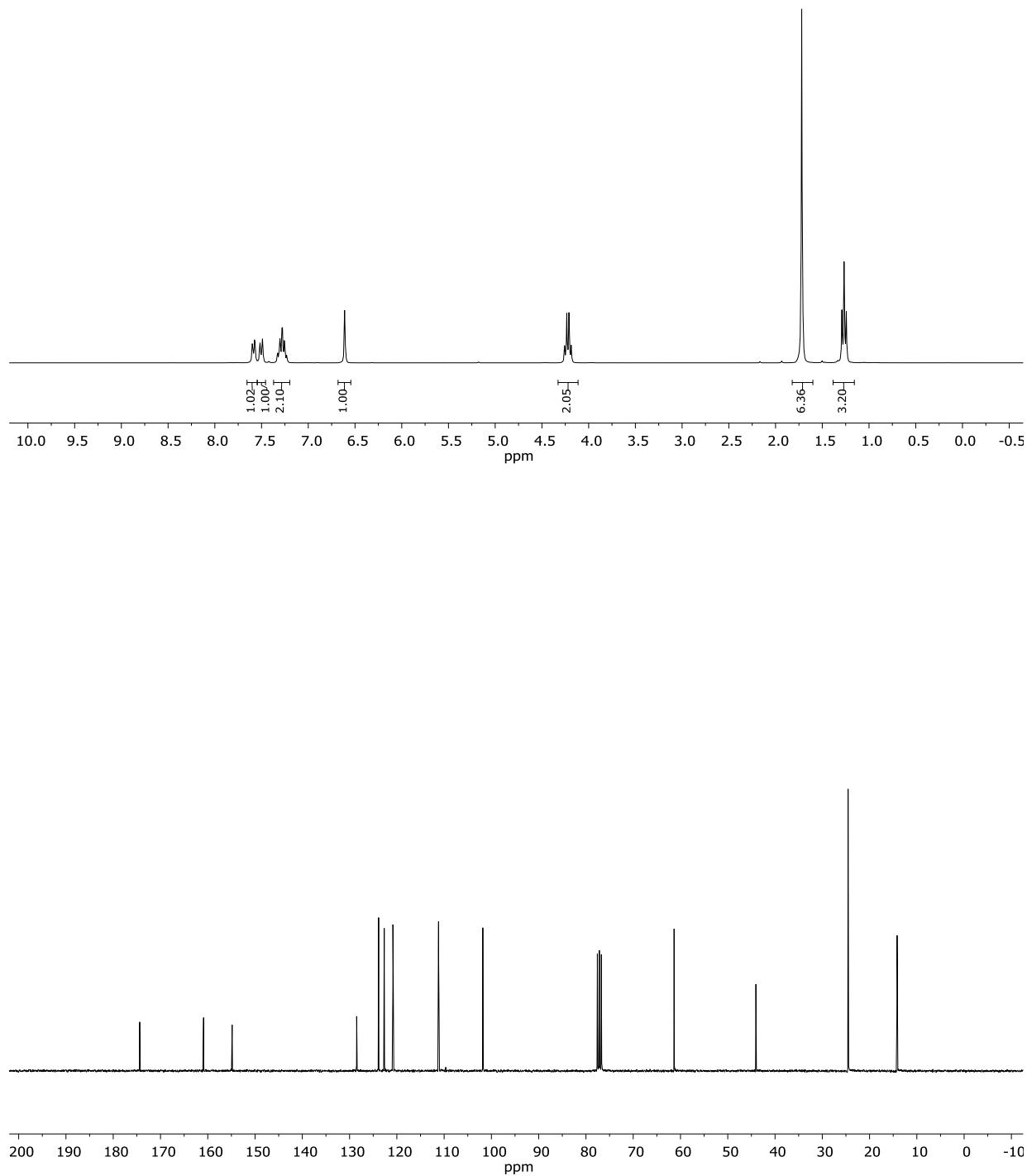
⁶ Yamago, S.; Ukai, Y.; Matsumoto, A.; Nakamura, Y. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **2009**, *131*, 2100.

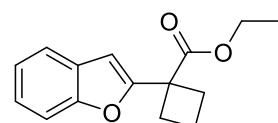
Supporting Information

^1H and ^{13}C NMR spectra

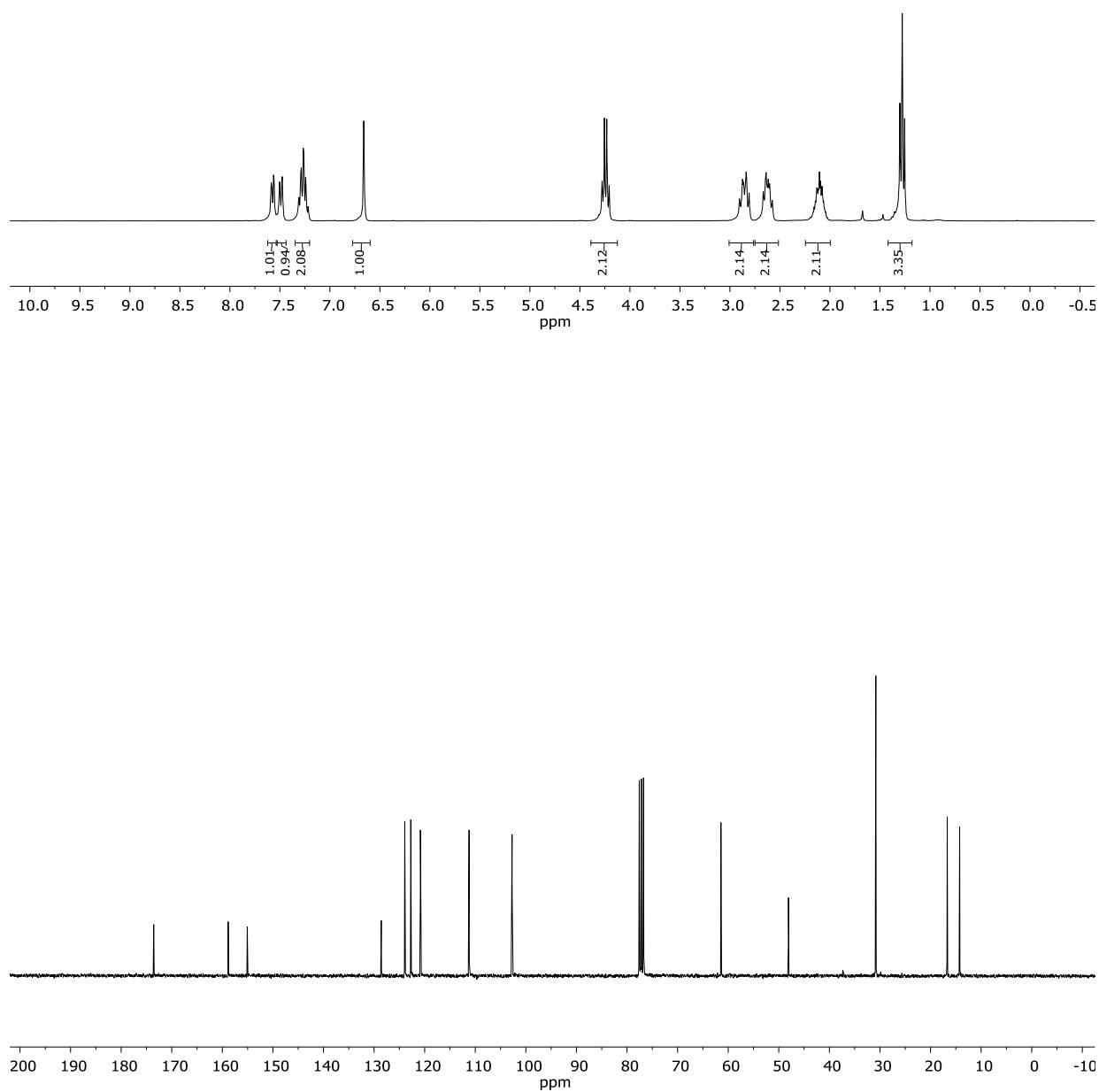


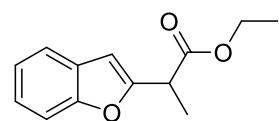
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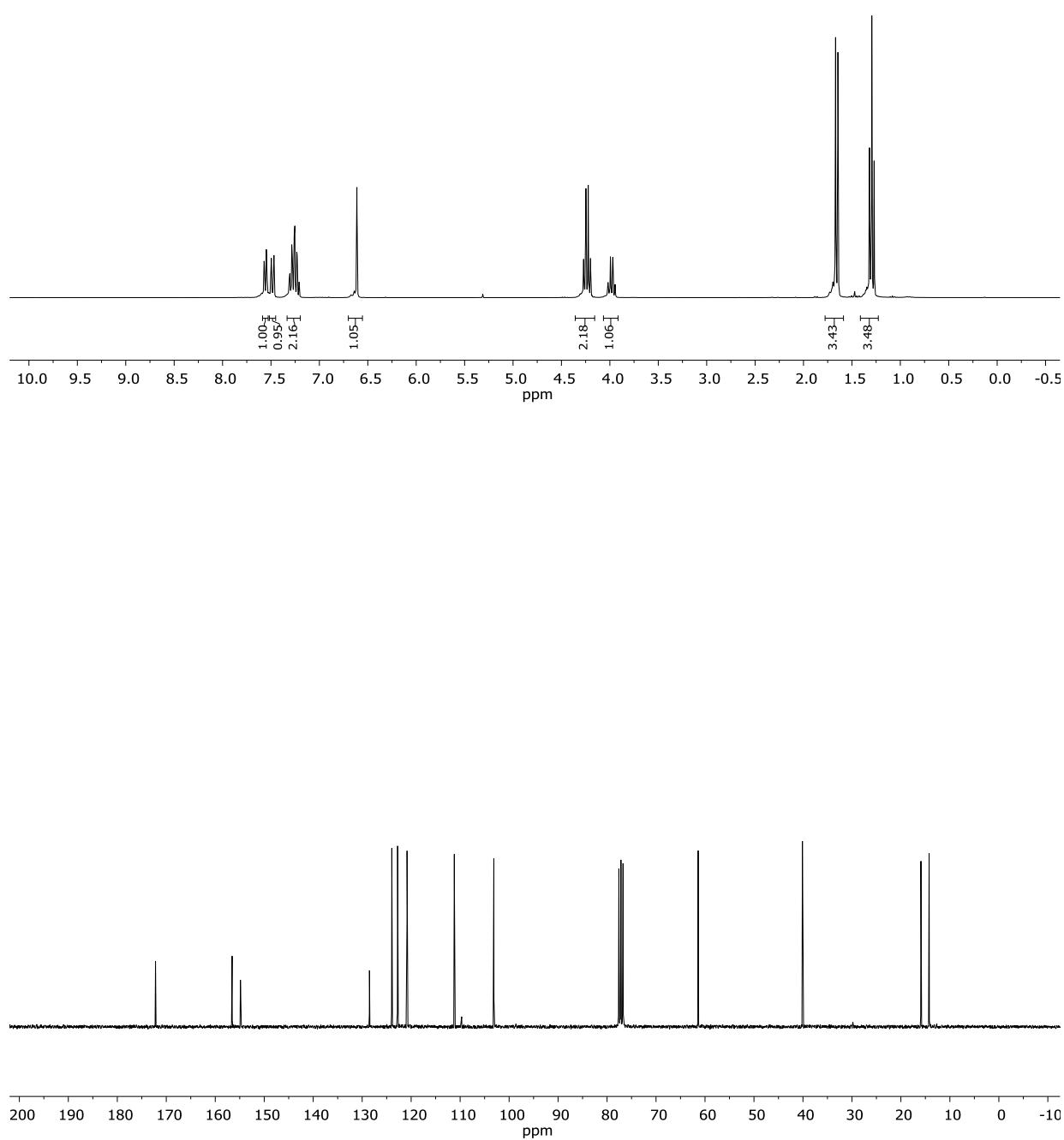


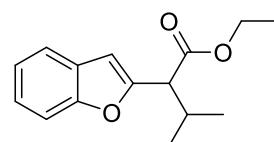
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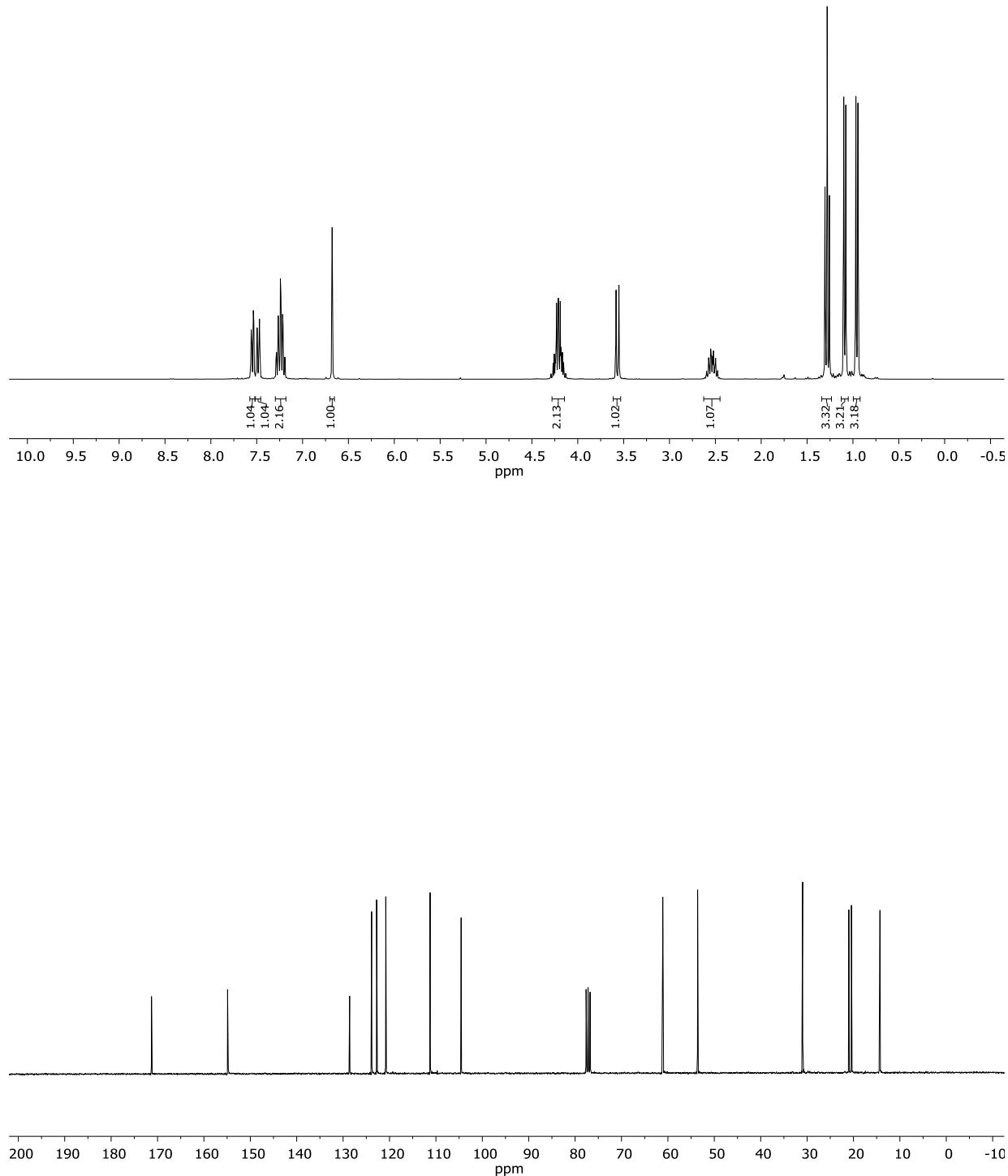


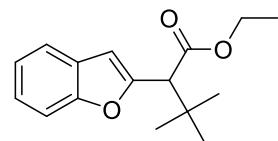
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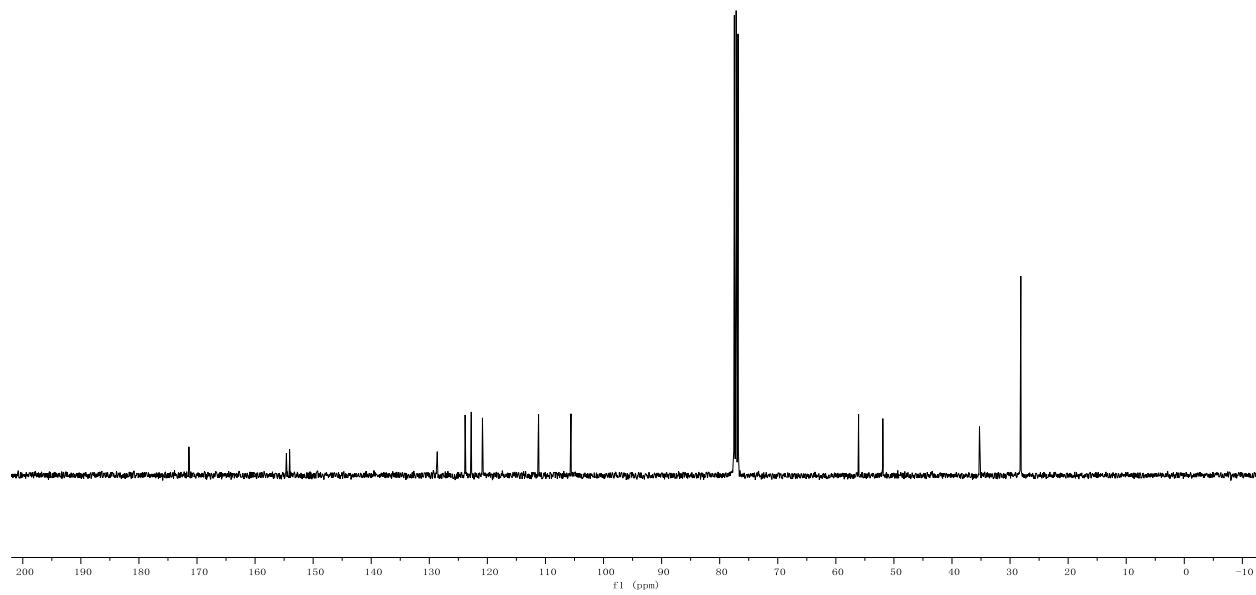
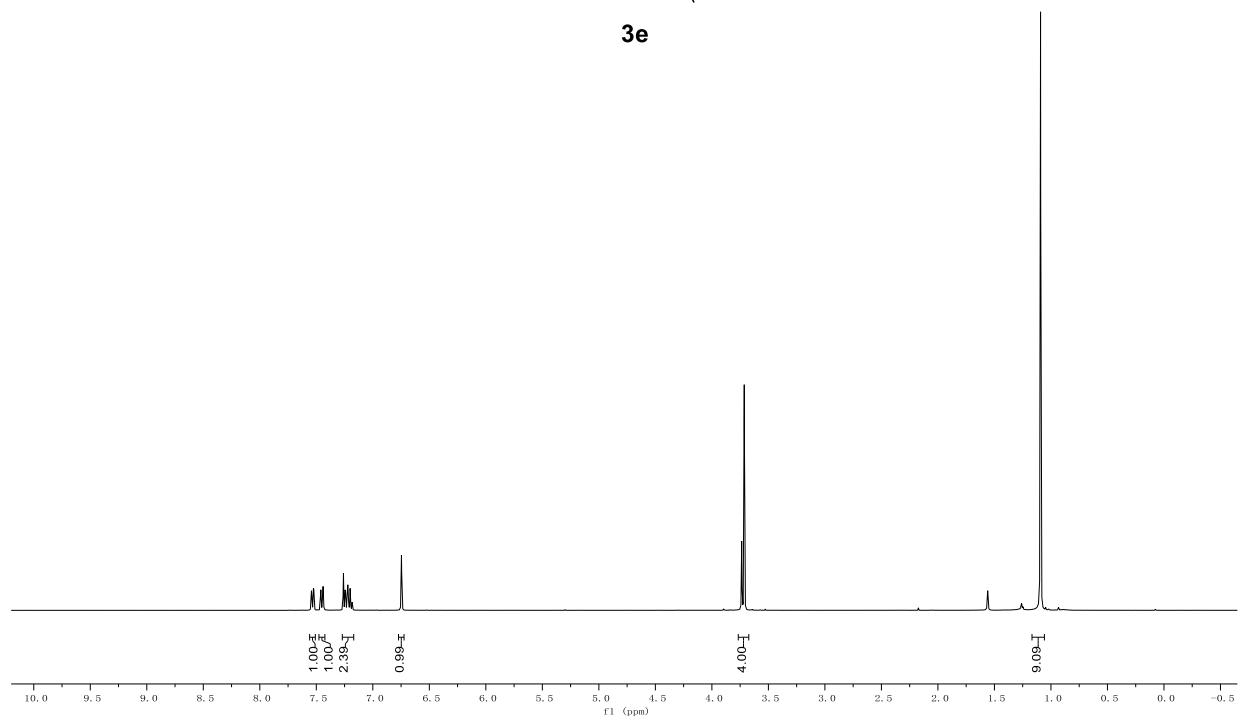


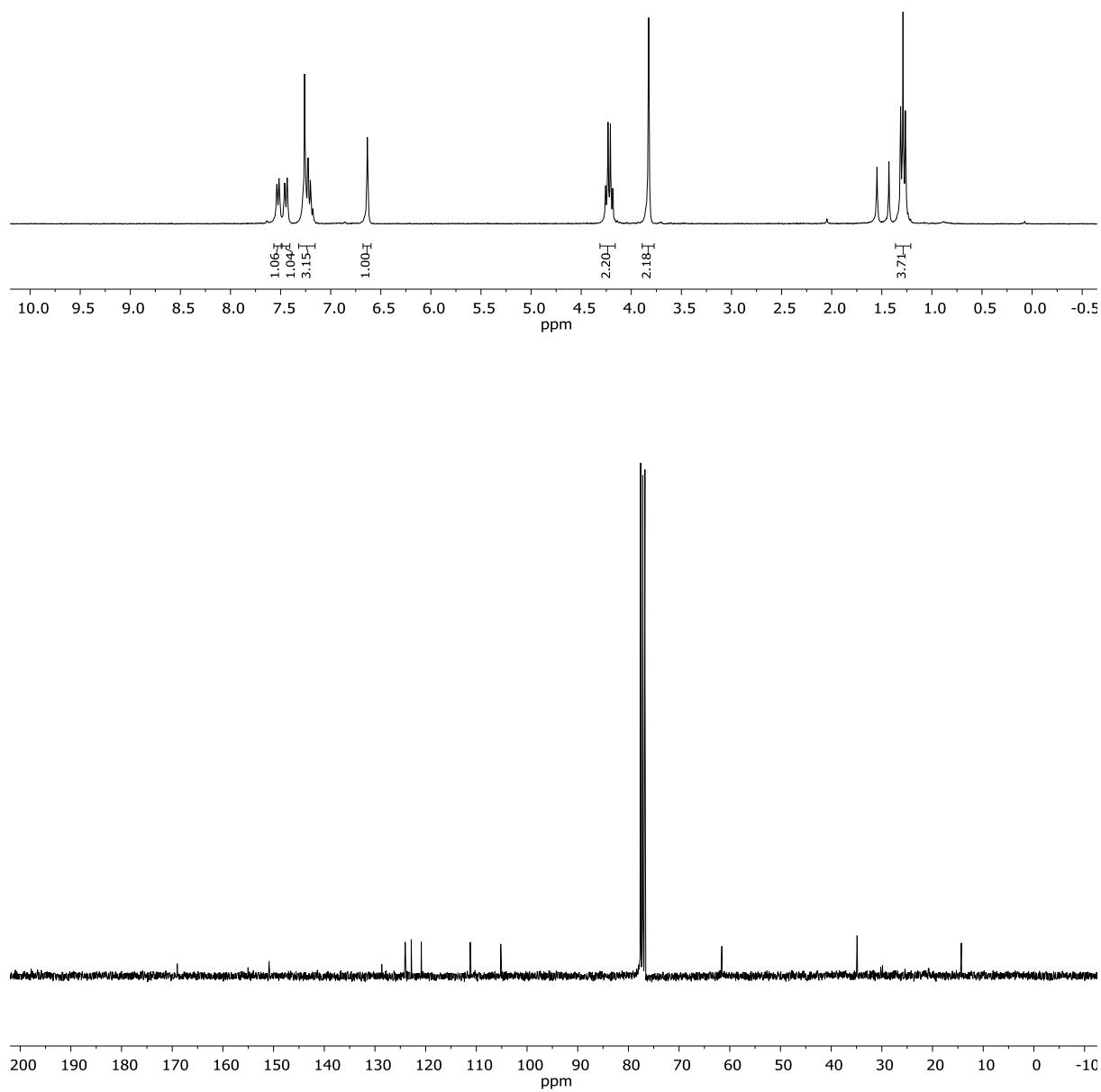
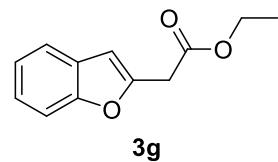
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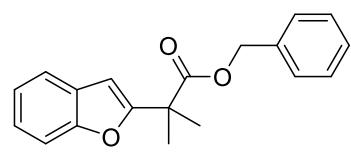




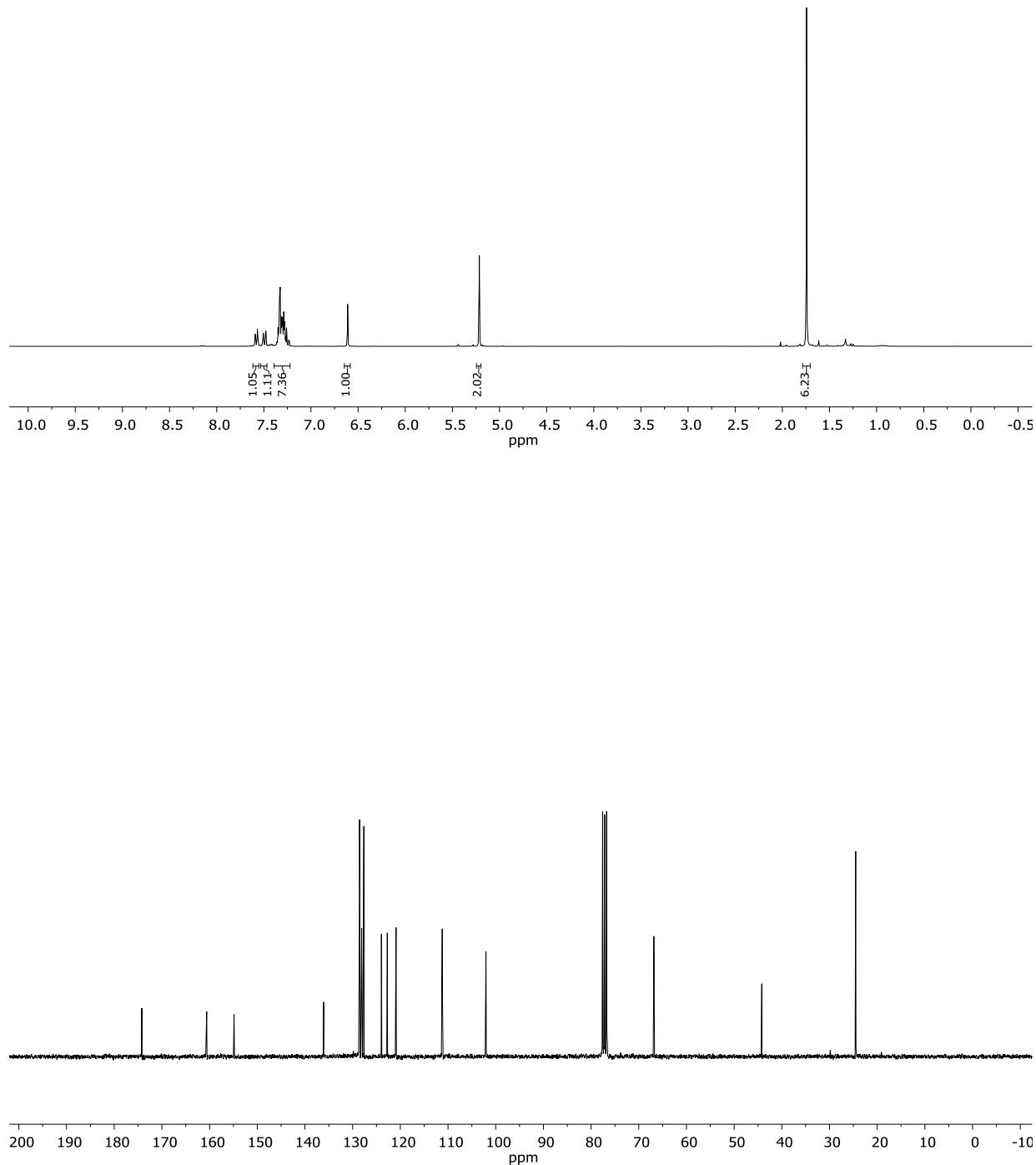
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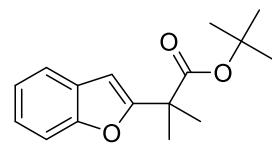




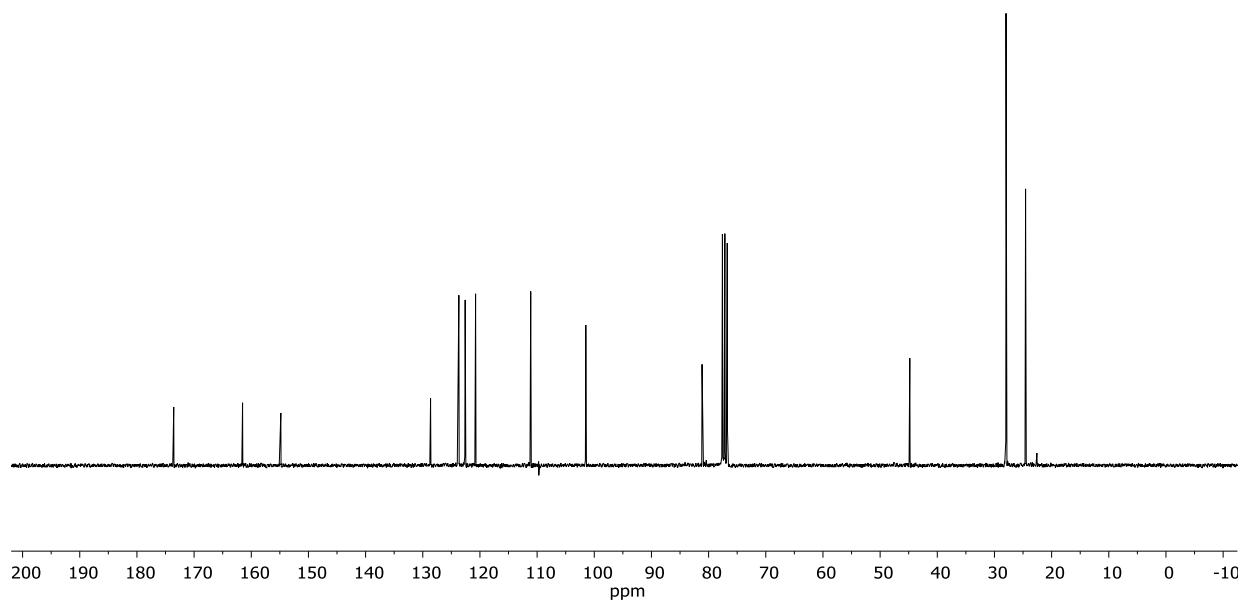
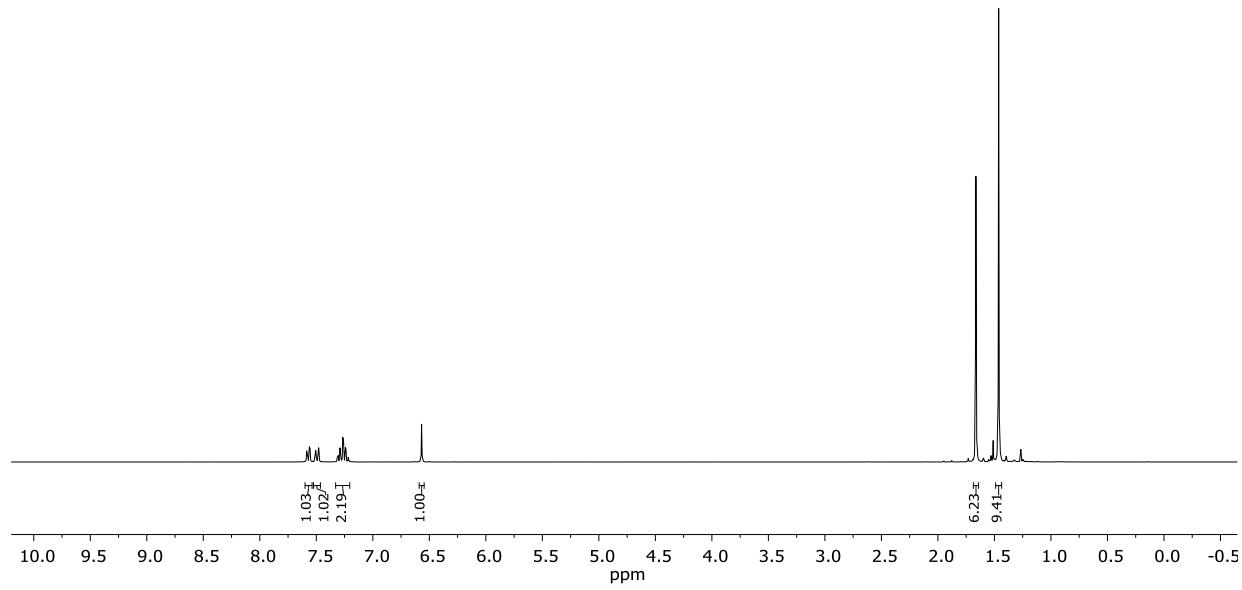


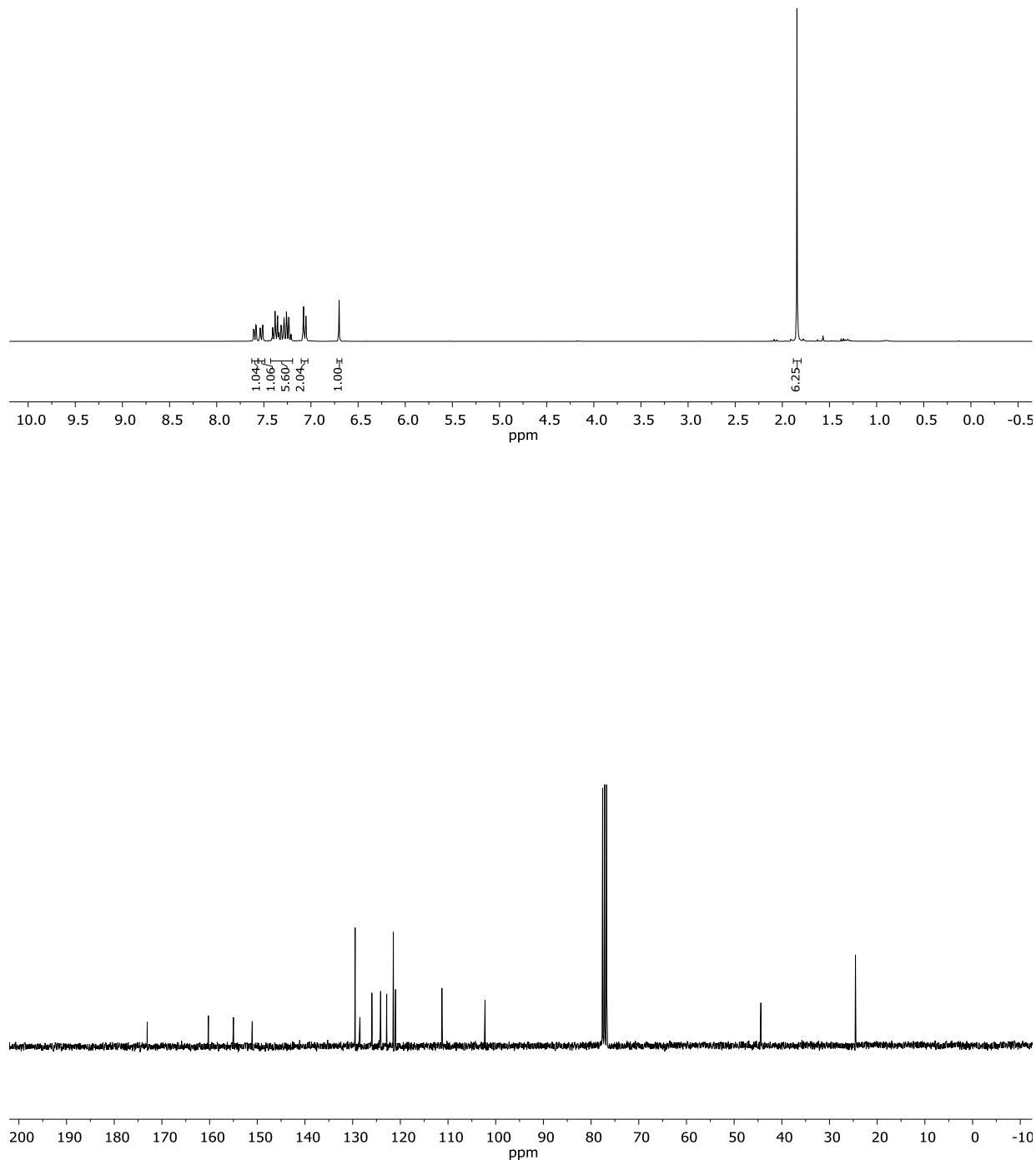
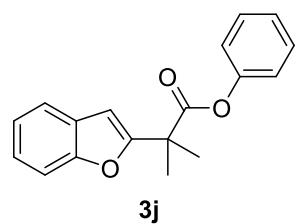
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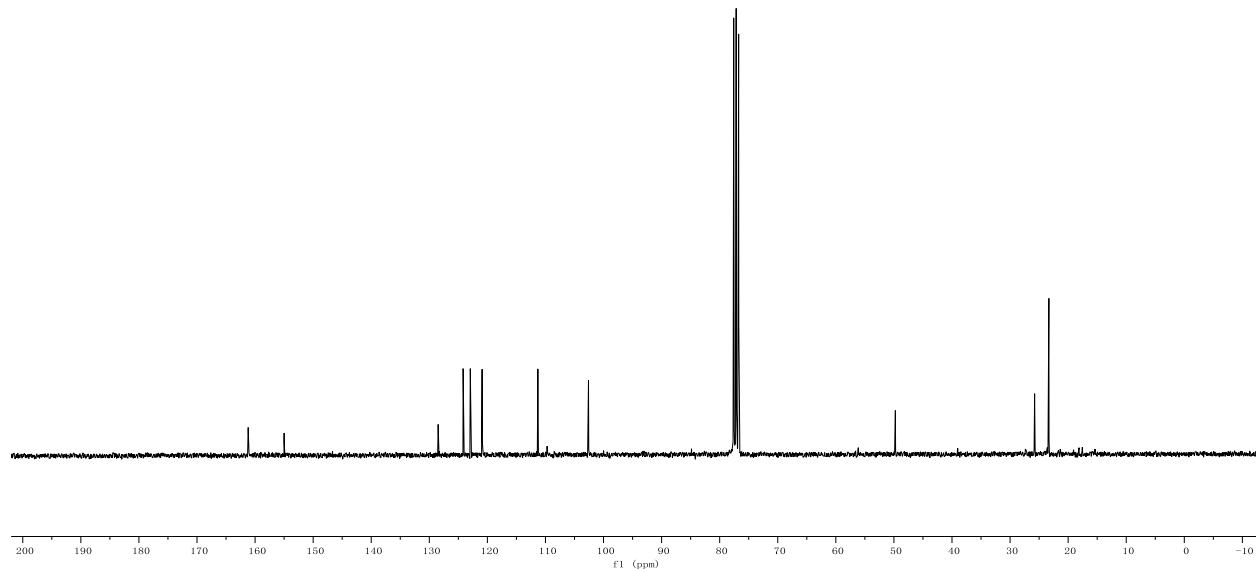
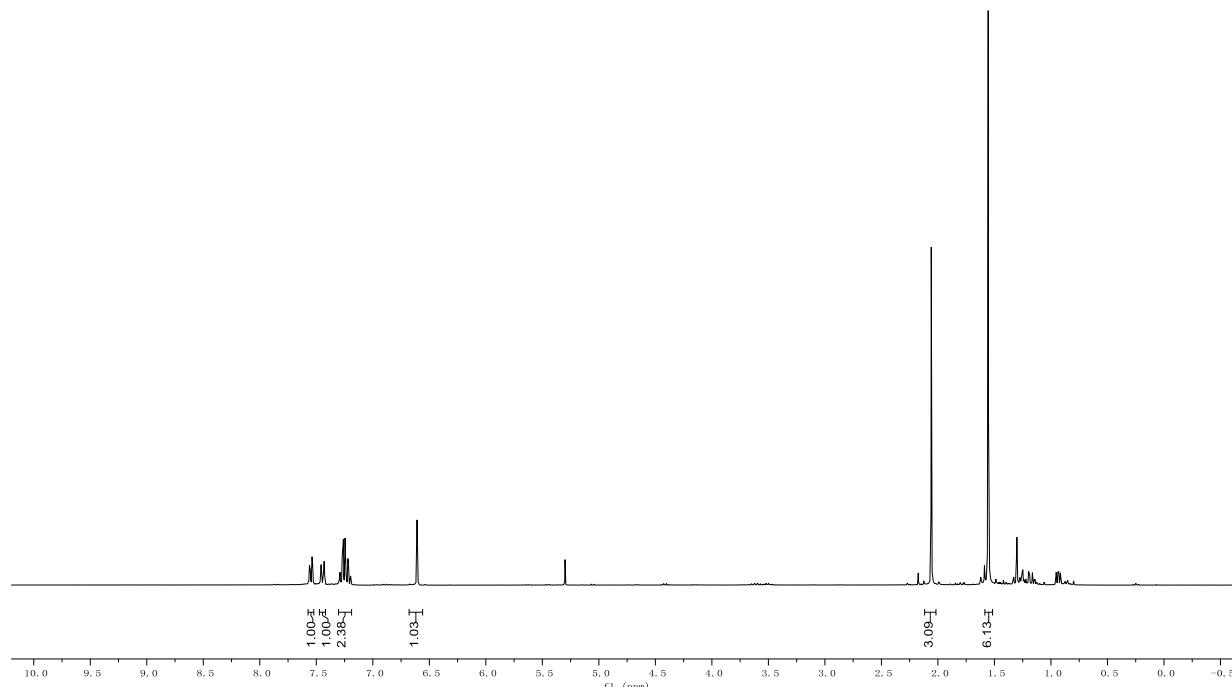
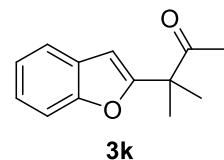


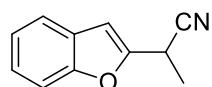


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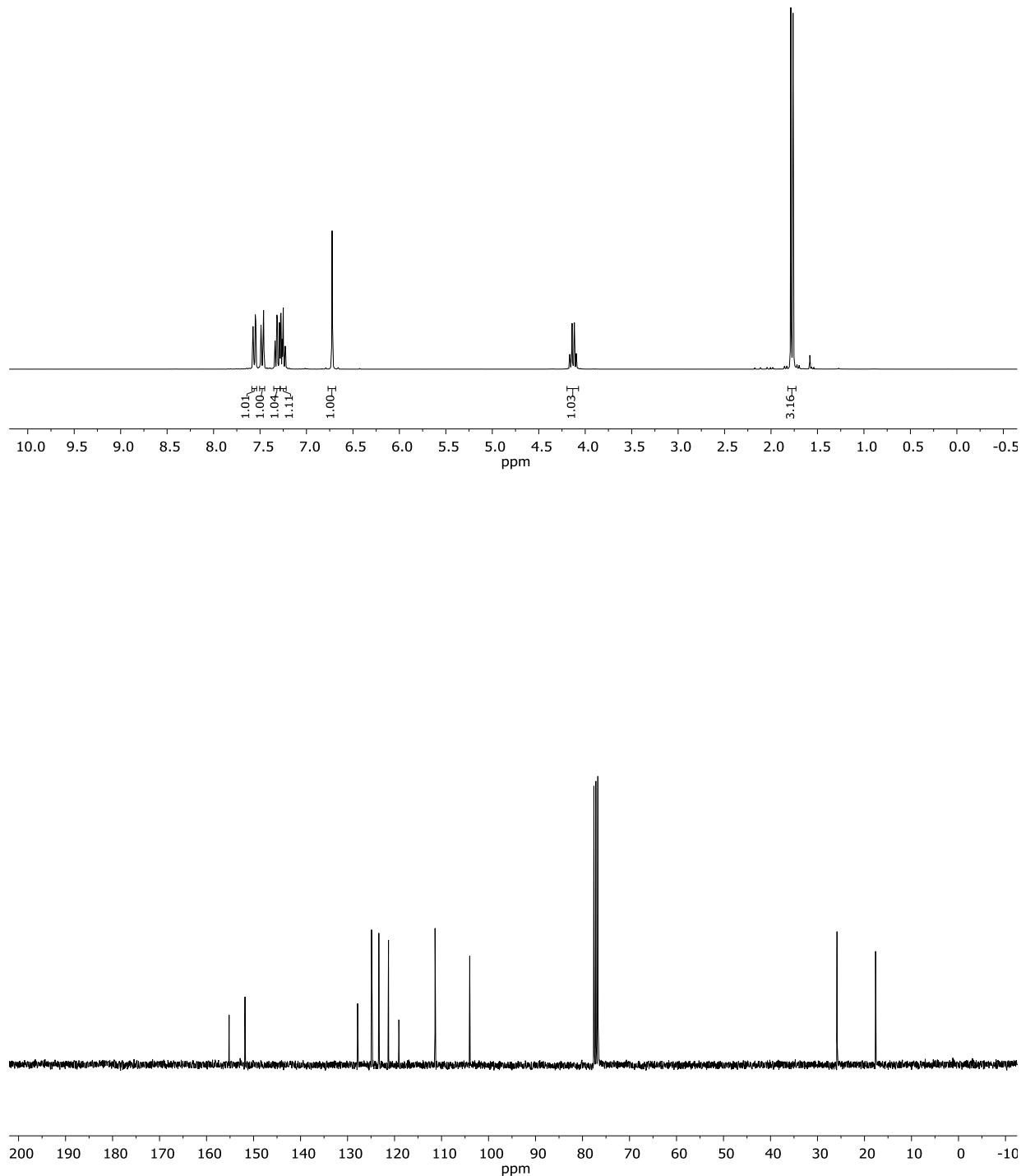


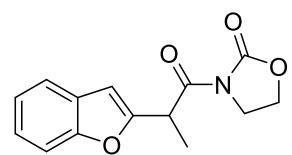




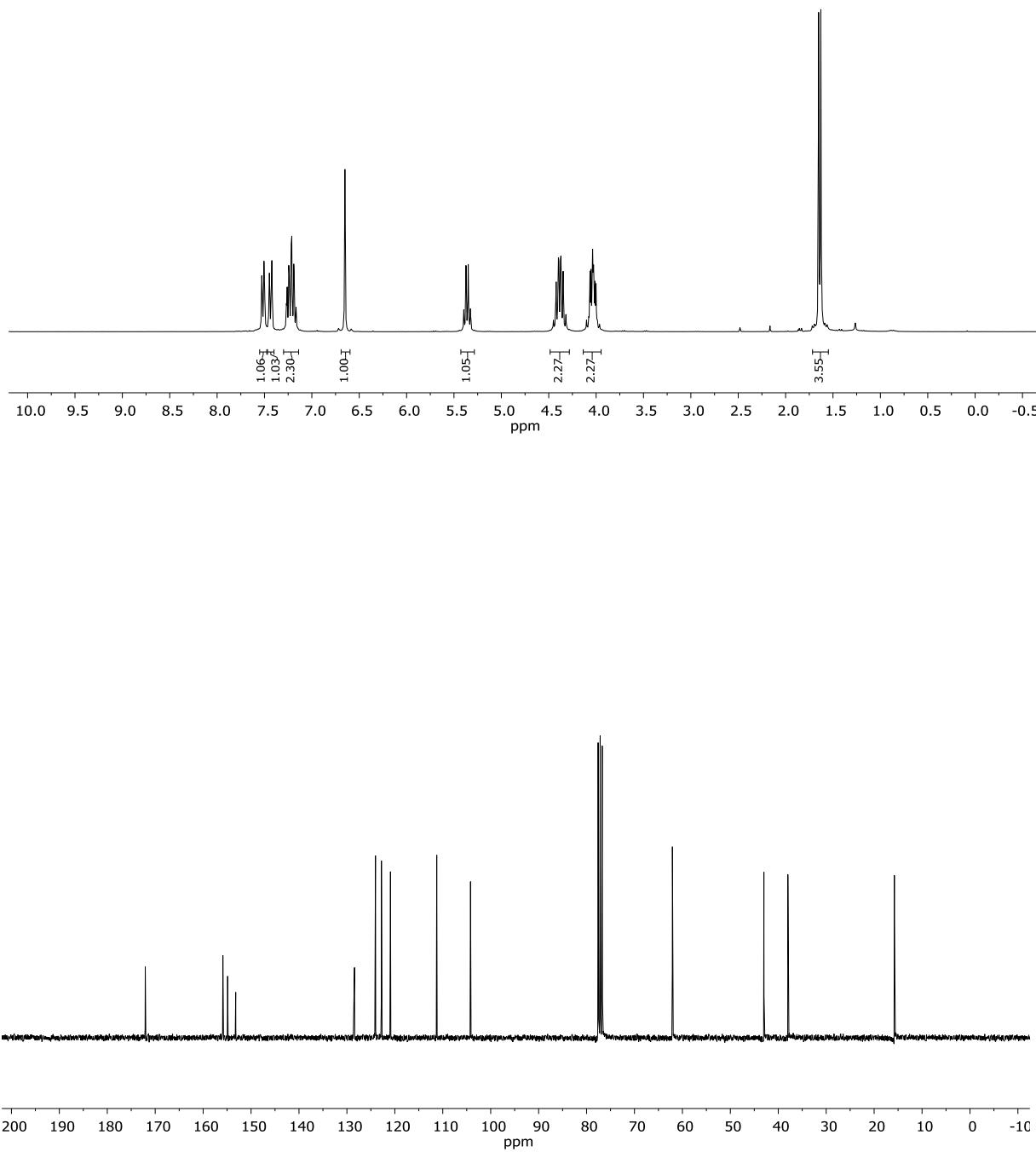


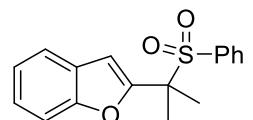
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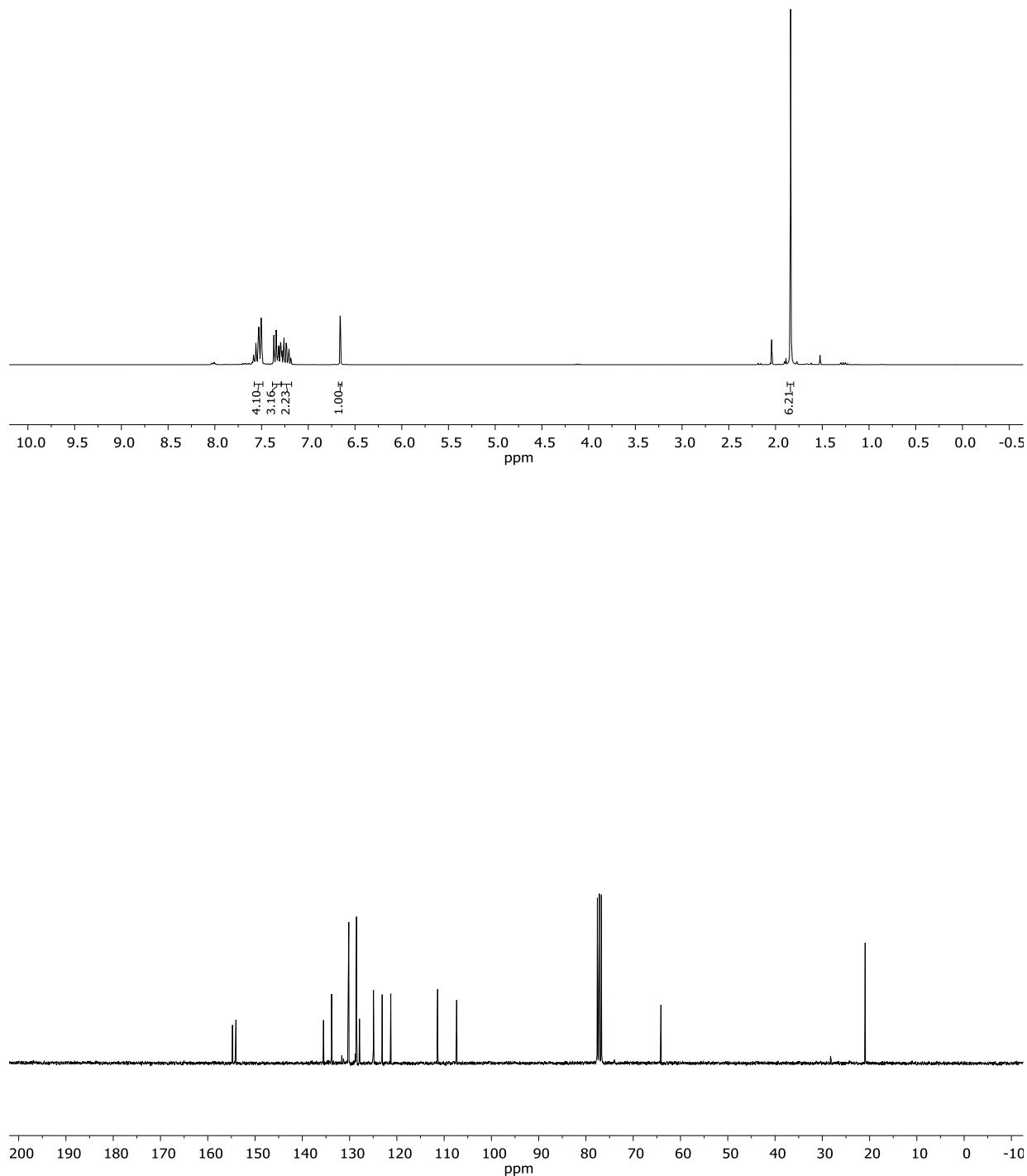


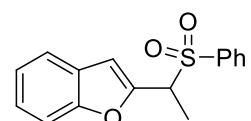
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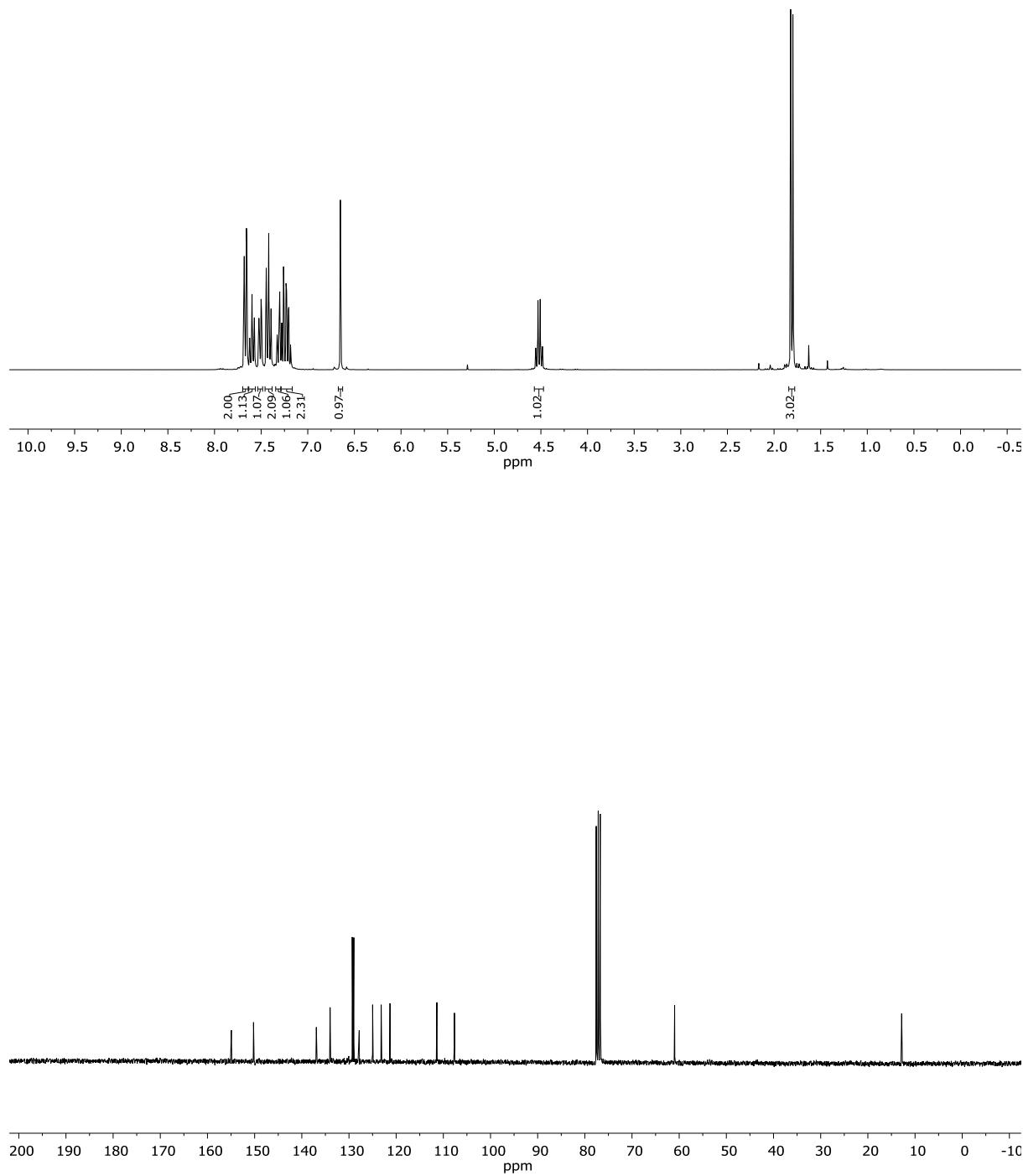


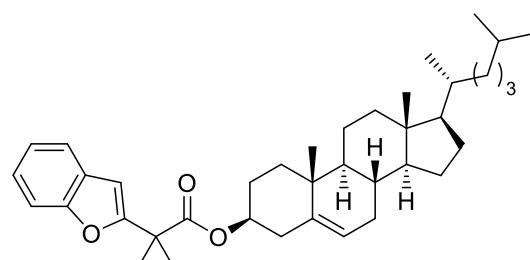
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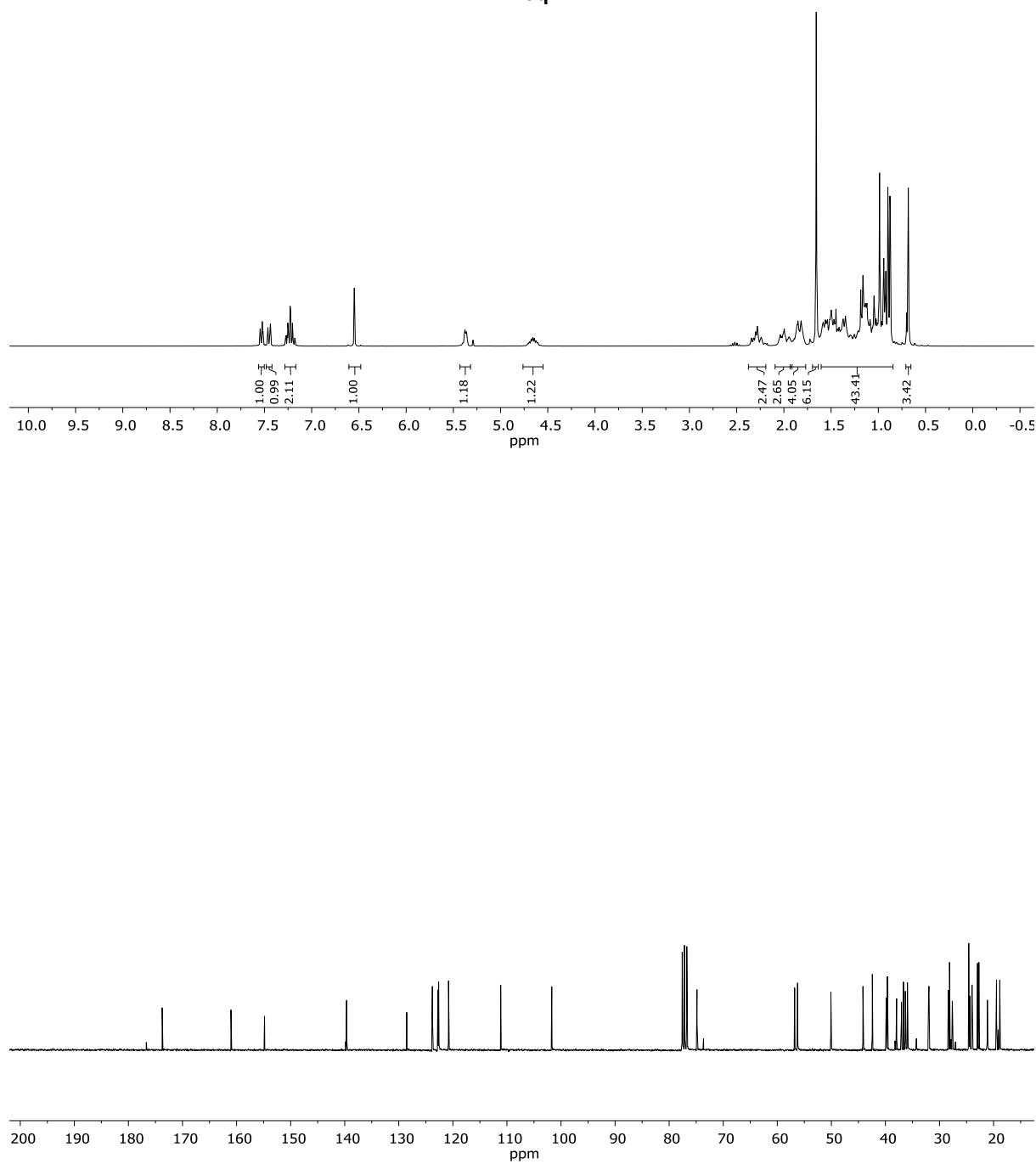


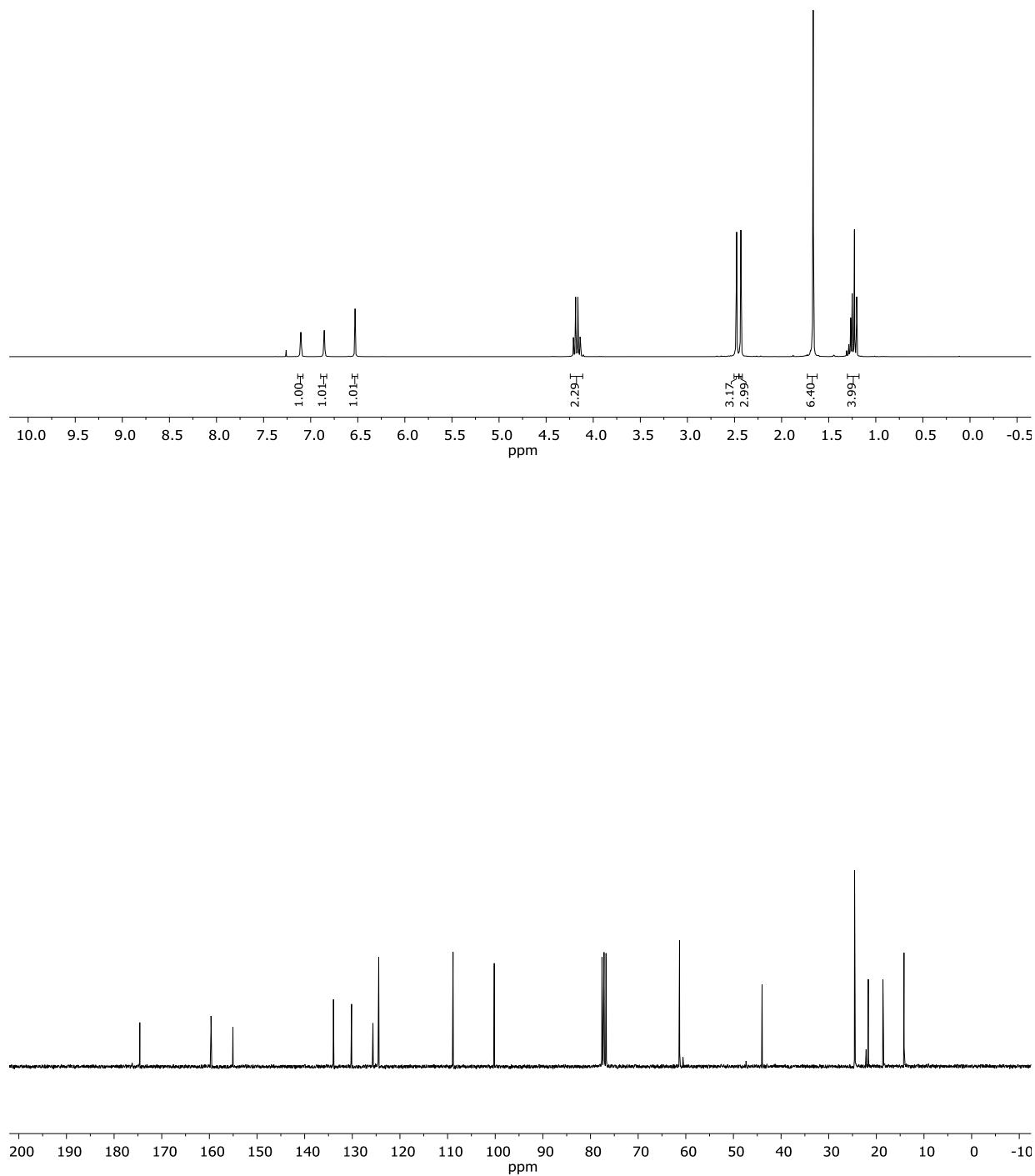
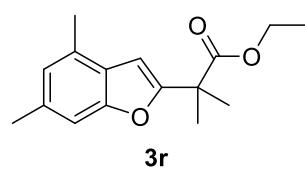
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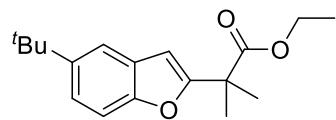




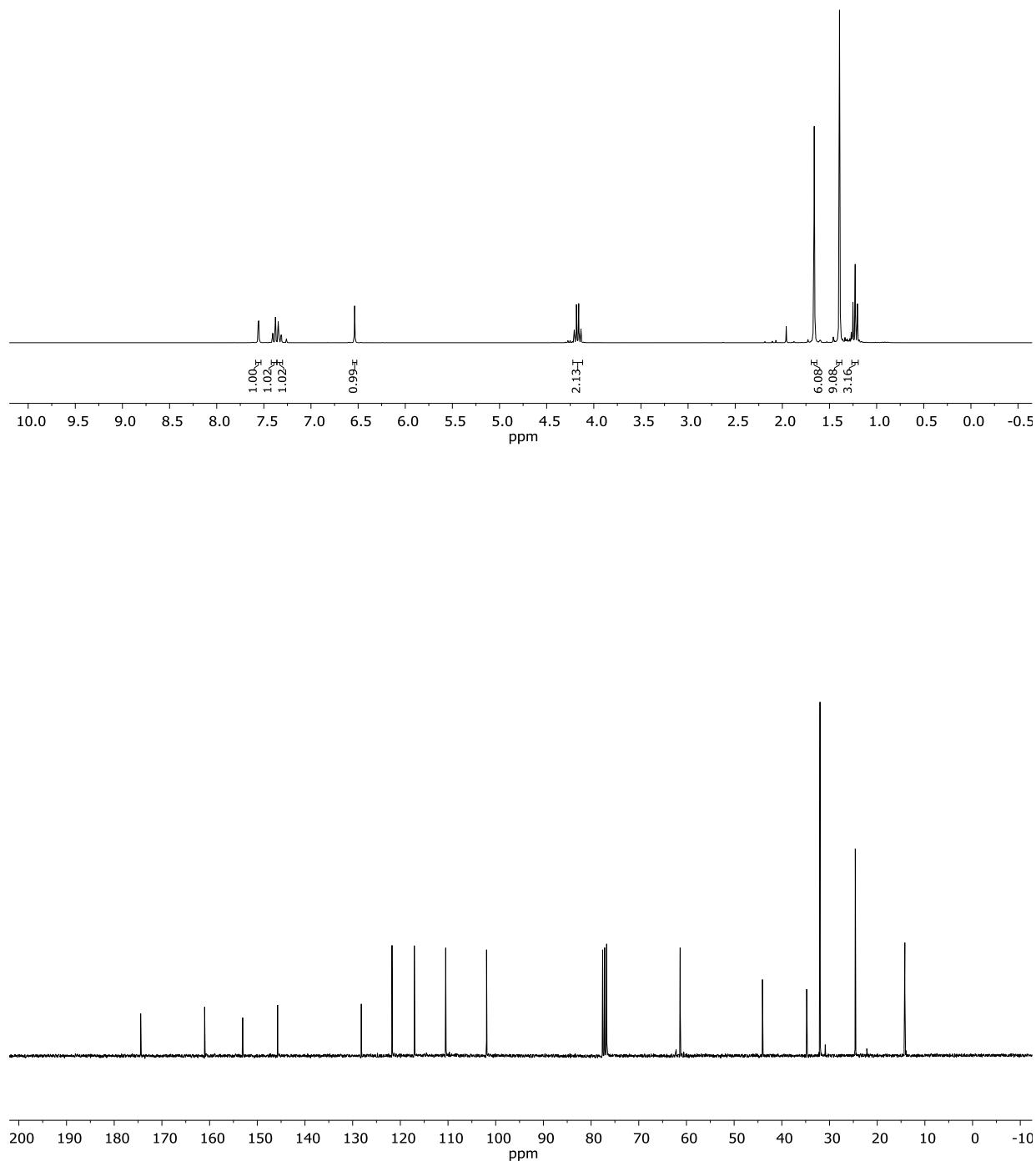
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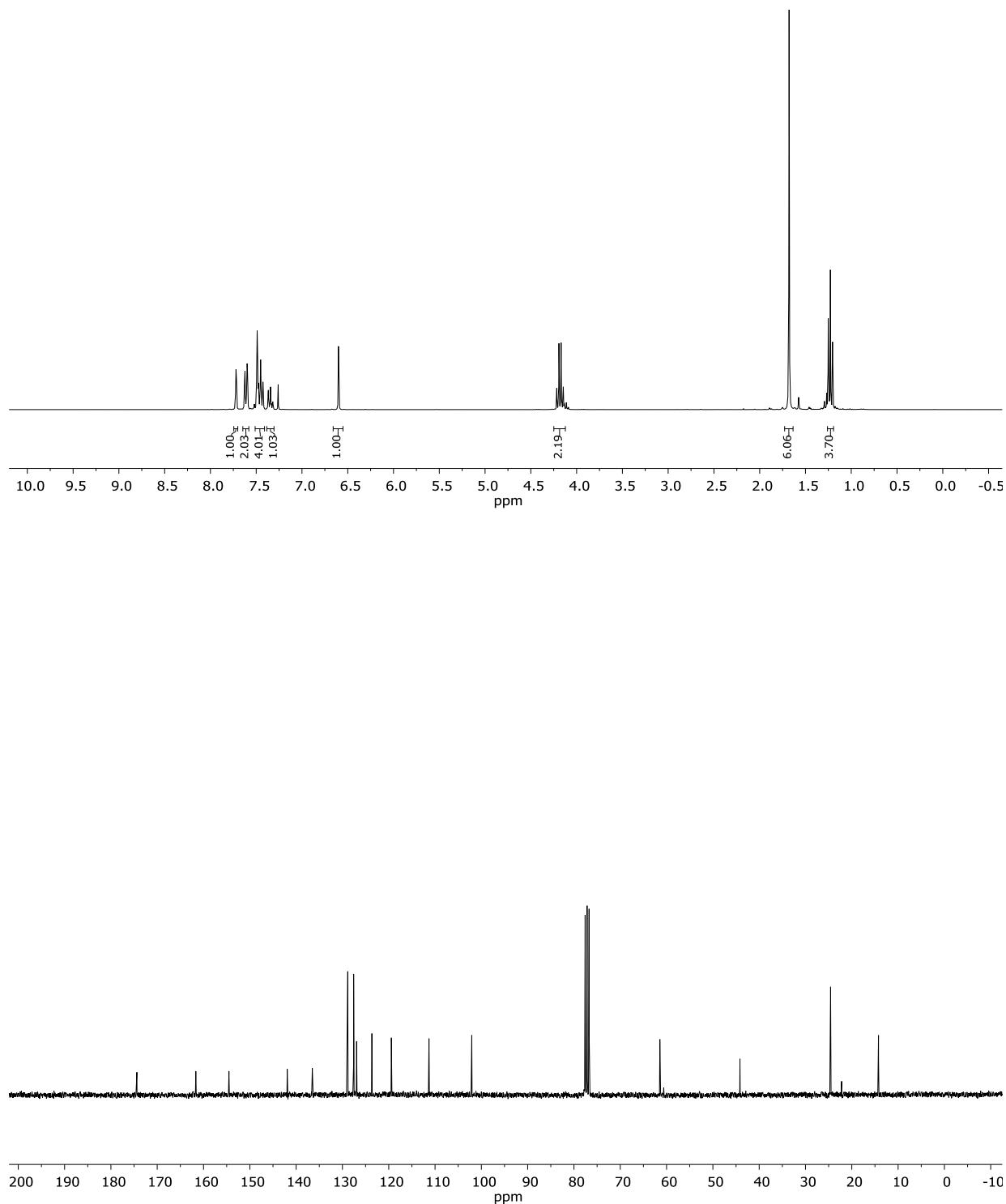
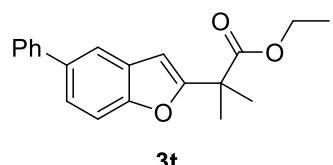


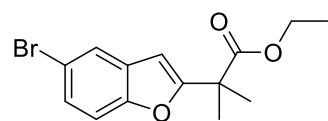




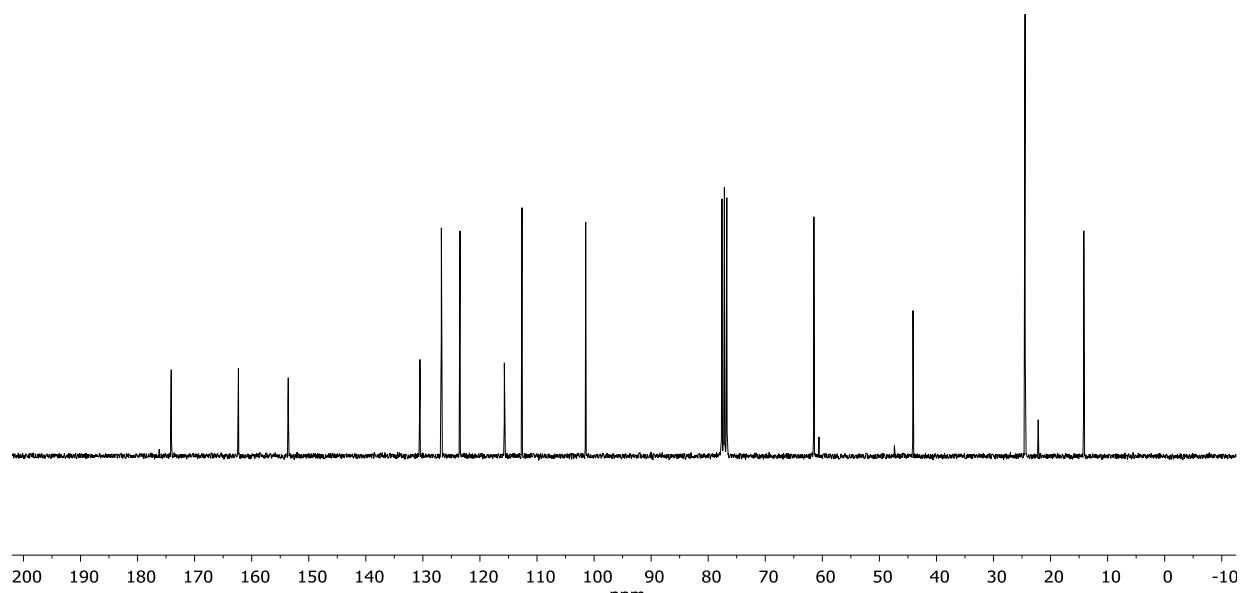
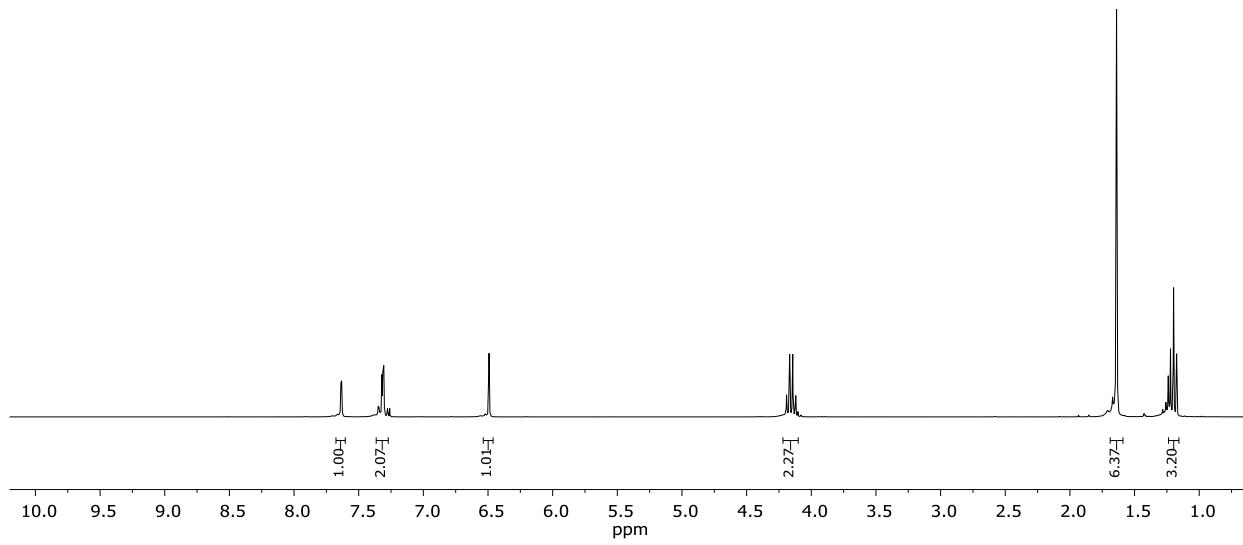
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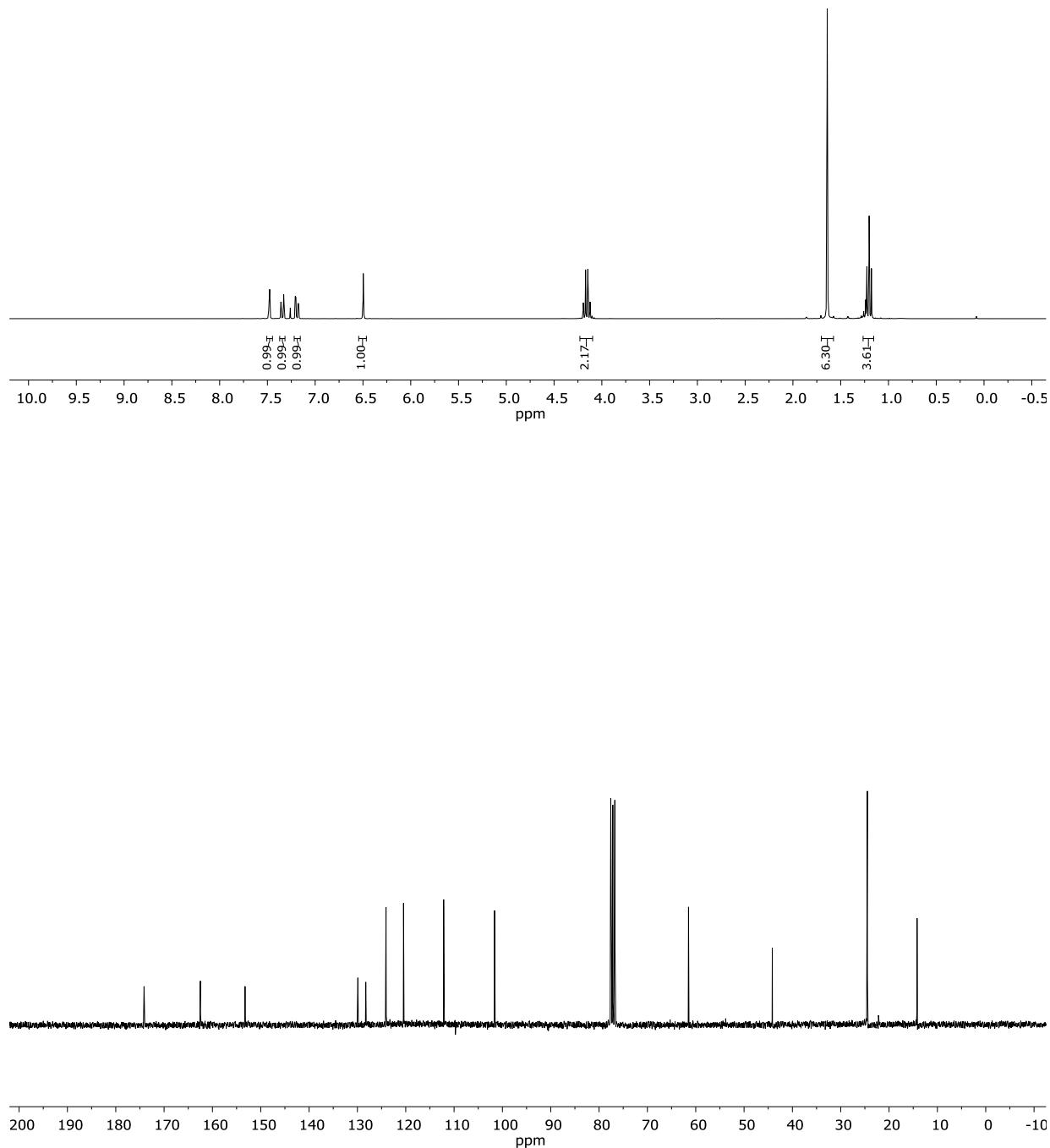
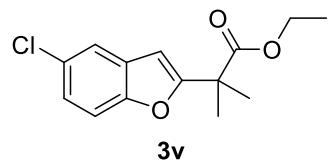


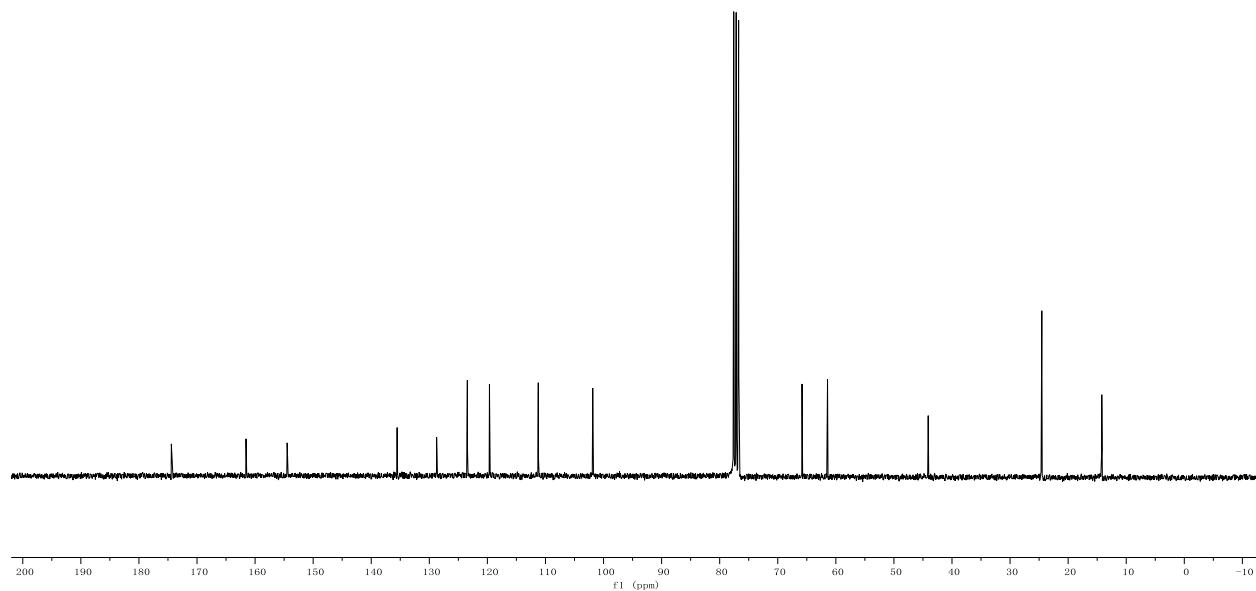
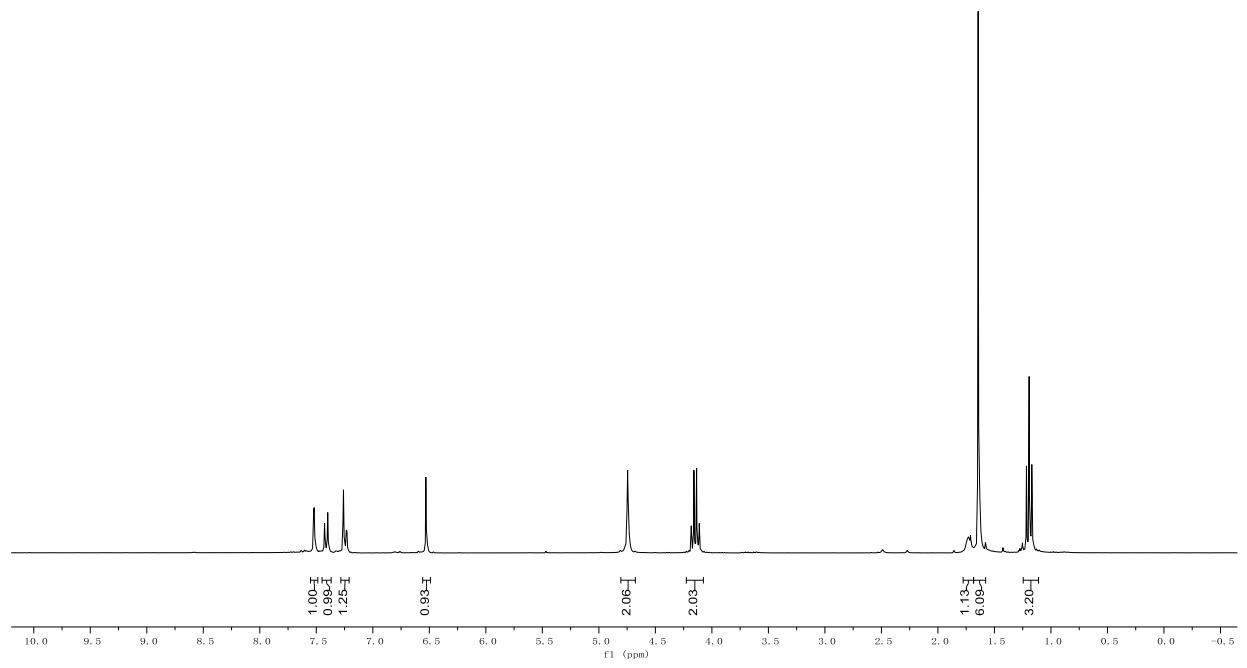
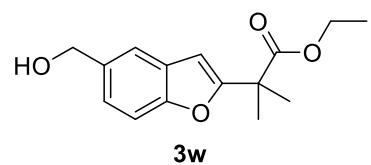


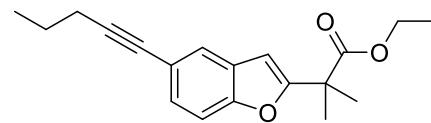


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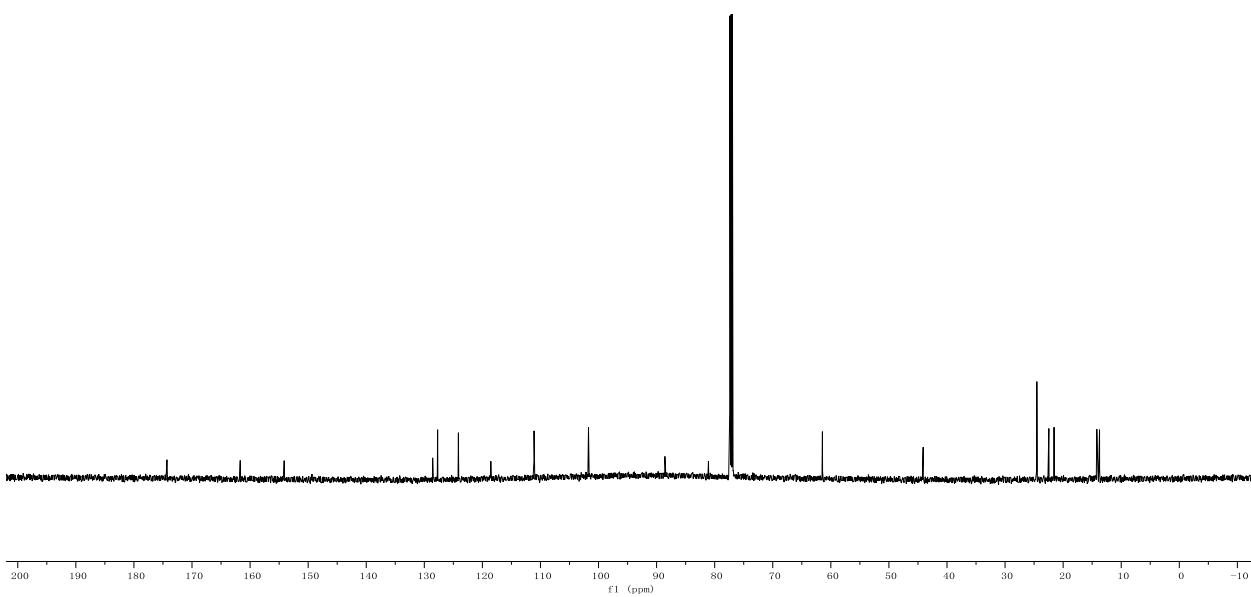
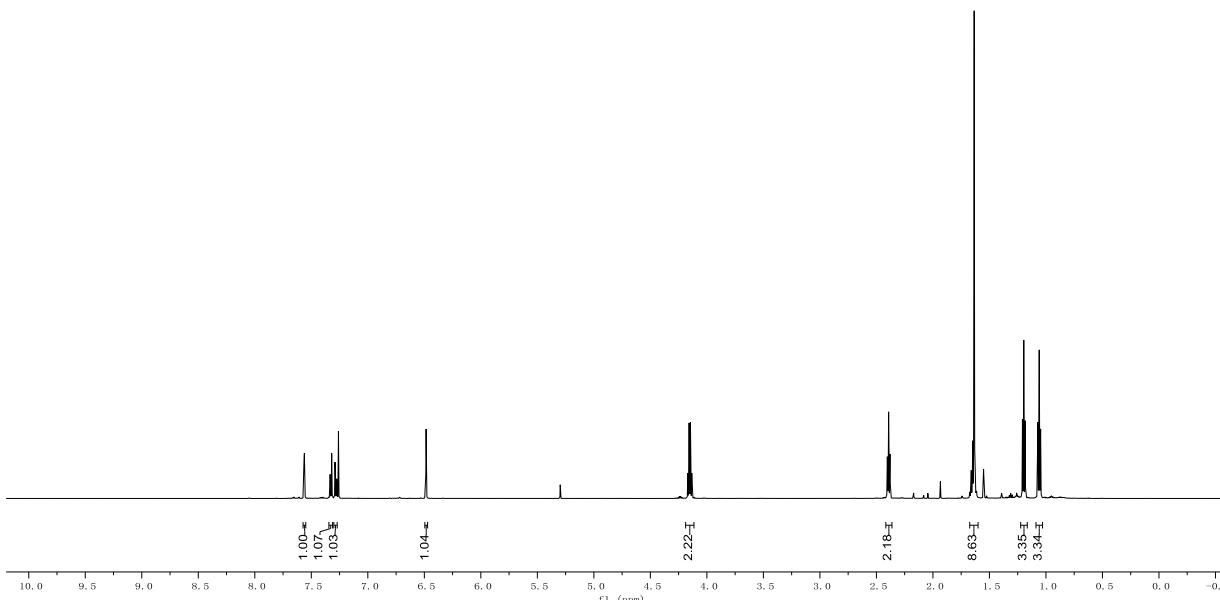


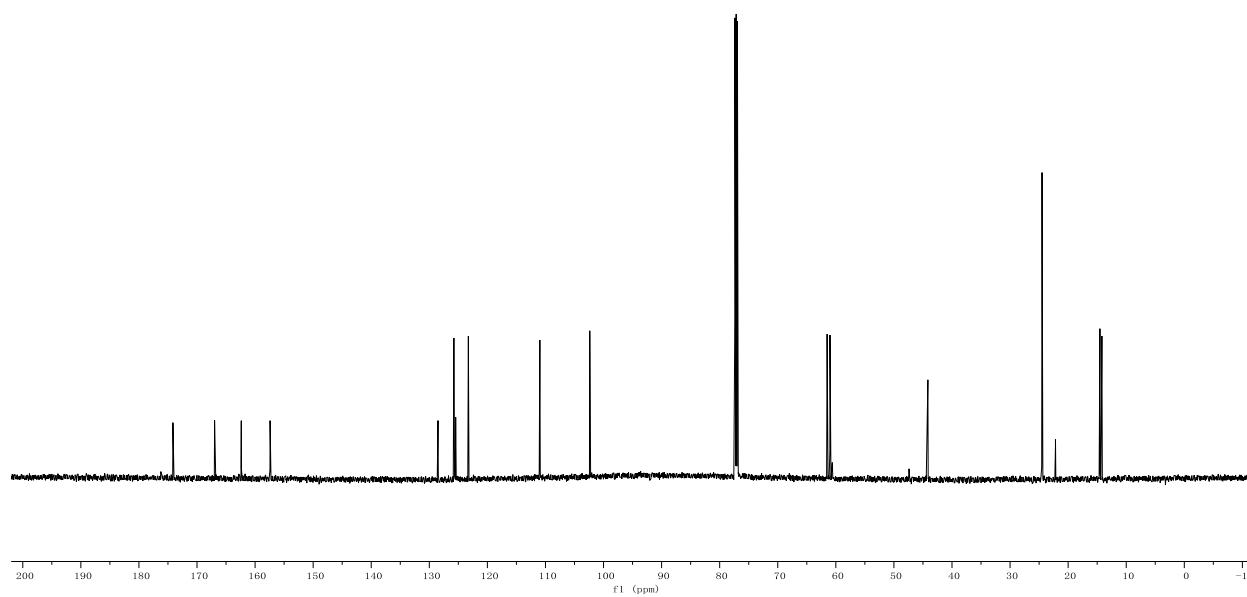
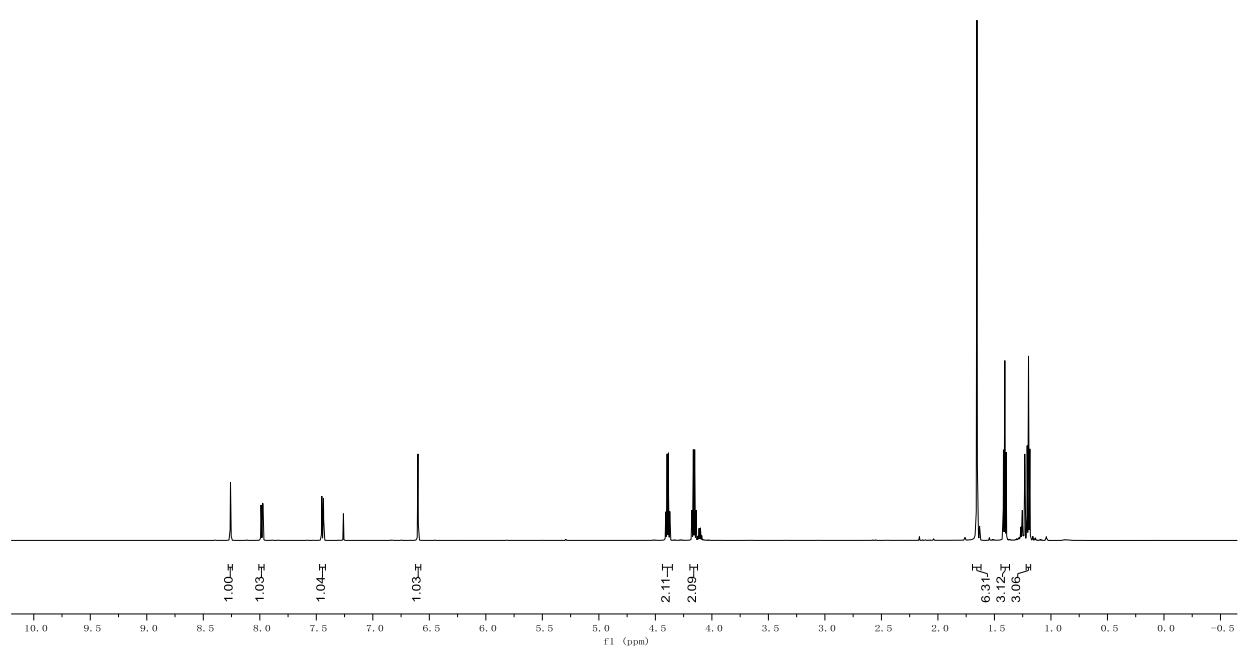
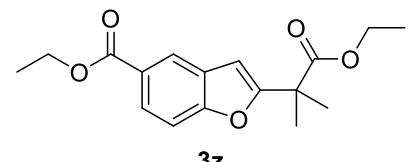


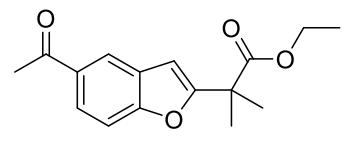




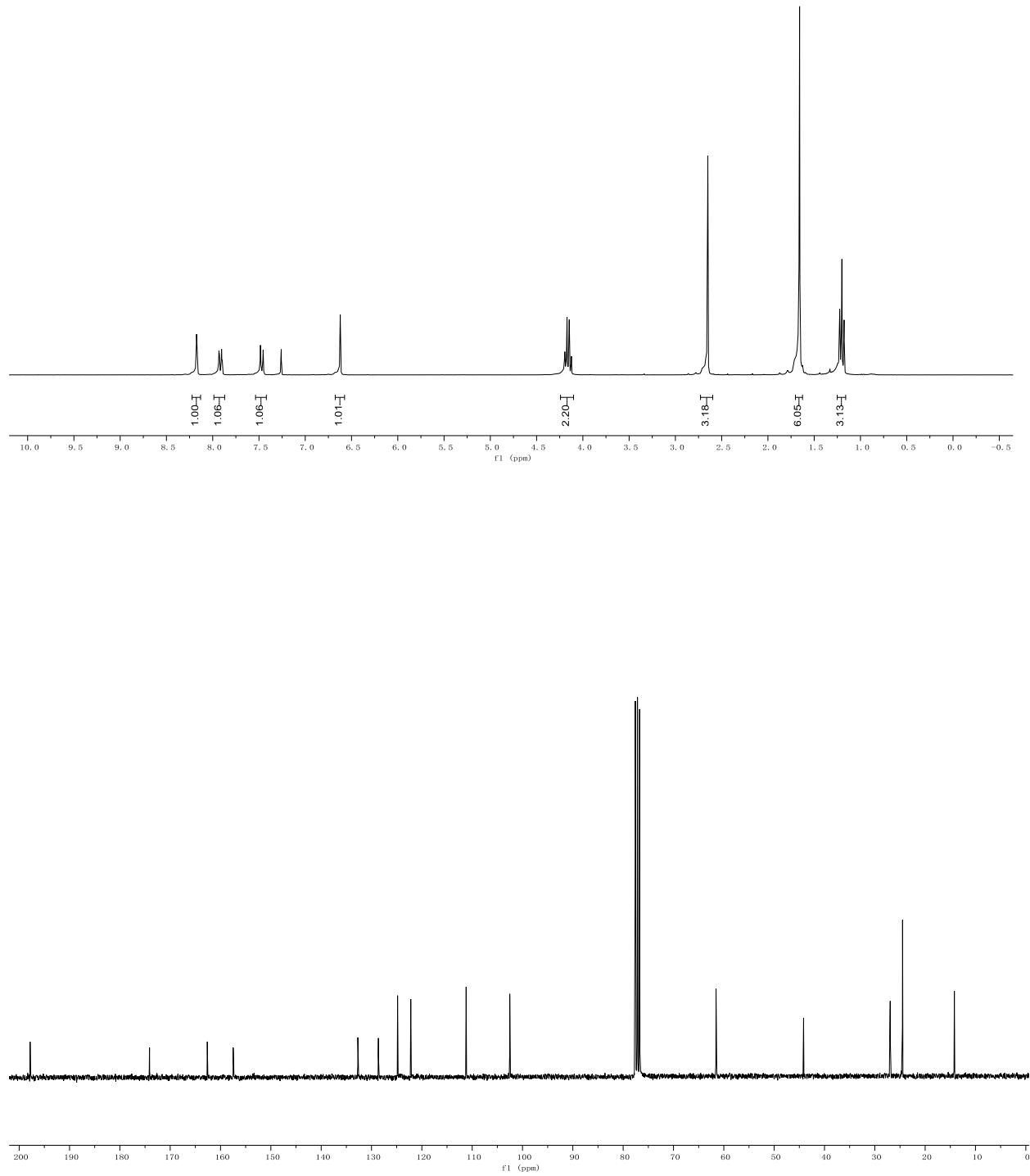
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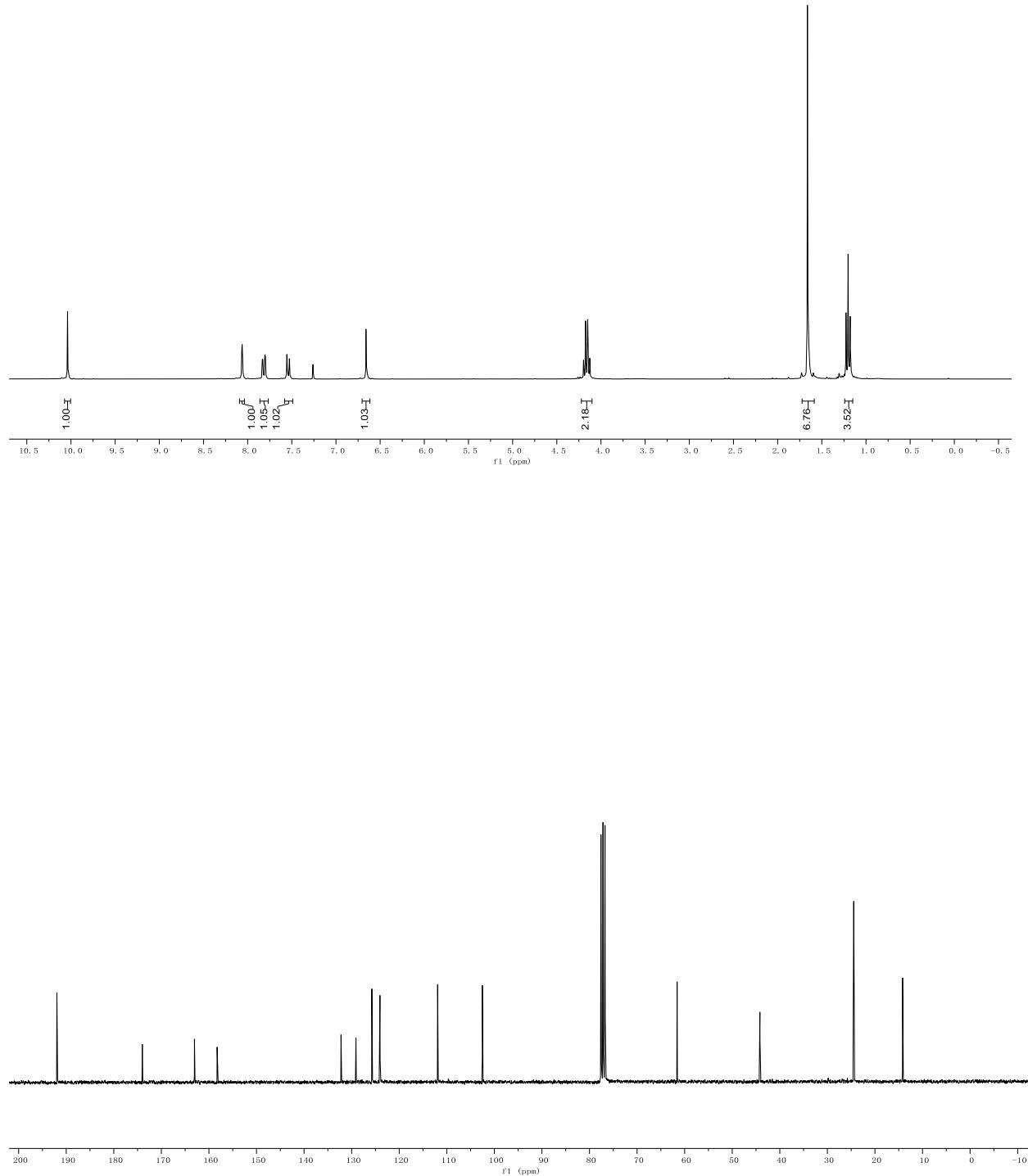
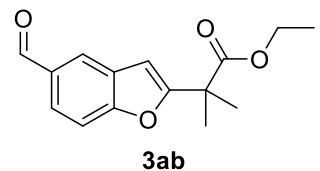


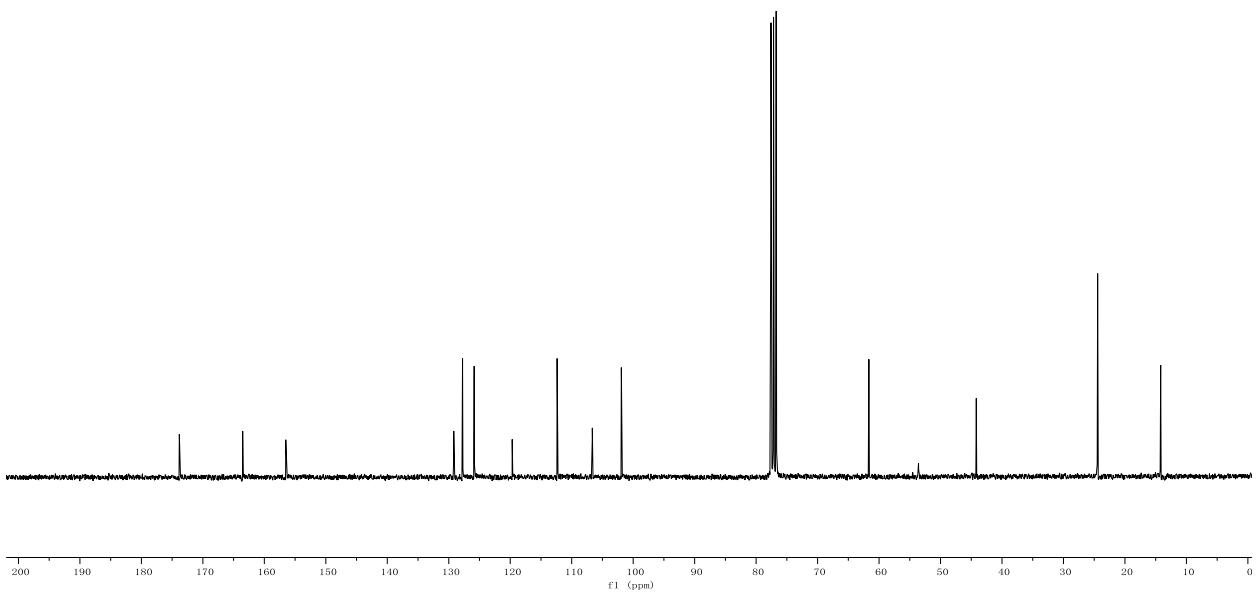
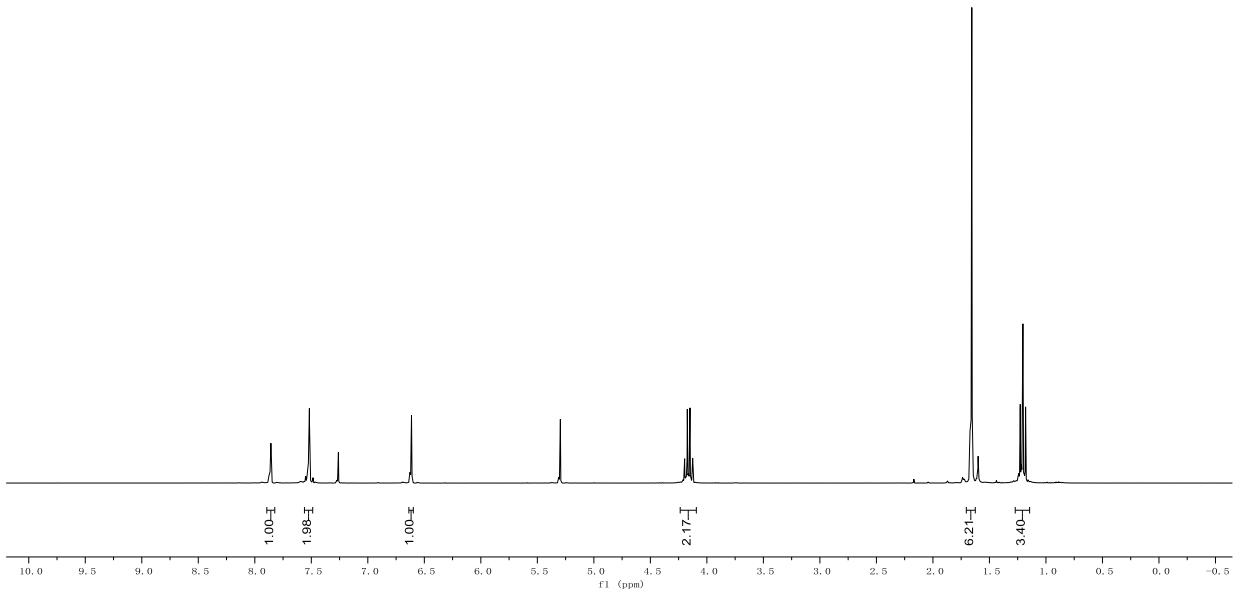
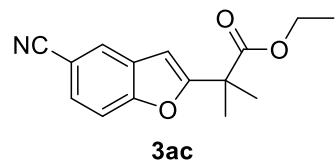


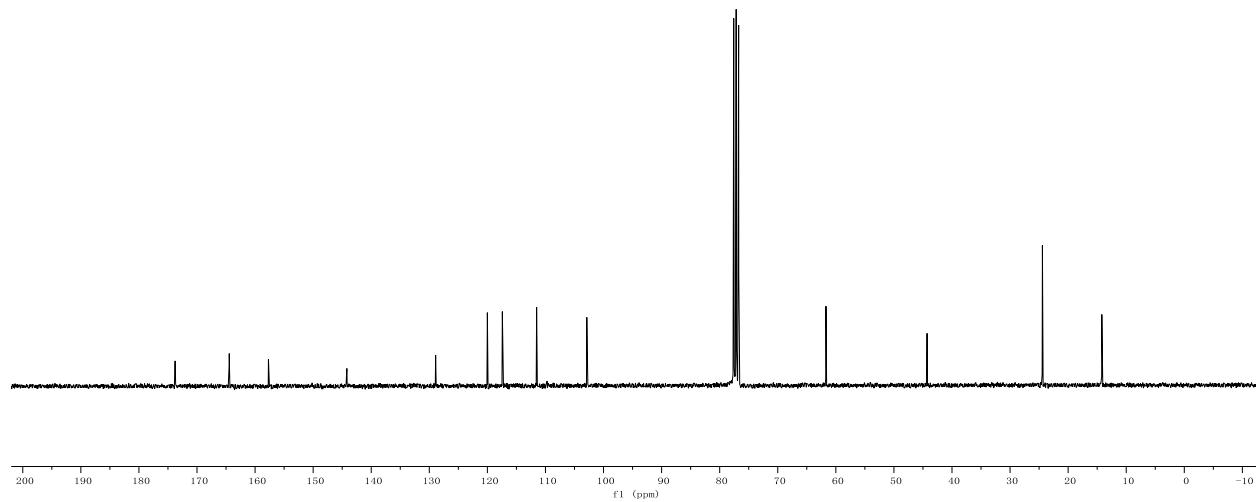
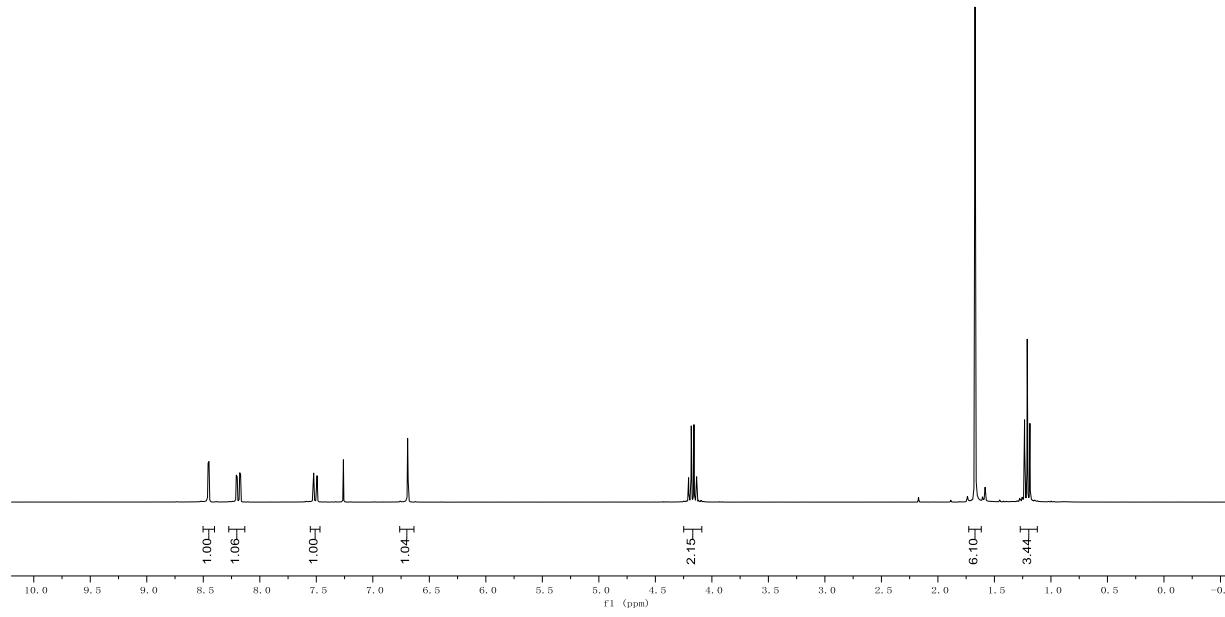
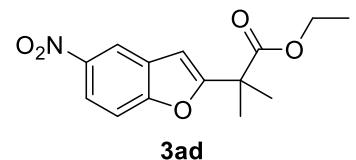


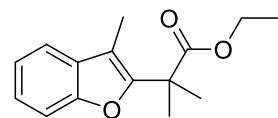
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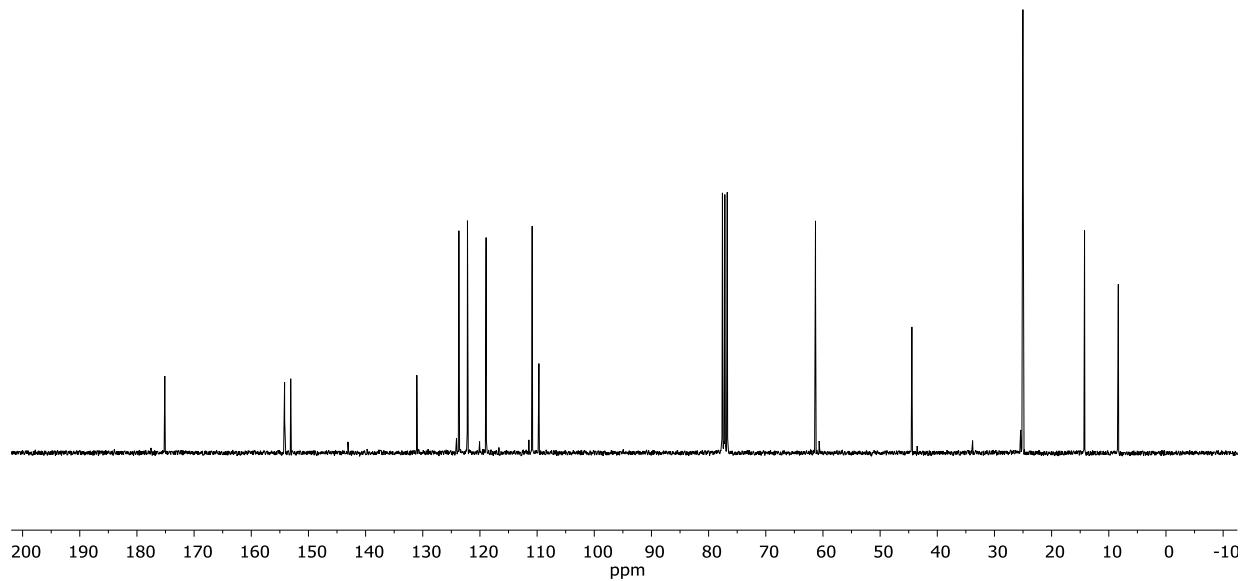
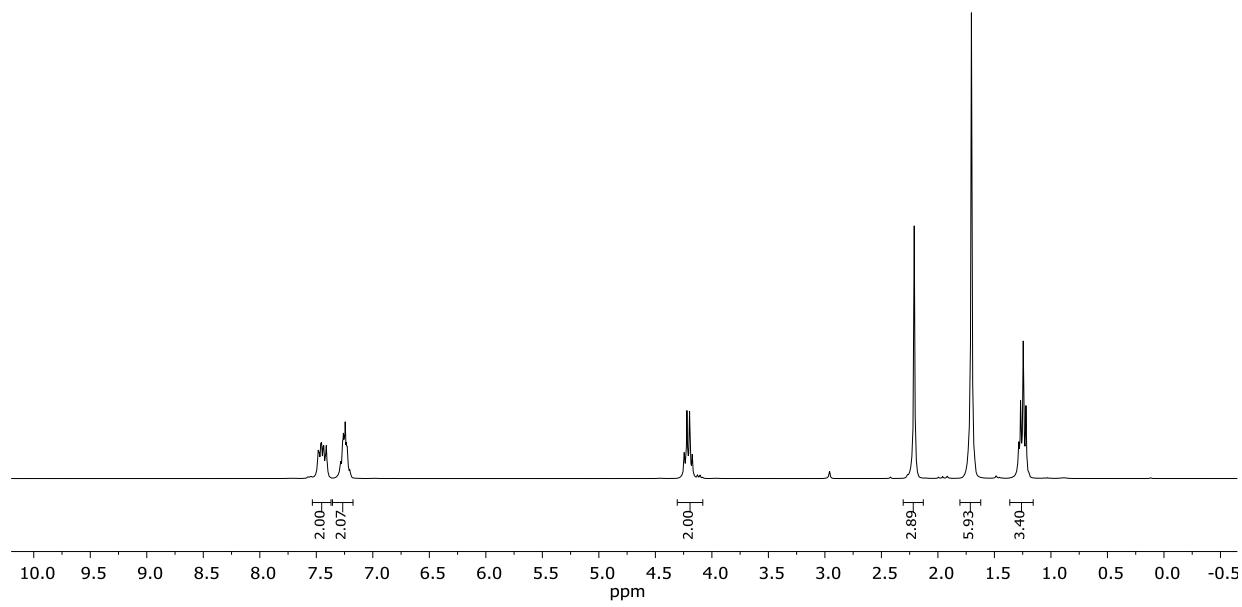


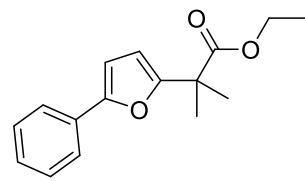




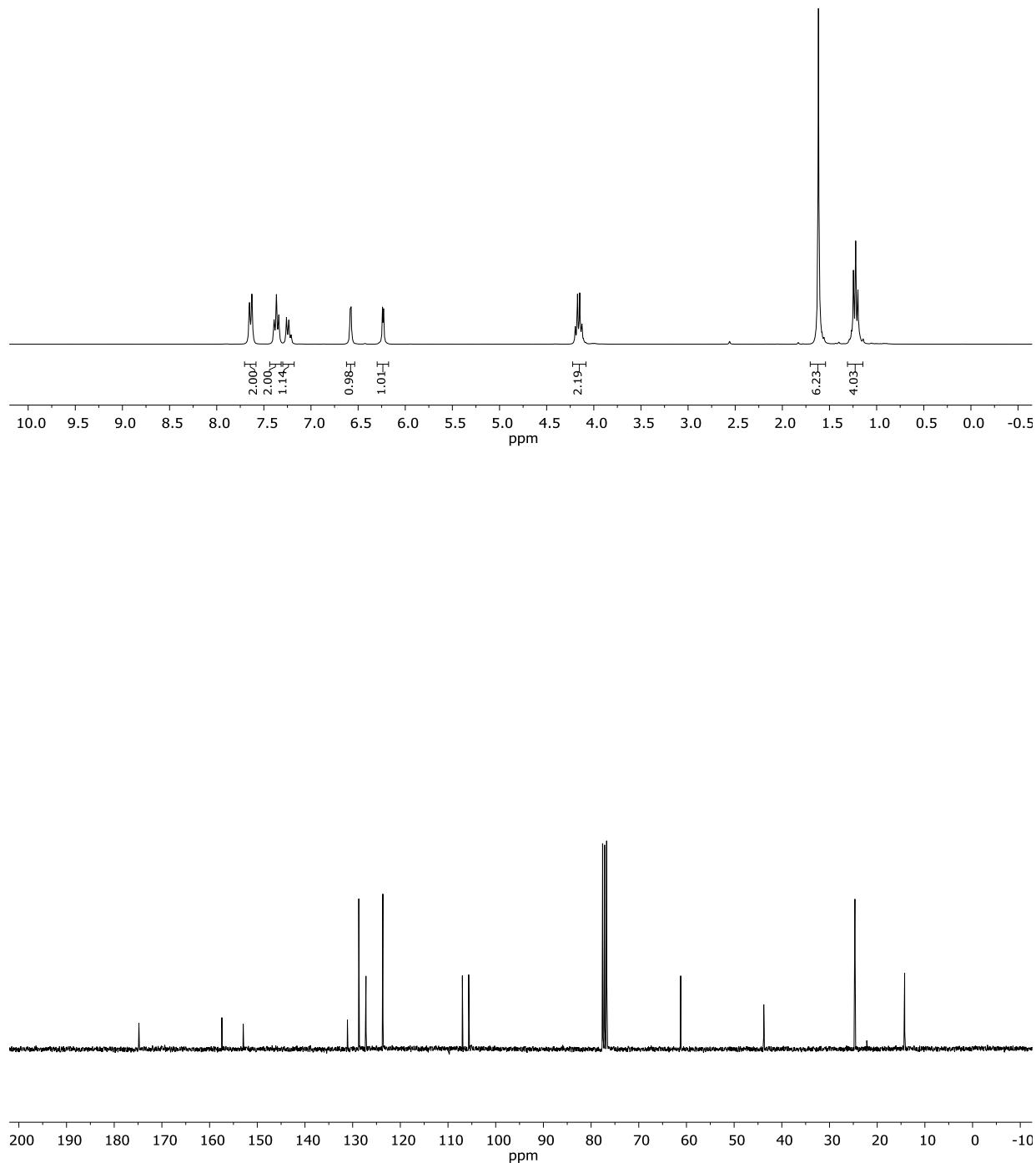


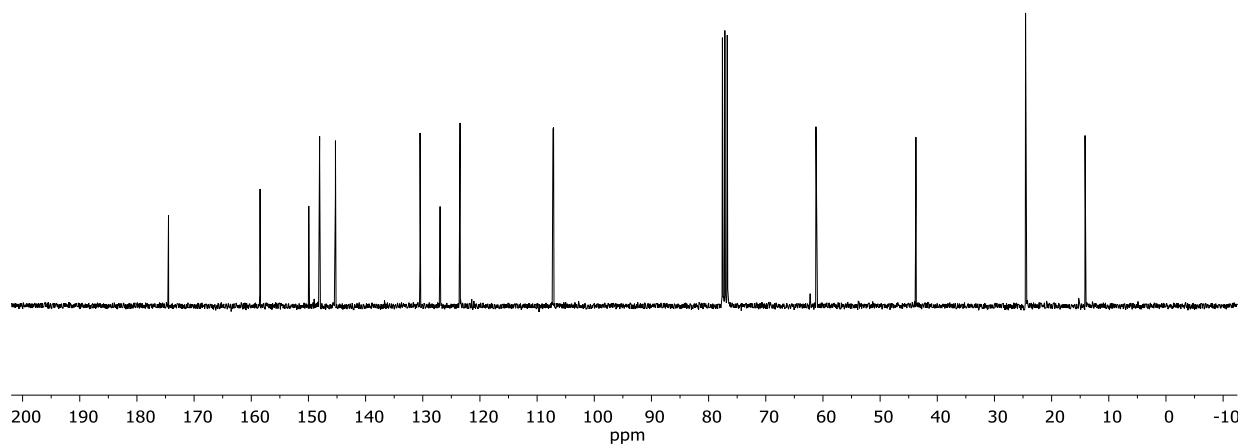
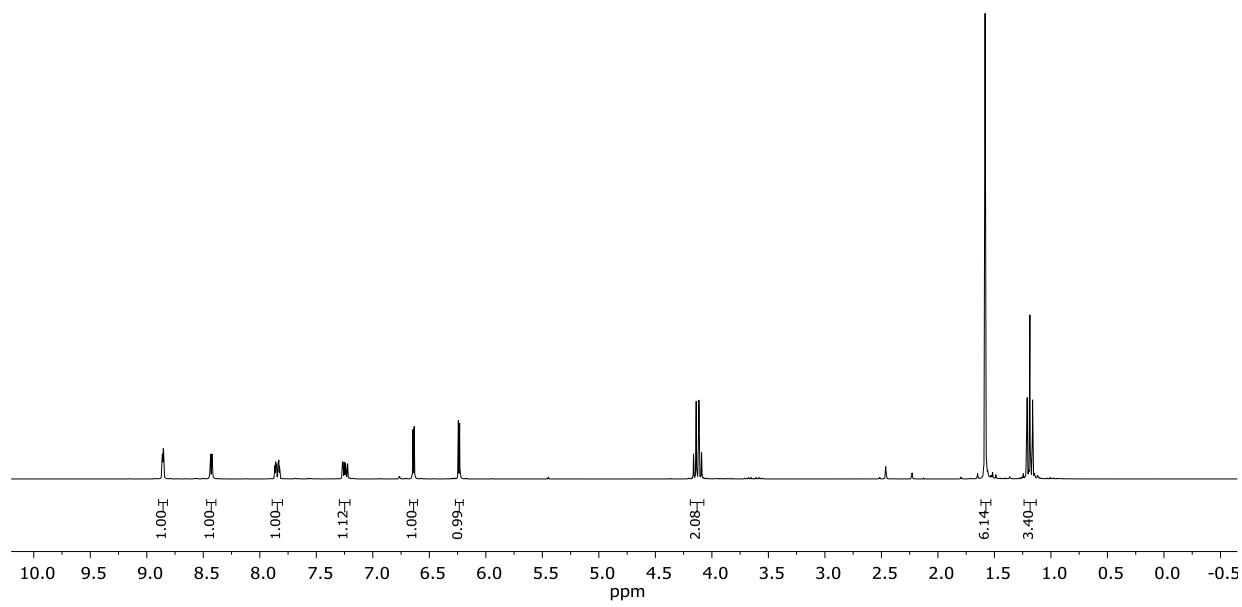
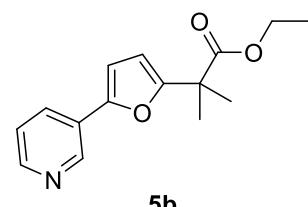
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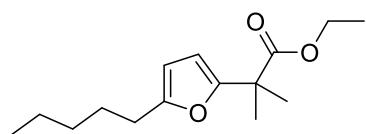




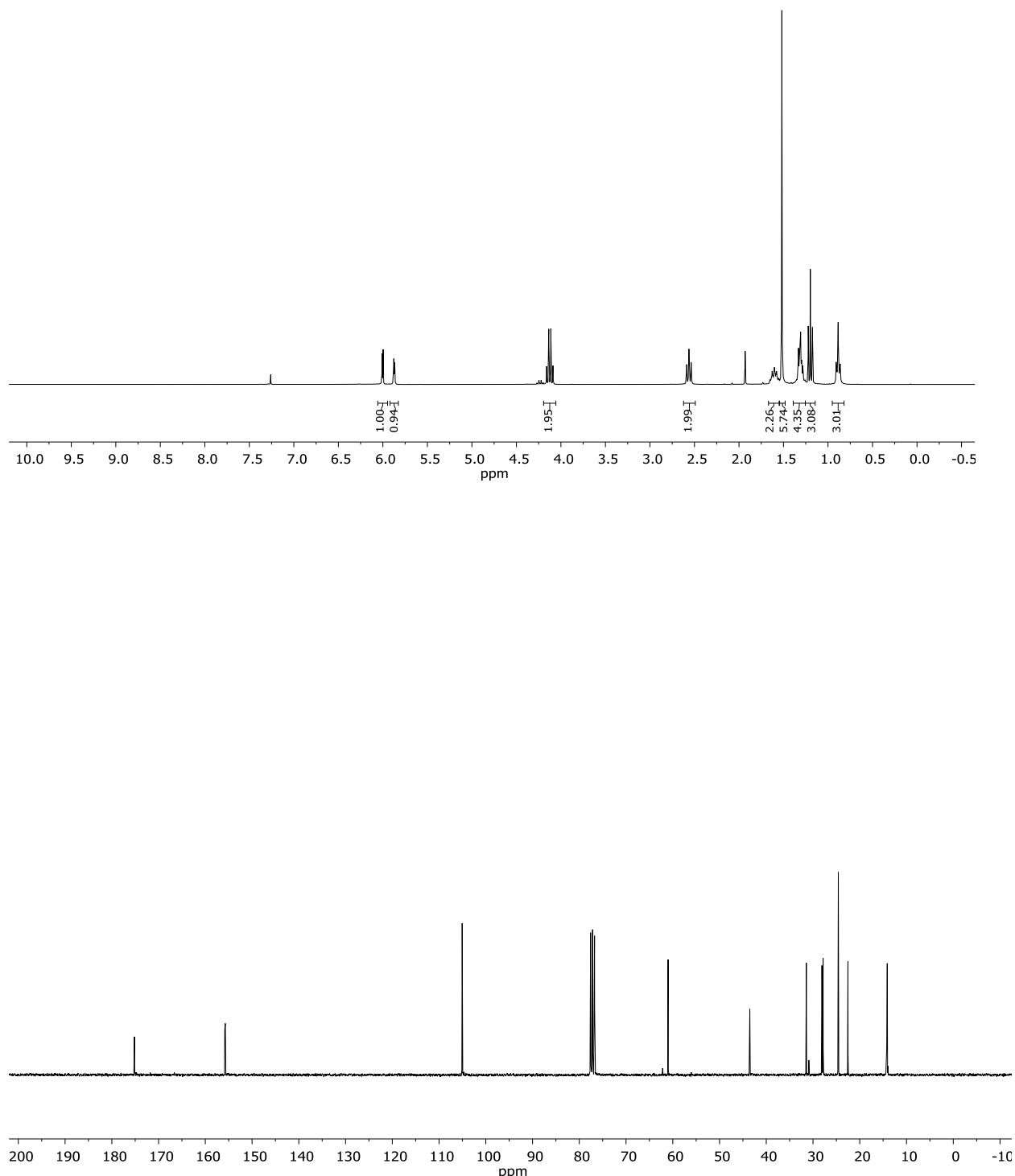
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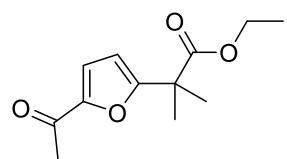




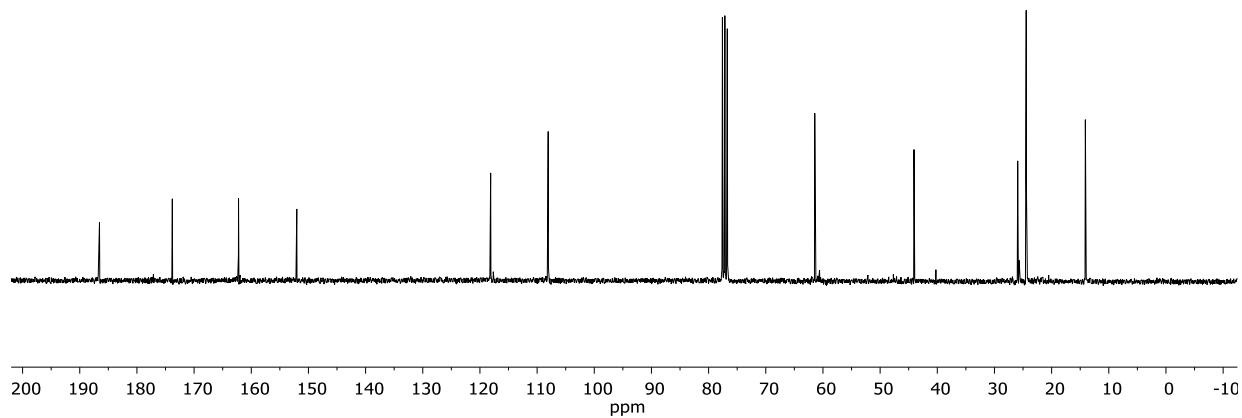
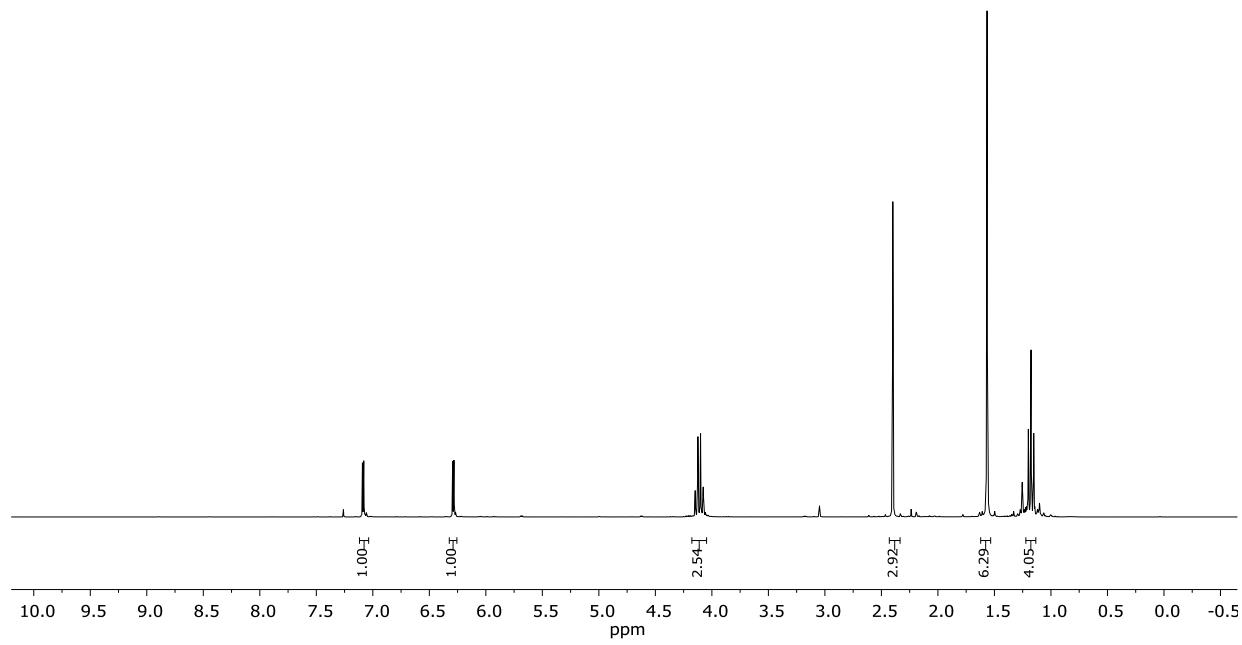


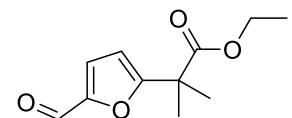
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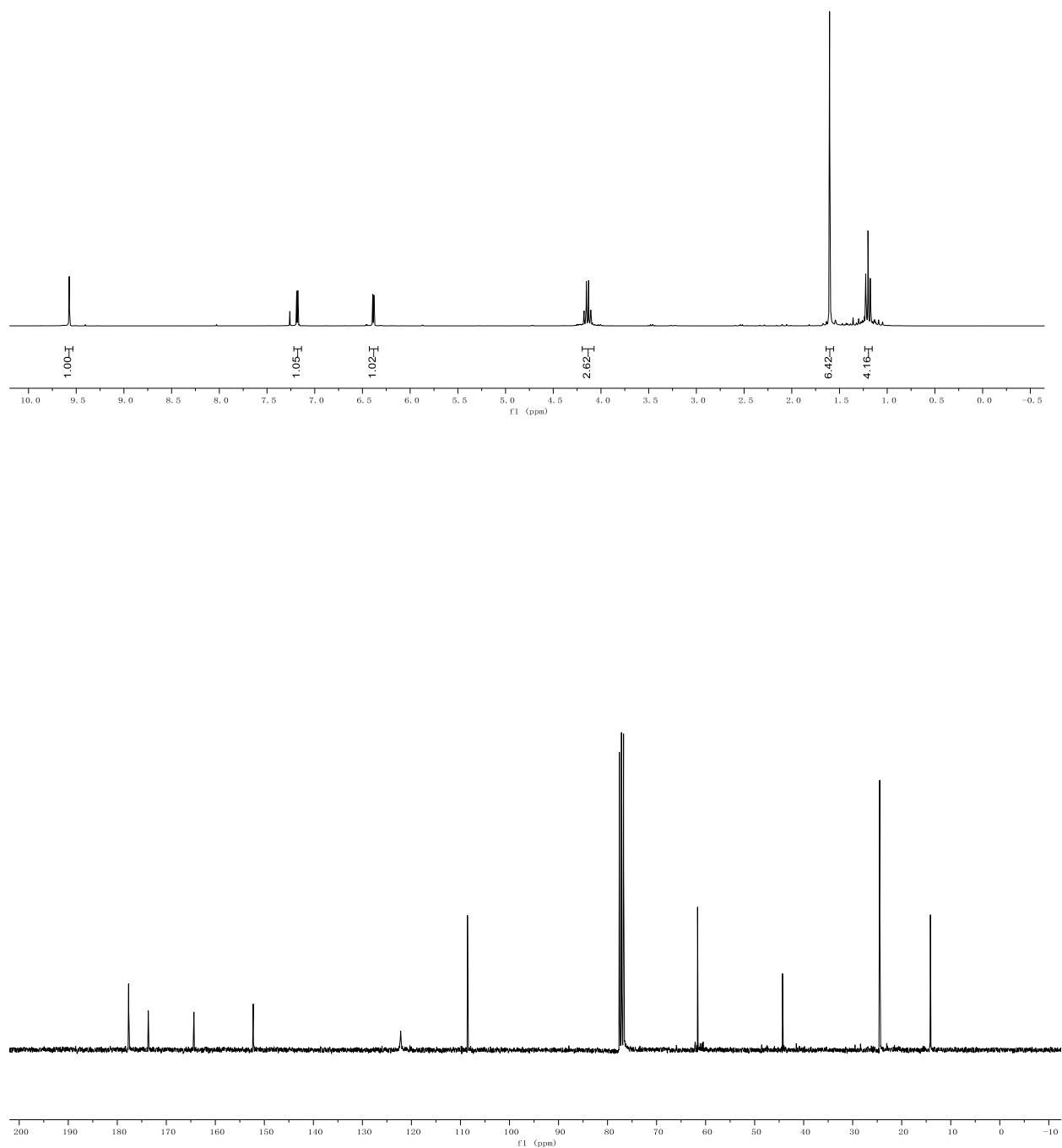


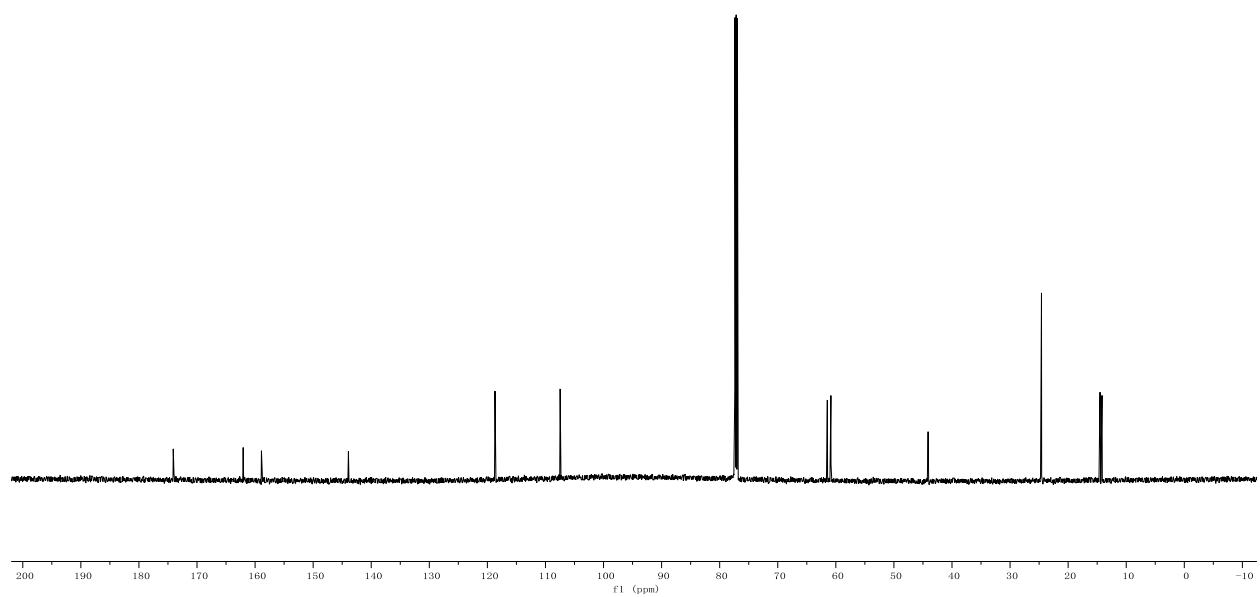
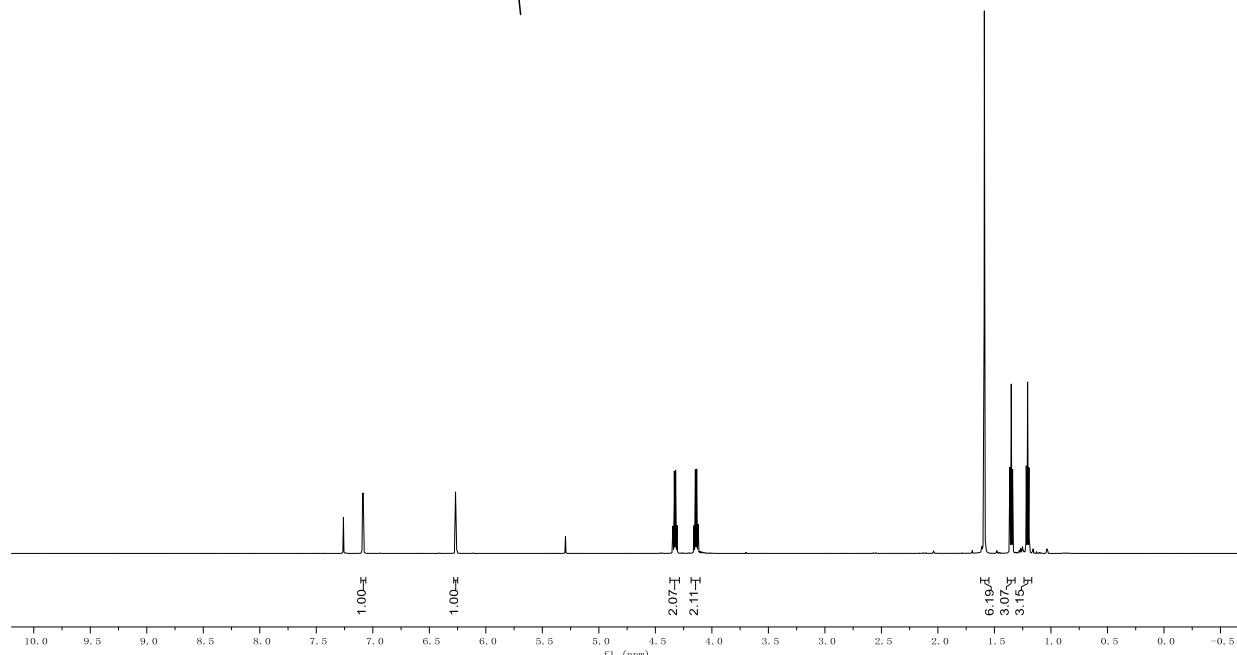
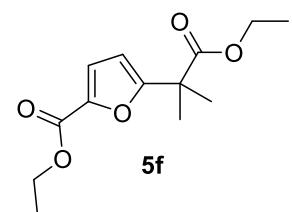
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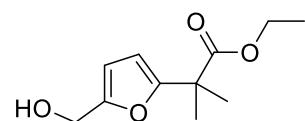




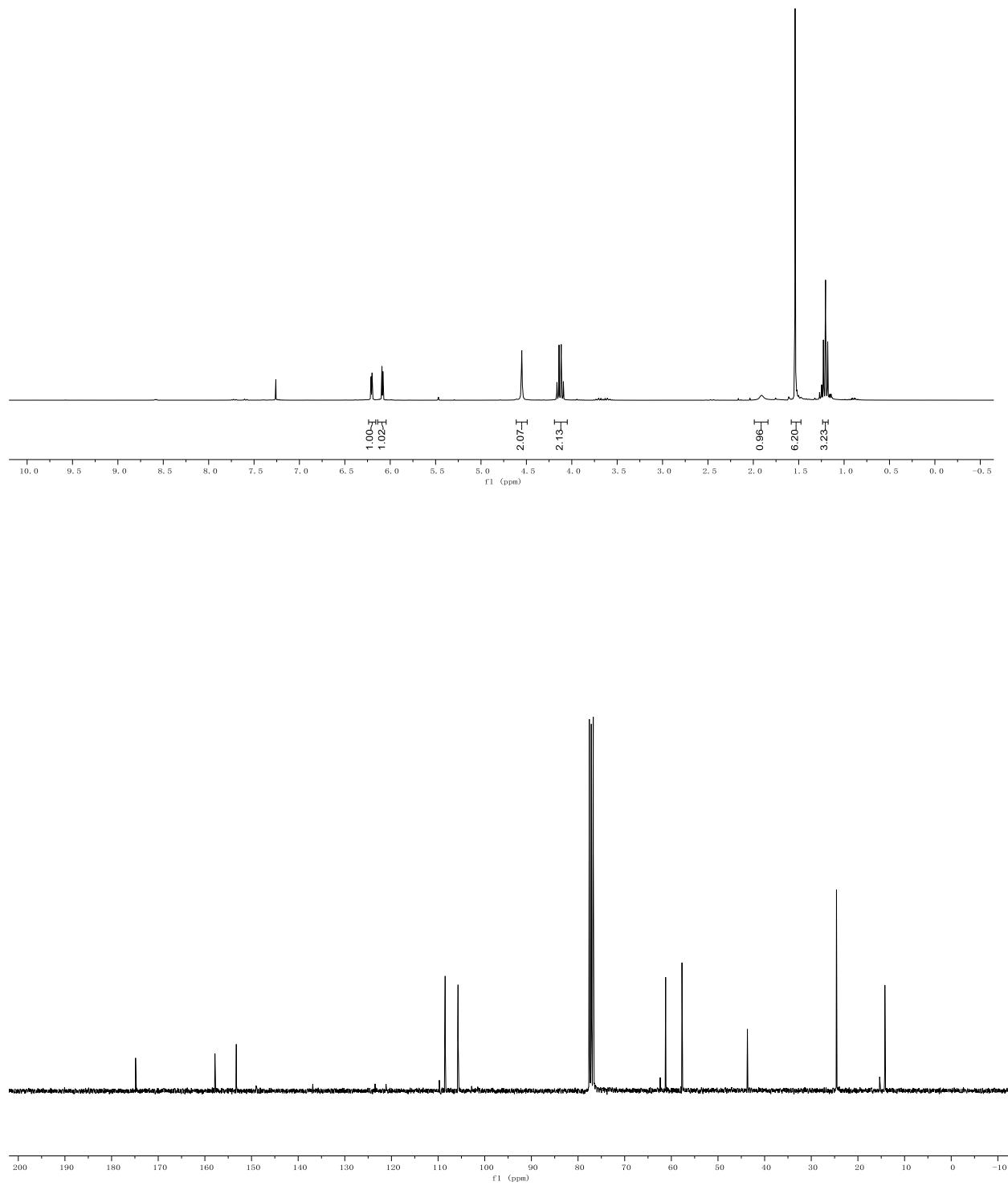
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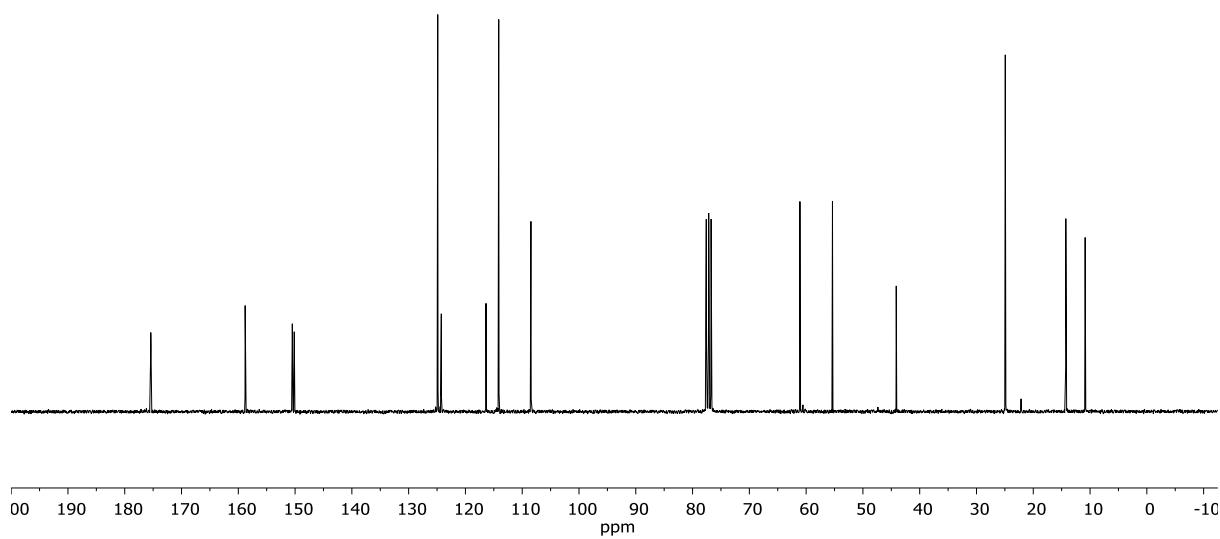
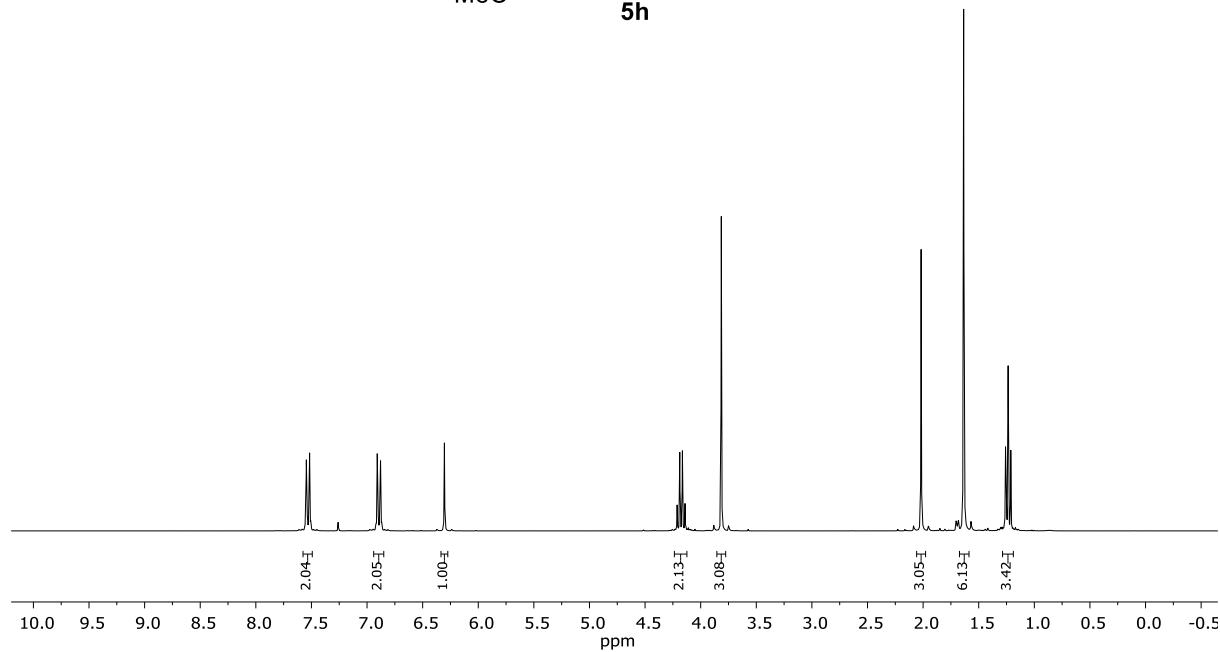
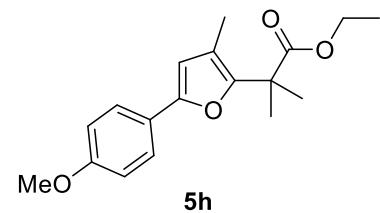


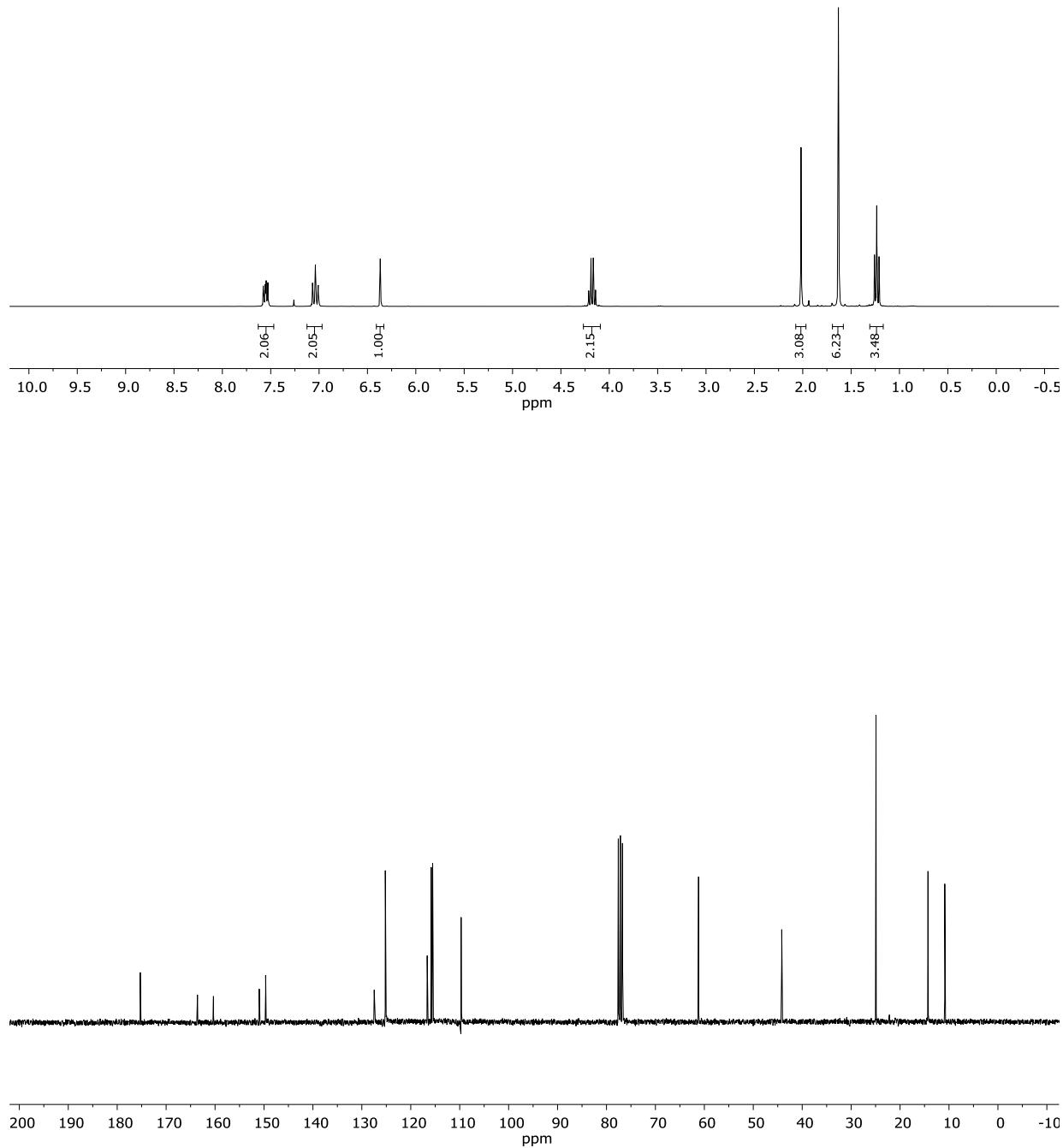
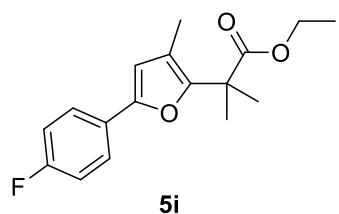


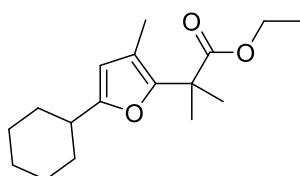


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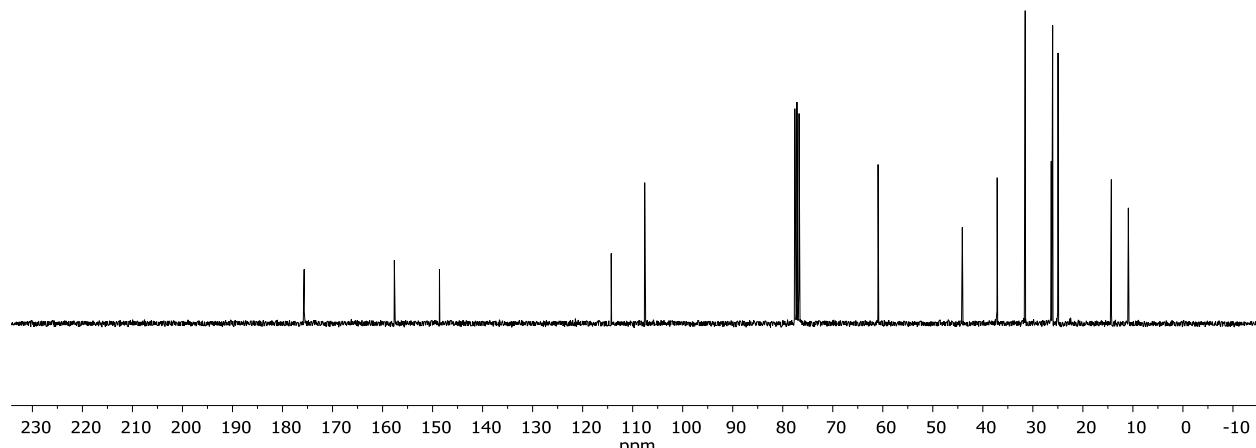
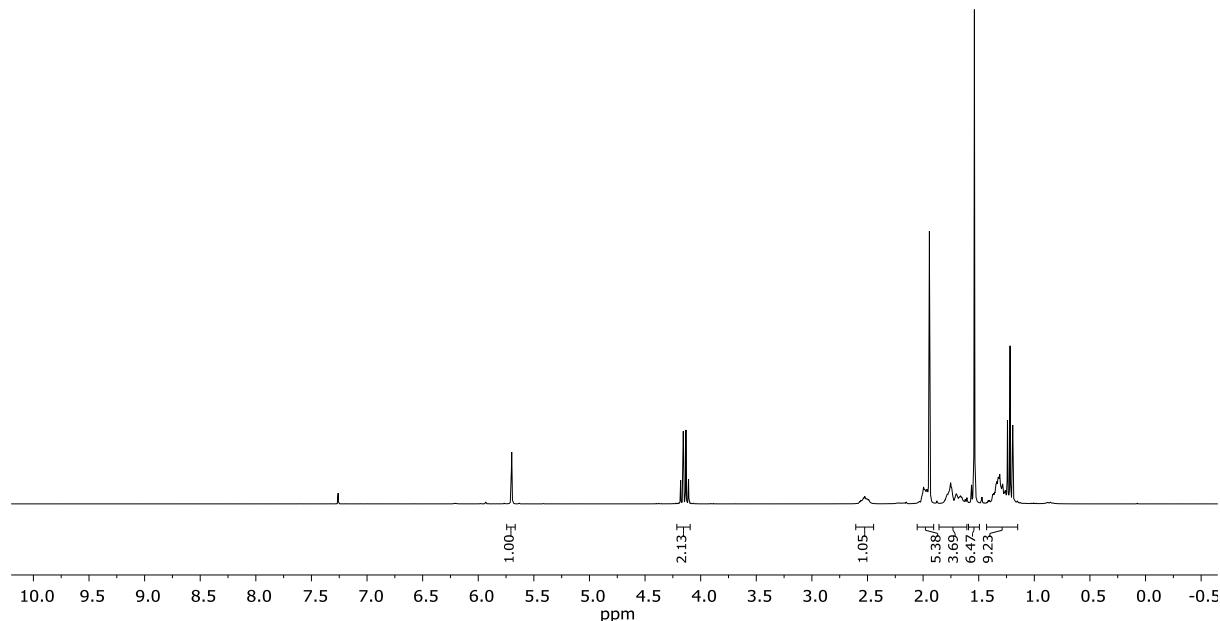


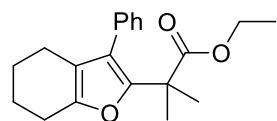




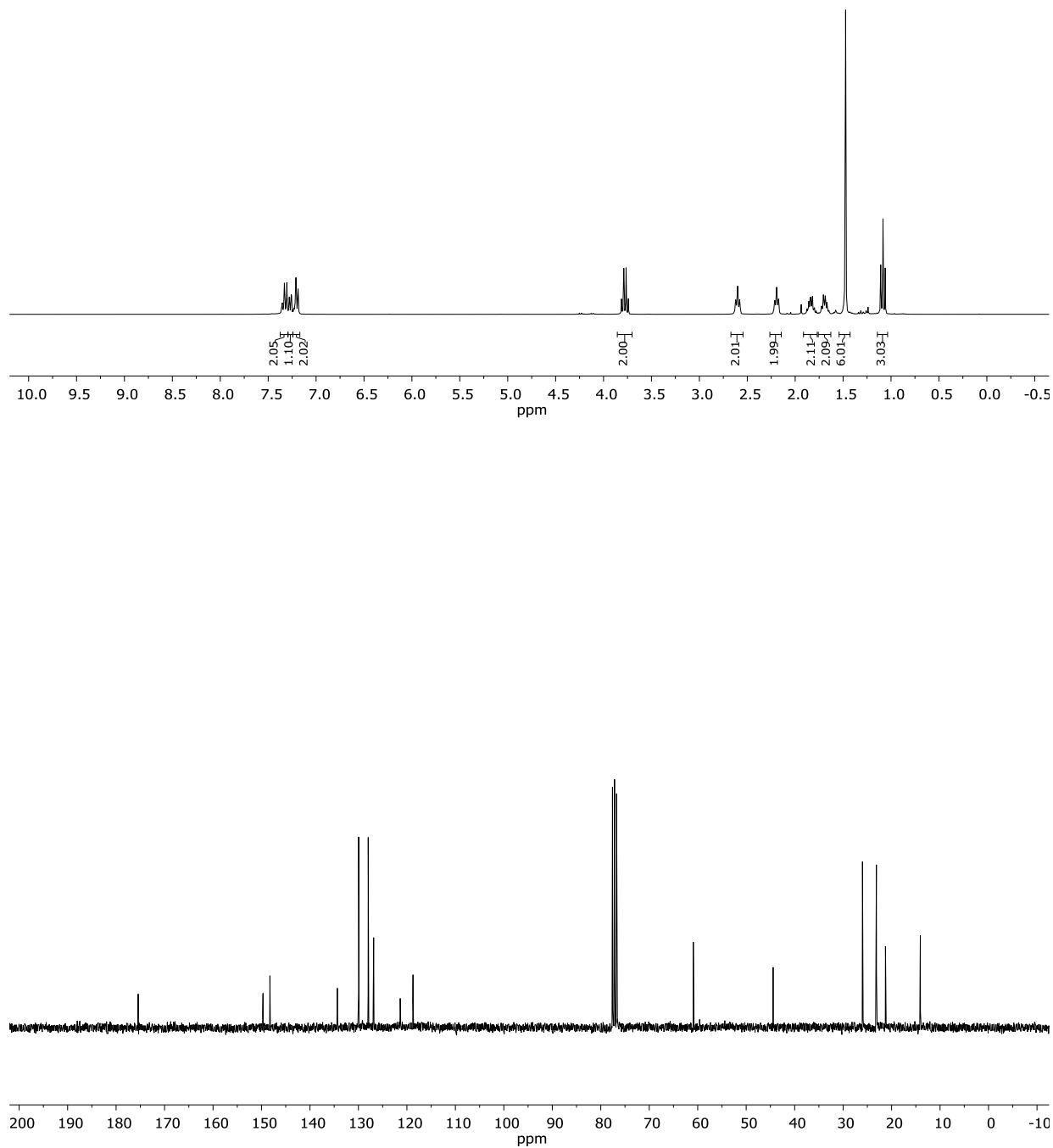


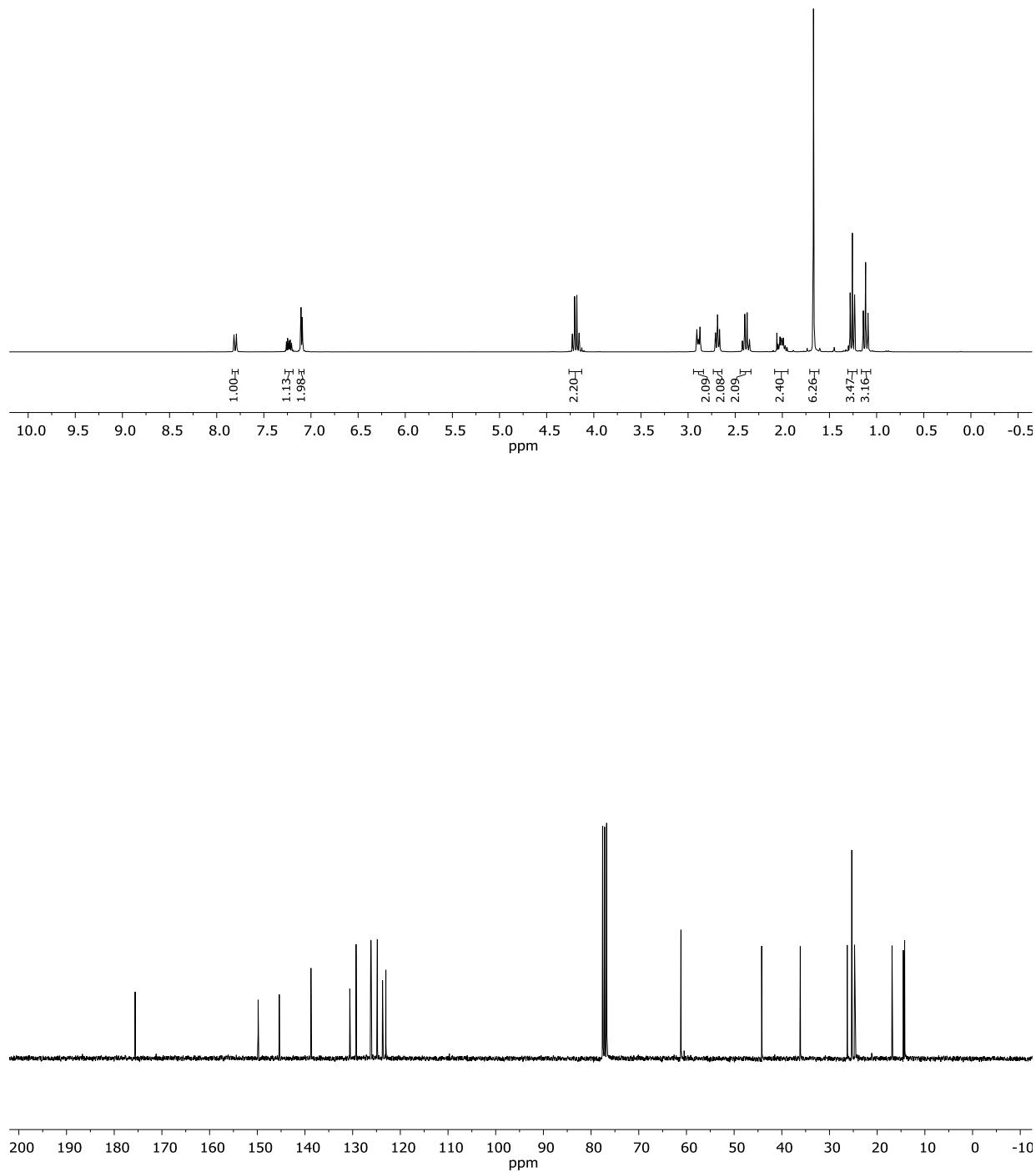
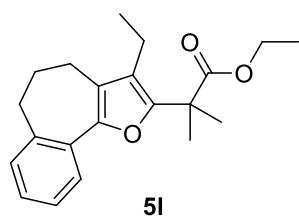
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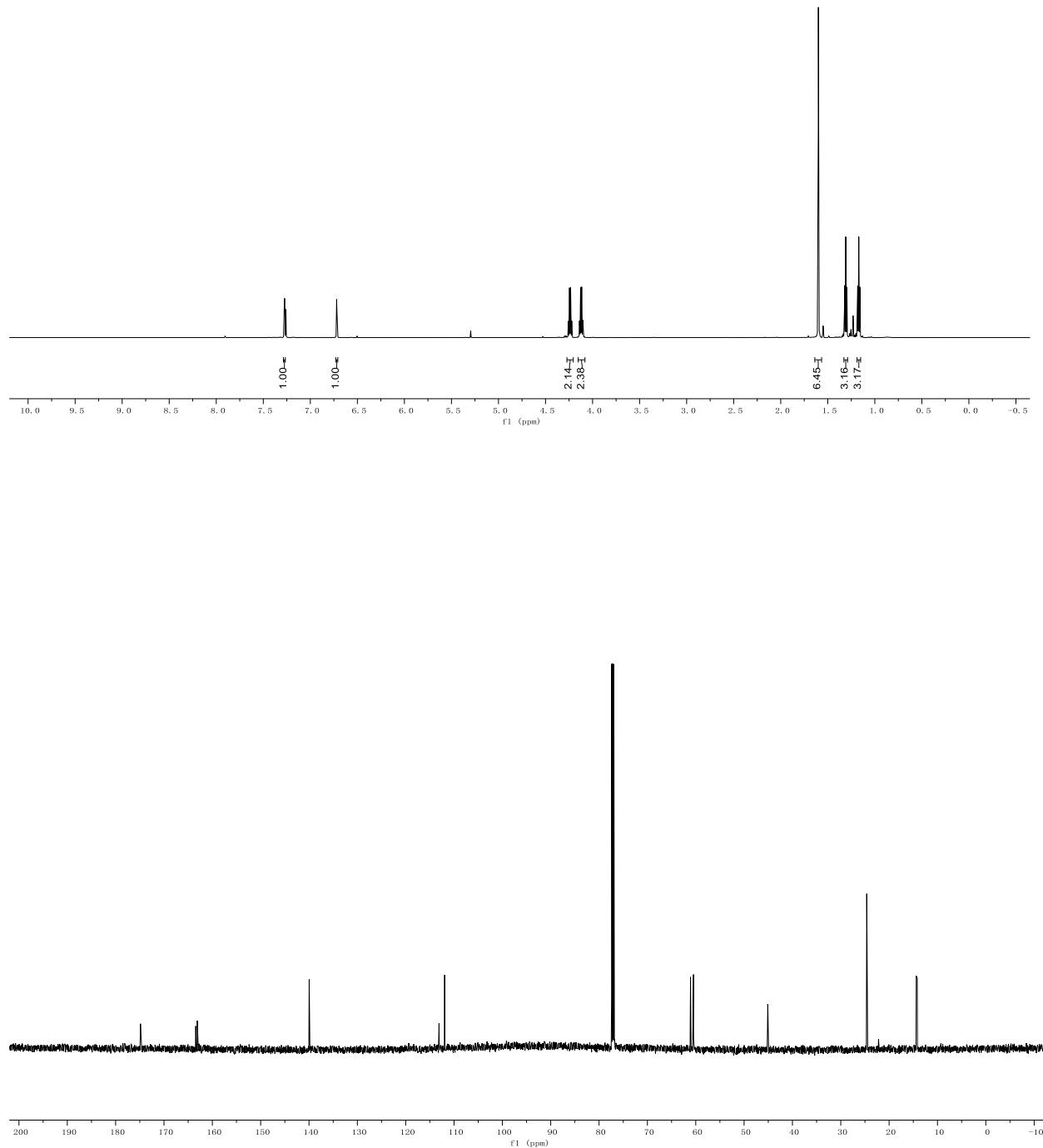
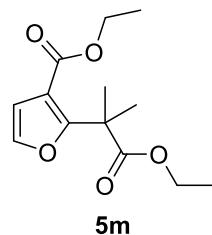


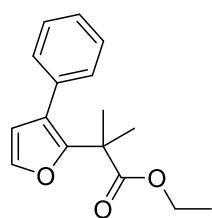


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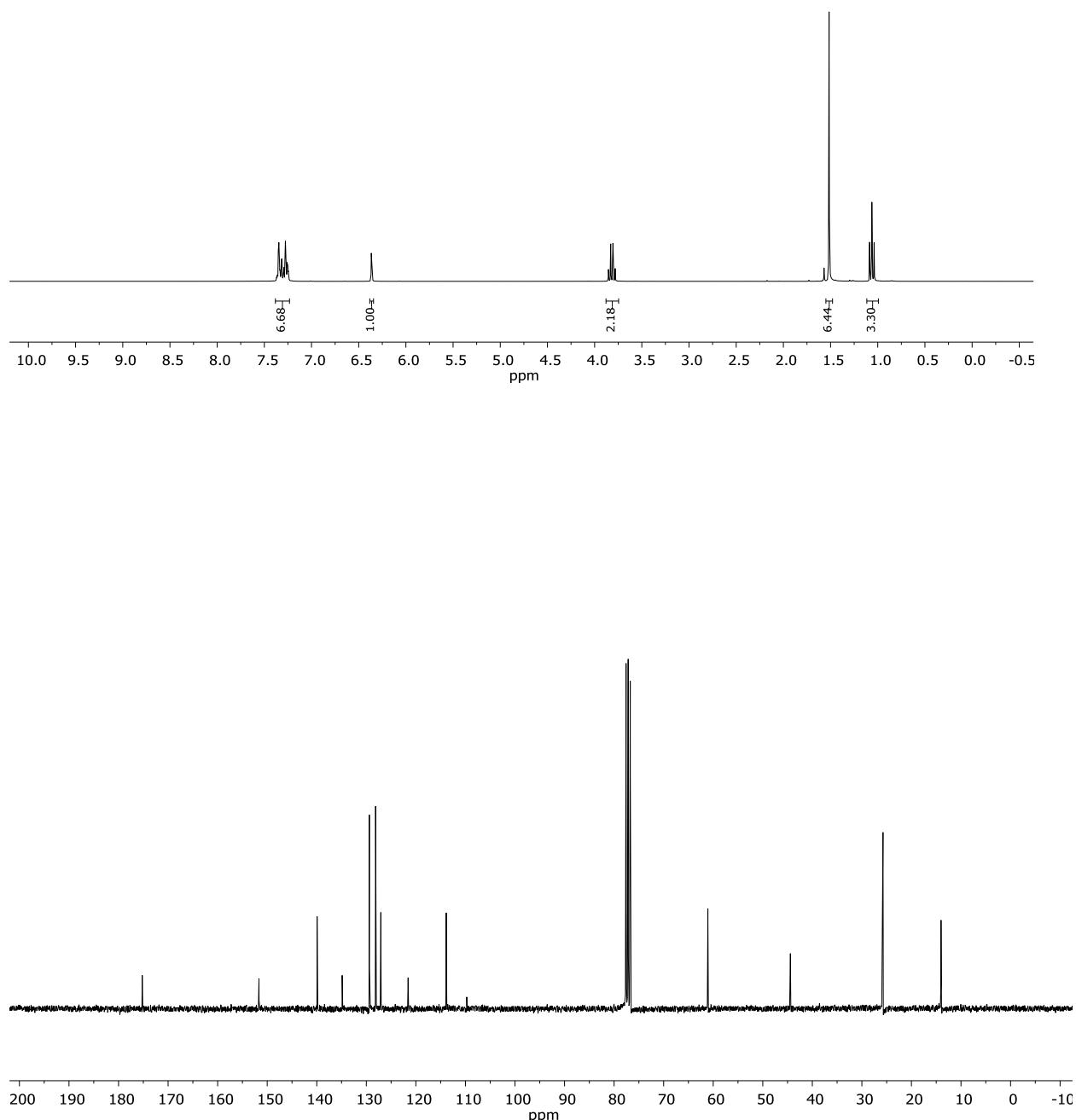


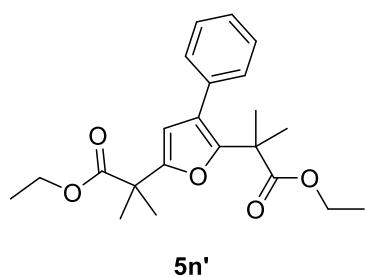




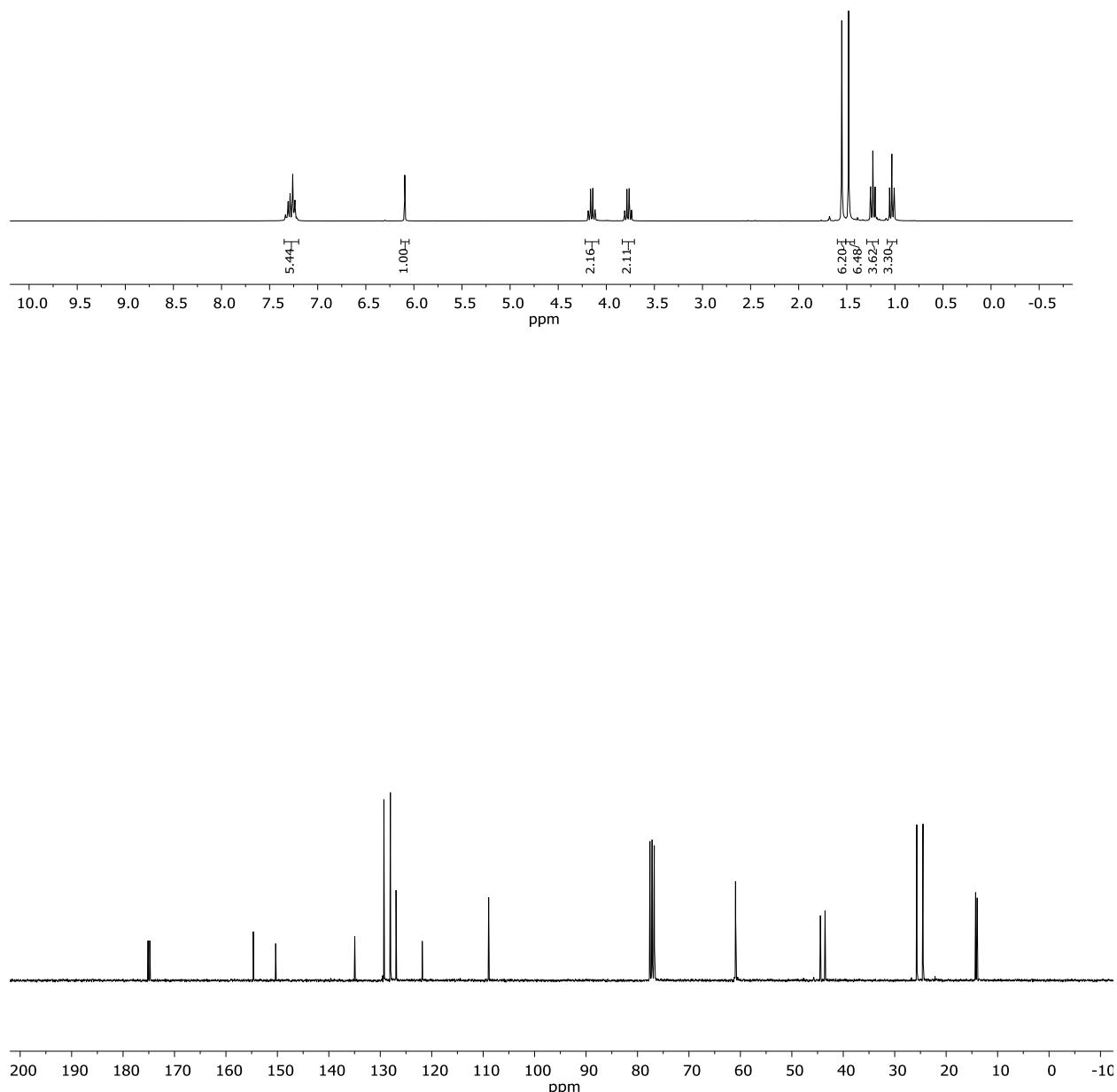


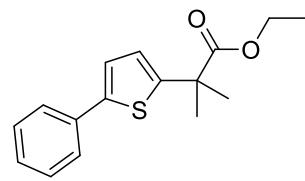
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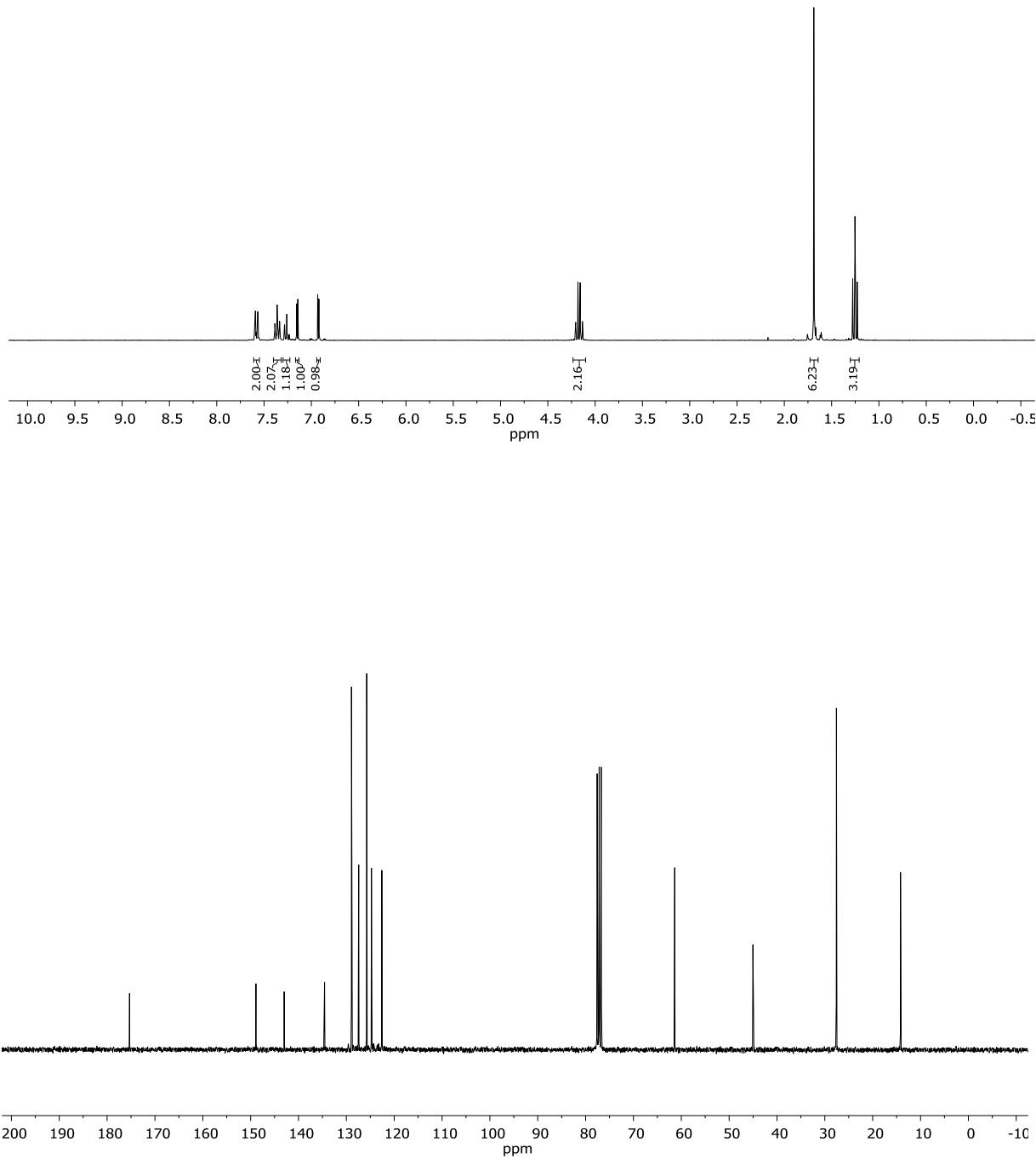


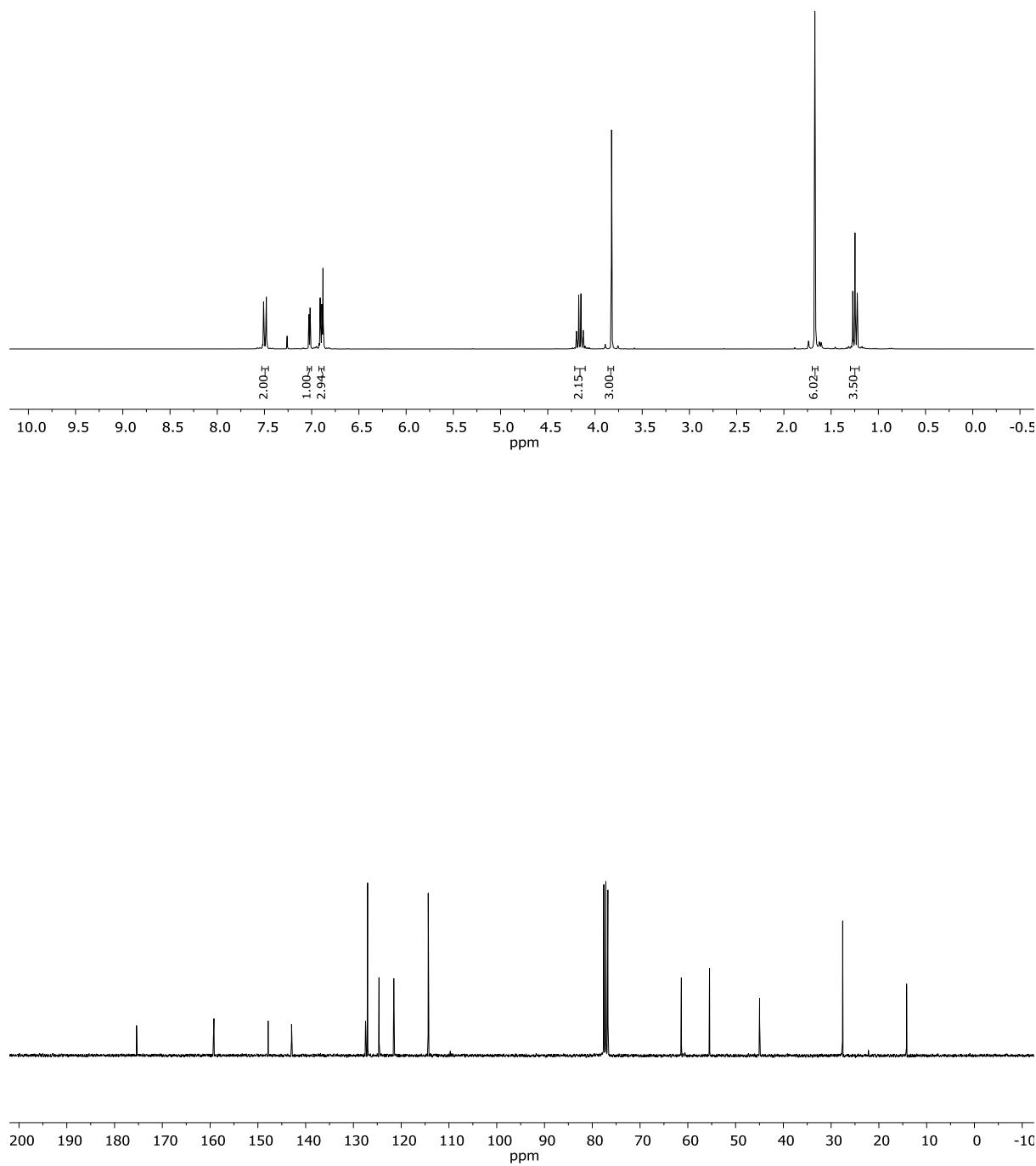
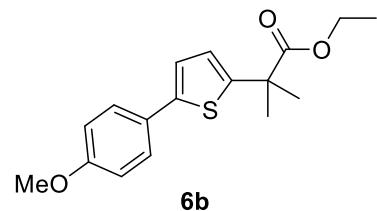
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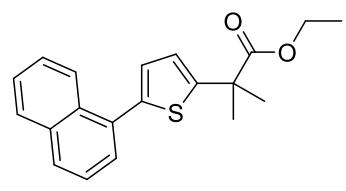




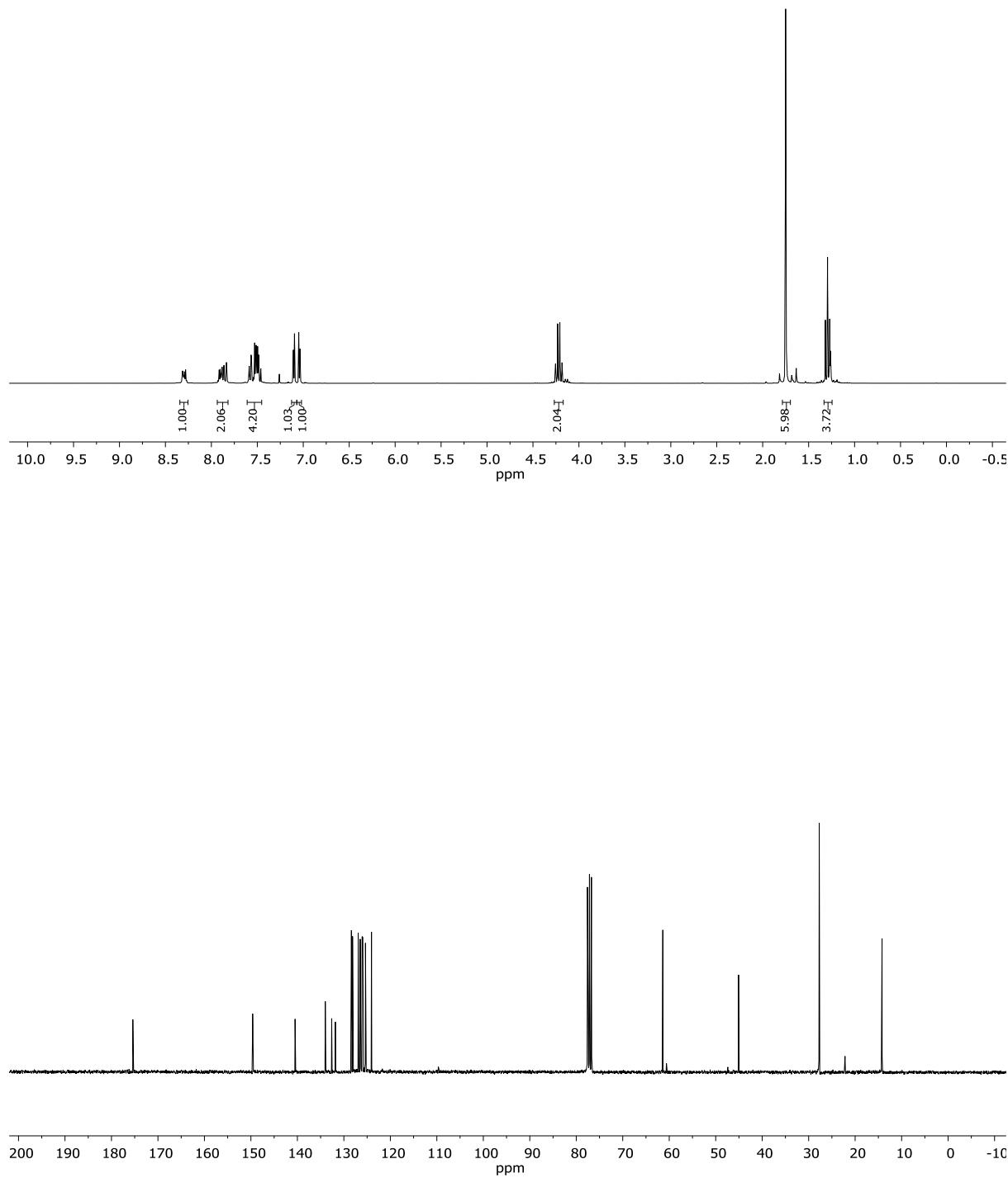
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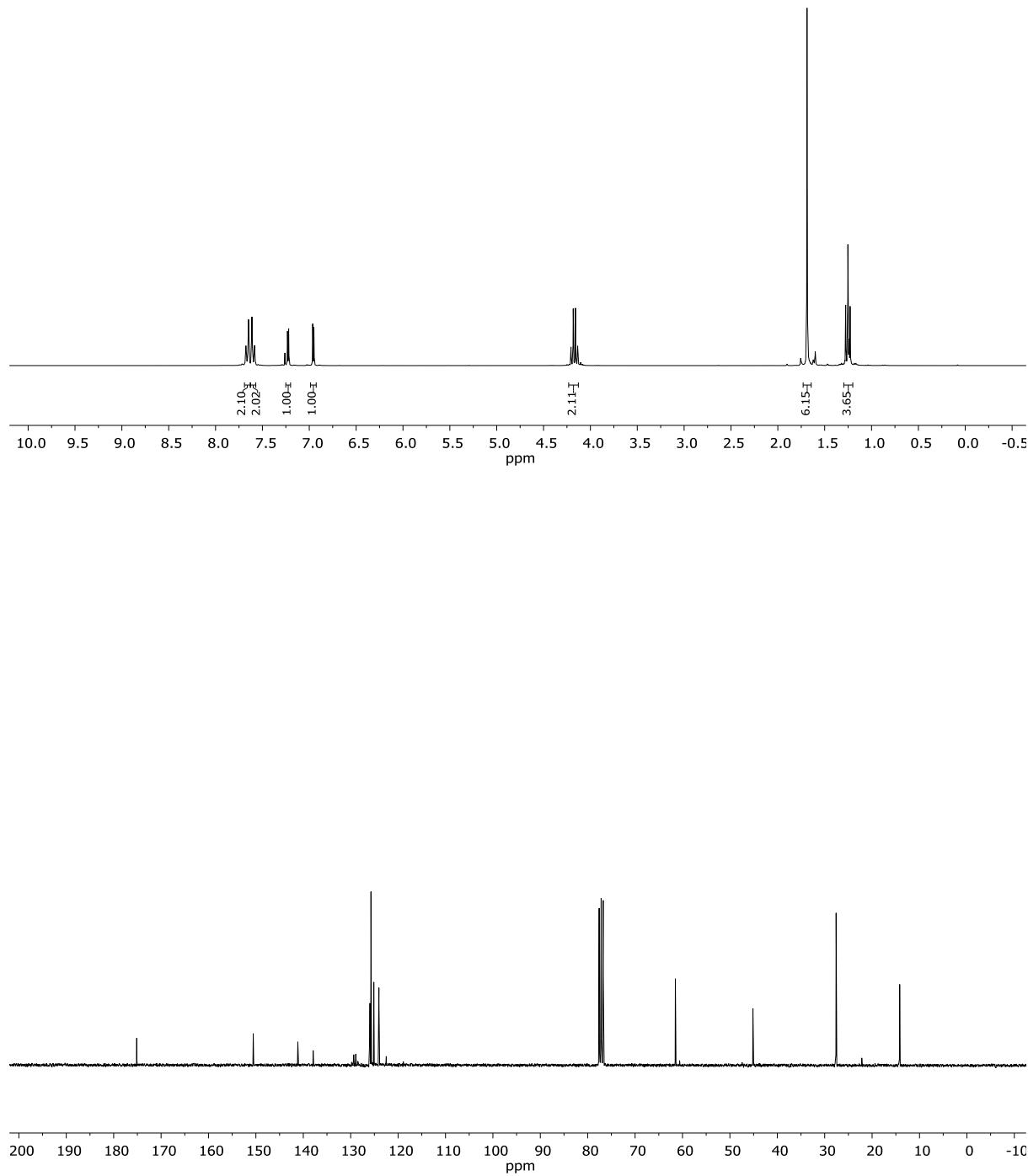
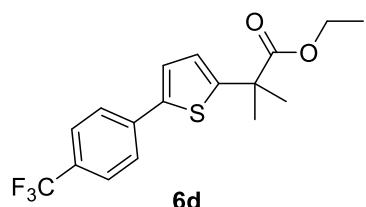


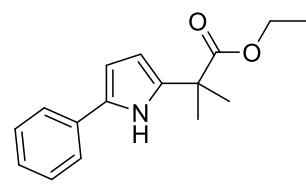




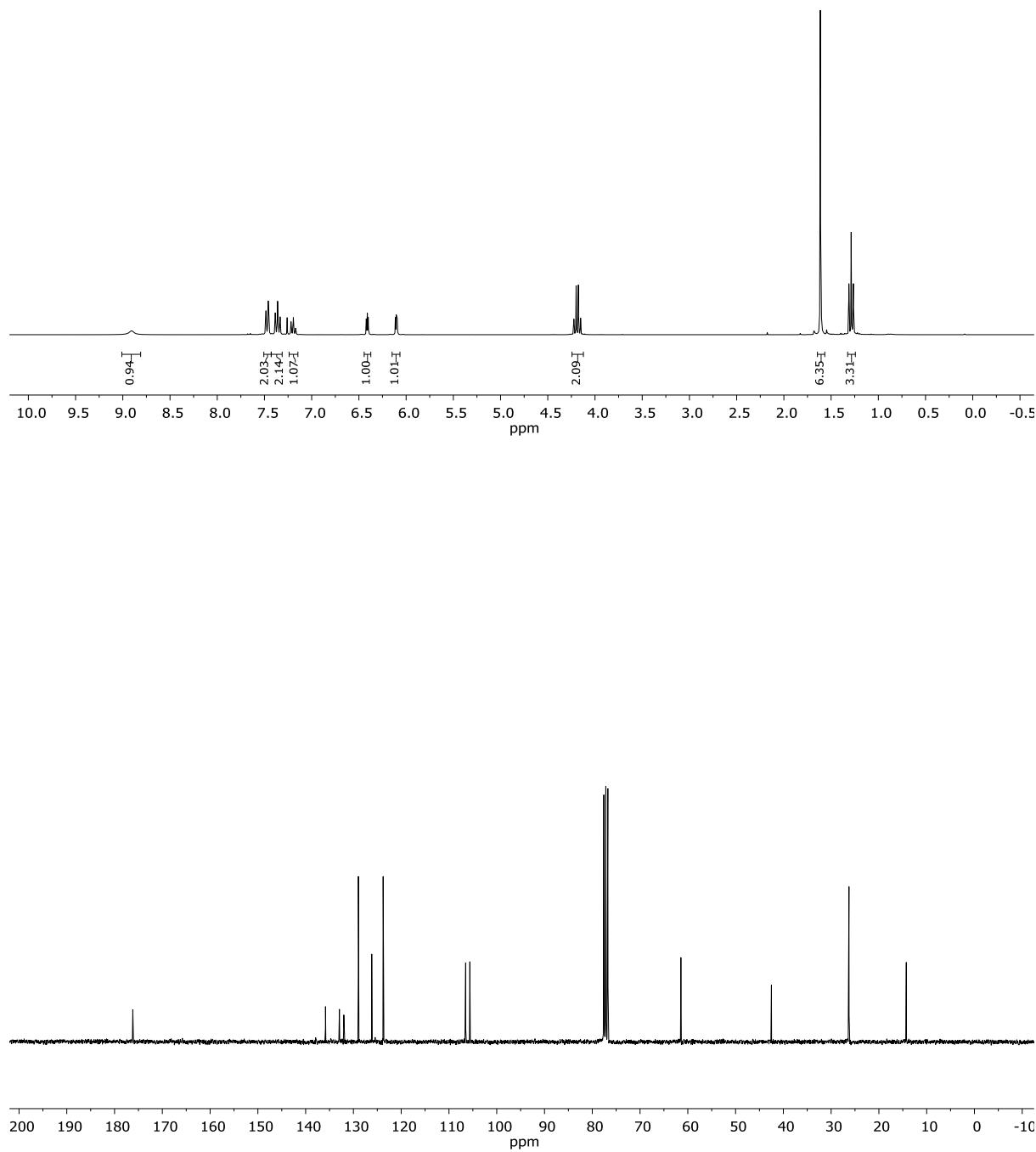
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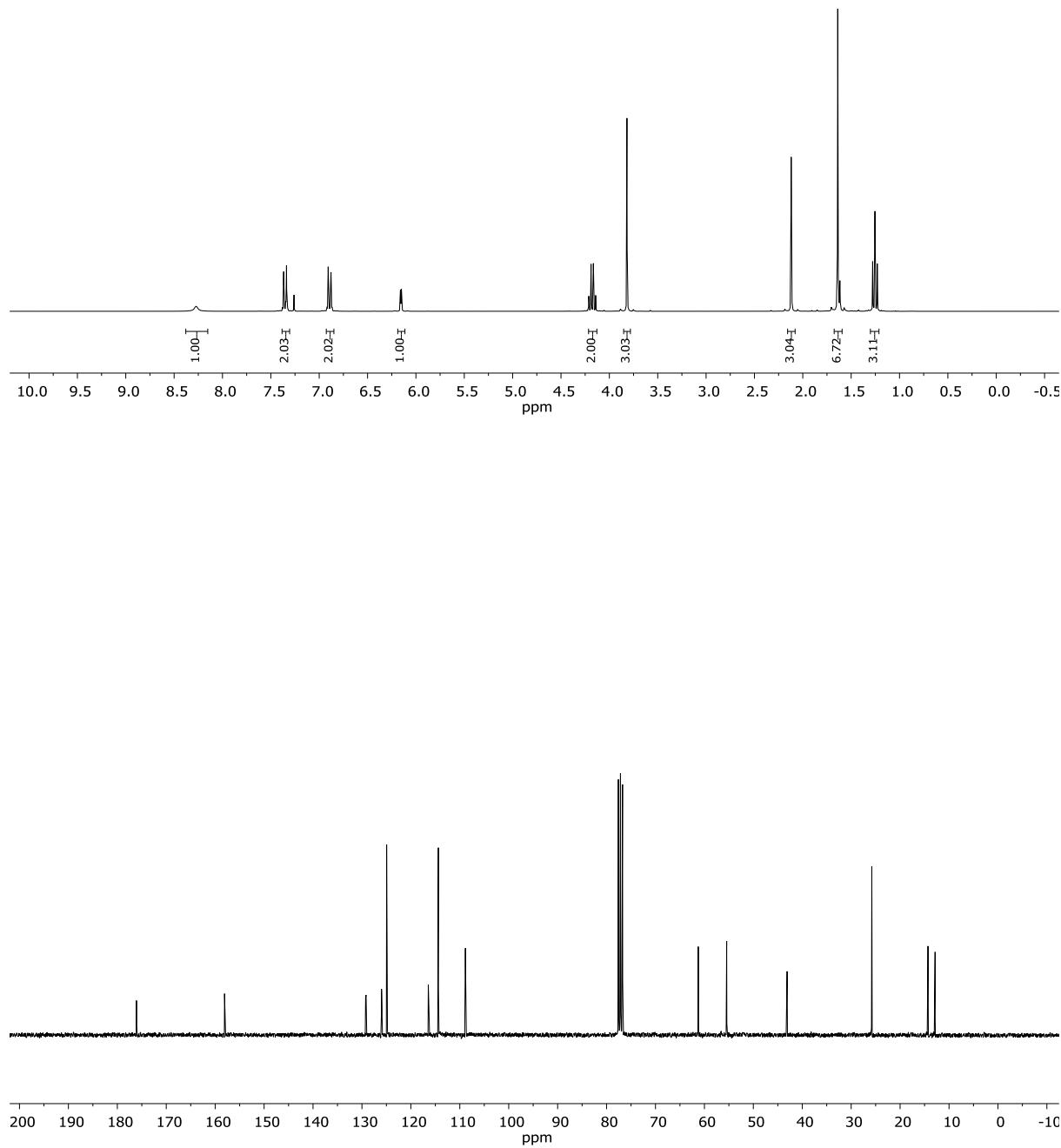
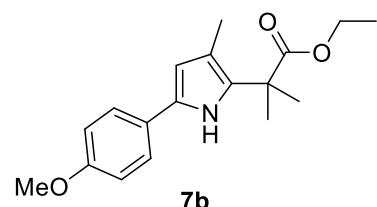


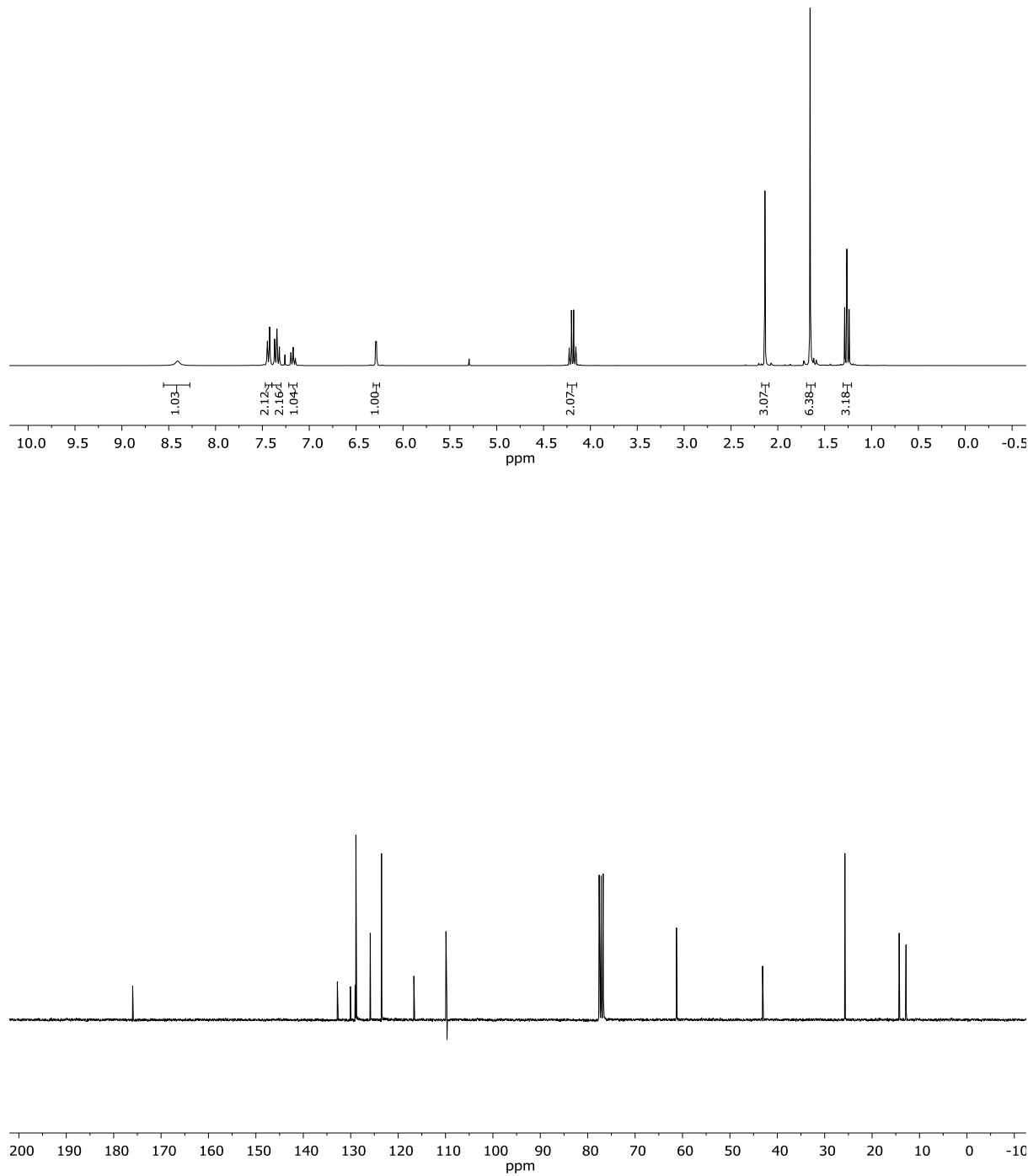
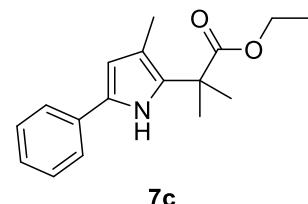


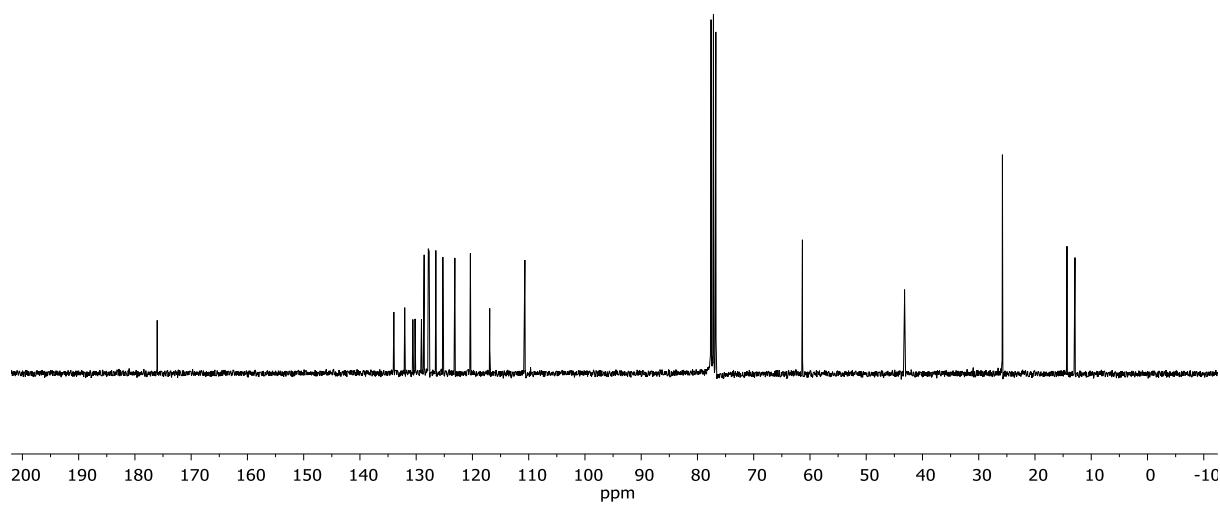
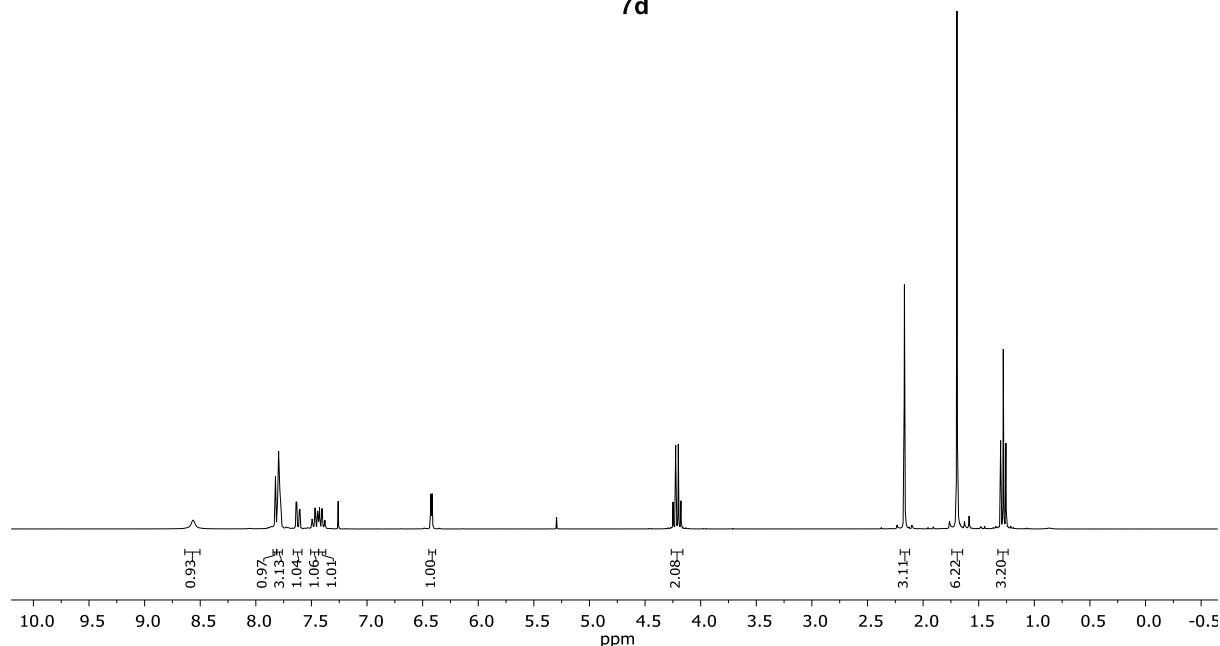
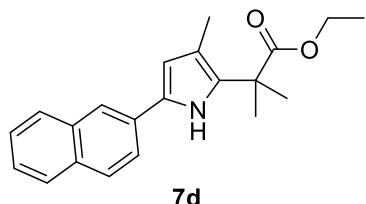


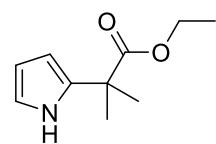
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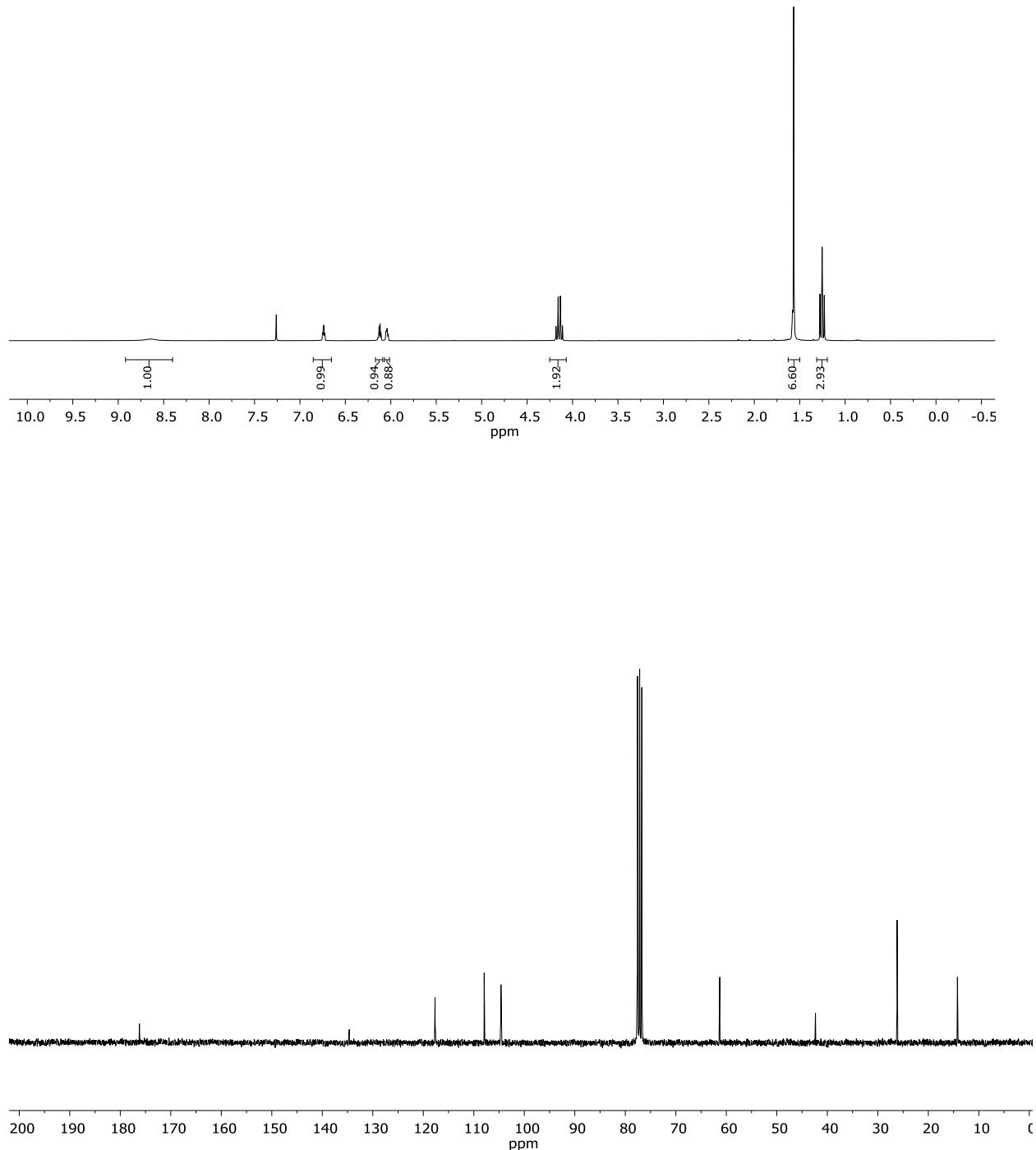


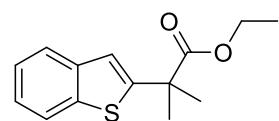




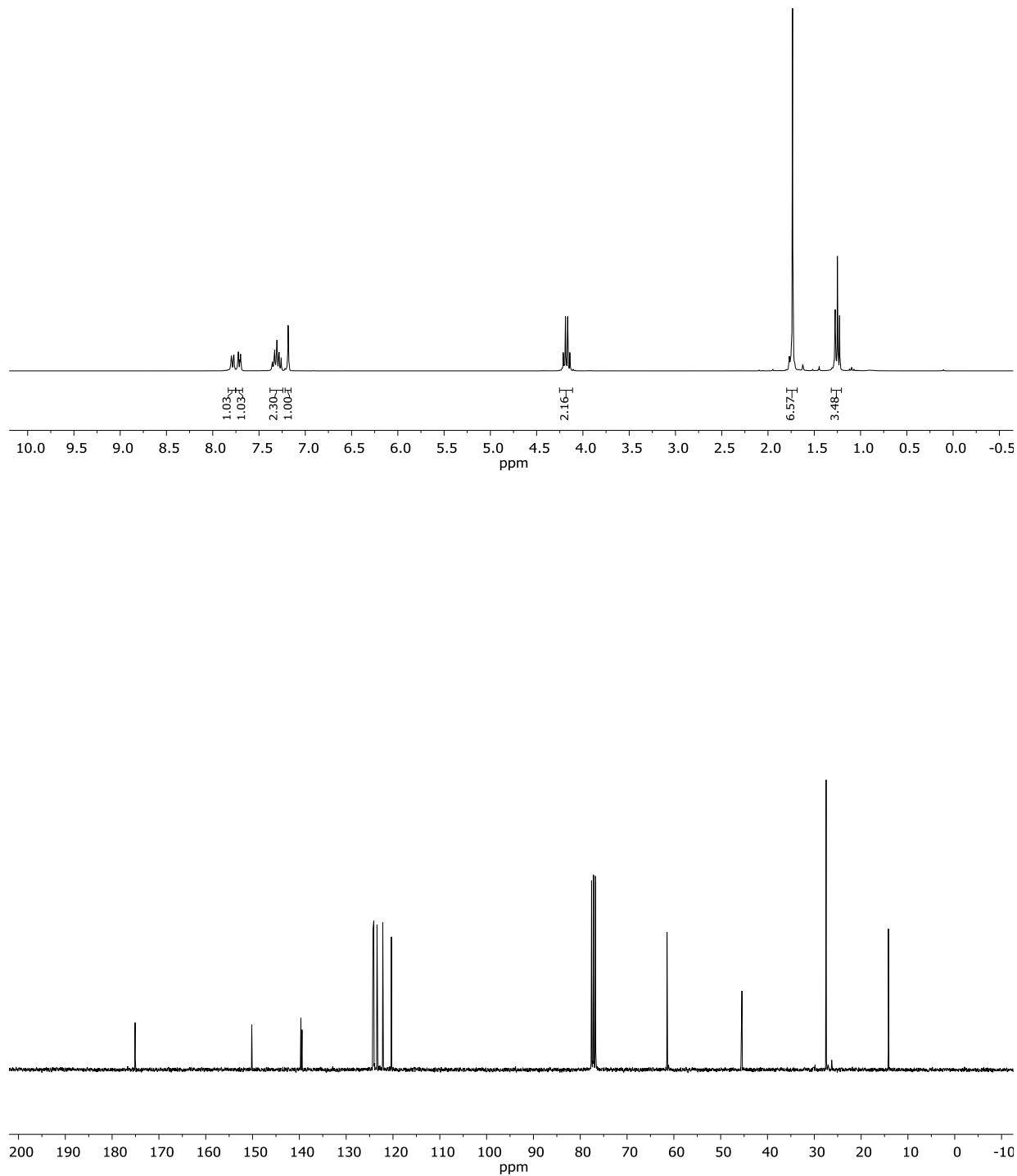


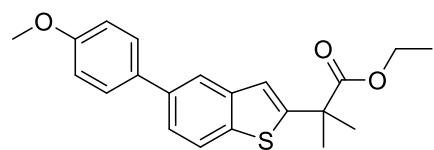
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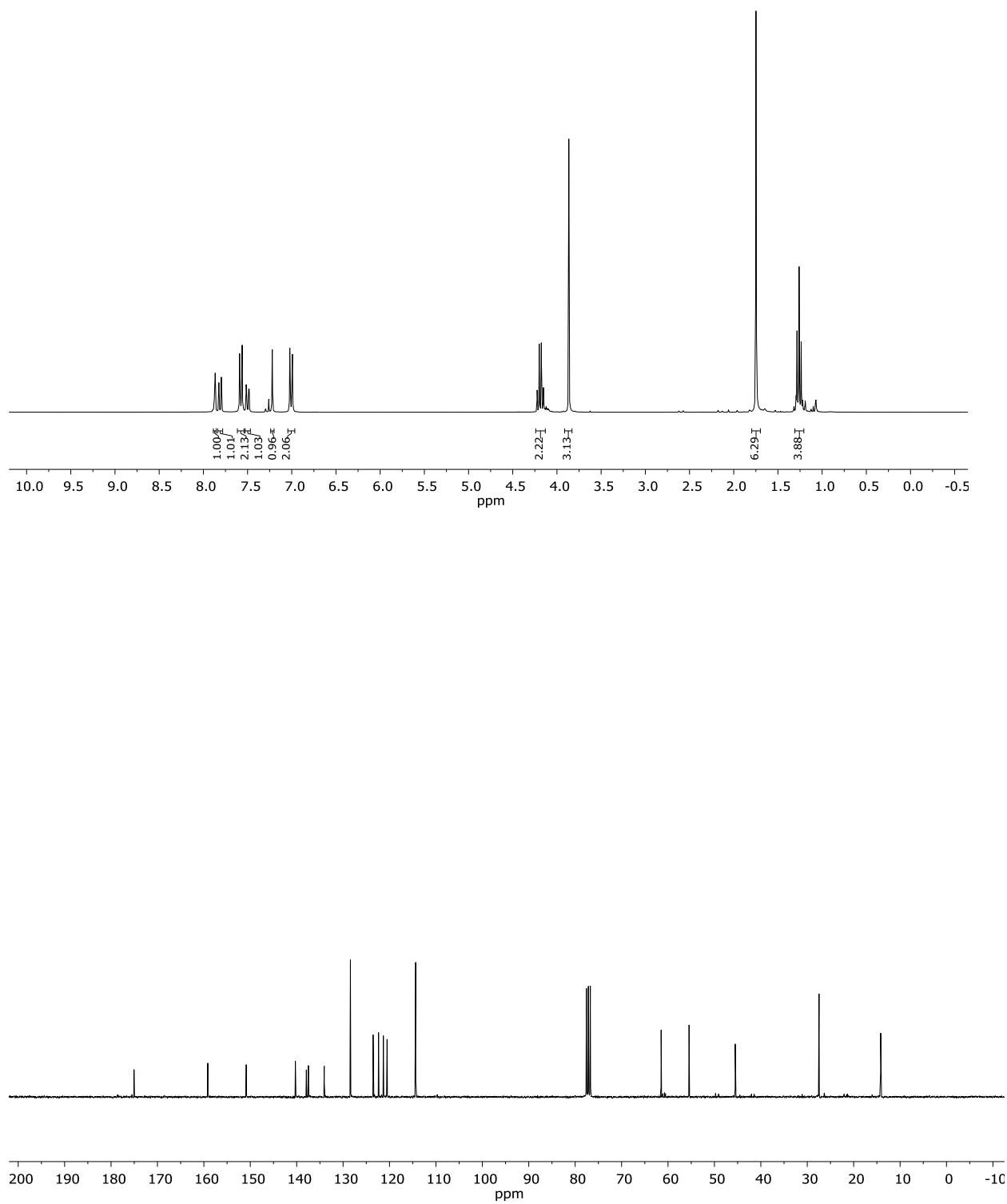


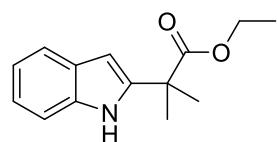
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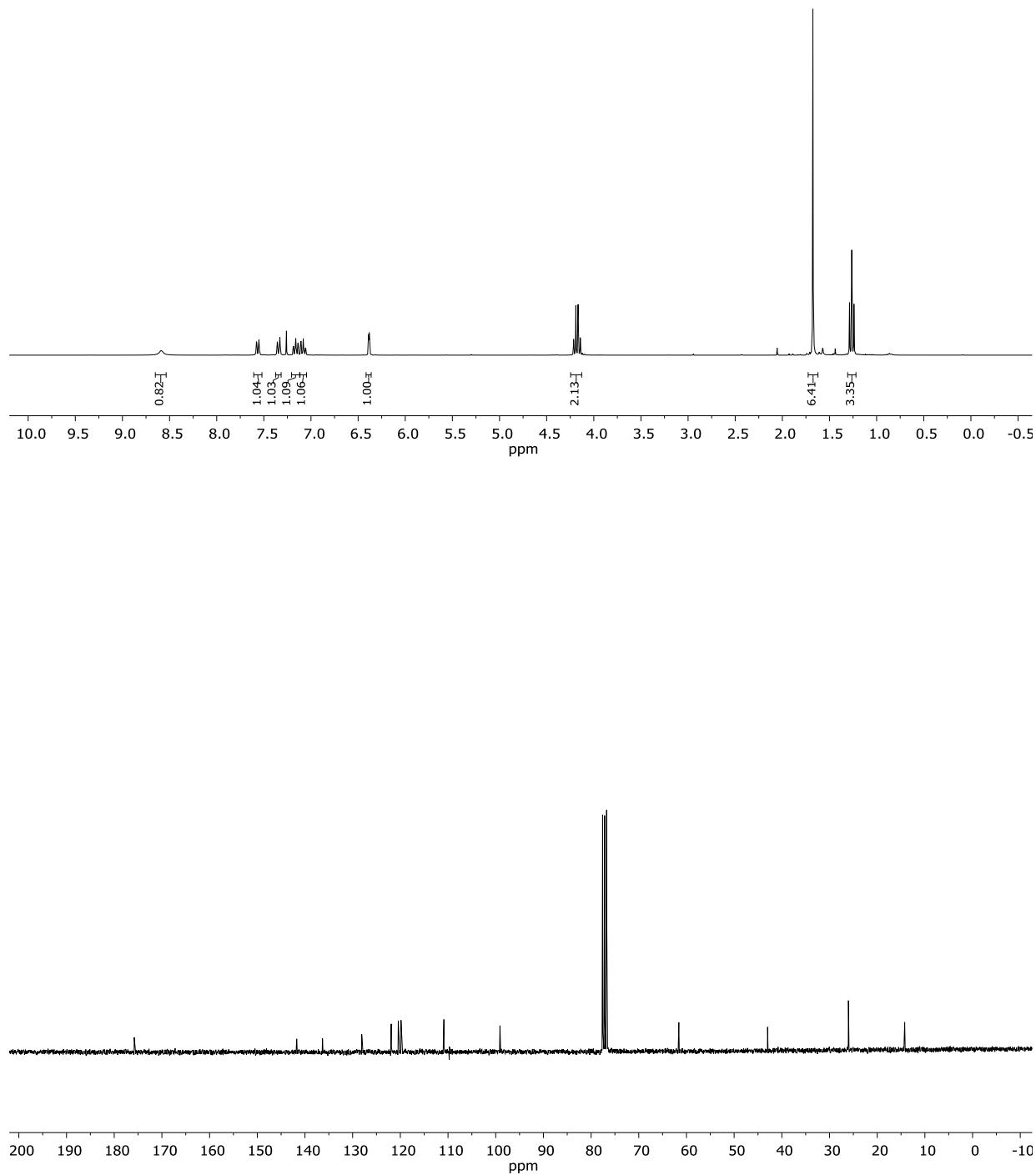


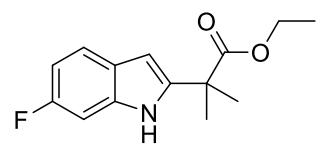
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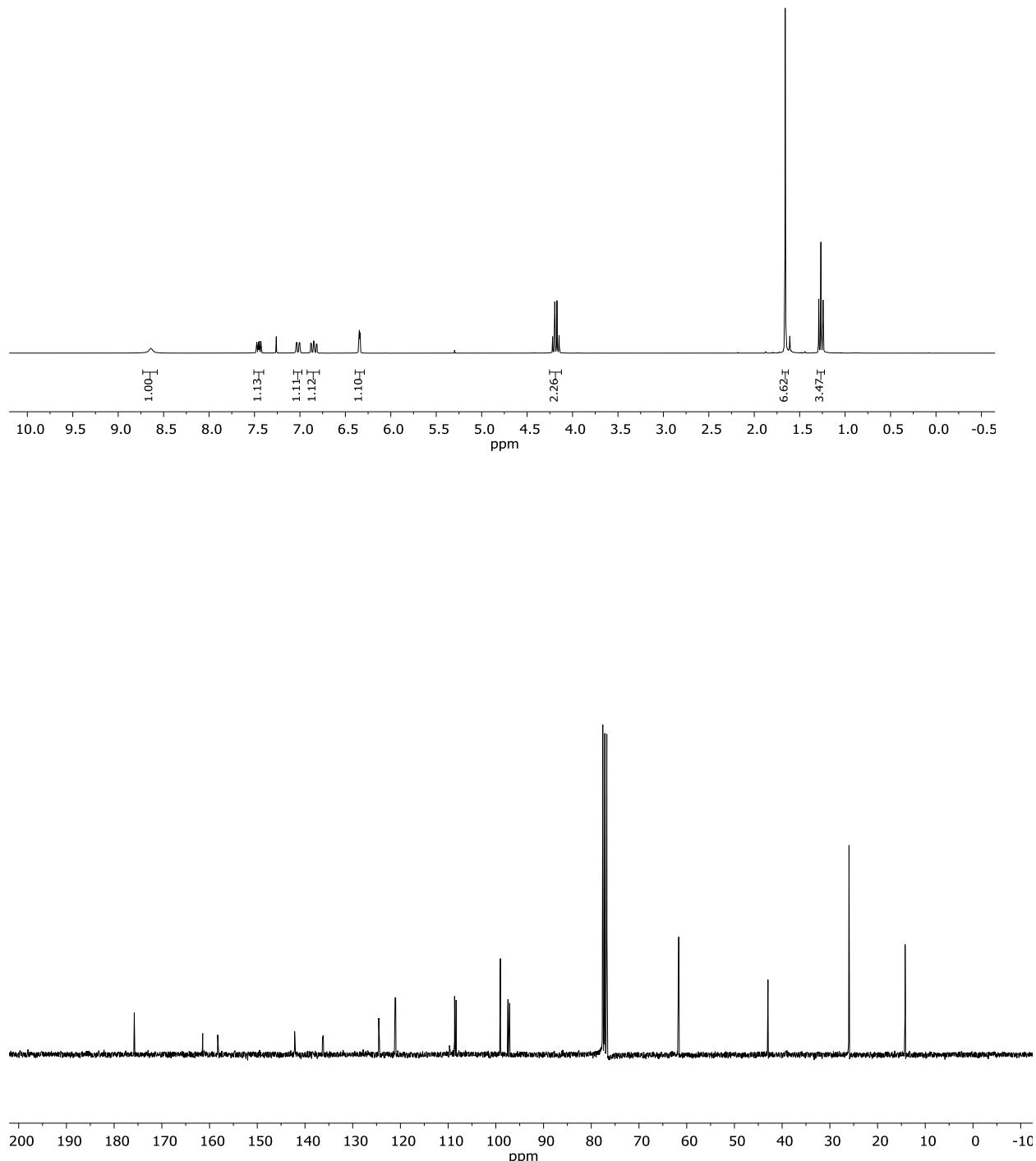


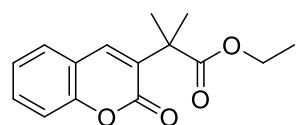
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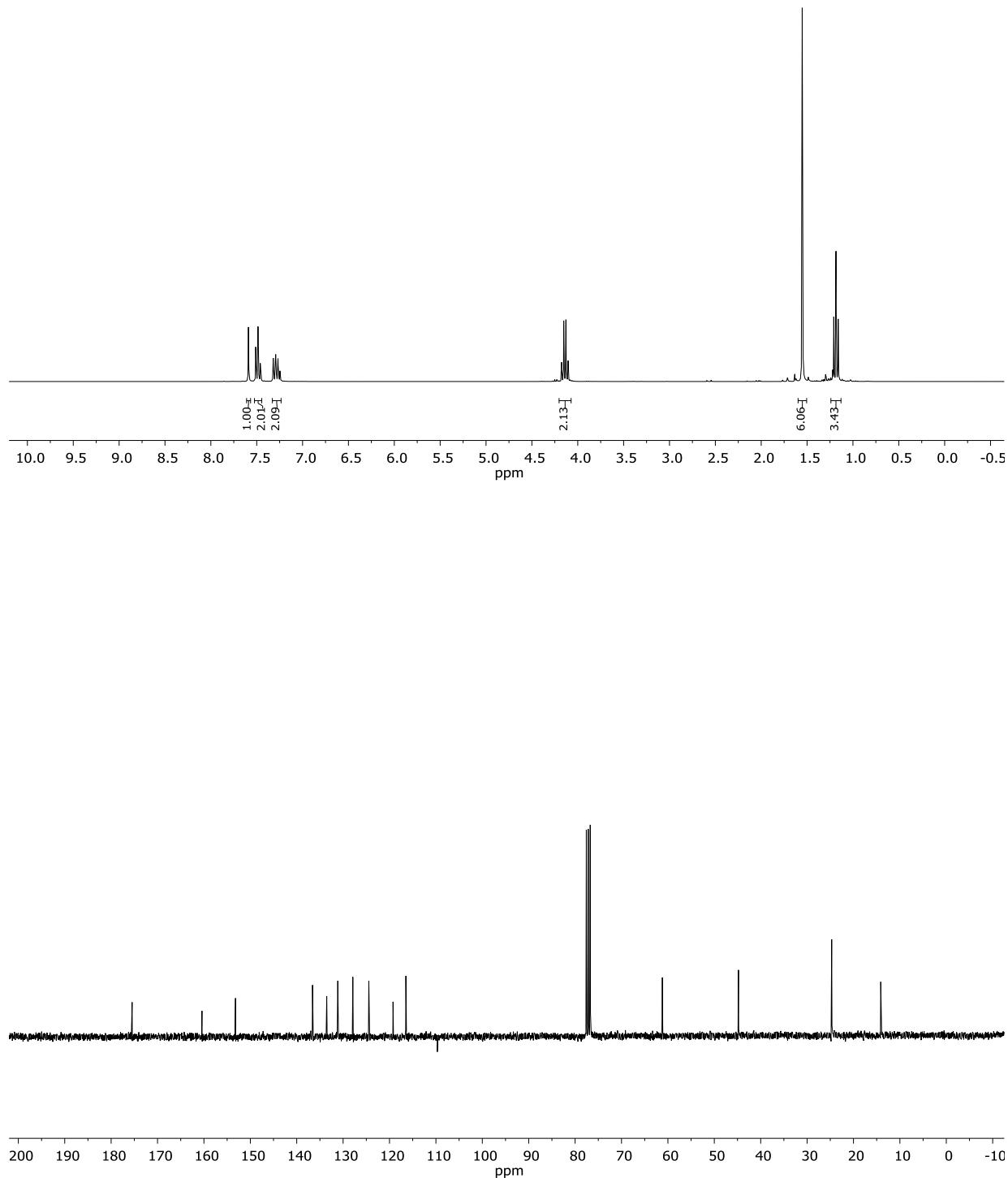


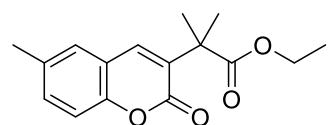
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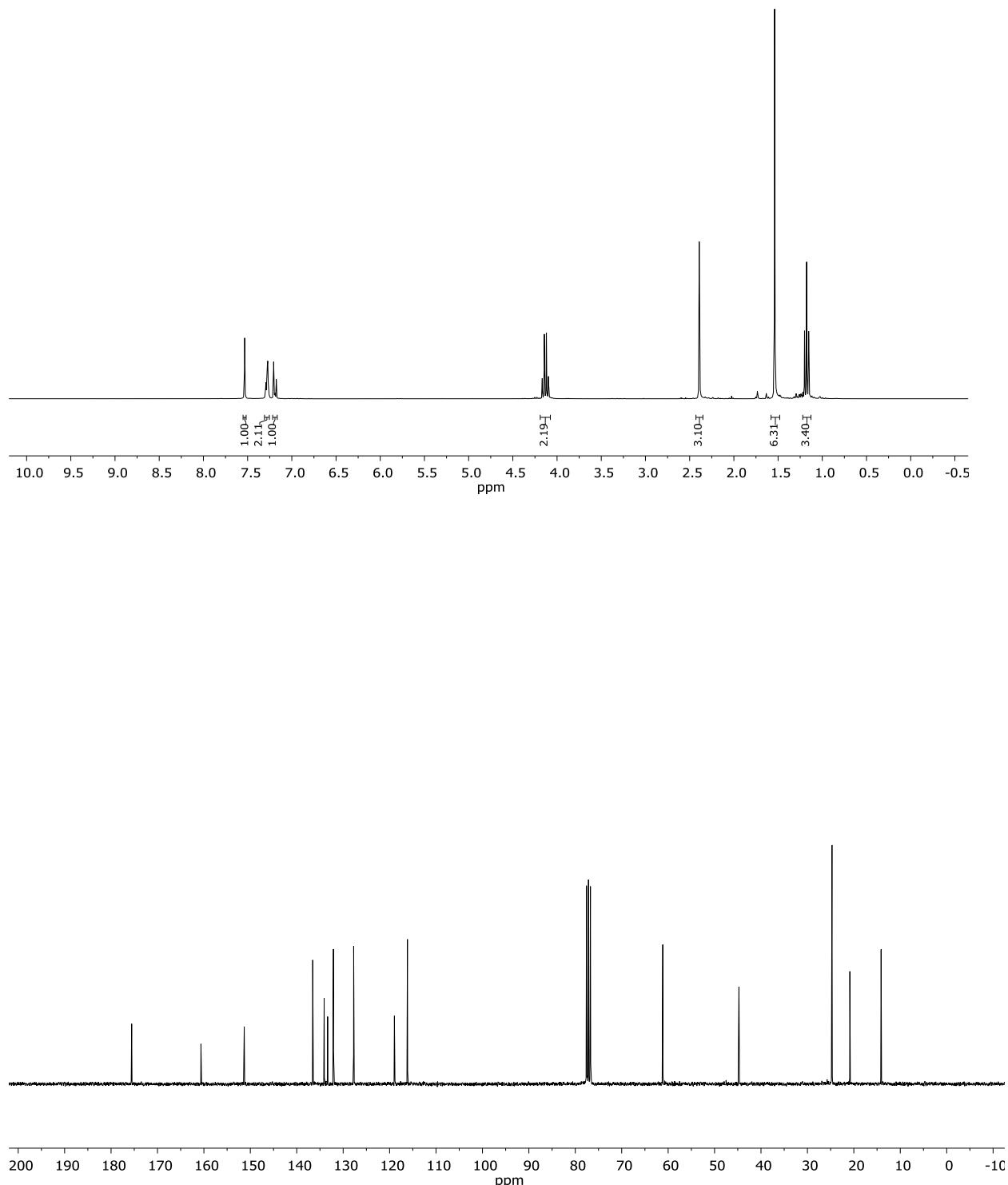


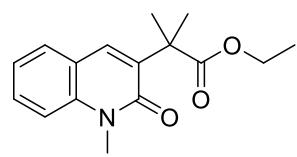
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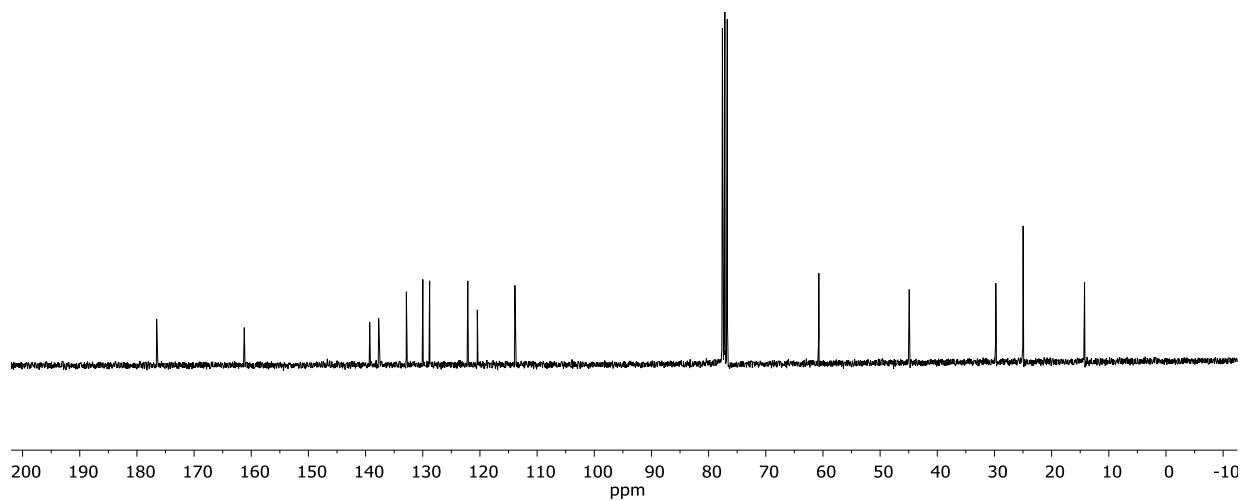
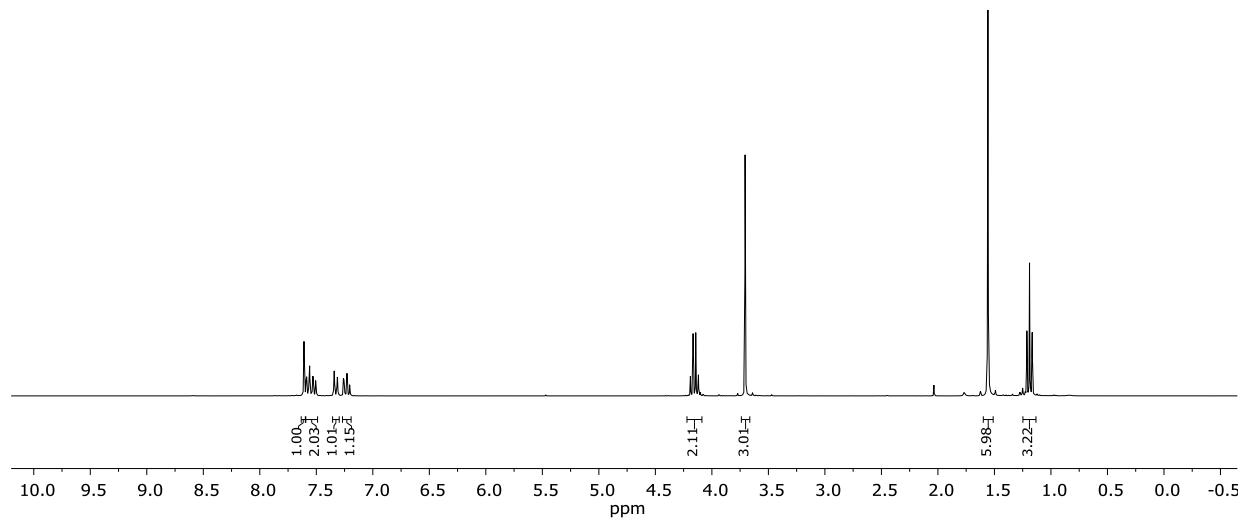


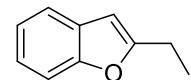
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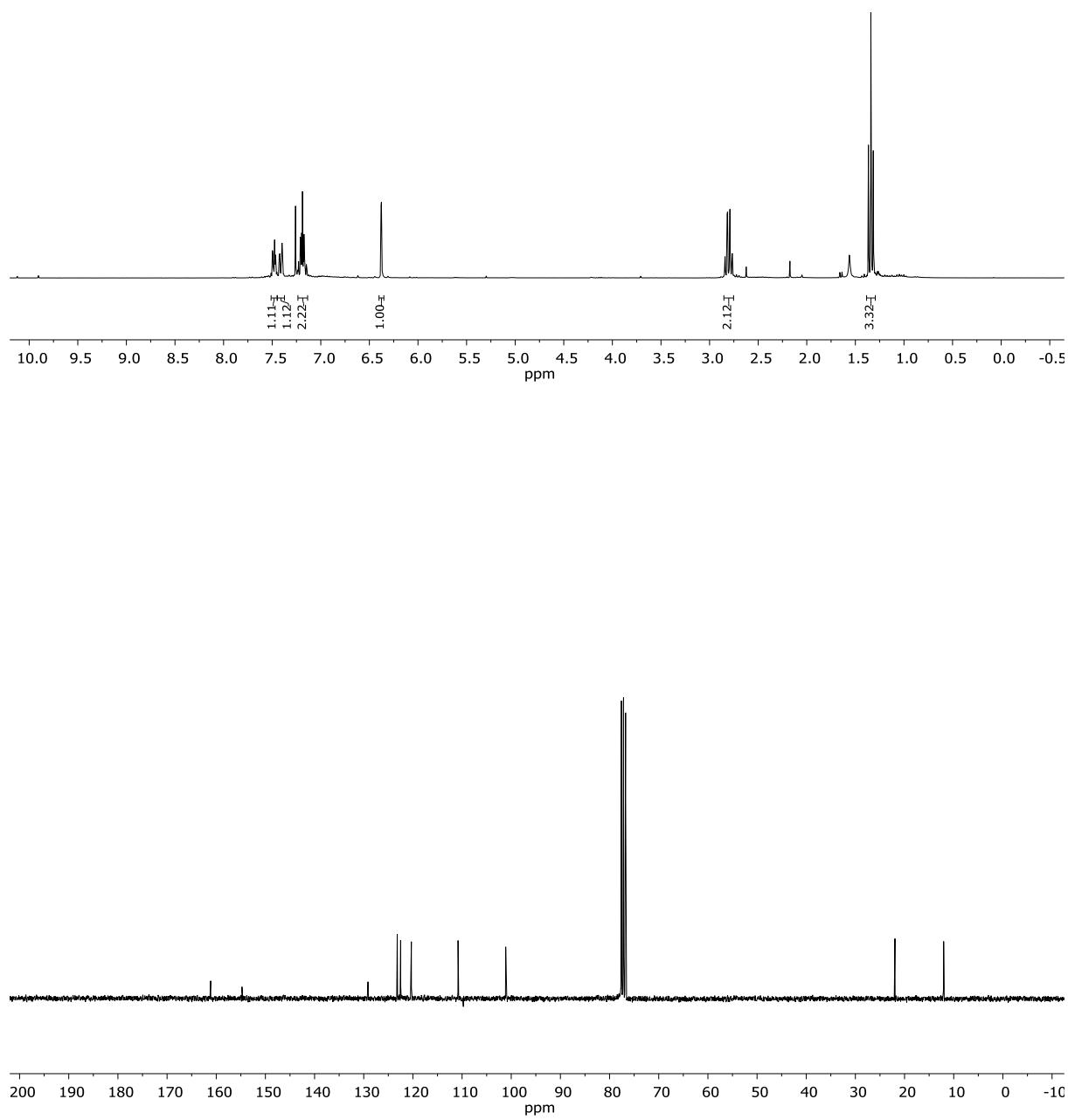


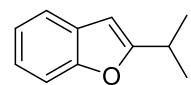
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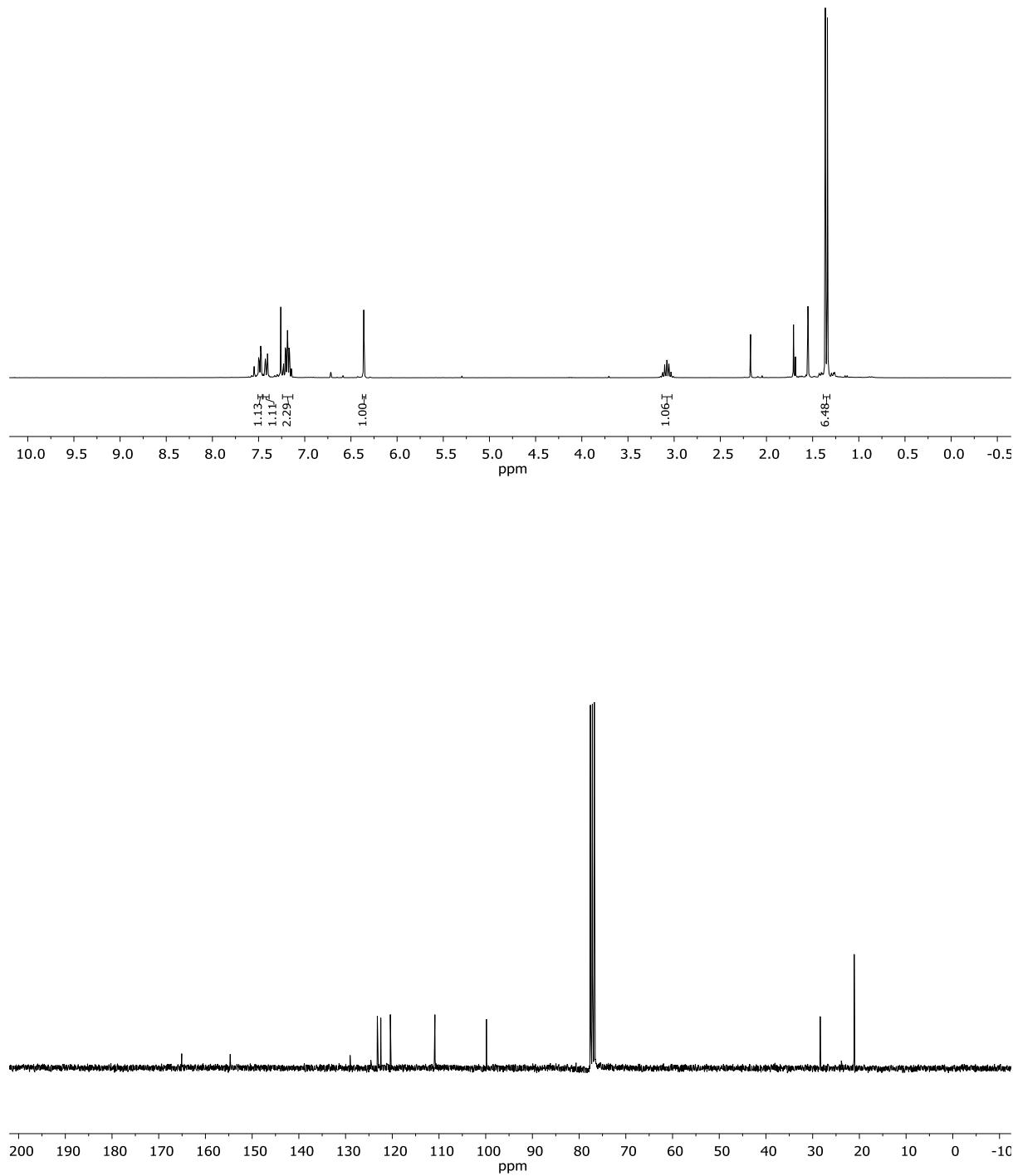


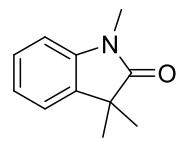
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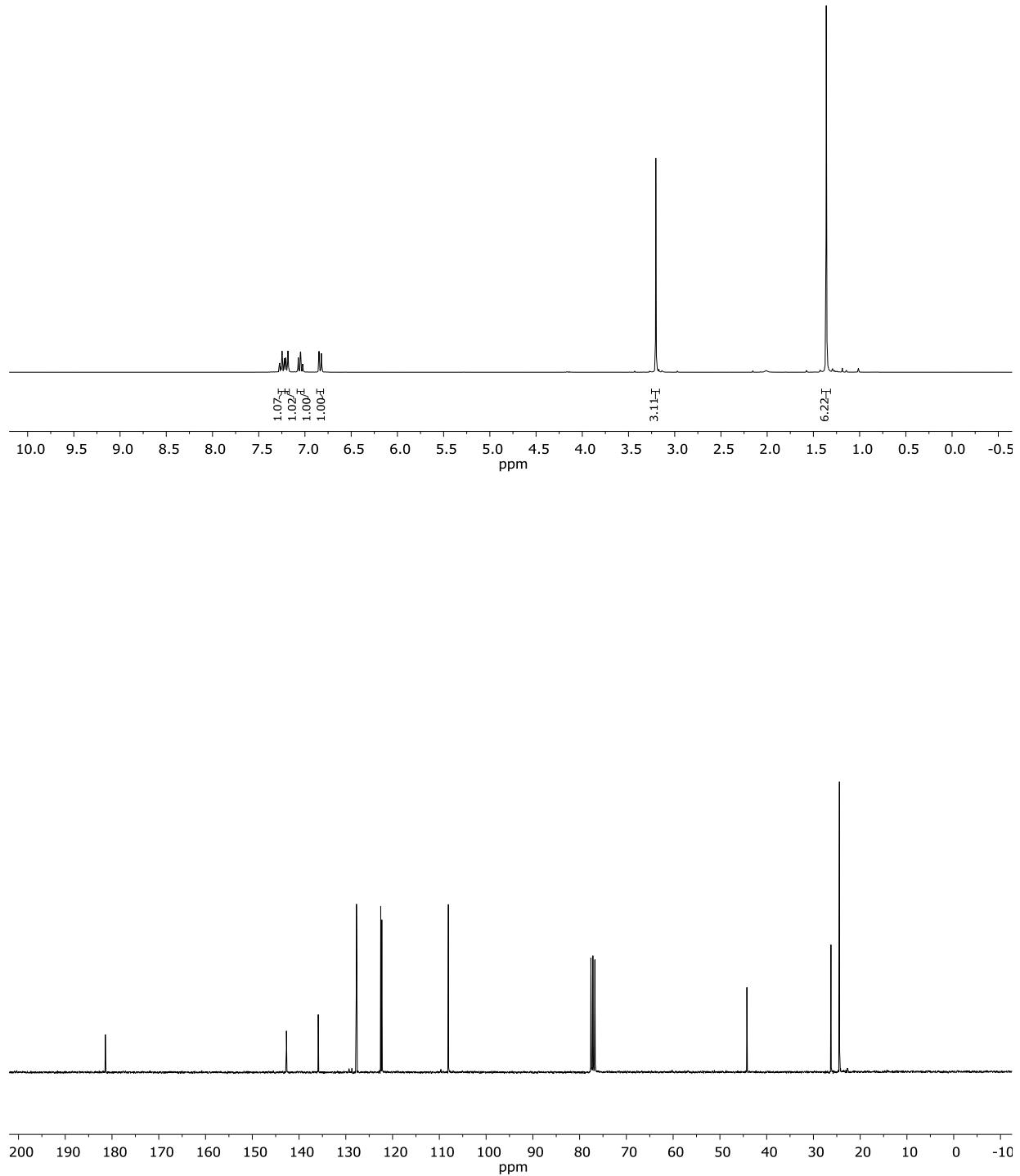


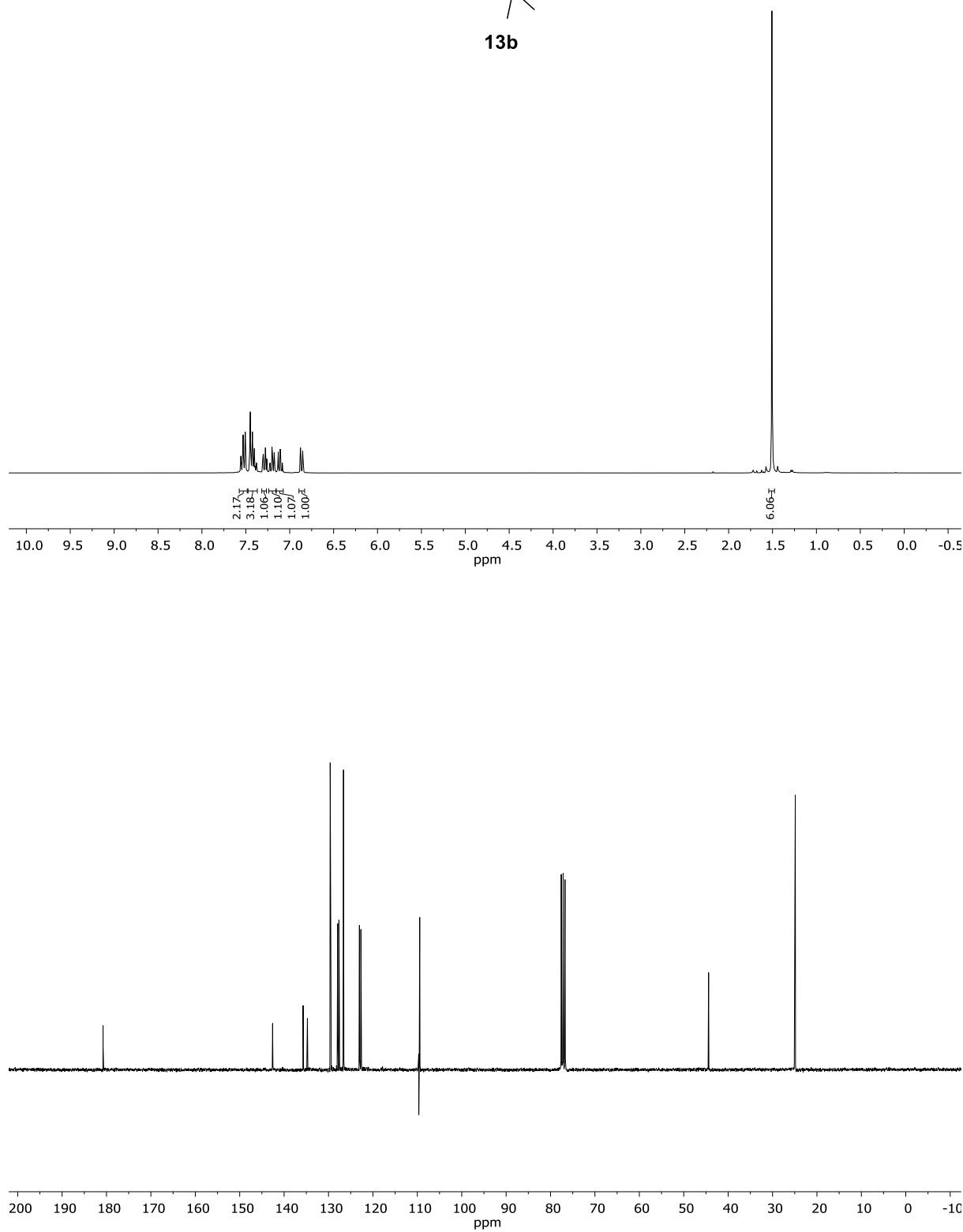
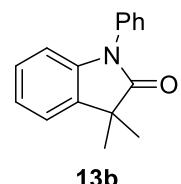
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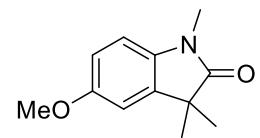




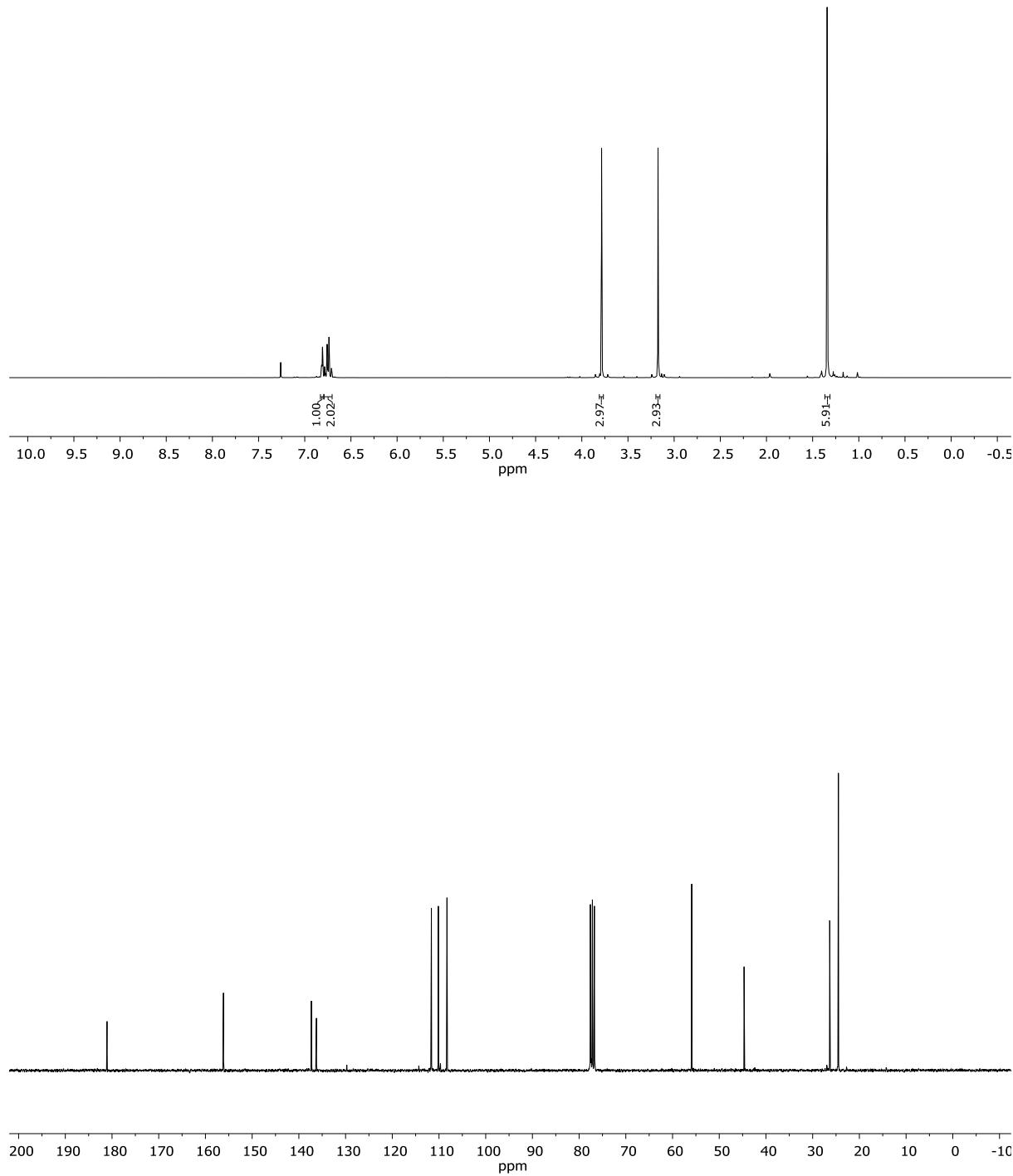
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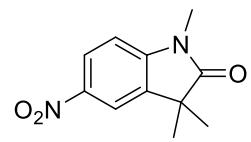




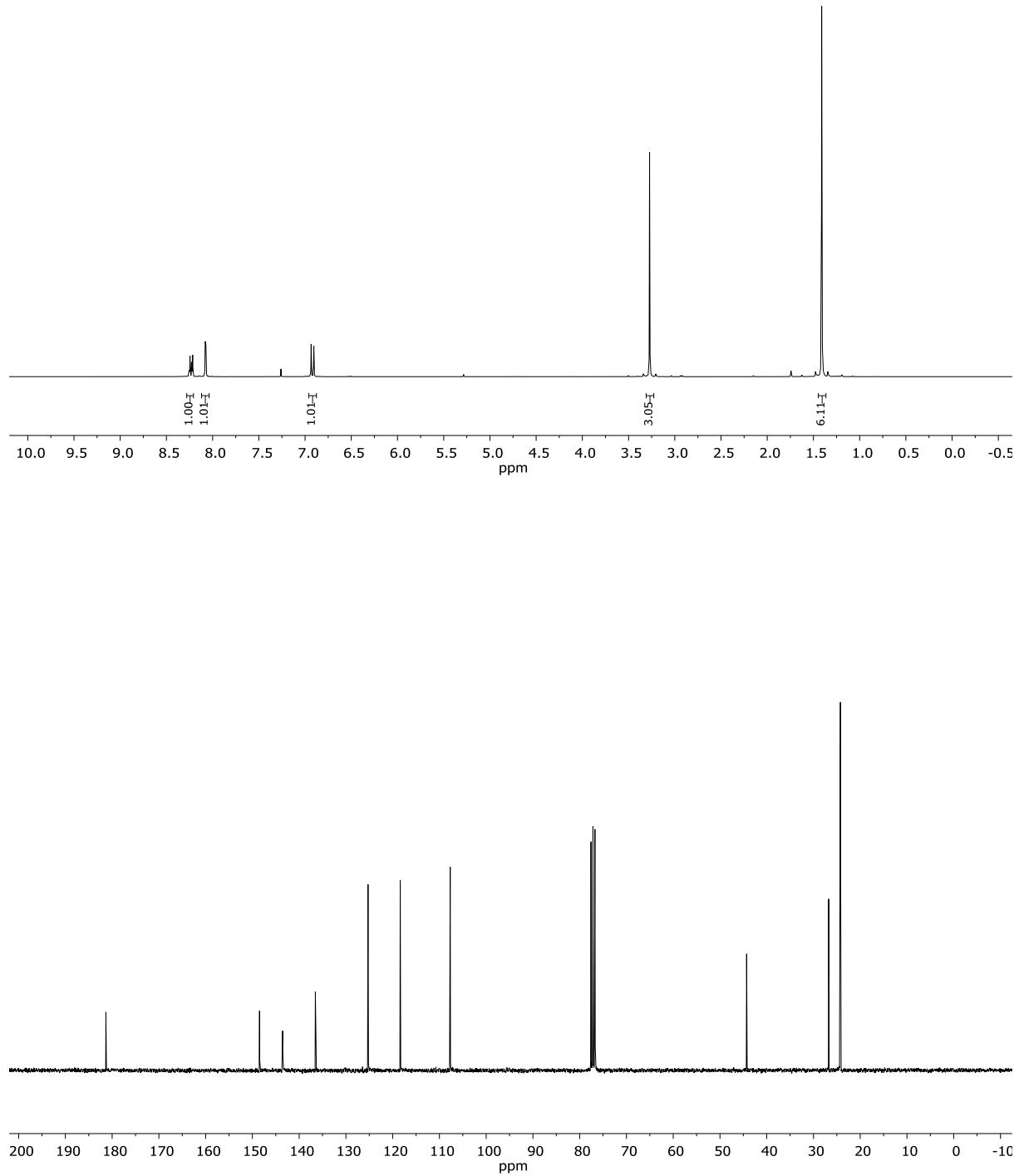


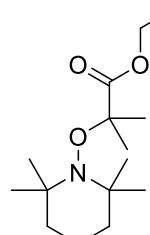
13c





13d





14

