

## Electronic Supporting Information

### Tailor-made synthesis of fully alkylated/arylated nicotينات by FeCl<sub>3</sub>-mediated condensation of enamino esters with enones

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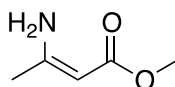
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## 1. General information

Unless otherwise noted, all reagents were commercially supplied and were used without further purification.  $\alpha,\beta$ -Unsaturated ketones **2b**,<sup>1</sup> **2e-2g**,<sup>2</sup> **2h-2i**,<sup>3</sup> **2j**,<sup>4</sup> **2k-2m**,<sup>5</sup> **2s-2u**,<sup>6</sup> **13**,<sup>7</sup> and enamino esters **1b-1d**<sup>8</sup> were synthesized in from 72% to quantitative yields according to the method in the literature, respectively. <sup>1</sup>H and <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectra were recorded on a Bruker DPX-400 spectrometer (400 and 100 MHz, respectively) in CDCl<sub>3</sub> using tetramethylsilane as an internal standard. <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectroscopic data are reported as follows: chemical shift ( $\delta$ , ppm), chemical shift multiplicities: s = singlet, d = doublet, t = triplet, q = quartet, m = multiplet, integration, coupling constant (Hz). <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectroscopic data are reported in terms of chemical shift ( $\delta$ , ppm), and assignment was performed by DEPT experiment. Infrared spectra were recorded with a Shimadzu IR Affinity-1 spectrometer, and data are reported in frequency of absorption (wave numbers). High-resolution mass spectra were obtained with a AB SCIEX TripleTOF 4600 mass spectrometer. Melting points were recorded with a Stanford Research Systems MPA100 melting point apparatus. Microwave irradiation was used by Anton Paar Monowave 300.

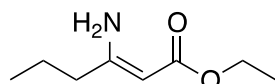
## 2. Spectral data of enamino esters 1

**Methyl 3-amino-2-butenolate (1a)**<sup>9</sup> White solid, mp 75–76 °C,  $R_f$  = 0.33 (silica gel, hexane/EtOAc = 8:2). <sup>1</sup>H NMR



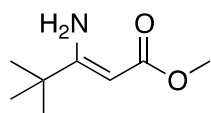
(400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  1.90 (s, 3H), 3.63 (s, 3H), 4.52 (s, 1H), 4.1–5.3 (br, 1H), 7.5–8.5 (br, 1H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  22.5 (CH<sub>3</sub>), 50.2 (CH<sub>3</sub>), 84.0 (CH), 159.9 (C), 170.7 (C); IR (ATR/cm<sup>-1</sup>): 3458, 1667, 1557.

**Ethyl 3-amino-2-hexenoate (1b)**<sup>10</sup> Yellow oil,  $R_f$  = 0.32 (silica gel, hexane/EtOAc = 8/2). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)



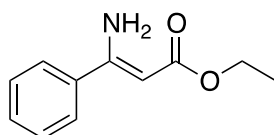
$\delta$  0.94 (t,  $J$  = 7.2 Hz, 3H), 1.25 (t,  $J$  = 7.2 Hz, 3H), 1.55 (tq,  $J$  = 7.2, 7.2 Hz, 2H), 2.09 (t,  $J$  = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 4.10 (q,  $J$  = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 4.2–5.7 (br, 1H), 4.53 (s, 1H), 7.3–8.4 (br, 1H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  13.7 (CH<sub>3</sub>), 14.7 (CH<sub>3</sub>), 21.3 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 38.5 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 58.7 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 83.7 (CH), 163.7 (C), 170.6 (C); IR (ATR/cm<sup>-1</sup>): 3333, 1667, 1557.

**Methyl 3-amino-4,4-dimethyl-2-pentenoate (1c)**<sup>11</sup> (1551.2 mg, 71% yield); Pale yellow oil,  $R_f$  = 0.55 (silica gel,



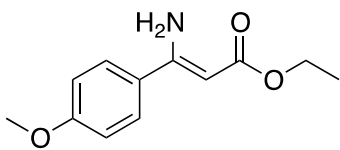
hexane/EtOAc = 8/2). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  1.17 (s, 9H), 3.64 (s, 3H), 4.66 (s, 1H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  28.9 (CH<sub>3</sub>), 35.9 (C), 50.2 (CH<sub>3</sub>), 80.0 (CH), 171.4 (C), 172.0 (C); IR (ATR/cm<sup>-1</sup>): 3331, 1668, 1557.

**Ethyl 3-amino-4-phenyl-2-butenolate (1d)**<sup>10</sup> Yellow oil,  $R_f$  = 0.38 (silica gel, hexane/EtOAc = 8/2). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400

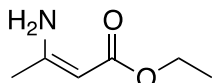


MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  1.29 (t,  $J$  = 7.2 Hz, 3H), 4.17 (q,  $J$  = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 4.96 (s, 1H), 7.40–7.43 (m, 3H), 7.53 (dd,  $J$  = 6.0, 2.0 Hz, 2H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  14.7 (CH<sub>3</sub>), 59.0 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 84.8 (CH), 126.2 (CH), 128.9 (CH), 130.3 (CH), 137.8 (C), 160.6 (C), 170.5 (C); IR (ATR/cm<sup>-1</sup>): 3326, 1661, 1557.

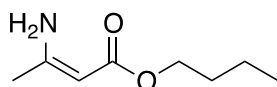
**Ethyl 3-amino-4-(4-methoxyphenyl)-2-butenolate (1e)**<sup>10</sup> Yellow oil,  $R_f = 0.21$  (silica gel, hexane/EtOAc = 8/2). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  1.29 (t,  $J = 7.2$  Hz, 3H), 3.83 (s, 3H), 4.17 (q,  $J = 7.2$  Hz, 2H), 4.93 (s, 1H), 6.91 (d,  $J = 8.8$  Hz, 2H), 7.49 (d,  $J = 8.8$  Hz, 2H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  14.8 (CH<sub>3</sub>), 55.5 (CH<sub>3</sub>), 59.0 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 84.0 (CH), 114.3 (CH), 127.7 (CH), 130.1 (C), 160.3 (C), 161.4 (C), 170.7 (C); IR (ATR/cm<sup>-1</sup>): 3323, 1645, 1557.



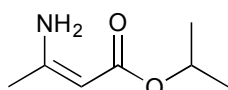
**Ethyl 3-amino-2-butenolate (1f)**<sup>9</sup> Colorless oil,  $R_f = 0.39$  (silica gel, hexane/EtOAc = 8/2). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  1.26 (t,  $J = 7.2$  Hz, 3H), 1.90 (s, 3H), 4.11 (q,  $J = 7.2$  Hz, 2H), 4.4–5.4 (br, 1H), 4.53 (s, 1H), 7.5–8.5 (br, 1H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  14.7 (CH<sub>3</sub>), 22.5 (CH<sub>3</sub>), 58.7 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 84.5 (CH), 159.7 (C), 170.4 (C); IR (ATR/cm<sup>-1</sup>): 3335, 1659, 1557.



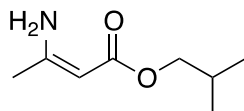
**Butyl 3-amino-2-butenolate (1g)**<sup>12</sup> Colorless oil,  $R_f = 0.31$  (silica gel, hexane/EtOAc = 8/2). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  0.93 (t,  $J = 7.2$  Hz, 3H), 1.39 (tq,  $J = 7.2, 7.2$  Hz, 2H), 1.61 (tt,  $J = 7.2, 7.2$  Hz, 2H), 1.89 (s, 3H), 4.05 (t,  $J = 7.2$  Hz, 2H), 4.3–5.2 (br, 1H), 4.53 (s, 1H), 7.4–8.5 (br, 1H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  13.9 (CH<sub>3</sub>), 19.4 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 22.5 (CH<sub>3</sub>), 31.3 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 62.7 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 84.5 (CH), 159.6 (C), 170.5 (C); IR (ATR/cm<sup>-1</sup>): 3439, 1667, 1566.



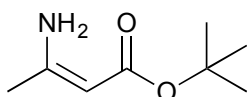
**2-Propyl 3-amino-2-butenolate (1h)**<sup>9</sup> Colorless oil,  $R_f = 0.31$  (silica gel, hexane/EtOAc = 8/2). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  1.23 (d,  $J = 6.4$  Hz, 6H), 1.89 (s, 3H), 3.9–4.9 (br, 1H), 4.50 (s, 1H), 5.01 (septet,  $J = 6.4$  Hz, 1H), 7.4–8.6 (br, 1H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  22.3 (CH<sub>3</sub>), 22.5 (CH<sub>3</sub>), 65.5 (CH), 85.0 (CH), 159.5 (C), 170.0 (C); IR (ATR/cm<sup>-1</sup>): 3439, 1667, 1566.



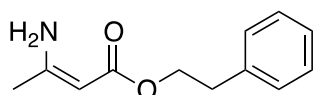
**2-Methyl-1-propyl 3-amino-2-butenolate (1i)**<sup>13</sup> Colorless oil,  $R_f = 0.32$  (silica gel, hexane/EtOAc = 8/2). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  0.93 (d,  $J = 6.8$  Hz, 6H), 1.90 (s, 3H), 1.91 (septet t,  $J = 6.8, 6.8$  Hz, 1H), 3.84 (d,  $J = 6.8$  Hz, 2H), 4.2–5.0 (br, 1H), 4.55 (s, 1H), 7.4–8.3 (br, 1H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  19.4 (CH<sub>3</sub>), 22.5 (CH<sub>3</sub>), 28.1 (CH), 69.1 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 84.5 (CH), 159.6 (C), 170.5 (C); IR (ATR/cm<sup>-1</sup>): 3330, 1667, 1557.



**2-Methyl-2-propyl 3-amino-2-butenolate (1j)**<sup>9</sup> Colorless oil,  $R_f = 0.39$  (silica gel, hexane/EtOAc = 8/2). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  1.46 (s, 9H), 1.86 (s, 3H), 4.2–5.1 (br, 1H), 4.46 (s, 1H), 7.3–8.3 (br, 1H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  22.5 (CH<sub>3</sub>), 28.8 (CH<sub>3</sub>), 78.3 (C), 86.2 (CH), 158.8 (C), 170.4 (C); IR (ATR/cm<sup>-1</sup>): 3308, 1659, 1557, 1148.

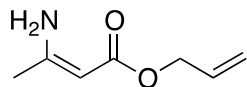


**2-Phenylethyl 3-amino-2-butenolate (1k)**<sup>14</sup> Colorless oil,  $R_f = 0.24$  (silica gel, hexane/EtOAc = 8/2). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  1.91 (s, 3H), 2.96 (t,  $J = 7.2$  Hz, 2H), 4.29 (t,  $J = 7.2$  Hz, 2H), 4.3–5.0 (br, 1H), 4.54 (s, 1H), 7.2–7.4 (m, 5H), 7.5–8.6 (br, 1H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  22.5



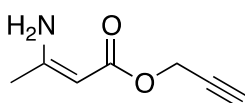
(CH<sub>3</sub>), 35.7 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 63.4 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 84.3 (CH), 126.5 (CH), 128.5 (C), 129.1 (CH), 138.6 (C), 159.9 (C), 170.2 (C); IR (ATR/cm<sup>-1</sup>): 3443, 1667, 1557.

**3-Propenyl 3-amino-2-butenate (11)**<sup>9</sup> Colorless oil, *R<sub>f</sub>* = 0.29 (silica gel, hexane/EtOAc = 8/2). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ



1.91 (s, 3H), 4.2–4.9 (br, 1H), 4.5–4.6 (m, 3H), 5.19 (ddt, *J* = 10.4, 1.6, 1.6 Hz, 1H), 5.30 (ddt, *J* = 17.2, 1.6, 1.6 Hz, 1H), 5.95 (ddt, *J* = 17.2, 10.4, 1.6 Hz, 1H), 7.6–8.2 (br, 1H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 22.5 (CH<sub>3</sub>), 63.6 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 84.1 (CH), 117.2 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 133.6 (CH), 160.1 (C), 169.9 (C); IR (ATR/cm<sup>-1</sup>): 3424, 1667, 1566.

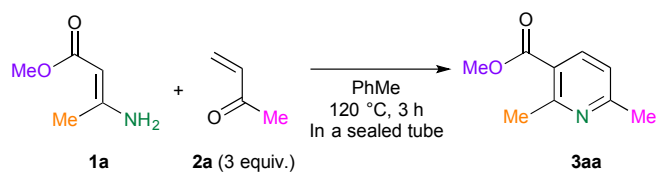
**3-Propynyl 3-amino-2-butenate (1m)**<sup>12</sup> Colorless oil, *R<sub>f</sub>* = 0.22 (silica gel, hexane/EtOAc = 8/2). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz,



CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 1.91 (s, 3H), 2.42 (t, *J* = 6.4 Hz, 1H), 4.2–5.5 (br, 1H), 4.56 (s, 1H), 4.66 (d, *J* = 6.4 Hz, 2H), 7.5–8.5 (br, 1H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 22.5 (CH<sub>3</sub>), 50.4 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 74.0 (C), 79.2 (CH), 83.3 (CH), 161.0 (C), 169.1 (C); IR (ATR/cm<sup>-1</sup>): 3474, 2126, 1667, 1557.

### 3. Synthesis of nicotines 3 without using FeCl<sub>3</sub>

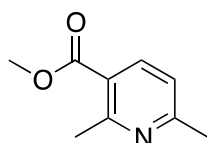
To a solution of methyl 3-amino-2-butenate (**1a**) (23.0 mg, 0.20 mmol) in toluene (0.5 mL), methyl vinyl ketone **2a** (48.7 μL, 0.60 mmol) was added, and the resultant solution was heated at 120 °C for 3 h in a sealed tube. After evaporation of the solvent under reduced pressure, the residue was treated by short silica gel column chromatography (hexane/EtOAc = 8/2) to give methyl 2,6-dimethylpyridine-3-carboxylate (**3a**) (26.9 mg, 0.16 mmol, 82%) as a pale yellow oil. Other nicotines **3a–c** were also synthesized in a similar way.

**Table S-1.** Optimization of conditions of **1a** with **2a**

Entry	Solv.	Temp./ $^\circ\text{C}$	<b>2a</b> /equiv.	<b>3aa</b> /% <sup>a</sup>
1	MeOH	90	5	38
2	DMF	90	5	56
3	MeCN	90	5	53
4	EtOAc	90	5	54
5	THF	90	5	52
6	CHCl <sub>3</sub>	90	5	58
7	Hexane	90	5	63
8	PhMe	90	5	72
9	PhMe	120	5	88
10	PhMe	120	3	87
11	PhMe	120	2	64

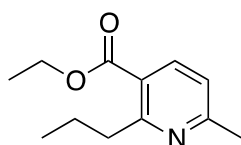
<sup>a</sup> NMR Yield.

**Methyl 2,6-dimethylpyridine-3-carboxylate (3aa)**<sup>15</sup> (26.9 mg, 82% yield). Pale yellow oil,  $R_f = 0.37$  (silica gel, hexane/EtOAc



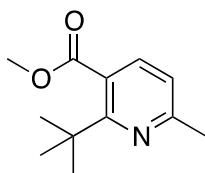
= 8/2). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  2.56 (s, 3H), 2.80 (s, 3H), 3.89 (s, 3H), 7.04 (d,  $J = 8.0$  Hz, 1H), 8.08 (d,  $J = 8.0$  Hz, 1H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  24.8 (CH<sub>3</sub>), 24.9 (CH<sub>3</sub>), 52.2 (CH<sub>3</sub>), 120.6 (CH), 122.5 (C), 138.9 (CH), 159.7 (C), 161.5 (C), 167.3 (C); IR (ATR/cm<sup>-1</sup>): 2951, 1722, 1275.

**Ethyl 6-methyl-2-propylpyridine-3-carboxylate (3ba)**<sup>16</sup> (32.9 mg, 80% yield); Yellow oil,  $R_f = 0.44$  (silica gel,

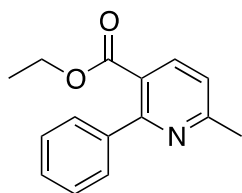


hexane/EtOAc = 8/2). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  0.99 (t,  $J = 7.6$  Hz, 3H), 1.38 (t,  $J = 7.2$  Hz, 3H), 1.71 (tq,  $J = 7.6, 7.6$  Hz, 2H), 2.55 (s, 3H), 3.09 (t,  $J = 7.6$  Hz, 2H), 4.35 (q,  $J = 7.2$  Hz, 2H), 7.02 (d,  $J = 8.0$  Hz, 1H), 8.03 (d,  $J = 8.0$  Hz, 1H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  14.4 (CH<sub>3</sub>), 14.4 (CH<sub>3</sub>), 23.8 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 24.9 (CH<sub>3</sub>), 39.3 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 61.2 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 120.5 (CH), 122.9 (C), 138.9 (CH), 161.3 (C), 163.2 (C), 167.1 (C); IR (ATR/cm<sup>-1</sup>): 1722, 1251.

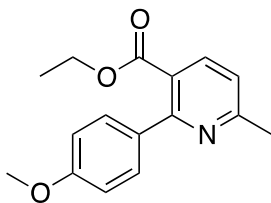
**Ethyl 6-methyl-2-(2-methyl-1-propyl) pyridine-3-carboxylate (3ca)** (17.2 mg, 42% yield). Yellow oil,  $R_f = 0.63$  (silica gel, hexane/EtOAc = 8/2).  $^1\text{H NMR}$  (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  1.40 (s, 9H), 2.53 (s, 3H), 3.89 (s, 3H), 6.96 (d,  $J = 8.0$  Hz, 1H), 7.50 (d,  $J = 8.0$  Hz, 1H).  $^{13}\text{C NMR}$  (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  24.8 ( $\text{CH}_3$ ), 30.2 ( $\text{CH}_3$ ), 39.3 (C), 52.5 ( $\text{CH}_3$ ), 119.3 (CH), 125.0 (C), 136.9 (CH), 158.4 (C), 164.7 (C), 171.4 (C); IR (ATR/ $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ): 1733, 1280, 1241, 1070; HRMS (ESI/TOF):  $m/z$  *calcd.* for  $\text{C}_{12}\text{H}_{17}\text{NO}_2$   $[\text{M} + \text{H}]^+$  208.1332, found 208.1323.



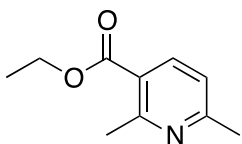
**Ethyl 2-phenyl-6-methylpyridine-3-carboxylate (3da)**<sup>17</sup> (40.7 mg, 85% yield). Yellow oil,  $R_f = 0.42$  (silica gel, hexane/EtOAc = 8/2).  $^1\text{H NMR}$  (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  1.03 (t,  $J = 7.2$  Hz, 3H), 2.65 (s, 3H), 4.12 (q,  $J = 7.2$  Hz, 2H), 7.19 (d,  $J = 8.0$  Hz, 1H), 7.4–7.5 (m, 3H), 7.5–7.6 (m, 2H), 8.02 (d,  $J = 8.0$  Hz, 1H);  $^{13}\text{C NMR}$  (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  = 13.8 ( $\text{CH}_3$ ), 25.0 ( $\text{CH}_3$ ), 61.4 ( $\text{CH}_2$ ), 121.3 (CH), 124.6 (C), 128.2 (CH), 128.5 (CH), 128.7 (CH), 138.4 (CH), 140.8 (C), 158.9 (C), 160.9 (C), 168.3 (C); IR (ATR/ $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ): 1722, 1563, 1280.



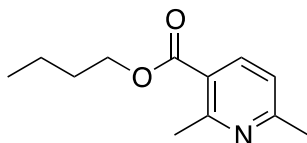
**Ethyl 2-(4-methoxyphenyl)-6-methylpyridine-3-carboxylate (3ea)** (46.3 mg, 86% yield). Yellow oil,  $R_f = 0.24$  (silica gel, hexane/EtOAc = 8/2).  $^1\text{H NMR}$  (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  1.11 (t,  $J = 7.2$  Hz, 3H), 2.63 (s, 3H), 3.84 (s, 3H), 4.17 (q,  $J = 7.2$  Hz, 2H), 6.95 (d,  $J = 8.8$  Hz, 2H), 7.14 (d,  $J = 8.0$  Hz, 1H), 7.48 (d,  $J = 8.8$  Hz, 2H), 7.97 (d,  $J = 8.0$  Hz, 1H);  $^{13}\text{C NMR}$  (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  14.0 ( $\text{CH}_3$ ), 24.9 ( $\text{CH}_3$ ), 55.5 ( $\text{CH}_3$ ), 61.4 ( $\text{CH}_2$ ), 113.7 (CH), 120.8 (CH), 124.3 (C), 130.2 (CH), 133.2 (C), 138.3 (CH), 158.3 (C), 160.2 (C), 160.8 (C), 168.6 (C); IR (ATR/ $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ): 1714, 1516, 1250, HRMS (ESI/TOF):  $m/z$  *calcd.* for  $\text{C}_{16}\text{H}_{17}\text{NO}_3$   $[\text{M} + \text{H}]^+$  272.1281, found 272.1269.



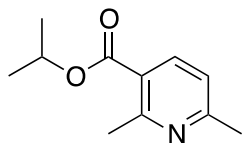
**Ethyl 2,6-dimethylpyridine-3-carboxylate (3fa)**<sup>17</sup> (30.2 mg, 85% yield). Pale yellow oil,  $R_f = 0.38$  (silica gel, hexane/EtOAc = 8/2).  $^1\text{H NMR}$  (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  1.39 (t,  $J = 7.2$  Hz, 3H), 2.56 (s, 3H), 2.80 (s, 3H), 4.32 (q,  $J = 7.2$  Hz, 2H), 7.04 (d,  $J = 8.0$  Hz, 1H), 8.08 (d,  $J = 8.0$  Hz, 1H);  $^{13}\text{C NMR}$  (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  14.4 ( $\text{CH}_3$ ), 24.8 ( $\text{CH}_3$ ), 25.0 ( $\text{CH}_3$ ), 61.2 ( $\text{CH}_2$ ), 120.5 (CH), 122.9 (C), 138.9 (CH), 159.5 (C), 161.3 (C), 166.9 (C); IR (ATR/ $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ): 2357, 1722, 1273.



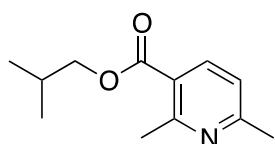
**Butyl 2,6-dimethylpyridine-3-carboxylate (3ga)** (37.9 mg, 92% yield). Pale yellow oil,  $R_f = 0.26$  (silica gel, hexane/EtOAc = 9/1).  $^1\text{H NMR}$  (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  0.98 (t,  $J = 7.6$  Hz, 3H), 1.47 (tq,  $J = 7.6, 7.6$  Hz, 2H), 1.74 (tt,  $J = 7.6, 7.6$  Hz, 2H), 2.56 (s, 3H), 2.80 (s, 3H), 4.30 (t,  $J = 7.6$  Hz, 2H), 7.04 (d,  $J = 8.0$  Hz, 1H), 8.08 (d,  $J = 8.0$  Hz, 1H);  $^{13}\text{C NMR}$  (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  13.9 ( $\text{CH}_3$ ), 19.5 ( $\text{CH}_2$ ), 24.8 ( $\text{CH}_3$ ), 25.0 ( $\text{CH}_3$ ), 30.9 ( $\text{CH}_2$ ), 65.1 ( $\text{CH}_2$ ), 120.6 (CH), 123.0 (C), 138.9 (CH), 159.5 (C), 161.3 (C), 167.0 (C); IR (ATR/ $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ): 2963, 2359, 1722, 1275; HRMS (ESI/TOF):  $m/z$  *calcd.* for  $\text{C}_{12}\text{H}_{17}\text{NO}_2$   $[\text{M} + \text{H}]^+$  208.1332, found 208.1331.



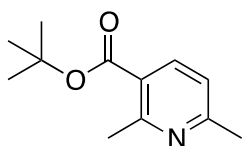
**2-Propyl 2,6-dimethylpyridine-3-carboxylate (3ha)** (35.9 mg, 81% yield). Yellow oil,  $R_f = 0.46$  (silica gel, hexane/EtOAc = 8/2).  $^1\text{H NMR}$  (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  1.35 (d,  $J = 6.0$  Hz, 6H), 2.54 (s, 3H), 2.78 (s, 3H), 5.22 (septet,  $J = 6.0$  Hz, 1H), 7.02 (d,  $J = 8.0$  Hz, 1H), 8.04 (d,  $J = 8.0$  Hz, 1H);  $^{13}\text{C NMR}$  (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  22.1 ( $\text{CH}_3$ ), 24.8 ( $\text{CH}_3$ ), 24.9 ( $\text{CH}_3$ ), 68.7 (CH), 120.5 (CH), 123.4 (C), 138.8 (CH), 159.3 (C), 161.1 (C), 166.5 (C); IR (ATR/ $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ): 2976, 2359, 1715, 1273; HRMS (ESI/TOF):  $m/z$  *calcd.* for  $\text{C}_{11}\text{H}_{15}\text{NO}_2$   $[\text{M} + \text{H}]^+$  194.1175, found 194.1173.



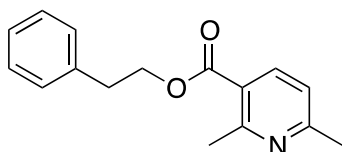
**2-Methyl-1-propyl 2,6-dimethylpyridine-3-carboxylate (3ia)** (29.4 mg, 79% yield). Yellow oil,  $R_f = 0.33$  (silica gel, hexane/EtOAc = 9/1).  $^1\text{H NMR}$  (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  1.02 (d,  $J = 6.8$  Hz, 6H), 2.07 (triple septet,  $J = 6.8, 6.8$  Hz, 1H), 2.56 (s, 3H), 2.81 (s, 3H), 4.09 (d,  $J = 6.8$  Hz, 2H), 7.05 (d,  $J = 8.0$  Hz, 1H), 8.09 (d,  $J = 8.0$  Hz, 1H);  $^{13}\text{C NMR}$  (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  19.4 ( $\text{CH}_3$ ), 24.8 ( $\text{CH}_3$ ), 25.1 ( $\text{CH}_3$ ), 28.0 (CH), 71.4 ( $\text{CH}_2$ ), 120.6 (CH), 123.0 (C), 138.9 (CH), 159.6 (C), 161.4 (C), 167.0 (C); IR (ATR/ $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ): 2961, 2357, 1721, 1257; HRMS (ESI/TOF):  $m/z$  *calcd.* for  $\text{C}_{12}\text{H}_{17}\text{NO}_2$   $[\text{M} + \text{H}]^+$  208.1332, found 208.1334.



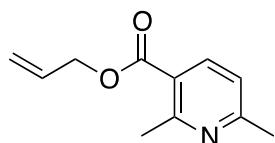
**2-Methyl-2-propyl 2,6-dimethylpyridine-3-carboxylate (3ja)**<sup>17</sup> (29.8 mg, 72% yield). Pale yellow oil,  $R_f = 0.37$  (silica gel, hexane/EtOAc = 8/2).  $^1\text{H NMR}$  (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  1.59 (s, 9H), 2.55 (s, 3H), 2.77 (s, 3H), 7.02 (d,  $J = 8.0$  Hz, 1H), 7.99 (d,  $J = 8.0$  Hz, 1H);  $^{13}\text{C NMR}$  (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  24.8 ( $\text{CH}_3$ ), 25.0 ( $\text{CH}_3$ ), 28.4 ( $\text{CH}_3$ ), 81.8 (C), 120.5 (CH), 124.6 (C), 138.8 (CH), 158.9 (C), 160.8 (C), 166.4 (C); IR (ATR/ $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ): 2978, 1721, 1254.



**2-Phenylethyl 2,6-dimethylpyridine-3-carboxylate (3ka)** (41.6 mg, 82% yield). Yellow oil,  $R_f = 0.18$  (silica gel, hexane/EtOAc = 8/2).  $^1\text{H NMR}$  (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  2.54 (s, 3H), 2.74 (s, 3H), 3.06 (t,  $J = 6.8$  Hz, 2H), 4.52 (t,  $J = 6.8$  Hz, 2H), 7.01 (d,  $J = 8.0$  Hz, 1H), 7.2–7.4 (m, 5H), 8.00 (d,  $J = 8.0$  Hz, 1H);  $^{13}\text{C NMR}$  (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  24.8 ( $\text{CH}_3$ ), 24.9 ( $\text{CH}_3$ ), 35.3 ( $\text{CH}_2$ ), 65.6 ( $\text{CH}_2$ ), 120.5 (CH), 122.7 (C), 126.8 (CH), 128.7 (CH), 129.0 (CH), 137.9 (C), 138.9 (CH), 159.6 (C), 161.4 (C), 166.7 (C); IR (ATR/ $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ): 2968, 2359, 1726, 1271; HRMS (ESI/TOF):  $m/z$  *calcd.* for  $\text{C}_{16}\text{H}_{18}\text{NO}_2$   $[\text{M} + \text{H}]^+$  256.1332, found 256.1331.

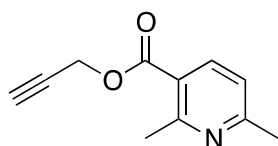


**3-Propenyl 2,6-dimethylpyridine-3-carboxylate (3la)** (28.9 mg, 76% yield). Pale yellow oil,  $R_f = 0.36$  (silica gel, hexane/EtOAc = 8/2).  $^1\text{H NMR}$  (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  2.56 (s, 3H), 2.81 (s, 3H), 4.80 (ddd,  $J = 6.4, 1.2, 1.2$  Hz, 2H), 5.29 (ddt,  $J = 10.4, 1.2, 1.2$  Hz, 1H), 5.29 (ddt,  $J = 17.2, 1.2, 1.2$  Hz, 1H), 6.03 (ddt,  $J = 17.2, 10.4, 6.4$  Hz, 1H), 7.05 (d,  $J = 8.0$  Hz, 1H), 8.11 (d,  $J = 8.0$  Hz, 1H);  $^{13}\text{C NMR}$  (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  24.8 ( $\text{CH}_3$ ), 25.0 ( $\text{CH}_3$ ), 65.8 ( $\text{CH}_2$ ), 118.7 ( $\text{CH}_2$ ), 120.6 (CH), 122.6 (C), 132.2 (CH), 138.9 (CH), 159.8 (C), 161.6 (C), 166.5

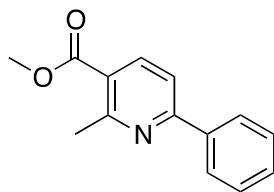


(C); IR (ATR/cm<sup>-1</sup>): 2355, 1728, 1269; HRMS (ESI/TOF): *m/z calcd.* for C<sub>11</sub>H<sub>13</sub>NO<sub>2</sub> [M + H]<sup>+</sup> 192.1019, found 192.1019.

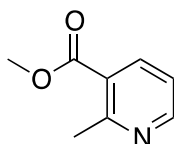
**3-Propynyl 2,6-dimethylpyridine-3-carboxylate (3ma)** (24.4 mg, 65% yield). Pale yellow oil, R<sub>f</sub> = 0.29 (silica gel, hexane/EtOAc = 8/2). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 2.51 (t, *J* = 2.4 Hz, 1H), 2.57 (s, 3H), 2.82 (s, 3H), 4.90 (d, *J* = 2.4 Hz, 2H), 7.06 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 8.13 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 24.9 (CH<sub>3</sub>), 25.0 (CH<sub>3</sub>), 52.6 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 75.2 (CH), 77.7 (C), 120.6 (CH), 121.8 (C), 139.1 (CH), 160.1 (C), 162.0 (C), 165.9 (C); IR (ATR/cm<sup>-1</sup>): 3391, 2127, 1730; HRMS (ESI/TOF): *m/z calcd.* for C<sub>11</sub>H<sub>11</sub>NO<sub>2</sub> [M + H]<sup>+</sup> 190.0863, found 190.0862.



**Methyl 2-methyl-6-phenylpyridine-3-carboxylate (3ab)**<sup>18</sup> (40.2 mg, 89% yield). Yellow oil, R<sub>f</sub> = 0.32 (silica gel, hexane/EtOAc = 95/5). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 2.92 (s, 3H), 3.94 (s, 3H), 7.4–7.5 (m, 3H), 7.63 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 8.0–8.1 (m, 2H), 8.26 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 1H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 25.4 (CH<sub>3</sub>), 52.3 (CH<sub>3</sub>), 117.5 (CH), 123.5 (C), 127.5 (CH), 129.0 (CH), 129.8 (CH), 138.6 (C), 139.5 (CH), 159.3 (C), 160.2 (C), 167.2 (C); IR (ATR/cm<sup>-1</sup>): 2951, 2355, 1728, 1267.



**Methyl 2-methylpyridine-3-carboxylate (3ac)**<sup>15</sup> (27.5 mg, 91% yield). Yellow oil, R<sub>f</sub> = 0.29 (silica gel, hexane/EtOAc = 8/2). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 2.83 (s, 3H), 3.91 (s, 3H), 7.19 (dd, *J* = 7.6, 4.8 Hz, 1H), 8.17 (dd, *J* = 7.6, 1.6 Hz, 1H), 8.60 (dd, *J* = 4.8, 1.6 Hz, 1H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 24.9 (CH<sub>3</sub>), 52.3 (CH<sub>3</sub>), 121.0 (CH), 125.5 (C), 138.5 (CH), 152.0 (CH), 160.0 (C), 167.1 (C); IR (ATR/cm<sup>-1</sup>): 2949, 1726, 1277.

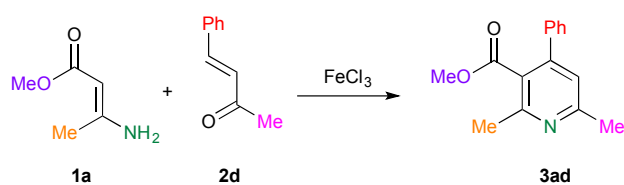


#### 4. Synthesis of nicotines 3 and 14 using FeCl<sub>3</sub>

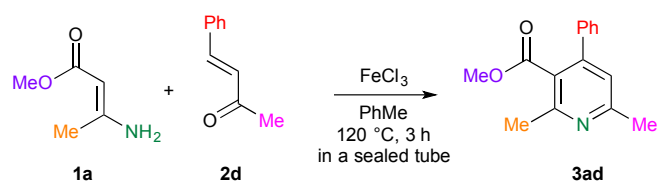
To a solution of methyl 3-amino-2-butenate (**1a**) (46.0 mg, 0.40 mmol) in acetonitrile (0.5 mL), were added 4-phenyl-3-buten-2-one (**2d**) (29.2 mg, 0.20 mmol) and iron(III) chloride (32.4 mg, 0.20 mmol), and the resultant solution was heated at 150 °C for 1 h under microwave irradiation. After evaporation of the solvent under reduced pressure, the residue was washed with water (15 mL×3), and then extracted with chloroform (15 mL×3). The combined organic layer was dried over anhydrous MgSO<sub>4</sub>, filtered and concentrated under reduced pressure. The crude residue was purified by short silica gel column chromatography (hexane/EtOAc = 8/2) to afford methyl 2,6-dimethyl-4-phenylnicotinate (**3ad**) (35.5 mg, 0.16 mmol, 79%) as a yellow oil. Other nicotines **3ae–3av**, and **14** were also synthesized in a similar way.

**Table S-2.** Study on the additives in the reaction of **1a** with **2d**.





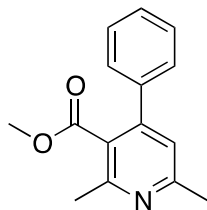
Entry	Additive	Yield/%
1	<i>p</i> -TsOH · H <sub>2</sub> O	0
2	NEt <sub>3</sub>	0
3	BF <sub>3</sub> · Et <sub>2</sub> O	20
4	Cu(OAc) <sub>2</sub>	0
5	Mn(OAc) <sub>3</sub> · 2H <sub>2</sub> O	0
6	Mg(OAc) <sub>2</sub> · 4H <sub>2</sub> O	0
7	CoSO <sub>4</sub> · 7H <sub>2</sub> O	0
8	AlCl <sub>3</sub>	23
9	NiCl <sub>2</sub>	0
10	SbCl <sub>3</sub>	0
11	CuCl <sub>2</sub> · 2H <sub>2</sub> O	0
12	SnCl <sub>2</sub> · 2H <sub>2</sub> O	26
13	InCl <sub>3</sub>	30
14	ZnCl <sub>2</sub>	34
15	FeCl <sub>3</sub>	34
16	FeCl <sub>2</sub> · 4H <sub>2</sub> O	20
17	FeCl <sub>3</sub> · 6H <sub>2</sub> O	0
18	Fe(OTs- <i>p</i> ) <sub>3</sub> · 6H <sub>2</sub> O	0
19	Fe(NO <sub>3</sub> ) <sub>3</sub> · 9H <sub>2</sub> O	0

**Table S-3.** Optimization of reaction conditions for synthesizing **3ad**.

Entry	Solv.	Molar ratio			Temp./°C	Time/h	Yield/% <sup>a</sup>
		<b>1a</b>	<b>2d</b>	FeCl <sub>3</sub>			
1	PhMe	1	1	1	120	3	40
2	CHCl <sub>3</sub>	1	1	1	120	3	45
3	EtOAc	1	1	1	120	3	31
4	THF	1	1	1	120	3	29
5	MeCN	1	1	1	120	3	48
6	MeOH	1	1	1	120	3	46
7	H <sub>2</sub> O	1	1	1	120	3	0
8	MeCN	1	1	2	120	3	16
9	MeCN	1	2	1	120	18	54
10	MeCN	2	1	1	120	3	73
11	MeCN	1	1	1	120	24	63
12 <sup>a</sup>	MeCN	1	1	1	150	1	58
13	MeCN	2	1	1	150	1	72
14 <sup>b</sup>	MeCN	2	1	1	150	1	87
15 <sup>b</sup>	MeCN	2	1	0.2	150	1	74

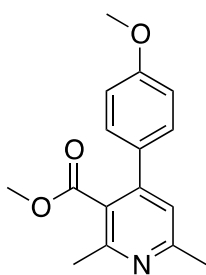
<sup>a</sup>NMR yield. <sup>b</sup>Microwave heating was used.

**Methyl 2,6-dimethyl-6-phenylpyridine-3-carboxylate (3ad)** (35.5 mg, 79% yield). Yellow oil,  $R_f = 0.36$  (silica gel,



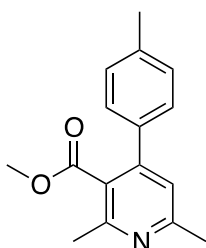
hexane/EtOAc = 8/2). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  2.58 (s, 3H), 2.60 (s, 3H), 3.61 (s, 3H), 7.02 (s, 1H), 7.3–7.4 (m, 2H), 7.4–7.5 (m, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  23.0 (CH<sub>3</sub>), 24.6 (CH<sub>3</sub>), 52.3 (CH<sub>3</sub>), 121.2 (CH), 125.7 (C), 127.9 (CH), 128.6 (CH), 128.7 (CH), 138.9 (C), 148.6 (C), 155.3 (C), 159.0 (C), 169.8 (C); IR (ATR/cm<sup>-1</sup>): 2953, 1728, 1267; HRMS (ESI/TOF):  $m/z$  *calcd.* for C<sub>15</sub>H<sub>15</sub>NO<sub>2</sub> [M + H]<sup>+</sup> 242.1176, found 242.1172.

**Methyl 2,6-dimethyl-4-(4-methoxyphenyl)pyridine-3-carboxylate (3ae)** (35.1 mg, 65% yield). Yellow solid, mp 103–104 °C,



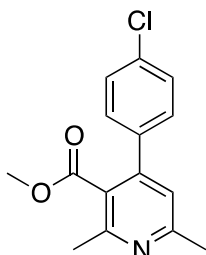
$R_f = 0.20$  (silica gel, hexane/EtOAc = 8/2).  $^1\text{H NMR}$  (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  2.57 (s, 3H), 2.58 (s, 3H), 3.66 (s, 3H), 3.85 (s, 3H), 6.94 (d,  $J = 8.8$  Hz, 2H), 7.00 (s, 1H), 7.30 (d,  $J = 8.8$  Hz, 2H);  $^{13}\text{C NMR}$  (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  23.0 ( $\text{CH}_3$ ), 24.6 ( $\text{CH}_3$ ), 52.3 ( $\text{CH}_3$ ), 55.5 ( $\text{CH}_3$ ), 114.3 (CH), 121.1 (CH), 125.6 (C), 129.2 (CH), 131.1 (C), 148.0 (C), 155.2 (C), 158.8 (C), 160.1 (C), 170.1 (C); IR (ATR/ $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ): 2938, 1726, 1250; HRMS (ESI/TOF):  $m/z$  *calcd.* for  $\text{C}_{16}\text{H}_{17}\text{NO}_3$   $[\text{M} + \text{H}]^+$  272.1281, found 272.1294.

**Methyl 2,6-dimethyl-4-(4-methylphenyl)pyridine-3-carboxylate (3af)** (42.3 mg, 83% yield). Yellow oil,  $R_f = 0.28$  (silica gel,



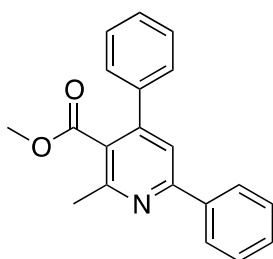
hexane/EtOAc = 8/2).  $^1\text{H NMR}$  (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  2.39 (s, 3H), 2.57 (s, 3H), 2.58 (s, 3H), 3.65 (s, 3H), 7.01 (s, 1H), 7.2–7.3 (m, 4H);  $^{13}\text{C NMR}$  (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  21.4 ( $\text{CH}_3$ ), 23.0 ( $\text{CH}_3$ ), 24.6 ( $\text{CH}_3$ ), 52.3 ( $\text{CH}_3$ ), 121.2 (CH), 125.6 (C), 127.8 (CH), 129.5 (CH), 135.9 (C), 138.6 (C), 148.5 (C), 155.2 (C), 158.9 (C), 170.0 (C); IR (ATR/ $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ): 2945, 1726, 1267; HRMS (ESI/TOF):  $m/z$  *calcd.* for  $\text{C}_{16}\text{H}_{17}\text{NO}_2$   $[\text{M} + \text{H}]^+$  256.1332, found 256.1342.

**Methyl 4-(4-chlorophenyl)-2,6-dimethylpyridine-3-carboxylate (3ag)**<sup>19</sup> (39.3 mg, 72% yield). Yellow oil,  $R_f = 0.26$  (silica gel,



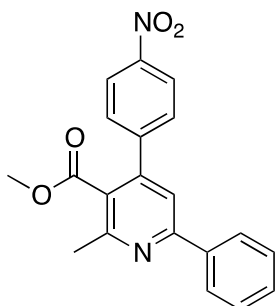
hexane/EtOAc = 8/2).  $^1\text{H NMR}$  (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  2.58 (s, 3H), 2.59 (s, 3H), 3.65 (s, 3H), 6.98 (s, 1H), 7.29 (d,  $J = 8.8$  Hz, 2H), 7.40 (d,  $J = 8.8$  Hz, 2H);  $^{13}\text{C NMR}$  (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  23.1 ( $\text{CH}_3$ ), 24.6 ( $\text{CH}_3$ ), 52.4 ( $\text{CH}_3$ ), 121.0 (CH), 125.5 (C), 129.0 (CH), 129.3 (CH), 134.9 (C), 137.3 (C), 147.3 (C), 155.6 (C), 159.2 (C), 169.5 (C); IR (ATR/ $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ): 2951, 1726, 1261.

**Methyl 4,6-diphenyl-2-methylpyridine-3-carboxylate (3ah)**<sup>20</sup> (42.4 mg, 70% yield). White solid, mp 82–83 °C,  $R_f = 0.60$



(silica gel, hexane/EtOAc = 8/2).  $^1\text{H NMR}$  (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  2.71 (s, 3H), 3.65 (s, 3H), 7.4–7.5 (m, 8H), 7.58 (s, 1H), 8.04 (d,  $J = 7.2$  Hz, 2H);  $^{13}\text{C NMR}$  (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  23.4 ( $\text{CH}_3$ ), 52.3 ( $\text{CH}_3$ ), 118.7 (CH), 126.7 (C), 127.4 (CH), 128.0 (CH), 128.7 (CH), 128.8 (CH), 128.9 (CH), 129.5 (CH), 138.9 (C), 139.0 (C), 149.1 (C), 156.0 (C), 157.7 (C), 169.7 (C); IR (ATR/ $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ): 1726, 1271.

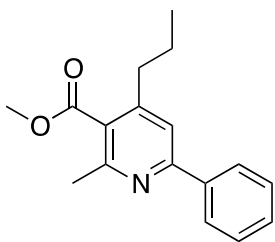
**Methyl 2-methyl-4-(4-nitrophenyl)-6-phenylpyridine-3-carboxylate (3ai)** (39.7 mg, 57% yield). Yellow solid, mp 141–142 °C,



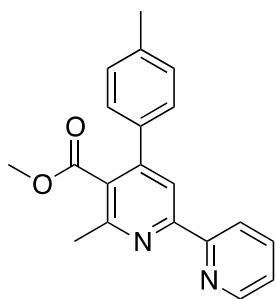
$R_f = 0.41$  (silica gel, hexane/EtOAc, 8:2).  $^1\text{H NMR}$  (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  2.74 (s, 3H), 3.67 (s, 3H), 7.4–7.5 (m, 3H), 7.55 (s, 1H), 7.59 (d,  $J = 8.8$  Hz, 2H), 8.05 (dd,  $J = 2.0, 8.4$  Hz, 2H), 8.32 (d,  $J = 8.8$  Hz, 2H);  $^{13}\text{C NMR}$  (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  23.5 ( $\text{CH}_3$ ), 52.5 ( $\text{CH}_3$ ), 118.1 (CH), 124.0 (CH), 126.1 (C), 127.4 (CH), 129.0 (CH), 129.1 (CH), 129.9 (CH), 138.4 (C), 145.6 (C), 148.1 (C), 156.7 (C), 158.1 (C), 168.9 (C); IR (ATR/ $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ): 2951,

1728, 1518, 1271; HRMS (ESI/TOF):  $m/z$  *calcd.* for  $C_{20}H_{16}N_2O_4$   $[M + H]^+$  349.1183, found 349.1187.

**Methyl 2-methyl-6-phenyl-4-propylpyridine-3-carboxylate (3aj)** (38.4 mg, 72% yield). Yellow oil,  $R_f$  = 0.61 (silica gel, hexane/EtOAc = 8/2).  $^1H$  NMR (400 MHz,  $CDCl_3$ )  $\delta$  0.98 (t,  $J$  = 7.2 Hz, 3H), 1.68 (tq,  $J$  = 7.2, 7.2 Hz, 2H), 2.61 (s, 3H), 2.64 (t,  $J$  = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 3.95 (s, 3H), 7.41 (s, 1H), 7.4–7.5 (m, 3H), 7.98 (d,  $J$  = 7.2 Hz, 2H);  $^{13}C$  NMR (100 MHz,  $CDCl_3$ )  $\delta$  14.1 ( $CH_3$ ), 23.5 ( $CH_3$ ), 23.8 ( $CH_2$ ), 35.7 ( $CH_2$ ), 52.3 ( $CH_3$ ), 118.6 (CH), 127.3 (CH), 127.6 (C), 128.9 (CH), 129.3 (CH), 139.3 (C), 150.0 (C), 155.5 (C), 157.5 (C), 169.8 (C); IR (ATR/ $cm^{-1}$ ): 2955, 1726, 1269; HRMS (ESI/TOF):  $m/z$  *calcd.* for  $C_{17}H_{19}NO_2$   $[M + H]^+$  270.1489, found 270.1490.

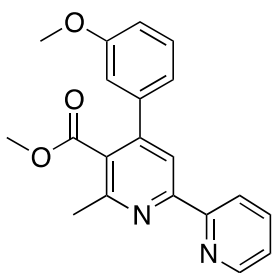


**Methyl 2-methyl-4-(4-methylphenyl)-6-(2-pyridinyl)pyridine-3-carboxylate (3ak)** (226.8 mg, 72% yield). Brown oil,  $R_f$  = 0.23 (silica gel, hexane/EtOAc = 8/2).  $^1H$  NMR (400 MHz,  $CDCl_3$ )  $\delta$  2.39 (s, 3H), 2.69 (s, 3H), 3.68 (s, 3H), 7.23 (br d,  $J$  = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 7.31 (ddd,  $J$  = 7.6, 4.8, 0.8 Hz, 1H), 7.35 (br d,  $J$  = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 7.82 (ddd,  $J$  = 7.6, 7.6, 1.6 Hz, 1H), 8.28 (s, 1H), 8.47 (ddd,  $J$  = 7.6, 0.8, 0.8 Hz, 1H), 8.67 (ddd,  $J$  = 4.8, 1.6, 0.8 Hz, 1H);  $^{13}C$  NMR (100 MHz,  $CDCl_3$ )  $\delta$  21.2 ( $CH_3$ ), 23.1 ( $CH_3$ ), 52.2 ( $CH_3$ ), 118.9 (CH), 121.6 (CH), 123.9 (CH), 127.8 (CH), 127.9 (C), 129.3 (C), 135.7 (C), 136.9 (CH), 138.4 (C), 148.9 (C), 149.2 (CH), 155.2 (C), 155.6 (C), 155.9 (C), 169.7 (C); IR (ATR/ $cm^{-1}$ ): 1730, 1557, 1267; HRMS (ESI/TOF):  $m/z$  *calcd.* for  $C_{20}H_{18}N_2O_2$   $[M + H]^+$  319.1441, found 319.1441.



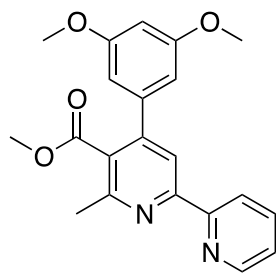
**Methyl 2-methyl-4-(3-methoxyphenyl)-6-(2-pyridinyl)pyridine-3-carboxylate (3al)** (37.6 mg, 57% yield). Yellow

oil,  $R_f$  = 0.19 (silica gel, hexane/EtOAc = 8/2).  $^1H$  NMR (400 MHz,  $CDCl_3$ )  $\delta$  2.70 (s, 3H), 3.68 (s, 3H), 3.83 (s, 3H), 6.9–7.0 (m, 3H), 7.3–7.4 (m, 2H), 7.82 (dd,  $J$  = 7.6, 7.6 Hz, 1H), 8.30 (s, 1H), 8.48 (d,  $J$  = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 8.67 (br s, 1H).  $^{13}C$  NMR (100 MHz,  $CDCl_3$ )  $\delta$  23.1 ( $CH_3$ ), 52.2 ( $CH_3$ ), 55.3 ( $CH_3$ ), 113.2 (CH), 114.4 (CH), 118.8 (CH), 120.3 (CH), 121.6 (CH), 124.0 (CH), 127.9 (C), 129.6 (CH), 136.8 (CH), 140.0 (C), 148.9 (C), 149.2 (CH), 155.3 (C), 155.5 (C), 155.9 (C), 159.7 (C), 169.5 (C); IR (ATR/ $cm^{-1}$ ): 1729, 1549, 1271; HRMS (ESI/TOF):  $m/z$  *calcd.* for  $C_{20}H_{18}N_2O_3$   $[M + H]^+$  335.1390, found 335.1375.



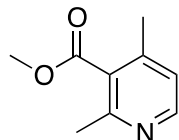
**Methyl 2-methyl-4-(3,5-dimethoxyphenyl)-6-(2-pyridinyl) pyridine-3-carboxylate (3am)** (186.6 mg, 52% yield).

Yellow oil,  $R_f$  = 0.15 (silica gel, hexane/EtOAc = 8/2).  $^1H$  NMR (400 MHz,  $CDCl_3$ )  $\delta$  2.69 (s, 3H), 3.70 (s, 3H), 3.79 (s, 6H), 6.50 (t,  $J$  = 2.0 Hz, 1H), 6.61 (d,  $J$  = 2.0 Hz, 2H), 7.28 (ddd,  $J$  = 7.6, 4.8, 1.2 Hz, 1H), 7.78 (ddd,  $J$  = 7.6, 7.6, 1.6 Hz, 1H), 8.31 (s, 1H), 8.46 (ddd,  $J$  = 7.6, 1.2, 0.8 Hz, 1H), 8.65 (ddd,  $J$  = 4.8, 1.6, 0.8 Hz, 1H);  $^{13}C$



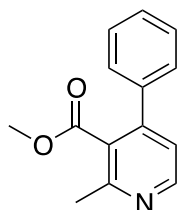
NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 23.0 (CH<sub>3</sub>), 52.2 (CH<sub>3</sub>), 55.3 (CH<sub>3</sub>), 100.8 (CH), 105.9 (CH), 118.6 (CH), 121.5 (CH), 123.9 (CH), 127.8 (C), 136.8 (CH), 140.6 (C), 148.8 (CH), 149.1 (C), 155.1 (C), 155.4 (C), 155.9 (C), 160.8 (C), 169.5 (C); IR(ATR/cm<sup>-1</sup>): 1730, 1580, 1268; HRMS (ESI/TOF): *m/z calcd.* for C<sub>21</sub>H<sub>20</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O<sub>4</sub> [M + H]<sup>+</sup> 365.1496, found 365.1484.

**Methyl 2,4-dimethylpyridine-3-carboxylate (3an)** (26.5 mg, 81% yield). Yellow oil, R<sub>f</sub> = 0.21 (silica gel, hexane/EtOAc = 8/2).



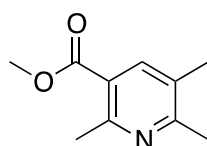
<sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 2.32 (s, 3H), 2.54 (s, 3H), 3.94 (s, 3H), 6.99 (d, *J* = 4.8 Hz, 1H), 8.38 (d, *J* = 4.8 Hz, 1H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 19.6 (CH<sub>3</sub>), 23.1 (CH<sub>3</sub>), 52.4 (CH<sub>3</sub>), 122.8 (CH), 129.5 (C), 145.0 (C), 149.7 (CH), 155.4 (C), 169.3 (C); IR (ATR/cm<sup>-1</sup>): 1732, 1287; HRMS (ESI/TOF): *m/z calcd.* for C<sub>9</sub>H<sub>11</sub>NO<sub>2</sub> [M + H]<sup>+</sup> 166.0863, found 166.0865.

**Methyl 2-methyl-4-phenylpyridine-3-carboxylate (3ao)** (17.7 mg, 39% yield). Yellow oil, R<sub>f</sub> = 0.26 (silica gel, hexane/EtOAc = 8/2).



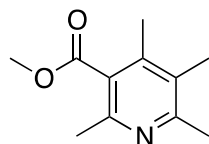
<sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 2.63 (s, 3H), 3.64 (s, 3H), 7.17 (d, *J* = 5.2 Hz, 1H), 7.3–7.4 (m, 2H), 7.4–7.5 (m, 3H), 8.57 (d, *J* = 5.2 Hz, 1H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 23.0 (CH<sub>3</sub>), 52.4 (CH<sub>3</sub>), 121.8 (CH), 127.9 (CH), 128.5 (C), 128.8 (CH), 129.0 (CH), 138.5 (C), 148.2 (C), 149.8 (CH), 155.8 (C), 169.4 (C); IR (ATR/cm<sup>-1</sup>): 2955, 1728, 1267; HRMS (ESI/TOF): *m/z calcd.* for C<sub>14</sub>H<sub>13</sub>NO<sub>2</sub> [M + H]<sup>+</sup> 228.1019, found 228.1027.

**Methyl 2,5,6-trimethylpyridine-3-carboxylate (3ap)** (29.7 mg, 83% yield). Pale yellow oil, R<sub>f</sub> = 0.38 (silica gel, hexane/EtOAc = 8/2).



<sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 2.27 (s, 3H), 2.50 (s, 3H), 2.76 (s, 3H), 3.89 (s, 3H), 7.91 (s, 1H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 18.6 (CH<sub>3</sub>), 22.8 (CH<sub>3</sub>), 24.4 (CH<sub>3</sub>), 52.1 (CH<sub>3</sub>), 122.8 (C), 128.7 (C), 139.5 (CH), 156.7 (C), 160.3 (C), 167.5 (C); IR (ATR/cm<sup>-1</sup>): 2951, 1728, 1281. HRMS (ESI/TOF): *m/z calcd.* for C<sub>10</sub>H<sub>13</sub>NO<sub>2</sub> [M + H]<sup>+</sup> 180.1019, found 180.1020.

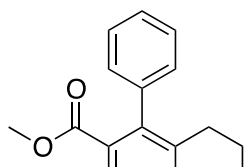
**Methyl 2,4,5,6-tetramethylpyridine-3-carboxylate (3aq)**<sup>21</sup> (31.3 mg, 82% yield). White solid, mp 55–56 °C, R<sub>f</sub> = 0.21 (silica gel, hexane/EtOAc = 8/2).



<sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 2.18 (s, 3H), 2.20 (s, 3H), 2.44 (s, 3H), 2.50 (s, 3H), 3.92 (s, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 14.8 (CH<sub>3</sub>), 17.1 (CH<sub>3</sub>), 22.7 (CH<sub>3</sub>), 23.5 (CH<sub>3</sub>), 52.3 (CH<sub>3</sub>), 127.5 (C), 127.9 (C), 142.5 (C), 150.8 (C), 156.9 (C), 170.3 (C); IR (ATR/cm<sup>-1</sup>): 2947, 1726, 1267.

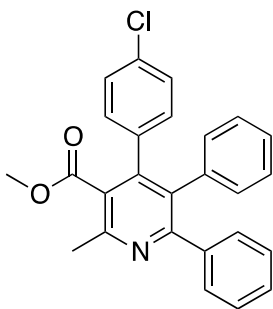
**Methyl 2-methyl-5,6,7,8-tetrahydroquinoline-3-carboxylate (3ar)** (43.8 mg, 78% yield). Orange solid, mp 68–69 °C, R<sub>f</sub> = 0.28

(s silica gel, hexane/EtOAc = 8/2). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 1.70 (tt, *J* = 6.0, 6.8 Hz,



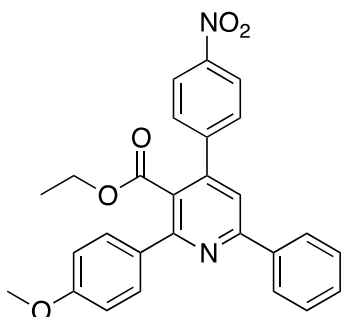
2H), 1.86 (tt,  $J = 6.0, 6.8$  Hz, 2H), 2.40 (t,  $J = 6.0$  Hz, 2H), 2.97 (t,  $J = 6.8$  Hz, 2H), 2.53 (s, 3H), 3.46 (s, 3H), 7.1–7.2 (m, 2H), 7.3–7.4 (m, 3H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  22.7 ( $\text{CH}_3$ ), 22.9 ( $\text{CH}_2$ ), 23.0 ( $\text{CH}_2$ ), 27.1 ( $\text{CH}_2$ ), 33.3 ( $\text{CH}_2$ ), 52.0 ( $\text{CH}_3$ ), 127.1 (C), 127.6 (C), 128.0 (CH), 128.3 (CH), 128.6 (CH), 137.3 (C), 147.8 (C), 151.5 (C), 158.2 (C), 169.3 (C); IR (ATR/ $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ): 2938, 1730, 1271; HRMS (ESI/TOF):  $m/z$  *calcd.* for  $\text{C}_{18}\text{H}_{19}\text{NO}_2$  [ $\text{M} + \text{H}$ ] $^+$  282.1489, found 282.1484.

**Methyl-4-(4-chlorophenyl)-5,6-diphenyl-2-methylpyridine-3-carboxylate (3as)** (20.2 mg, 24% yield). White solid,



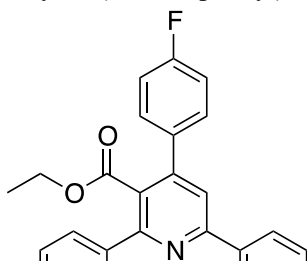
mp 133–134 °C,  $R_f = 0.55$  (silica gel, hexane/EtOAc = 8/2).  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  2.69 (s, 3H), 3.59 (s, 3H), 6.7–6.8 (m, 2H), 6.9–7.0 (m, 2H), 7.0–7.1 (m, 3H), 7.1–7.2 (m, 5H), 7.2–7.3 (m, 2H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  23.1 ( $\text{CH}_3$ ), 52.4 ( $\text{CH}_3$ ), 126.9 (CH), 127.9 (CH), 127.9 (CH), 128.1 (CH), 128.4 (C), 130.0 (CH), 130.6 (CH), 131.3 (CH), 132.5 (C), 133.8 (C), 135.9 (C), 137.0 (C), 140.3 (C), 146.7 (C), 153.8 (C), 158.5 (C), 169.1 (C), one signal of a tertiary carbon was not observed presumably due to overlapping with another signal; IR (ATR/ $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ): 3055, 1730, 1549, 1227; HRMS (ESI/TOF):  $m/z$  *calcd.* for  $\text{C}_{26}\text{H}_{20}\text{ClNO}_2$  [ $\text{M} + \text{H}$ ] $^+$  414.1255, found 414.1254.

**Ethyl 2-(4-methoxyphenyl)-4-(4-nitrophenyl)-6-phenylpyridine-3-carboxylate (3ei)** (67.4 mg, 74% yield); White



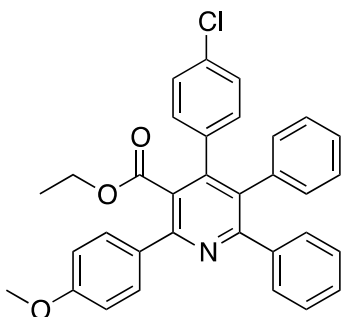
solid, mp 67–68 °C,  $R_f = 0.30$  (silica gel, hexane/EtOAc = 8/2),  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  0.95 (t,  $J = 7.2$  Hz, 3H), 3.87 (s, 3H), 4.01 (q,  $J = 7.2$  Hz, 2H), 6.99 (d,  $J = 8.8$  Hz, 2H), 7.4–7.5 (m, 3H), 7.63 (s, 1H), 7.64 (d,  $J = 8.4$  Hz, 2H), 7.70 (d,  $J = 8.8$  Hz, 2H), 8.12 (dd,  $J = 8.8, 1.6$  Hz, 2H), 8.32 (d,  $J = 8.4$  Hz, 2H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  13.6 ( $\text{CH}_3$ ), 55.4 ( $\text{CH}_3$ ), 61.7 ( $\text{CH}_2$ ), 113.9 (CH), 118.1 (CH), 123.7 (CH), 125.9 (C), 127.2 (CH), 128.9 (CH), 129.3 (CH), 129.8 (CH), 130.0 (CH), 132.2 (C), 138.1 (C), 145.2 (C), 147.3 (C), 148.0 (C), 156.6 (C), 157.5 (C), 160.5 (C), 168.4 (C); IR (ATR/ $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ): 1723, 1516, 1349, 1251; HRMS (ESI/TOF):  $m/z$  *calcd.* for  $\text{C}_{27}\text{H}_{22}\text{N}_2\text{O}_5$  [ $\text{M} + \text{H}$ ] $^+$  455.1602, found 455.1607.

**Ethyl 4-(4-fluorophenyl)-2-(4-methoxyphenyl)-6-(4-methylphenyl)pyridine-3-carboxylate (3et)** (62.7 mg, 71% yield); Pale yellow oil,  $R_f = 0.40$  (silica gel, hexane/EtOAc = 8/2),  $^1\text{H}$  NMR



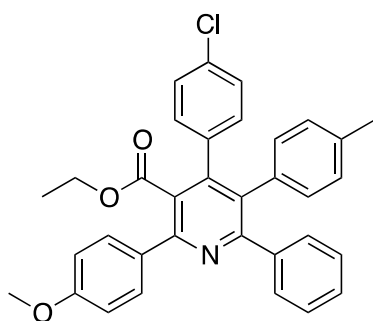
(400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  0.95 (t,  $J$  = 7.2 Hz, 3H), 2.40 (s, 3H), 3.85 (s, 3H), 4.00 (q,  $J$  = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 6.97 (d,  $J$  = 8.8 Hz, 2H), 7.14 (dd,  $J$  = 8.8, 8.8 Hz, 2H), 7.27 (d,  $J$  = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 7.4–7.5 (m, 2H), 7.60 (s, 1H), 7.70 (d,  $J$  = 8.8 Hz, 2H), 8.02 (d,  $J$  = 8.0 Hz, 2H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  13.6 (CH<sub>3</sub>), 21.3 (CH<sub>3</sub>), 55.3 (CH<sub>3</sub>), 61.4 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 113.8 (CH), 115.5 (CH,  $J$  = 21.6 Hz), 118.4 (CH), 126.2 (C), 127.1 (CH), 129.5 (CH), 130.0 (CH,  $J$  = 8.2 Hz), 130.0 (CH), 132.6 (C), 134.8 (C,  $J$  = 3.5 Hz), 135.7 (C), 139.7 (C), 148.4 (C), 156.1 (C), 157.1 (C), 160.3 (C), 163.0 (C,  $J$  = 248 Hz), 168.9 (C); IR(ATR/cm<sup>-1</sup>): 1723, 1506, 1252, HRMS (ESI/TOF):  $m/z$  *calcd.* for C<sub>28</sub>H<sub>24</sub>FNO<sub>3</sub> [M + H]<sup>+</sup> 442.1813; found 442.1810.

**Ethyl 4-(4-chlorophenyl)-2-(4-methoxyphenyl)-5,6-diphenylpyridine-3-carboxylate (3es)** (38.5 mg, 37% yield);



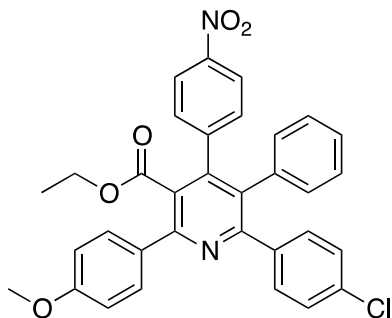
White solid, mp 235–237 °C.  $R_f$  = 0.48 (silica gel, hexane/EtOAc = 8/2), <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  0.91 (t,  $J$  = 7.2 Hz, 3H), 3.85 (s, 3H), 3.93 (q,  $J$  = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 6.85 (dd,  $J$  = 1.6, 8.0 Hz, 2H), 6.97 (d,  $J$  = 8.8 Hz, 2H), 7.0–7.1 (m, 5H), 7.1–7.2 (m, 5H), 7.34 (dd,  $J$  = 1.6, 8.0 Hz, 2H), 7.75 (d,  $J$  = 8.8 Hz, 2H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  13.7 (CH<sub>3</sub>), 55.5 (CH<sub>3</sub>), 61.6 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 114.0 (CH), 127.0 (CH), 127.7 (CH), 127.8 (CH), 127.9 (CH), 128.0 (CH), 130.2 (CH), 130.2 (CH), 130.9 (CH), 131.3 (CH), 132.3 (C), 133.0 (C), 133.8 (C), 135.7 (C), 137.2 (C), 140.3 (C), 147.4 (C), 154.2 (C), 158.3 (C), 160.5 (C), 168.6 (C) one quaternary carbon is lacked because of overlapping; IR(ATR/cm<sup>-1</sup>): 1729, 1514, 1251; HRMS (ESI/TOF):  $m/z$  *calcd.* for C<sub>33</sub>H<sub>26</sub>ClNO<sub>3</sub> [M + H]<sup>+</sup> 520.1674, found 520.1661.

**Ethyl 4-(4-chlorophenyl)-2-(4-methoxyphenyl)-5-(4-methylphenyl)-6-phenylpyridine-3-carboxylate (3eu)** (44.8



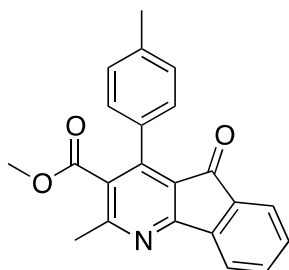
mg, 42% yield); White solid, mp 229–230 °C.  $R_f$  = 0.43 (silica gel, hexane/EtOAc = 8/2), <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  0.90 (t,  $J$  = 7.2 Hz, 3H), 2.21 (s, 3H), 3.85 (s, 3H), 3.91 (q,  $J$  = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 6.71 (d,  $J$  = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 6.83 (d,  $J$  = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 6.95 (d,  $J$  = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 7.02 (d,  $J$  = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 7.1–7.2 (m, 5H), 7.3–7.4 (m, 2H), 7.73 (d,  $J$  = 7.6 Hz, 2H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  13.6 (CH<sub>3</sub>), 21.1 (CH<sub>3</sub>), 55.3 (CH<sub>3</sub>), 61.4 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 113.8 (CH), 127.6 (CH), 127.7 (CH), 127.8 (CH), 128.5 (CH), 130.0 (CH), 130.1 (CH), 130.8 (CH), 130.9 (CH), 132.2 (C), 132.8 (C), 133.5 (C), 133.8 (C), 135.7 (C), 136.4 (C), 140.3 (C), 147.3 (C), 153.8 (C), 158.2 (C), 160.3 (C), 168.5 (C) one quaternary carbon is lacked because of overlapping; IR(ATR/cm<sup>-1</sup>): 1730, 1533, 1250; HRMS (ESI/TOF):  $m/z$  *calcd.* for C<sub>34</sub>H<sub>28</sub>ClNO<sub>3</sub> [M + H]<sup>+</sup> 534.1831, found 534.1833.

**Ethyl 6-(4-chlorophenyl)-2-(4-methoxyphenyl)-4-(4-nitrophenyl)-5-phenylpyridine-3-carboxylate (3ev)** (56.5 mg,



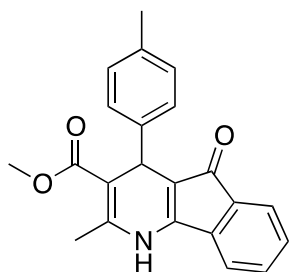
50% yield); White solid, mp 211–212 °C,  $R_f$  = 0.40 (silica gel, hexane/EtOAc = 8/2),  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  0.88 (t,  $J$  = 7.2 Hz, 3H), 3.86 (s, 3H), 3.90 (q,  $t$  = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 6.8–6.9 (m, 2H), 6.98 (dd,  $J$  = 6.8, 2.0 Hz, 2H), 7.0–7.1 (m, 3H), 7.15 (dd,  $J$  = 6.8, 2.0 Hz, 2H), 7.27 (dd,  $J$  = 6.8, 2.0 Hz, 2H), 7.30 (dd,  $J$  = 6.8, 2.0 Hz, 2H), 7.72 (dd,  $J$  = 6.8, 2.0 Hz, 2H), 8.04 (dd,  $J$  = 6.8, 2.0 Hz, 2H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  13.5 (CH<sub>3</sub>), 55.3 (CH<sub>3</sub>), 61.6 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 113.9 (CH), 122.7 (CH), 127.1 (C), 127.4 (CH), 127.9 (CH), 128.2 (CH), 130.0 (CH), 130.4 (CH), 130.8 (CH), 131.4 (CH), 131.6 (C), 132.2 (C), 134.2 (C), 136.3 (C), 138.1 (C), 143.9 (C), 146.5 (C), 147.1 (C), 154.5 (C), 156.9 (C), 160.5 (C), 168.0 (C); IR (ATR/ $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ): 1728, 1516, 1348, HRMS (ESI/TOF):  $m/z$  *calcd.* for  $\text{C}_{33}\text{H}_{25}\text{ClN}_2\text{O}_5$  [ $\text{M} + \text{H}$ ]<sup>+</sup> 565.1525; found 565.1536.

**Methyl 2-methyl-4-(4-methylphenyl)-5-oxo-indeno[1,2-*b*]pyridine-3-carboxylate (14)**<sup>22</sup> (66.7 mg, 71% yield). Yellow solid, mp



179–181 °C,  $R_f$  = 0.28 (silica gel, hexane/EtOAc = 8/2).  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  2.40 (s, 3H), 2.63 (s, 3H), 3.57 (s, 3H), 7.24 (br s, 4H), 7.38 (ddd,  $J$  = 7.6, 7.6, 0.8 Hz, 1H), 7.55 (ddd,  $J$  = 7.6, 7.6, 0.8 Hz, 1H), 7.59 (br d,  $J$  = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.86 (br d,  $J$  = 7.6 Hz, 1H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  21.4 (CH<sub>3</sub>), 23.5 (CH<sub>3</sub>), 52.2 (CH<sub>3</sub>), 121.1 (C), 122.1 (C), 123.8 (CH), 128.2 (CH), 128.7 (CH), 129.5 (C), 130.3 (C), 131.2 (CH), 134.4 (CH), 135.4 (C), 139.1 (C), 142.3 (C), 146.8 (C), 160.7 (C), 165.6 (C), 168.5 (C), 190.2 (C); IR (ATR/ $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ): 2920, 1730, 1712, 1557, 1236.

**Methyl 4,5-dihydro-2-methyl-4-(4-methylphenyl)-5-oxo-1*H*-Indeno[1,2-*b*]pyridine-3-carboxylate (15)**<sup>23</sup> (45.7 mg,



14% yield). Red solid, mp 255–260 °C,  $R_f$  = 0.05 (silica gel, hexane/EtOAc = 8/2).  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  2.25 (s, 3H), 2.50 (s, 3H), 3.59 (s, 3H), 4.96 (s, 1H), 6.48 (br s, 1H), 7.01–7.04 (m, 1H), 7.03 (d,  $J$  = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 7.20 (d,  $J$  = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 7.24–7.28 (m, 2H), 7.34–7.36 (m, 1H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  19.9 (CH<sub>3</sub>), 21.0 (CH<sub>3</sub>), 36.7 (CH<sub>3</sub>), 51.1 (CH), 107.9 (C), 111.1 (C), 116.6 (CH), 121.4 (CH), 127.6 (CH), 129.0 (CH), 130.0 (CH), 131.1 (CH), 133.9 (C), 135.8 (C), 136.1 (C), 142.7 (C), 143.3 (C), 152.5 (C), 167.8 (C), 192.0 (C); IR (ATR/ $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ): 3269, 1697, 1634, 1504, 1173.

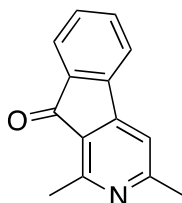
## 5. Synthesis of 4-azafluorenone 12

Azafluorenes **12** were synthesized according to the method in the literature.<sup>24</sup> An excess amount of polyphosphoric acid (PPA, 0.5mL) and nicotinate **3ad** (44.3 mg, 0.18 mmol) was heated 210 °C for 2 h under microwave irradiation.



To the reaction mixture, saturated NaHCO<sub>3</sub> aqueous solution was added, and the reaction mixture was extracted with chloroform (10 mL × 3). The organic layer was washed with water, and was dried over Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>. After removal of the solvent, the residue was purified by silica gel column chromatography (hexane/EtOAc = 8/2) to afford 2-azafluorenone **12** (34.2 mg, 0.16 mmol, 91%) as a white solid.

**1,3-Dimethyl-3-azafluorenone 12**<sup>25</sup> (34.2 mg, 91%). White solid, mp 155–157 °C, R<sub>f</sub> = 0.13 (silica gel,



hexane/EtOAc, 8/2). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 2.61 (s, 3H), 2.79 (s, 3H), 7.20 (s, 1H), 7.43 (dd, *J* = 7.2, 7.2 Hz, 1H), 7.54 (dd, *J* = 7.2, 7.2 Hz, 1H), 7.59 (d, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 1H), 7.70 (d, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 1H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 21.0 (CH<sub>3</sub>), 25.7 (CH<sub>3</sub>), 113.0 (CH), 121.5 (CH), 123.2 (C), 124.4 (CH), 131.3 (CH), 134.5 (C), 135.0 (CH), 141.5 (C), 153.1 (C), 157.4 (C), 164.9 (C), 193.6 (C); IR (ATR/cm<sup>-1</sup>): 1703, 1593, 1186.

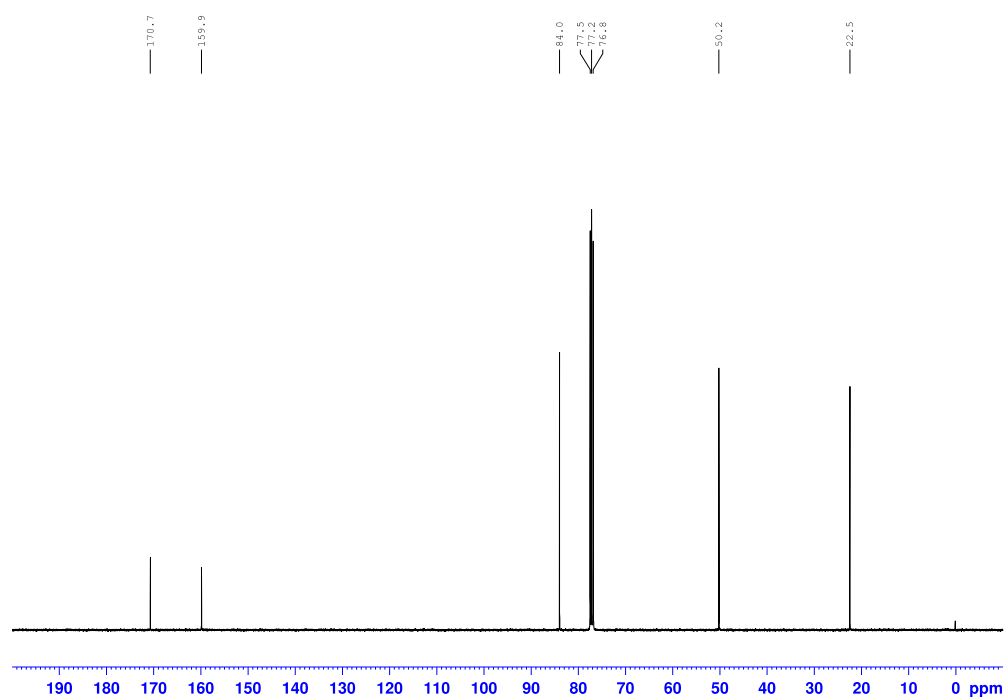
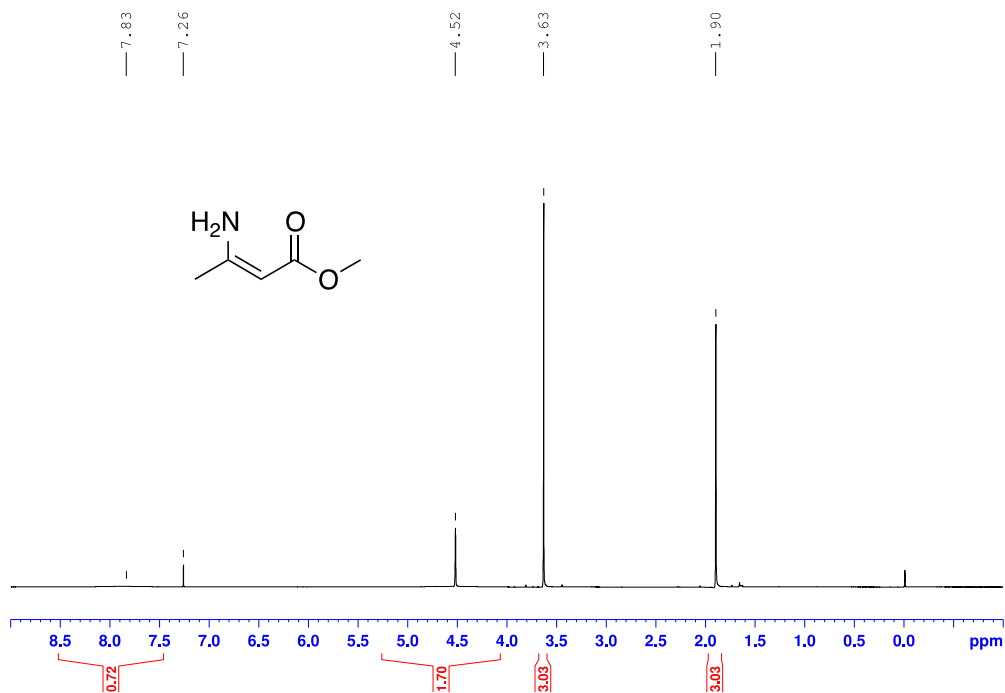
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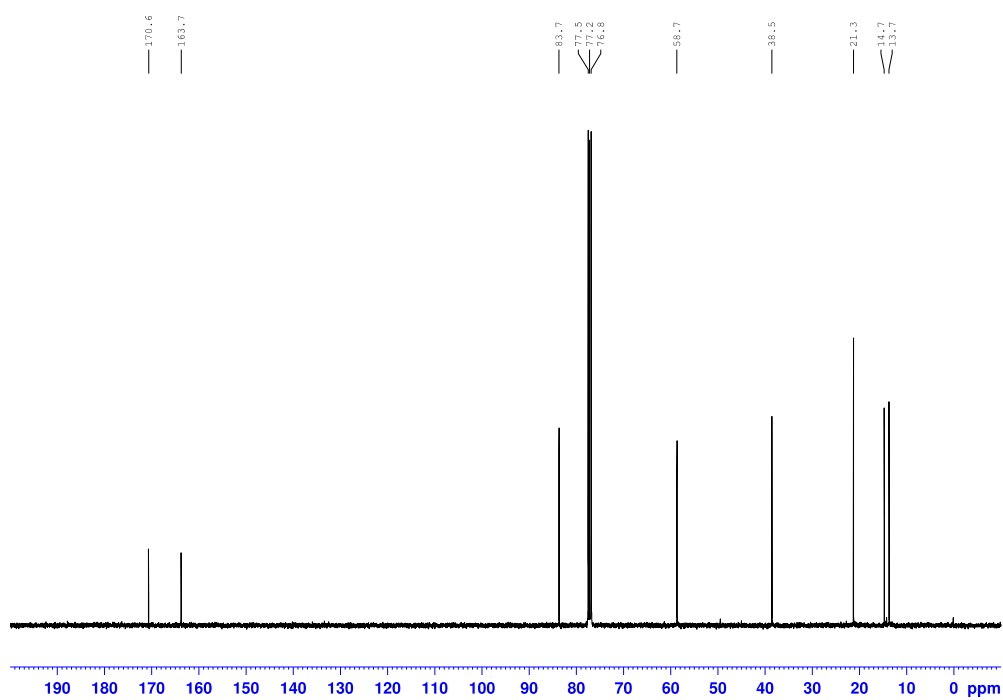
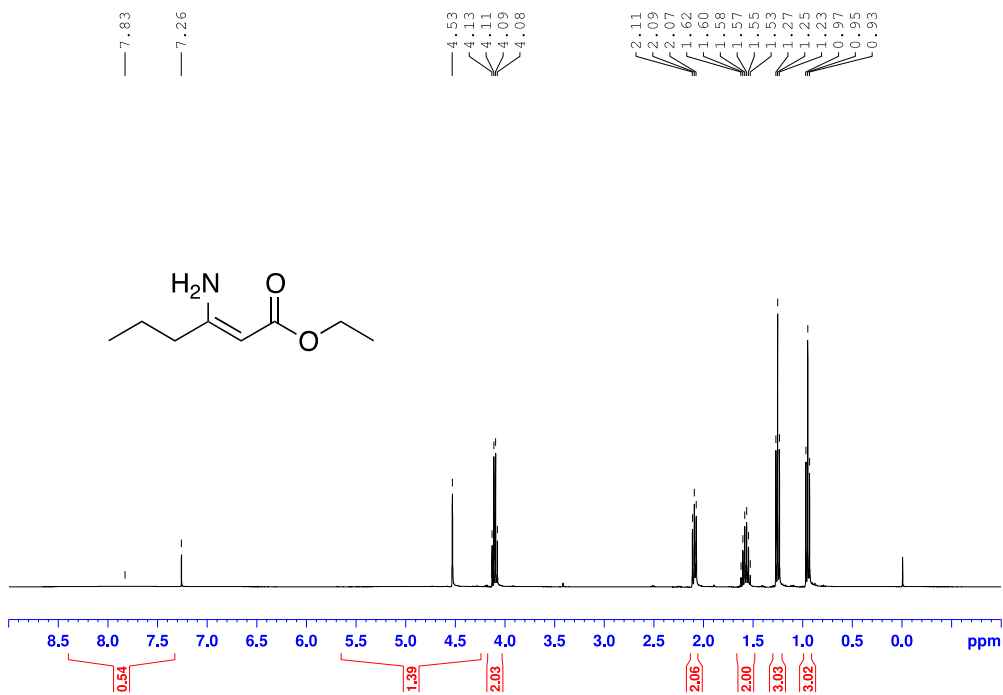
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## 7. Copies of <sup>1</sup>H NMR and <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectra of enamino esters 1

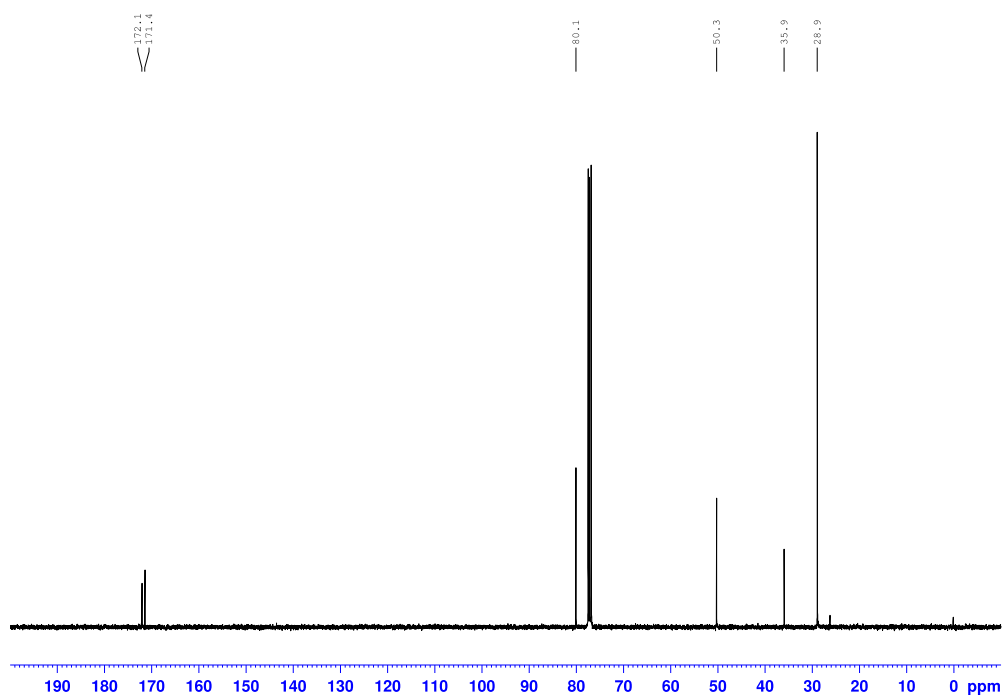
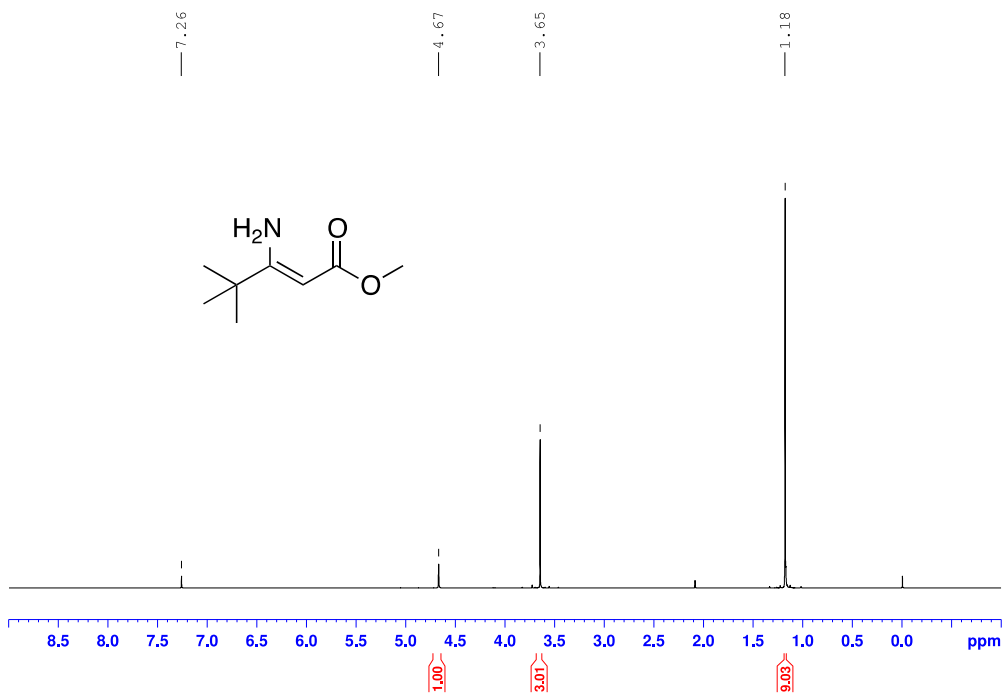
### Methyl 3-amino-2-butenate (1a)



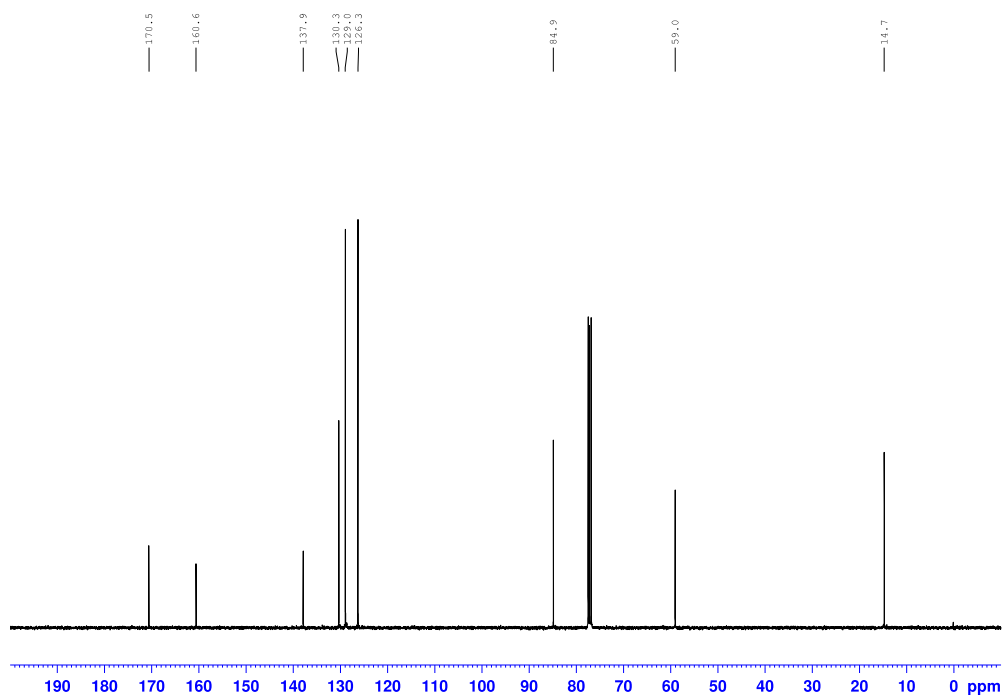
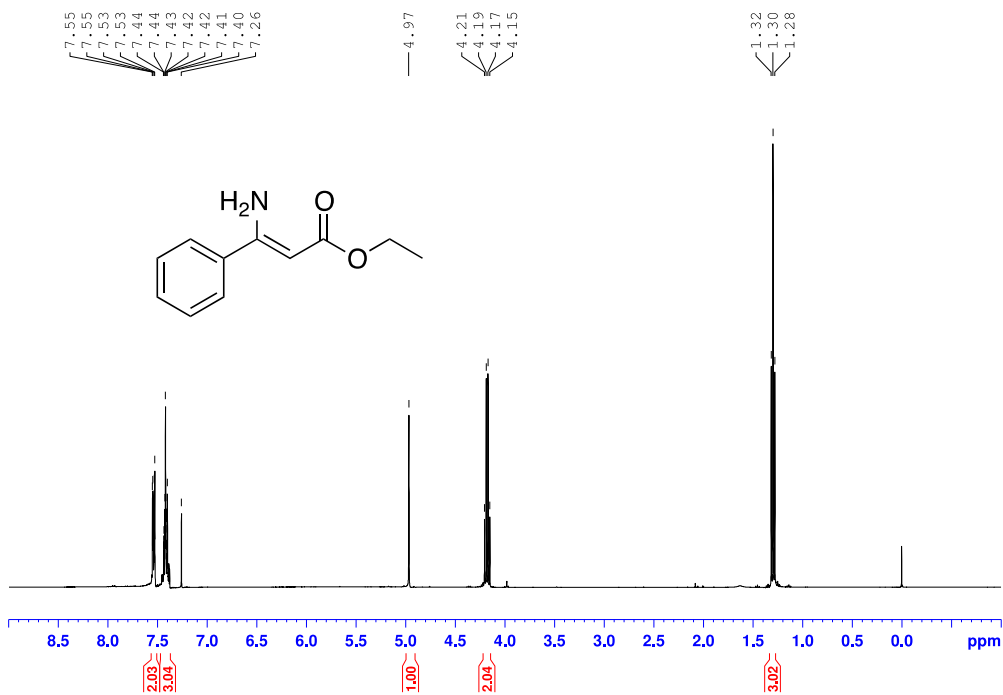
**Ethyl 3-amino-2-hexenoate (1b)**



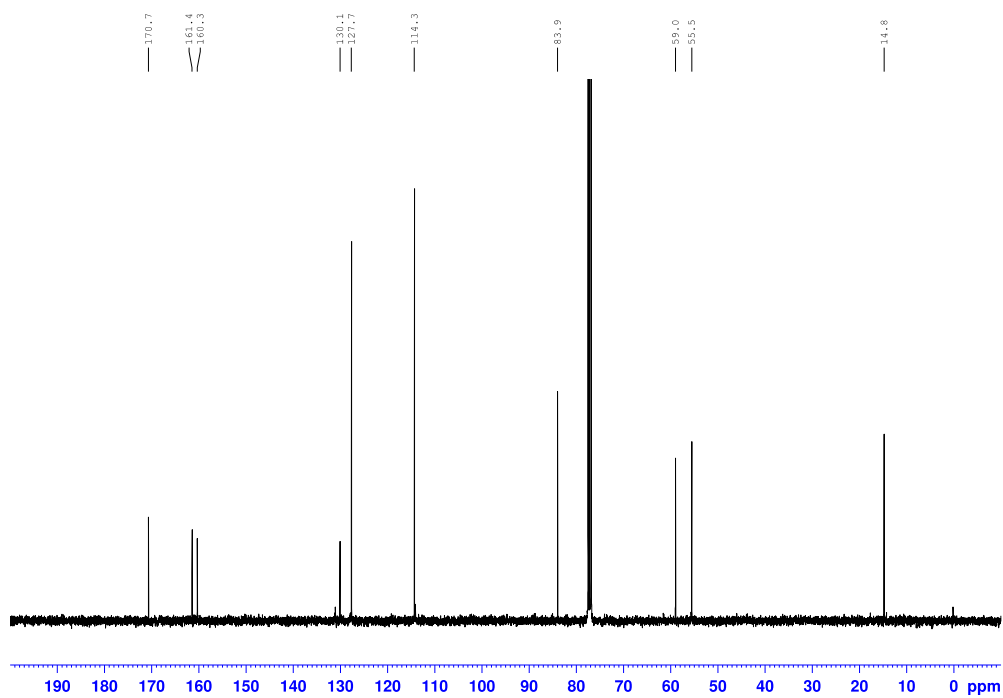
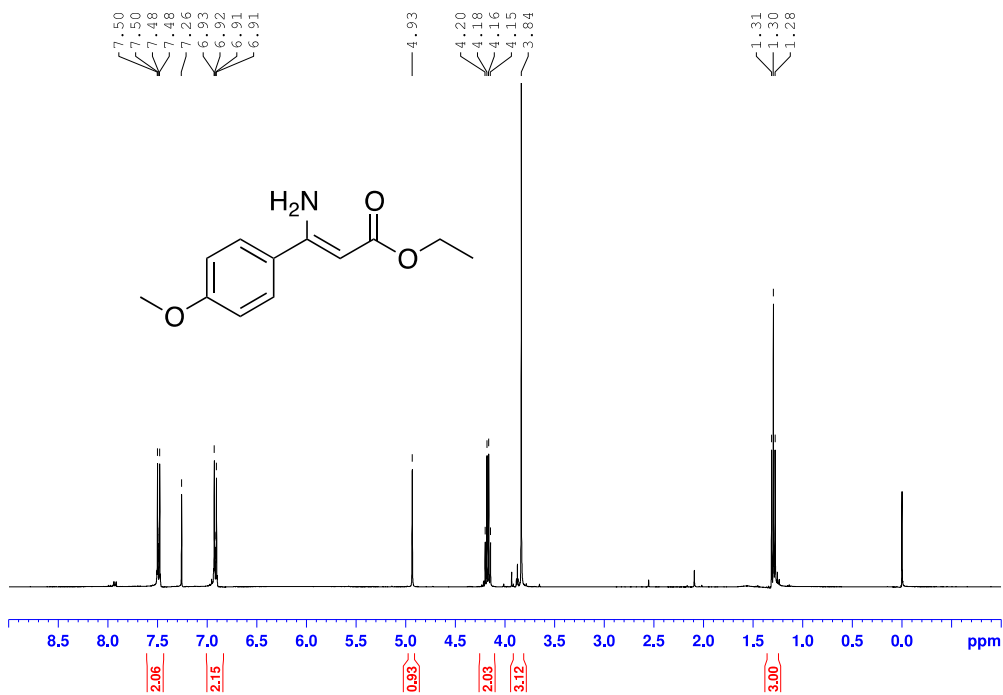
Methyl 3-amino-4,4-dimethyl-2-pentenoate (1c)



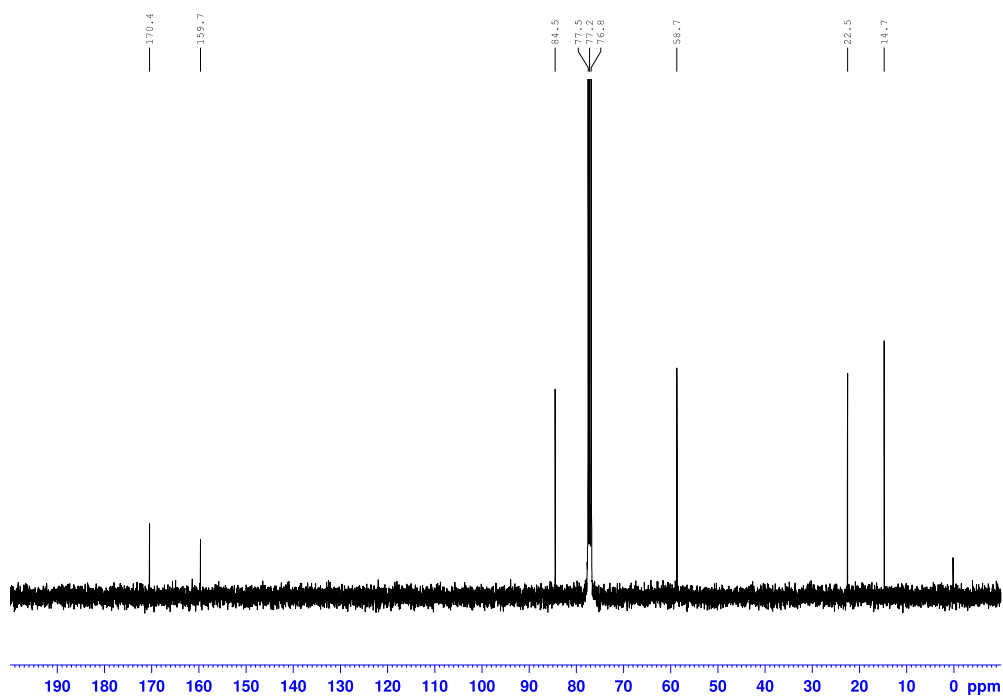
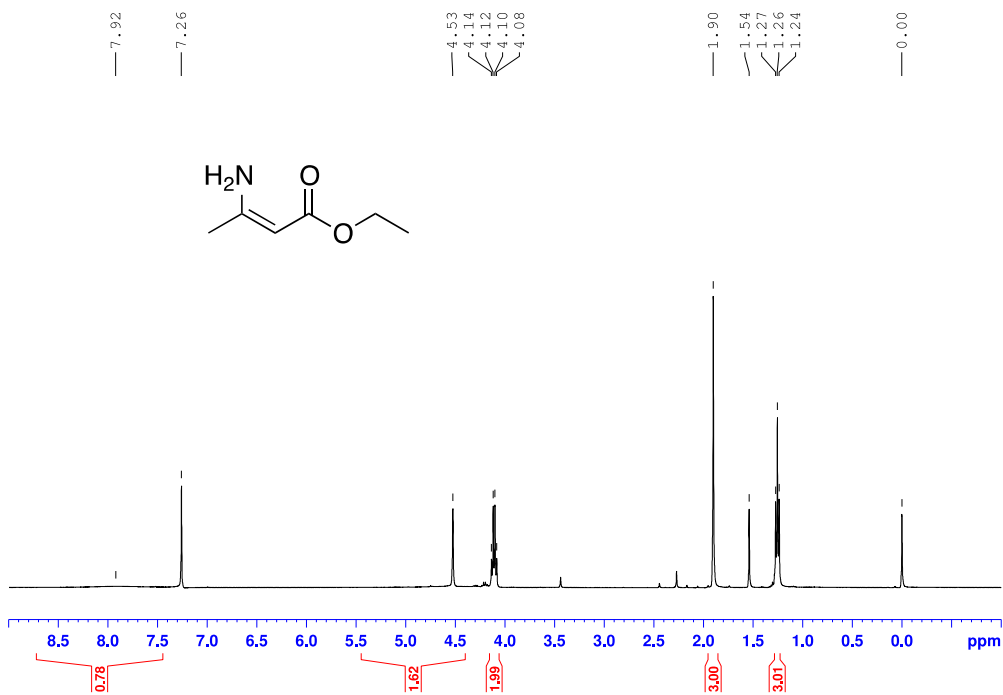
Ethyl 3-amino-4-phenyl-2-buten-1-olate (1d)



Ethyl 3-amino-4-(4-methoxyphenyl)-2-butenate (1e)

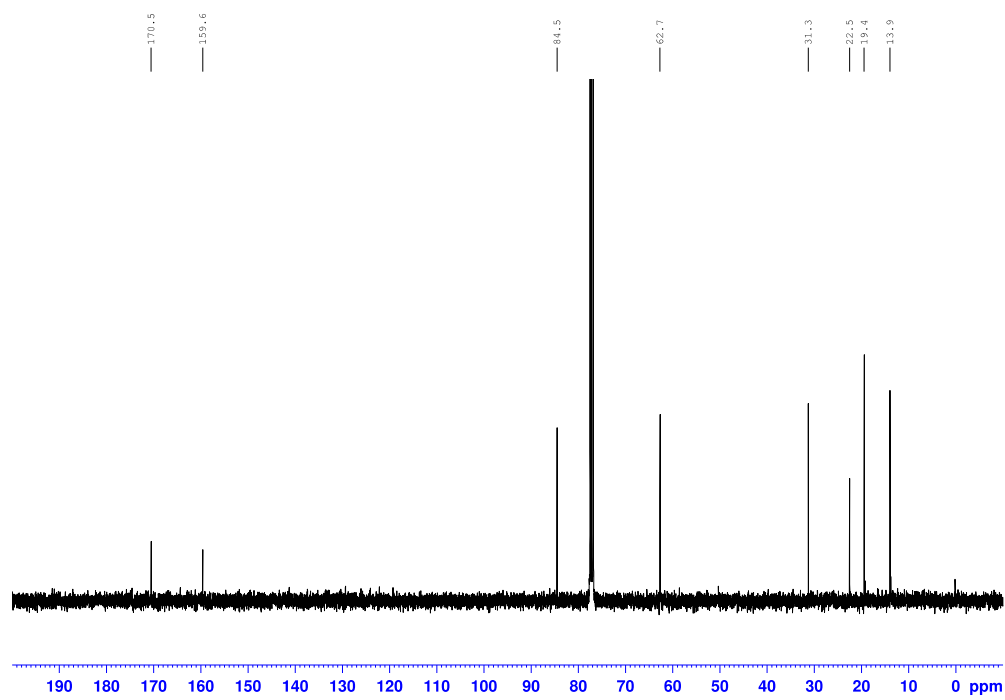
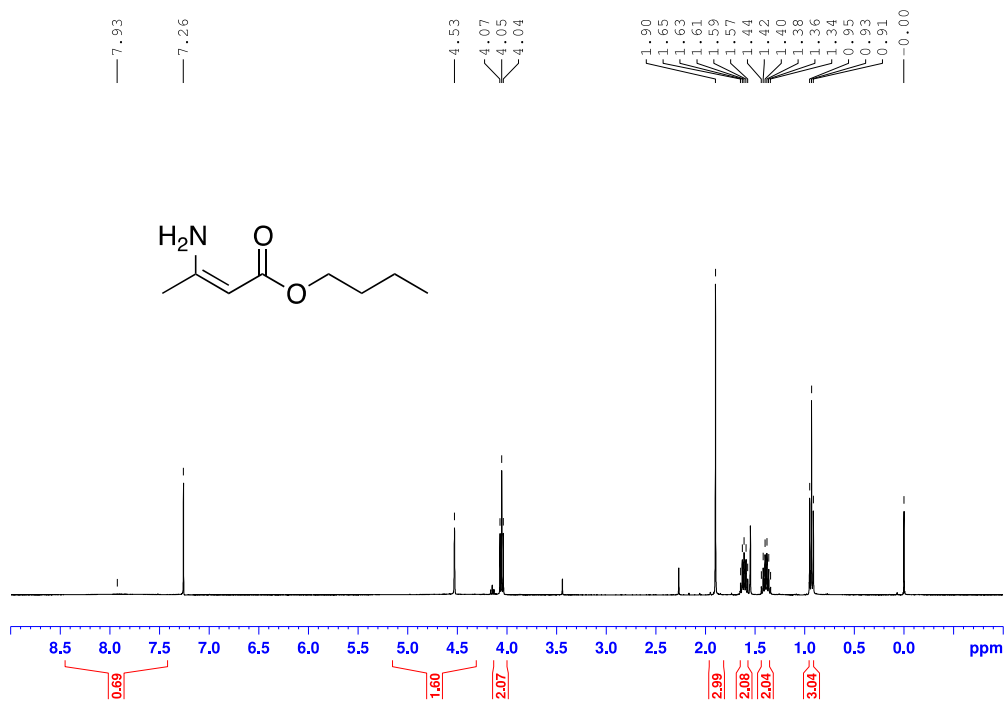


**Ethyl 3-amino-2-butenoate (1f)**

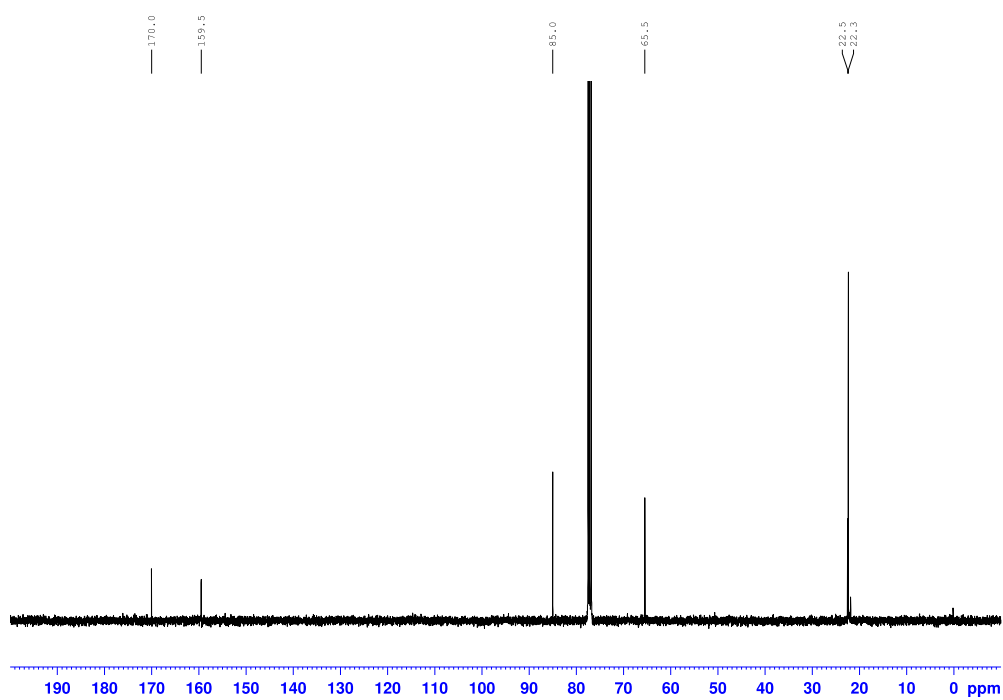
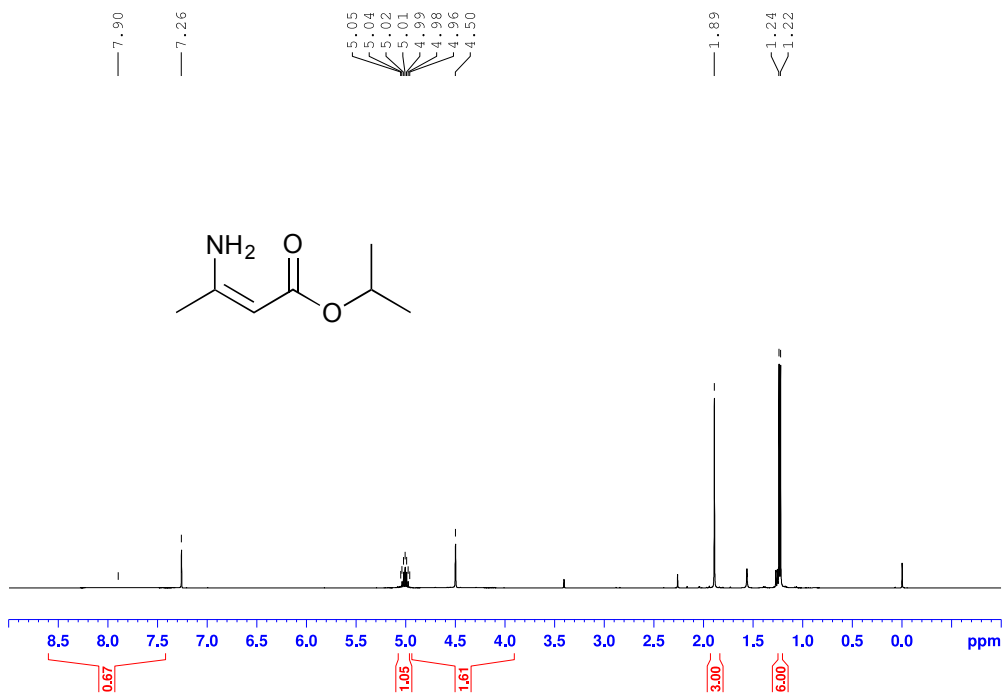


Butyl 3-amino-2-butenate (1g)

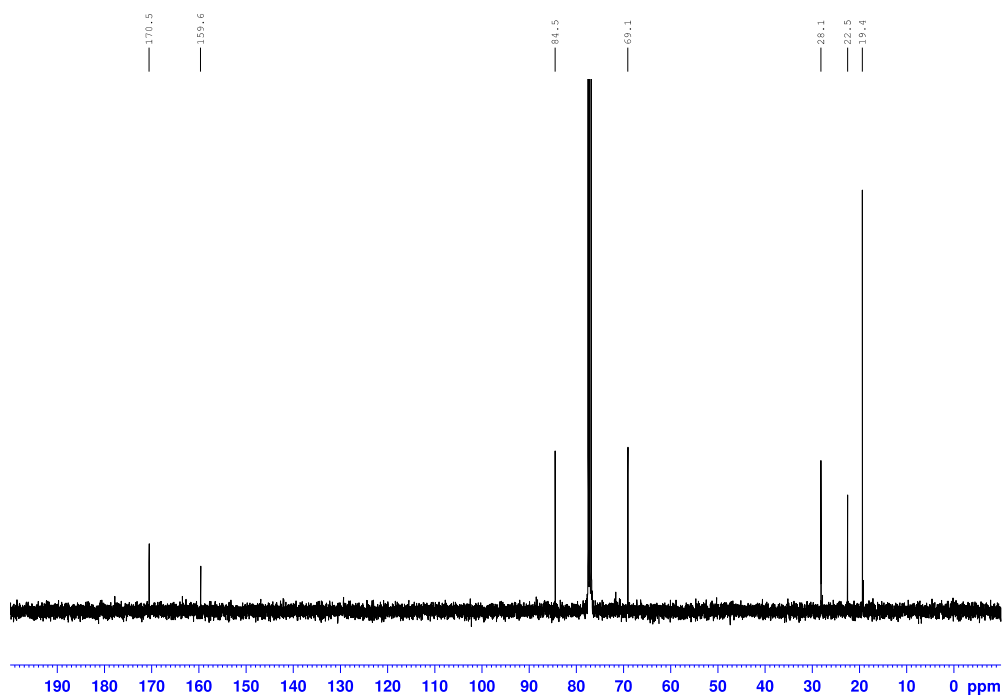
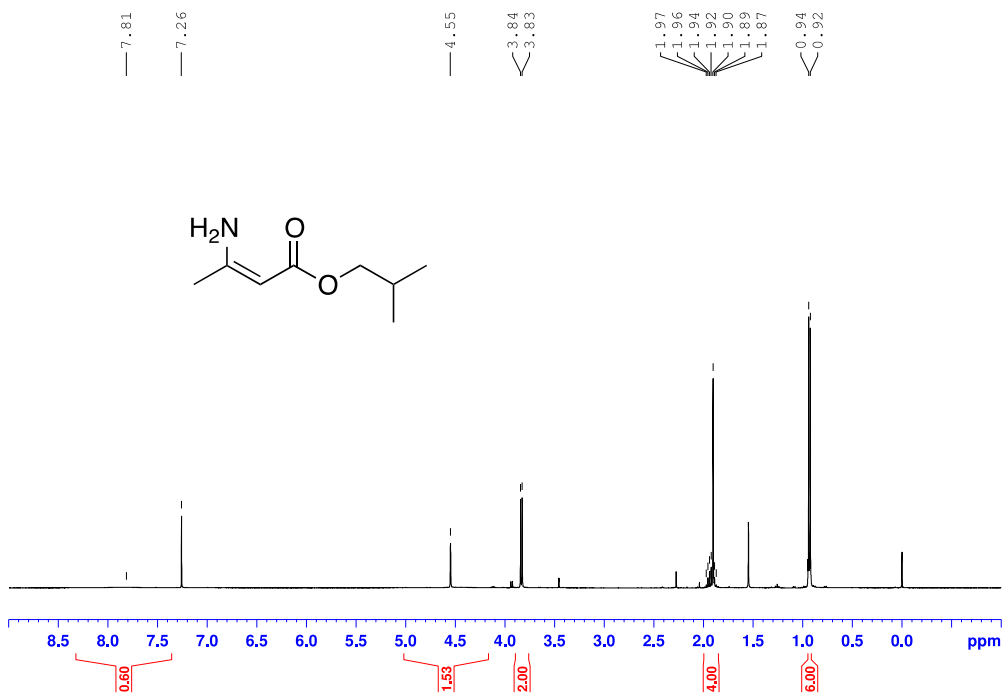




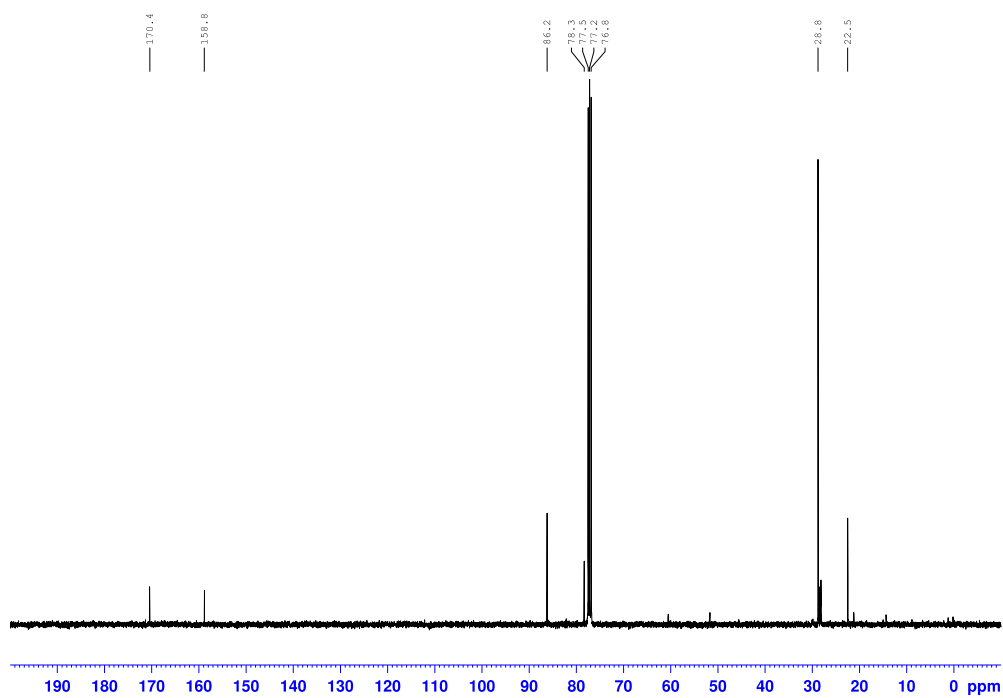
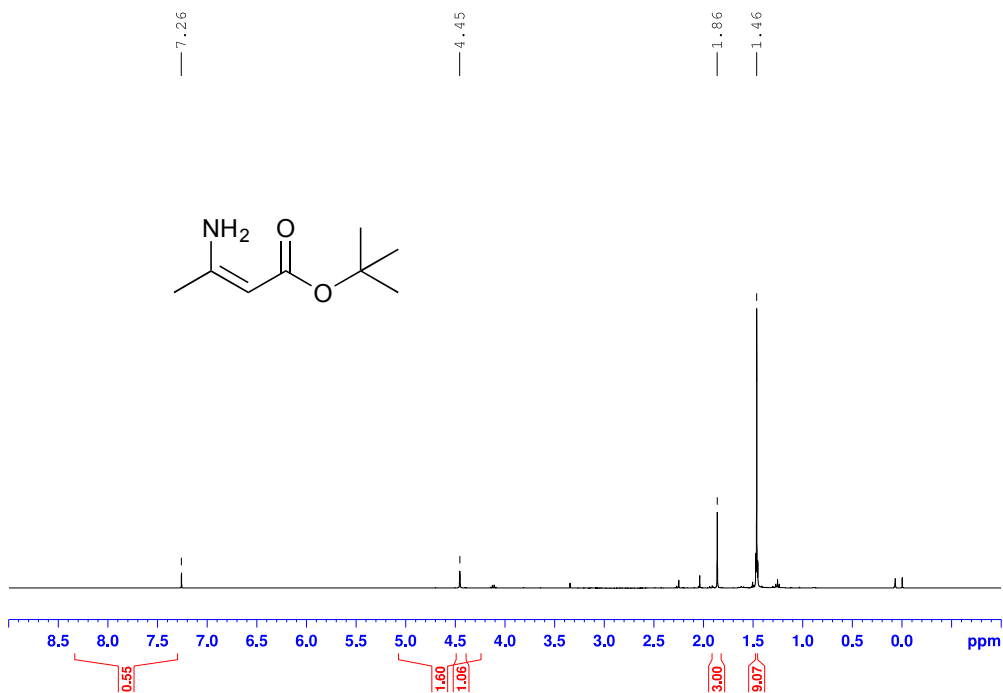
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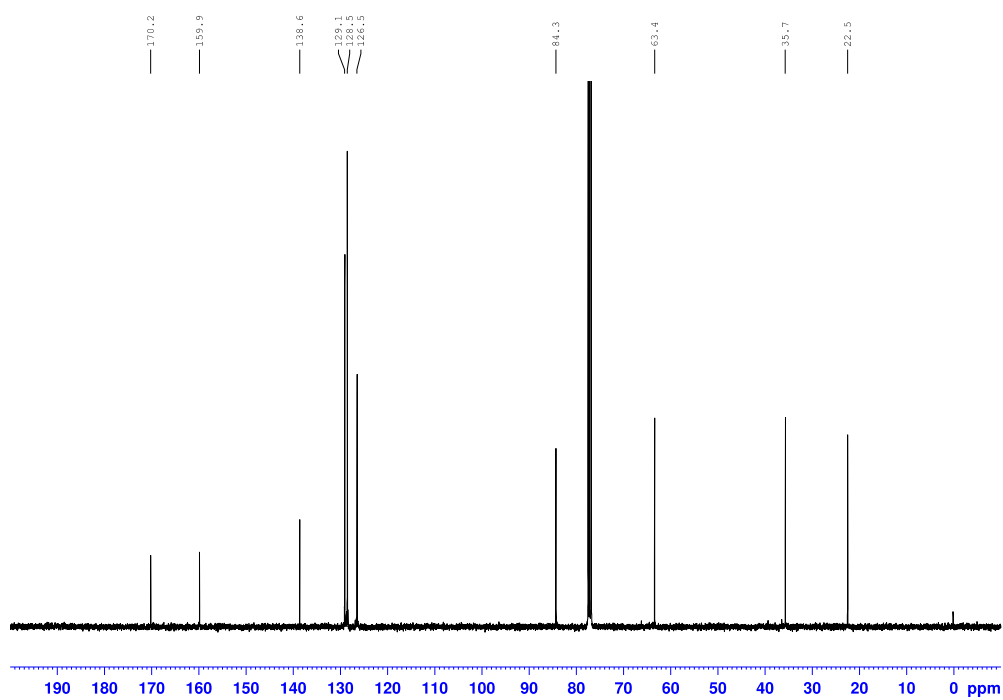
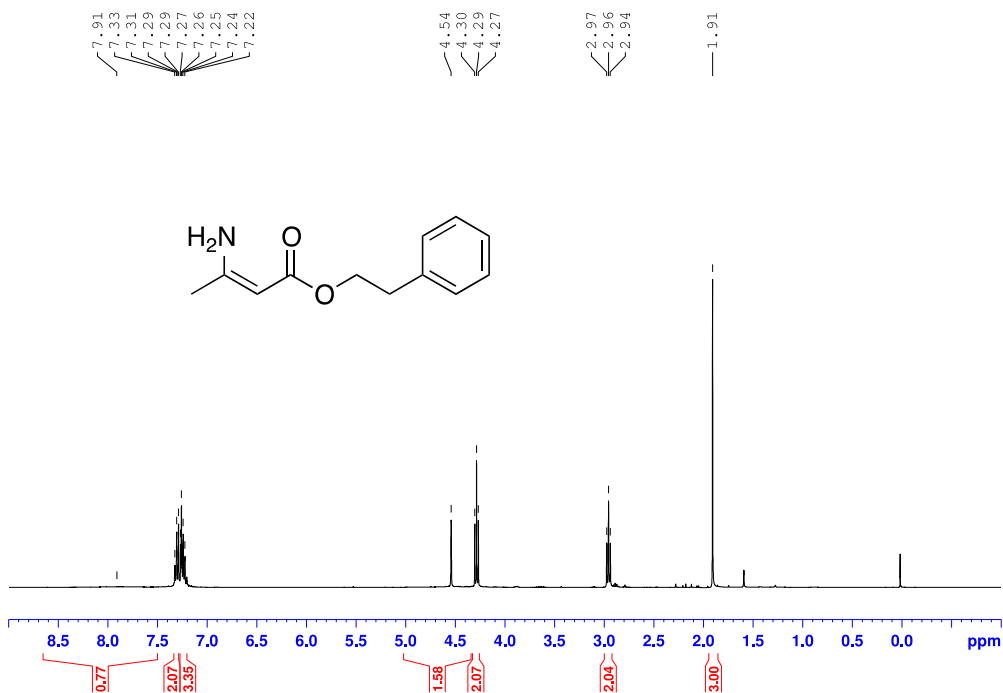
2-Methyl-1-propyl 3-amino-2-butenoate (1i)



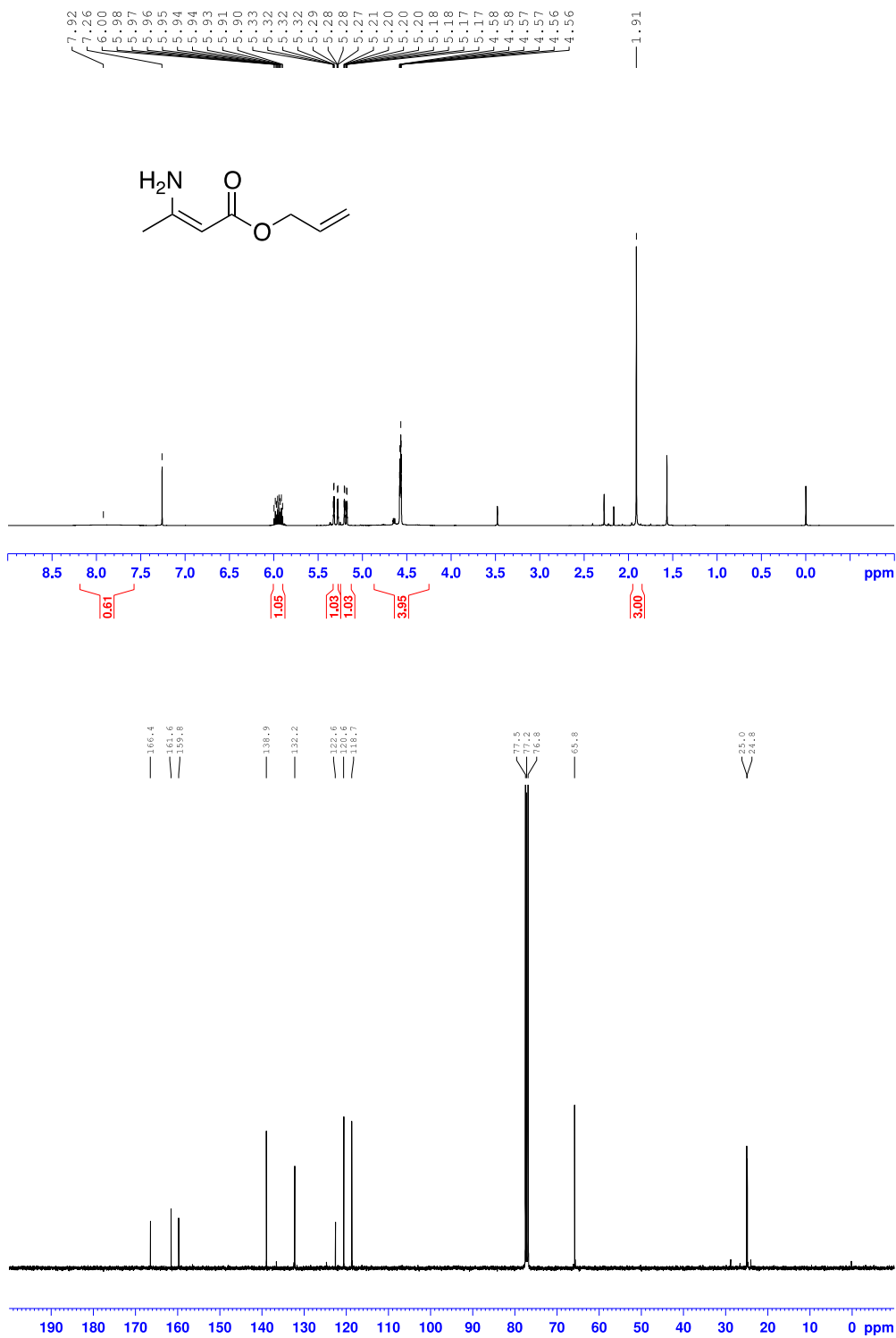
2-Methyl-2-propyl 3-amino-2-butenoate (1j)



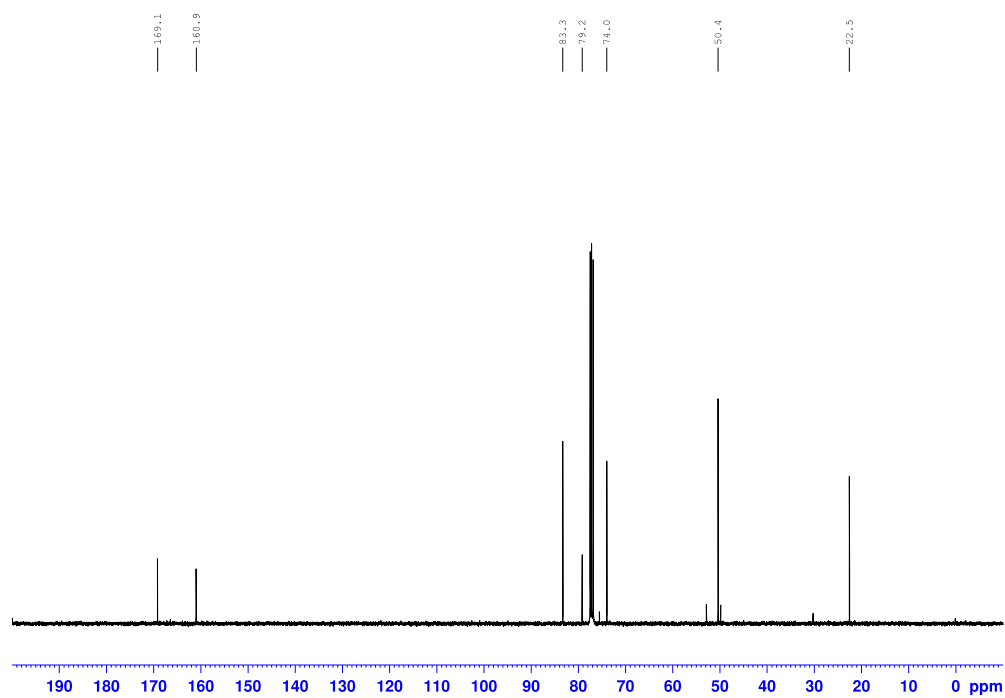
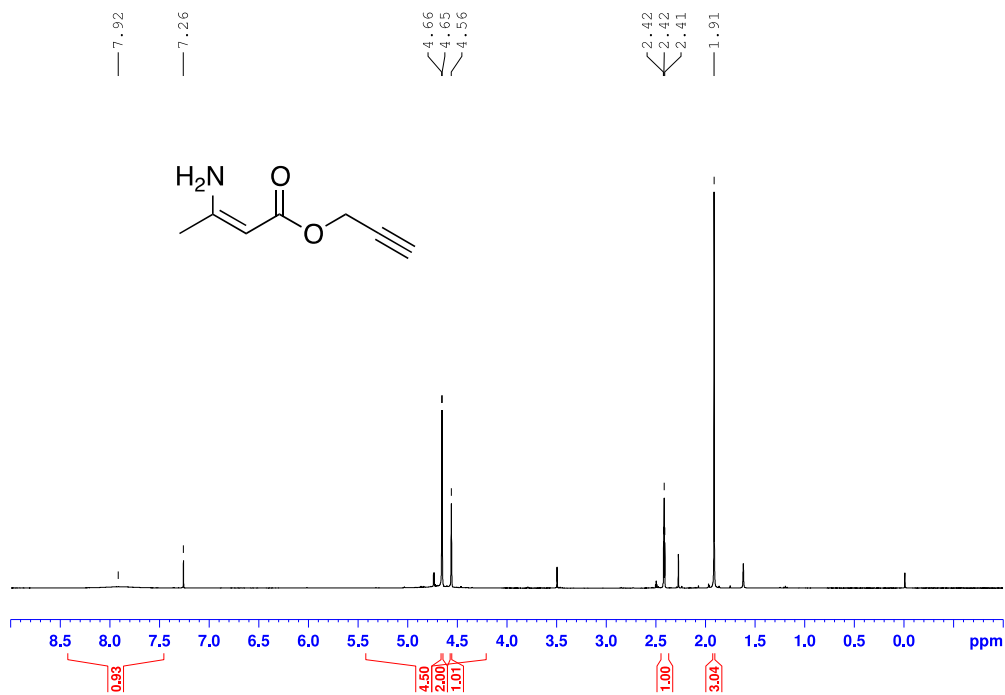
2-Phenylethyl 3-amino-2-butenoate (1k)



Propenyl 3-amino-2-butenoate (II)

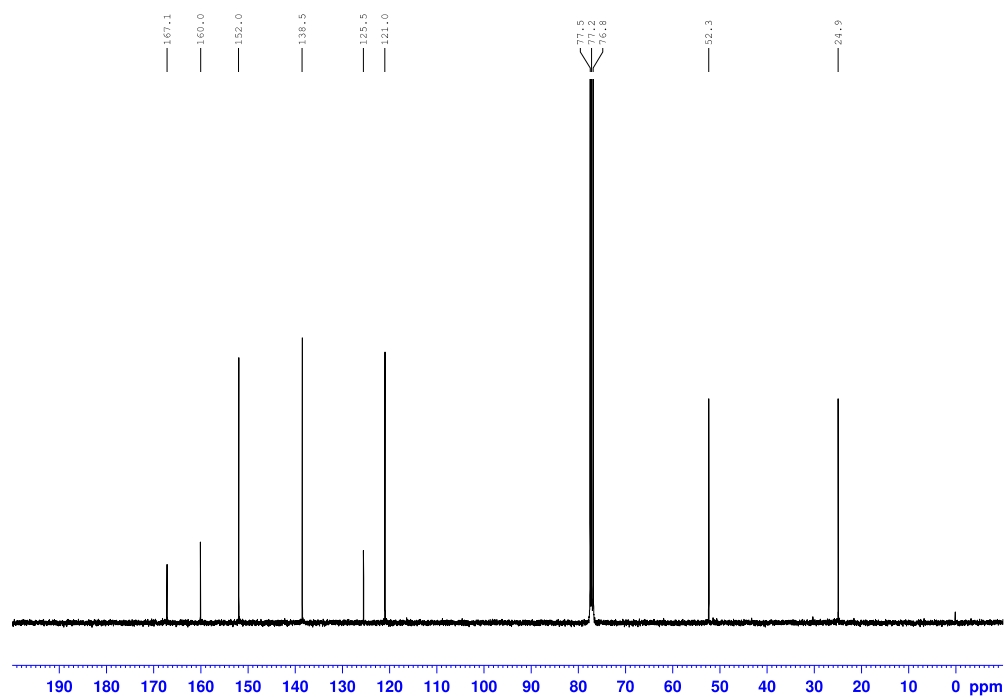
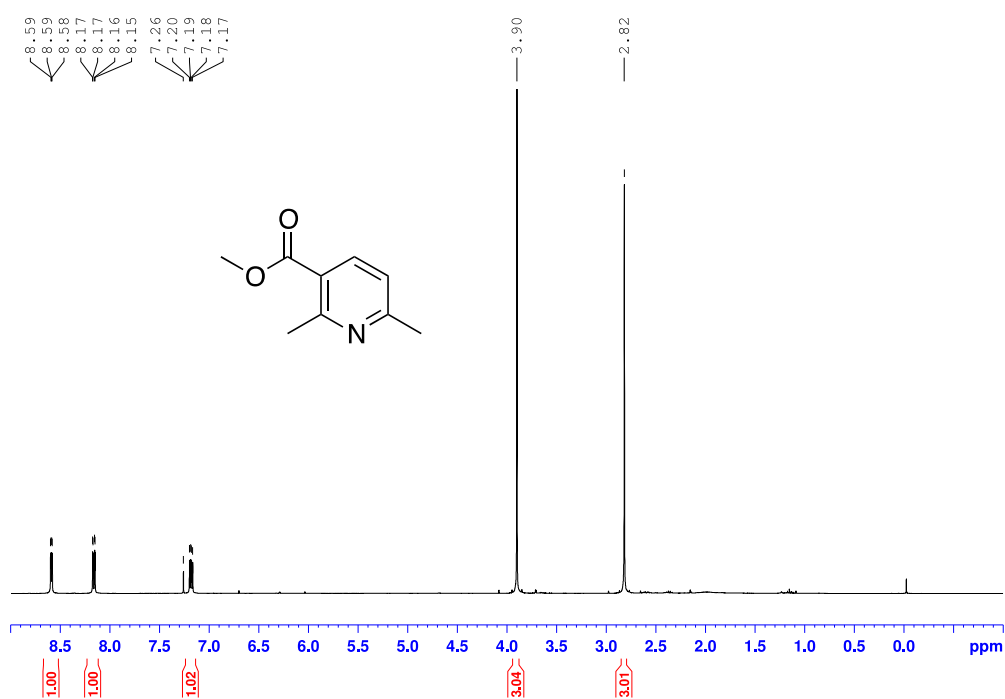


3-Propynyl 3-amino-2-butenate (1m)



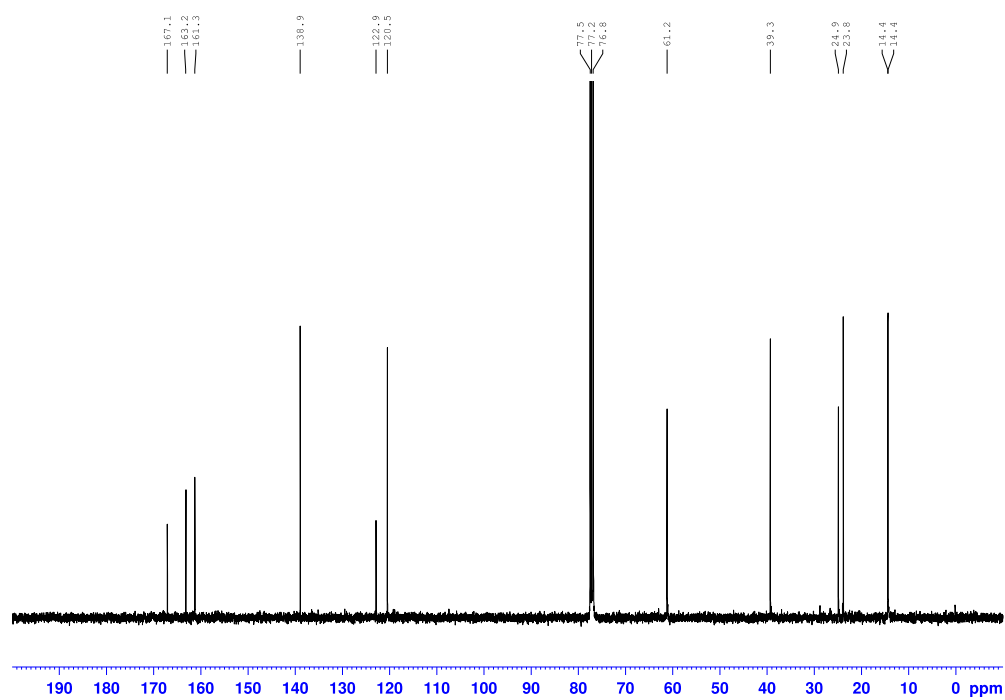
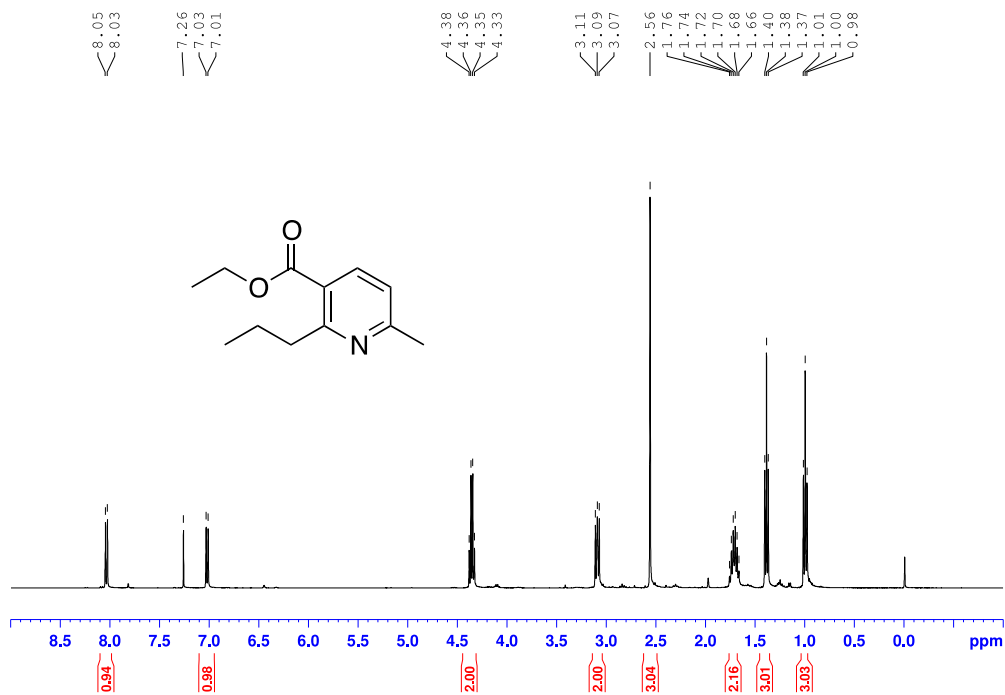
## 8. Copies of $^1\text{H}$ NMR and $^{13}\text{C}$ NMR spectra of nicotinates 3

### Methyl 2,6-dimethylpyridine-3-carboxylate (3aa)

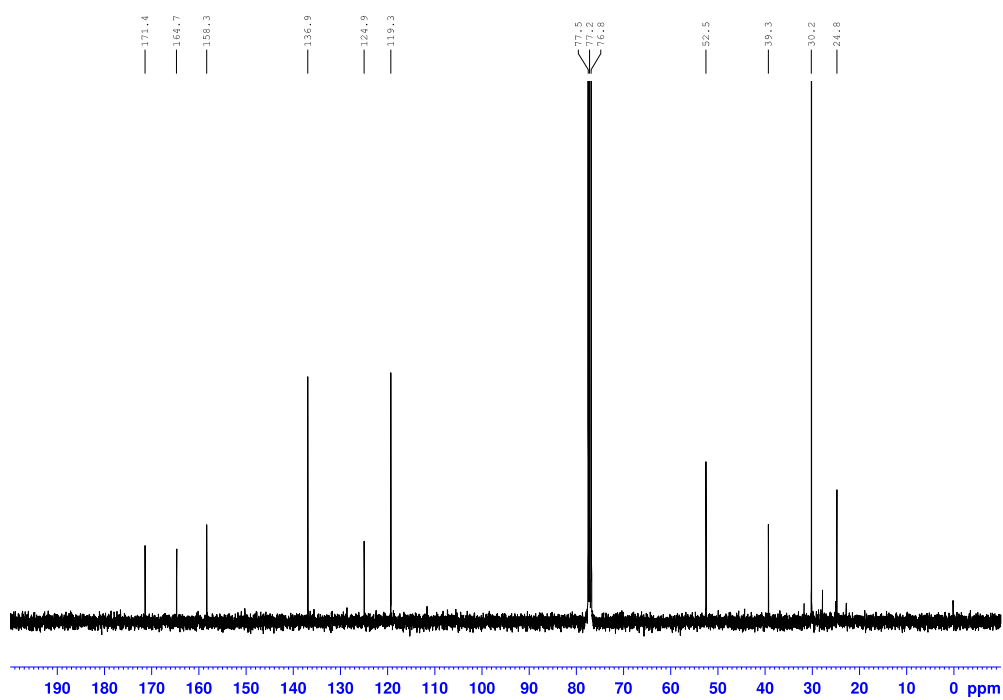
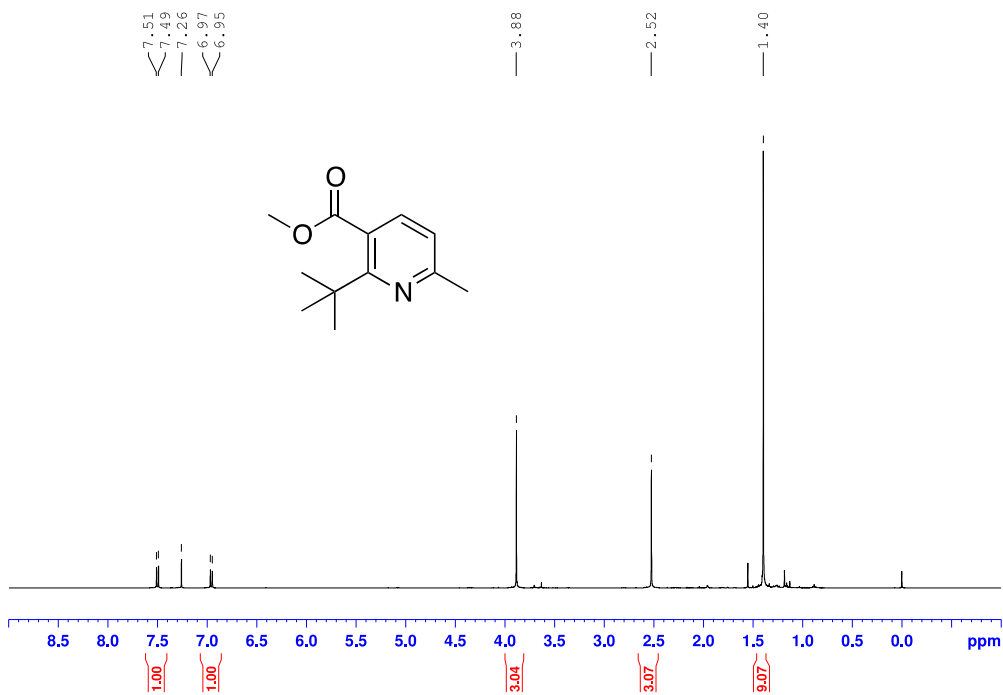


### Ethyl 6-methyl-2-propylpyridine-3-carboxylate (3ba)

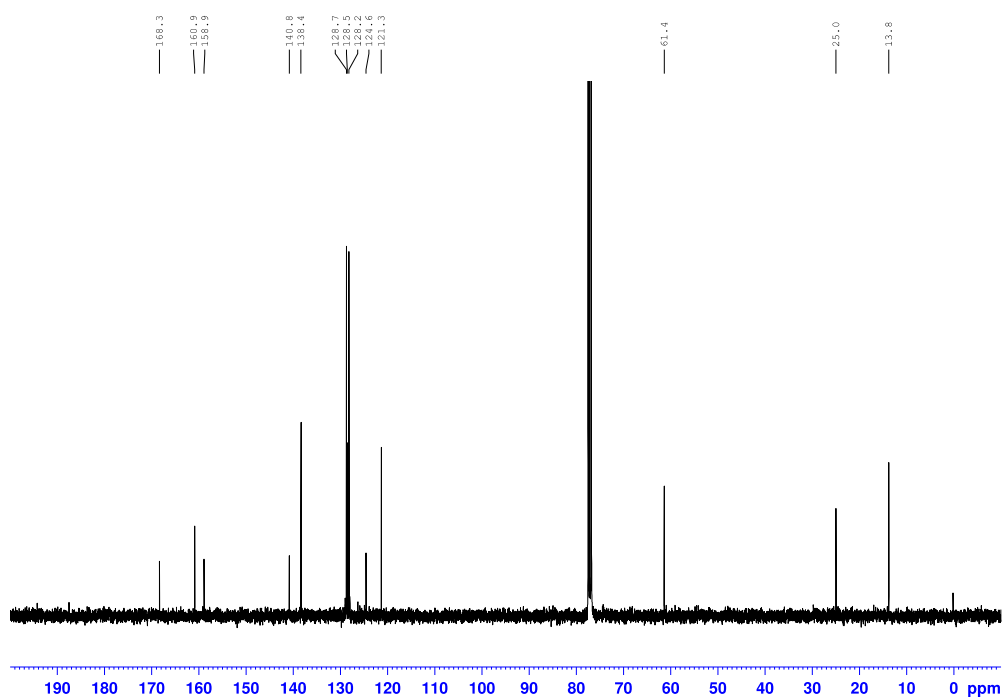
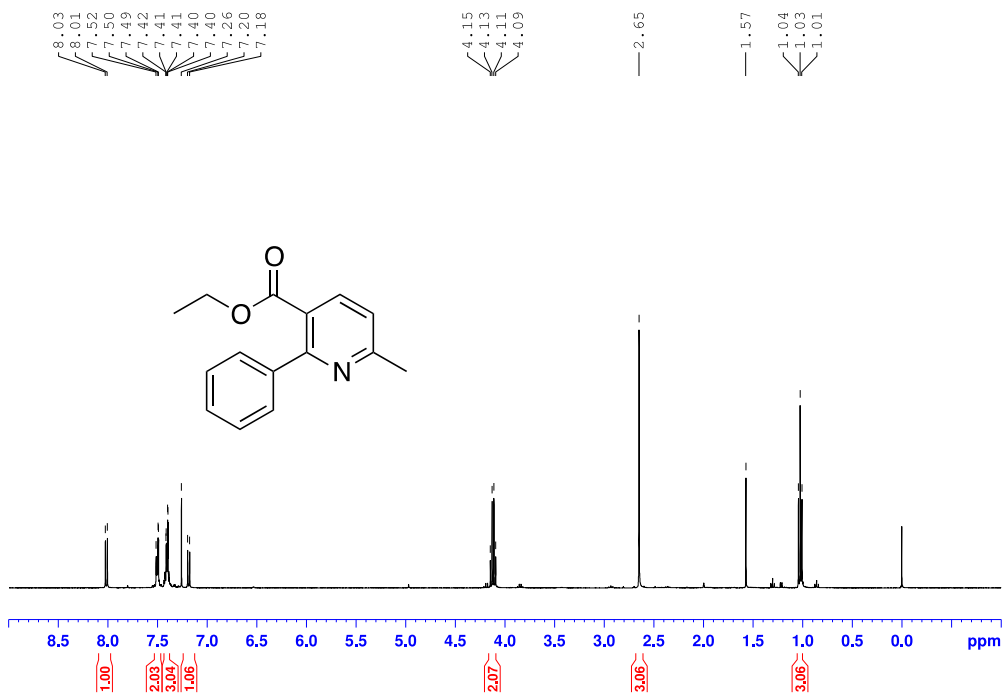




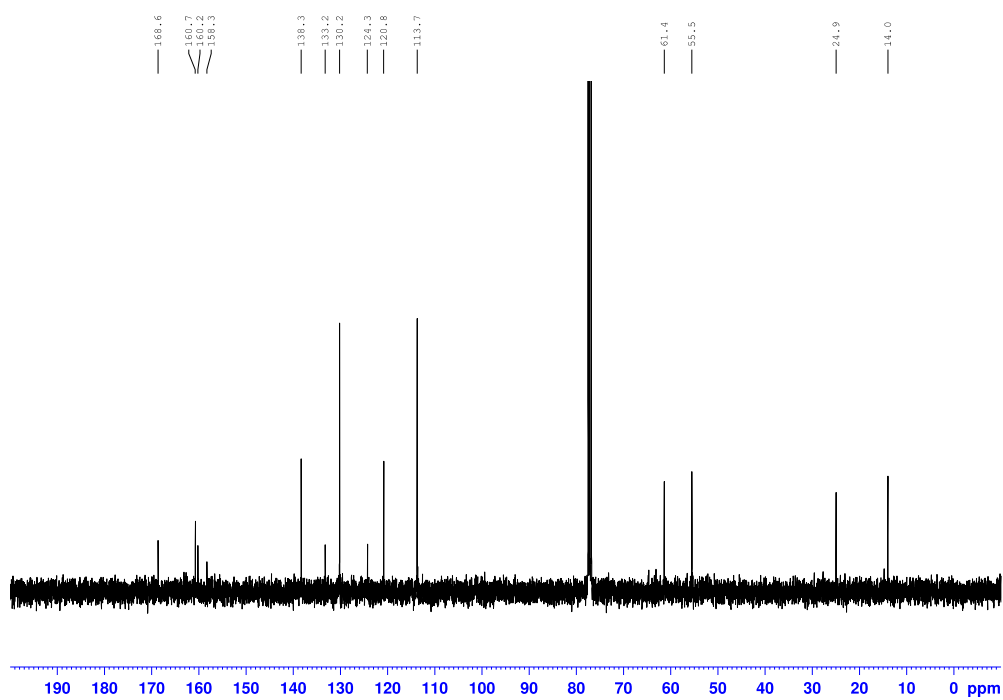
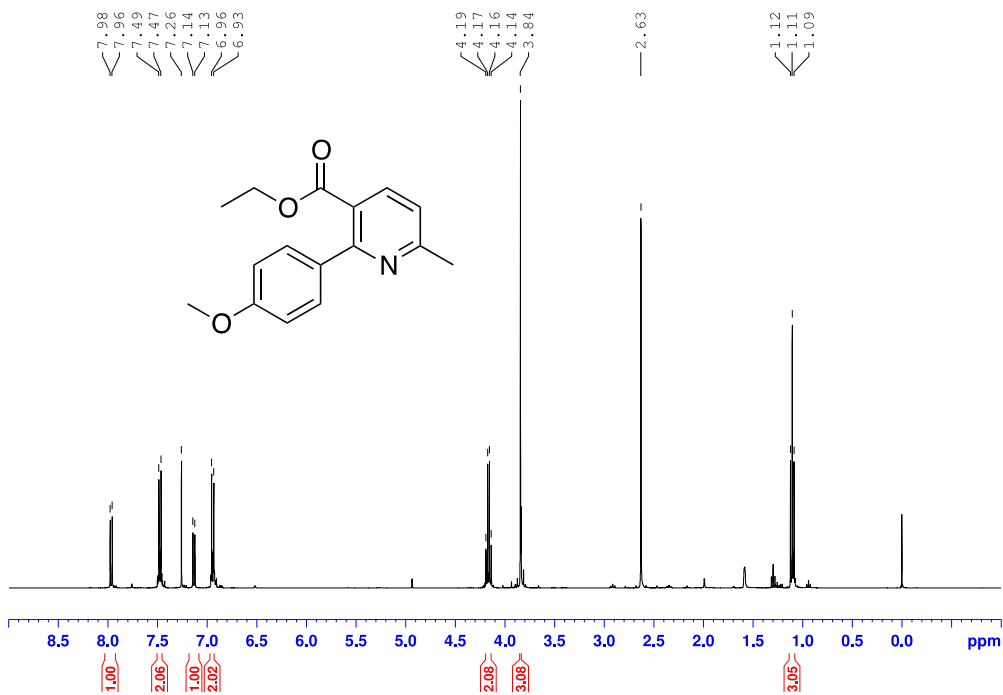
Methyl 6-methyl-2-(2-methyl-1-propyl) pyridine-3-carboxylate (3ca)



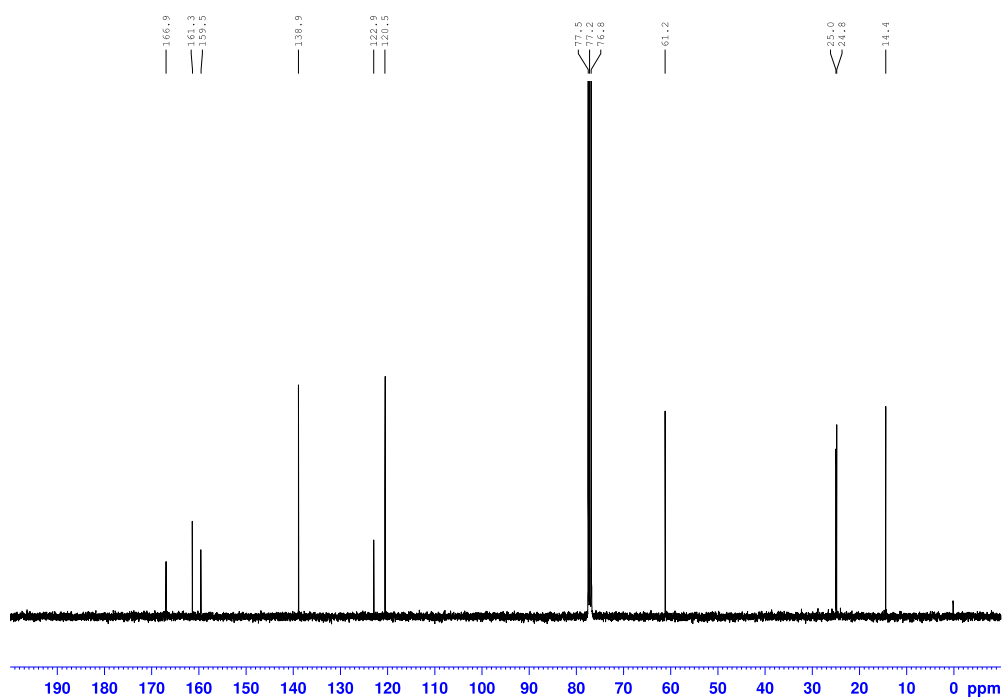
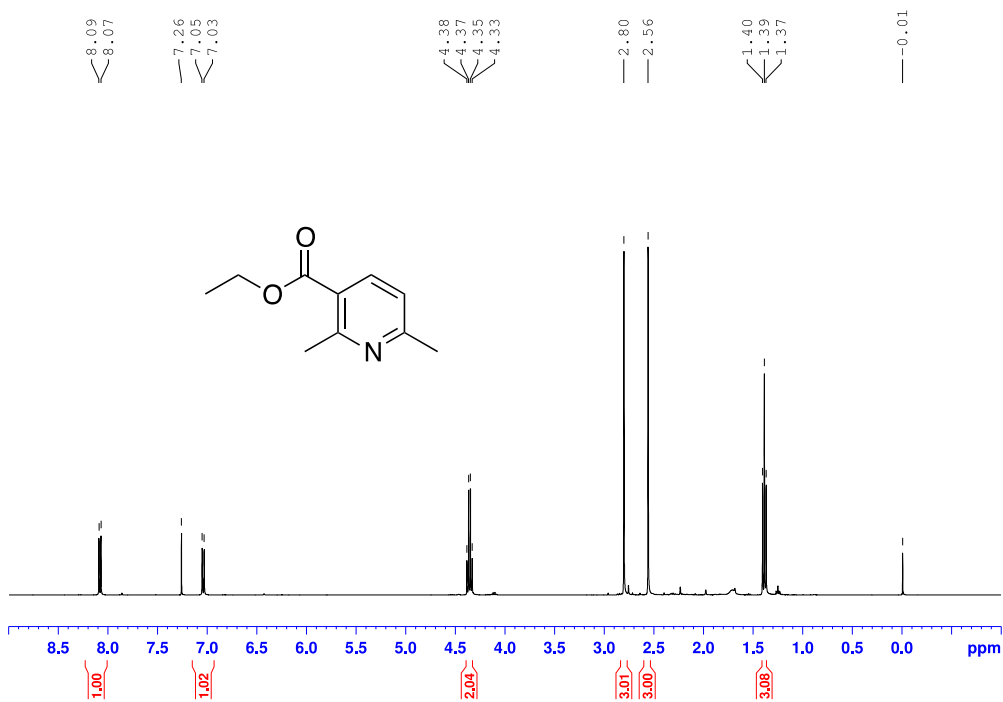
Ethyl 6-methyl-2-phenylpyridine-3-carboxylate (3da)



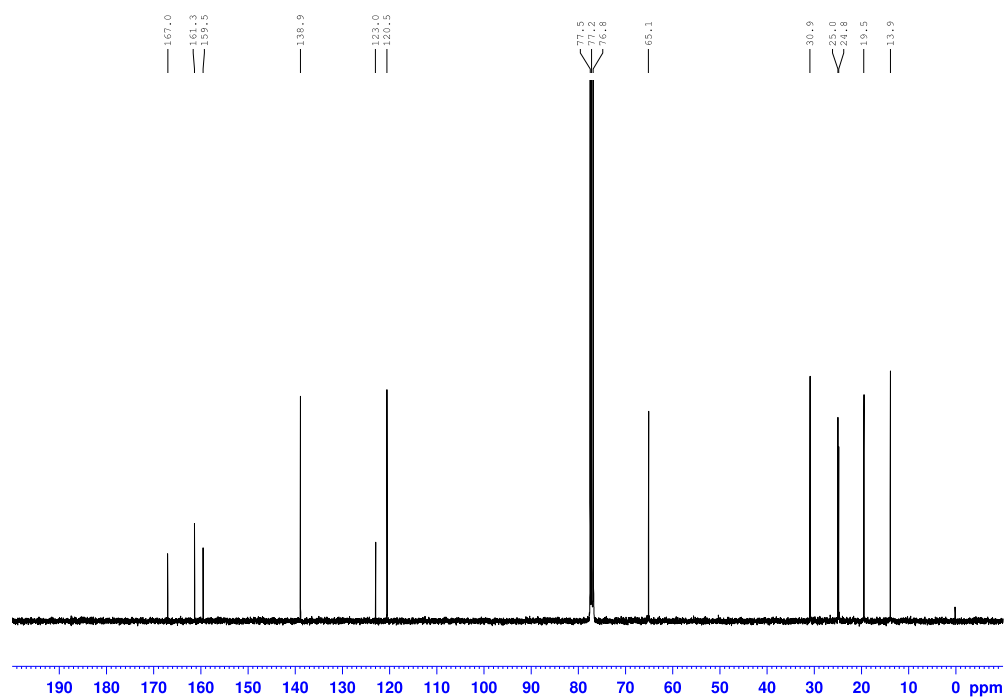
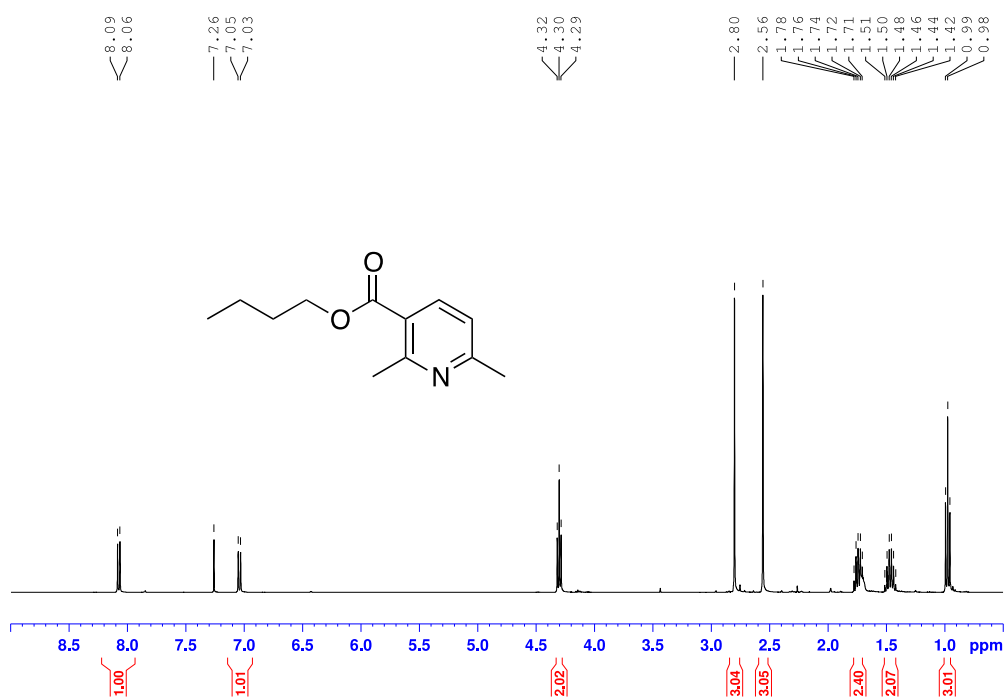
Ethyl 2-(4-methoxyphenyl)-6-methylpyridine-3-carboxylate (3ea)



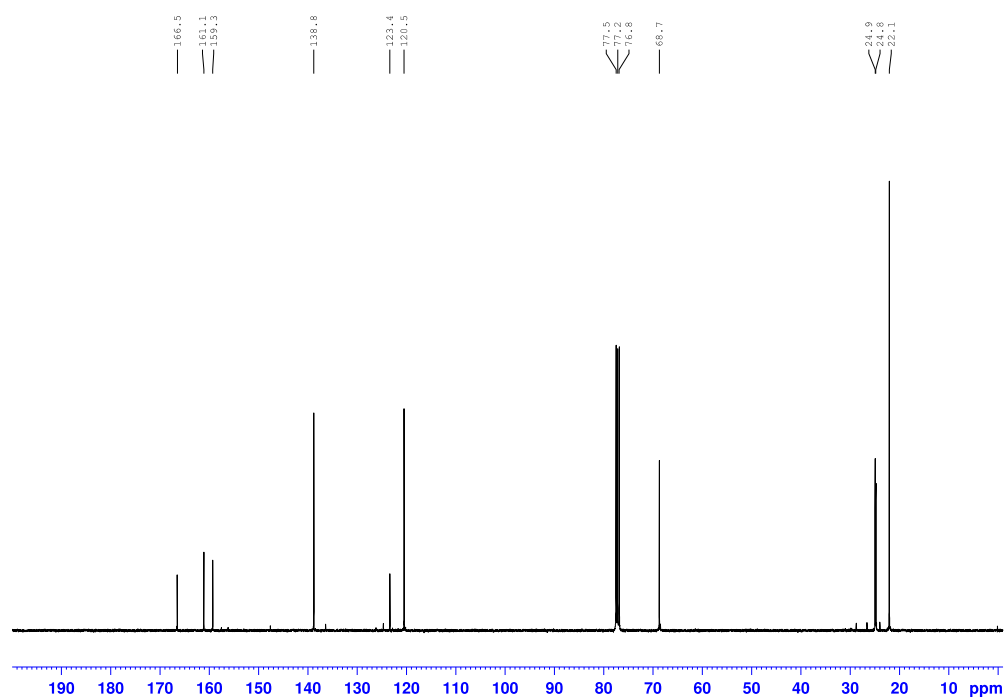
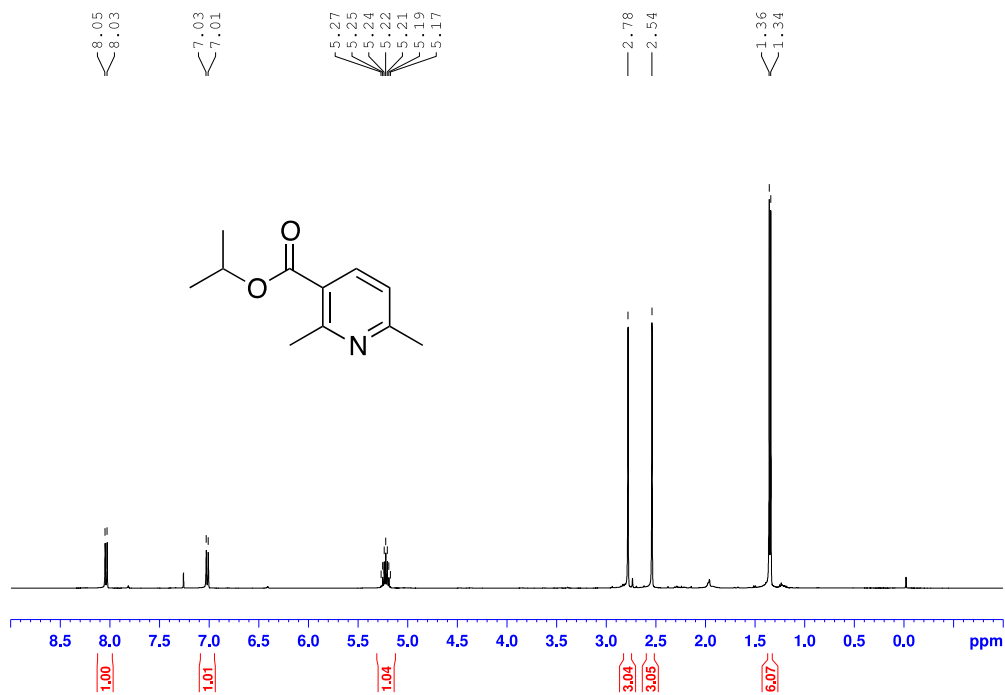
**Ethyl 2,6-dimethylpyridine-3-carboxylate (3fa)**



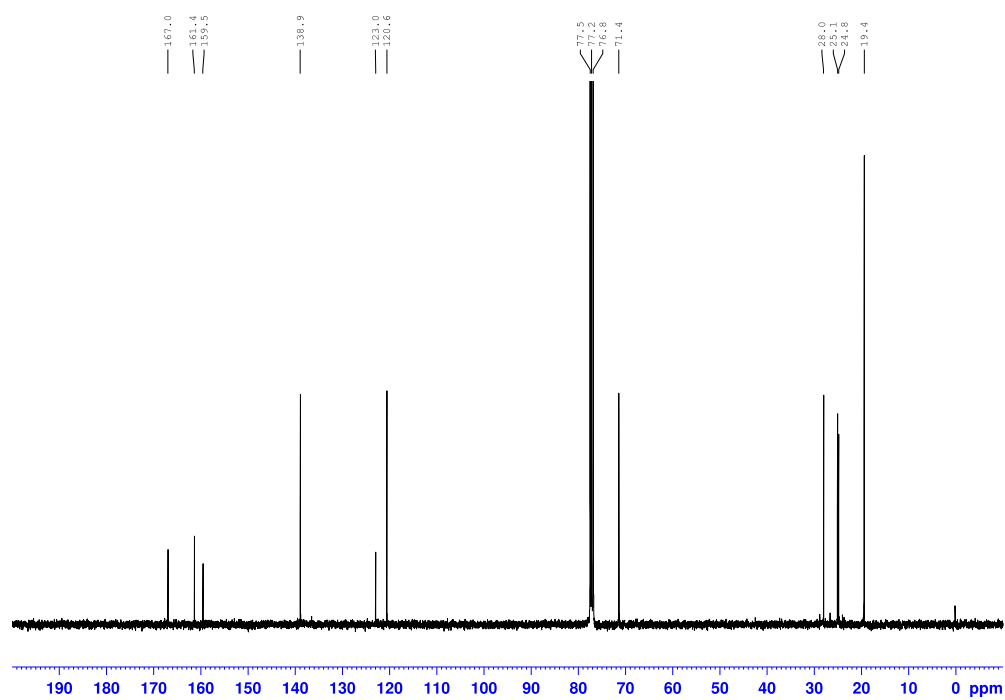
Butyl 2,6-dimethylpyridine-3-carboxylate (3ga)



**2-Propyl 2,6-dimethylpyridine-3-carboxylate (3ha)**

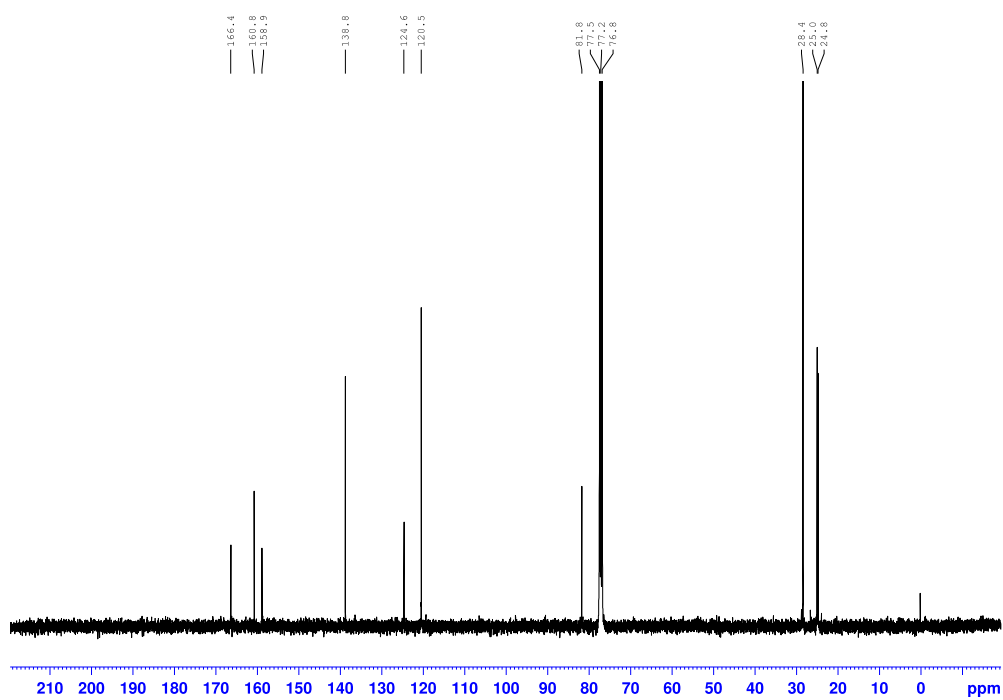
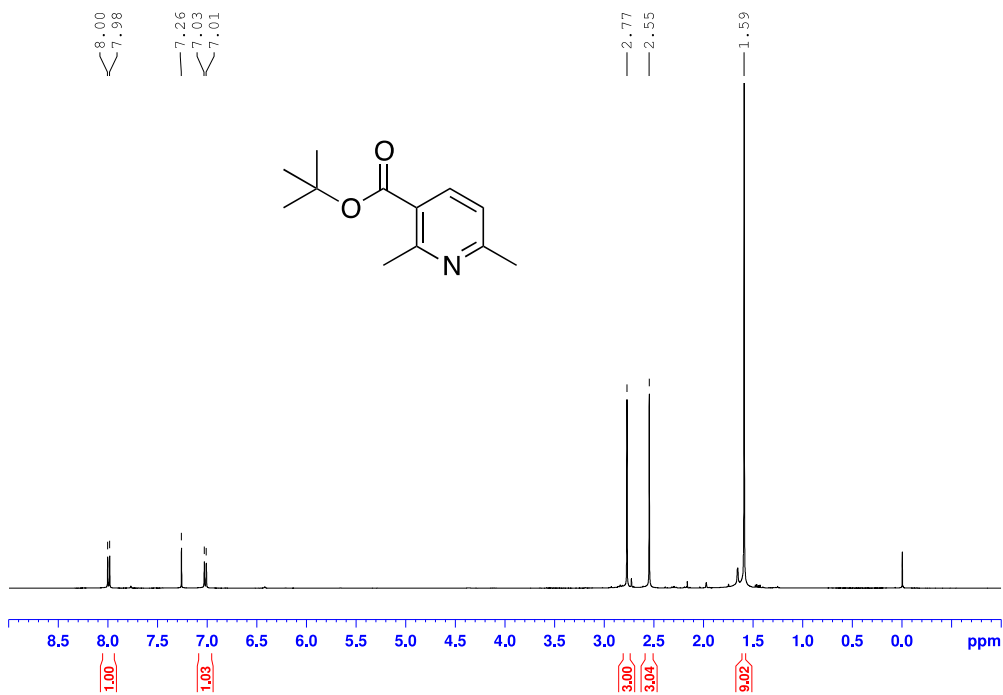


2-Methyl-1-propyl 2,6-dimethylpyridine-3-carboxylate (3ia)

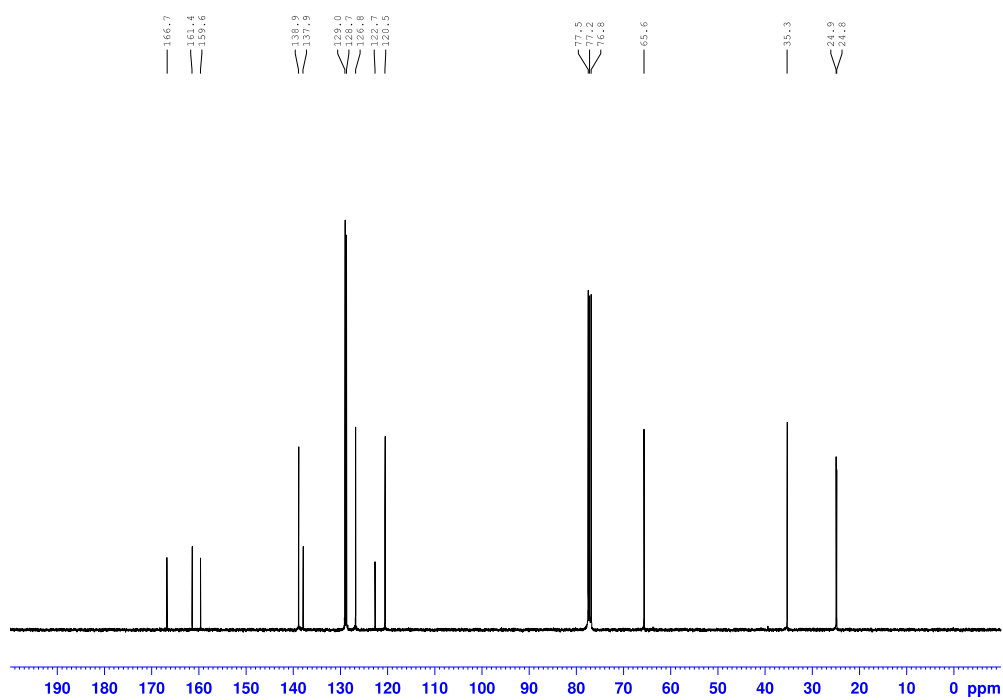
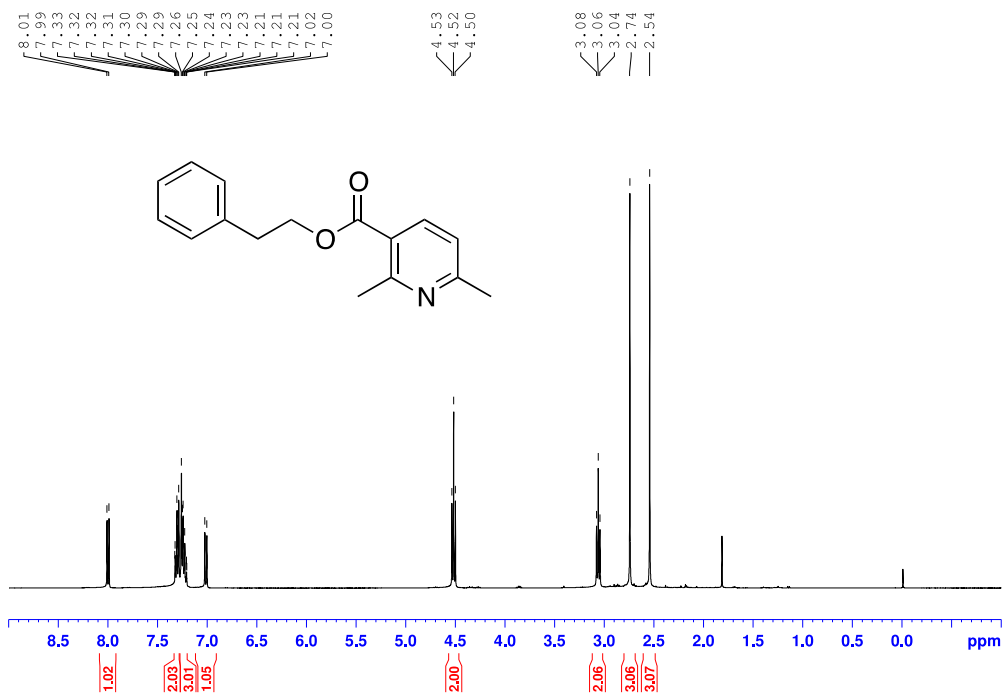


2-Methyl-2-propyl 2,6-dimethylpyridine-3-carboxylate (3ja)

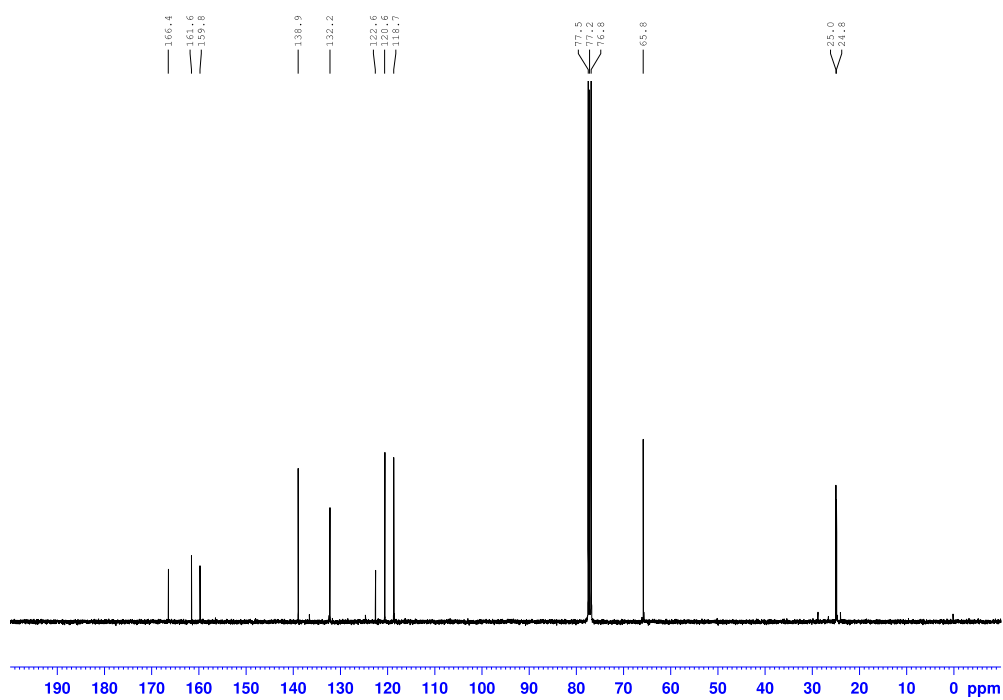
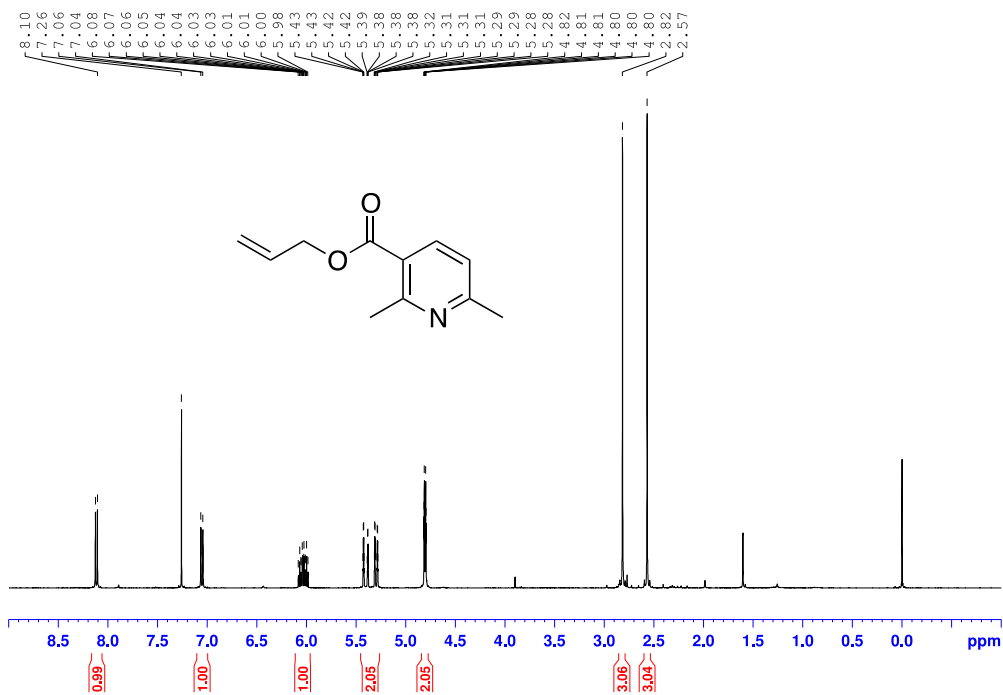




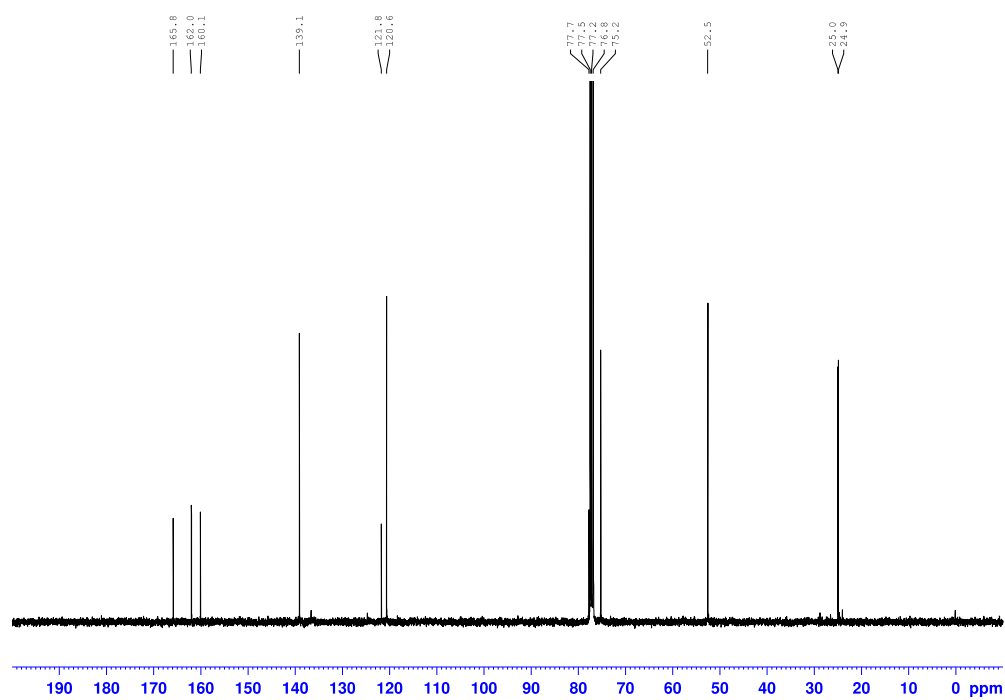
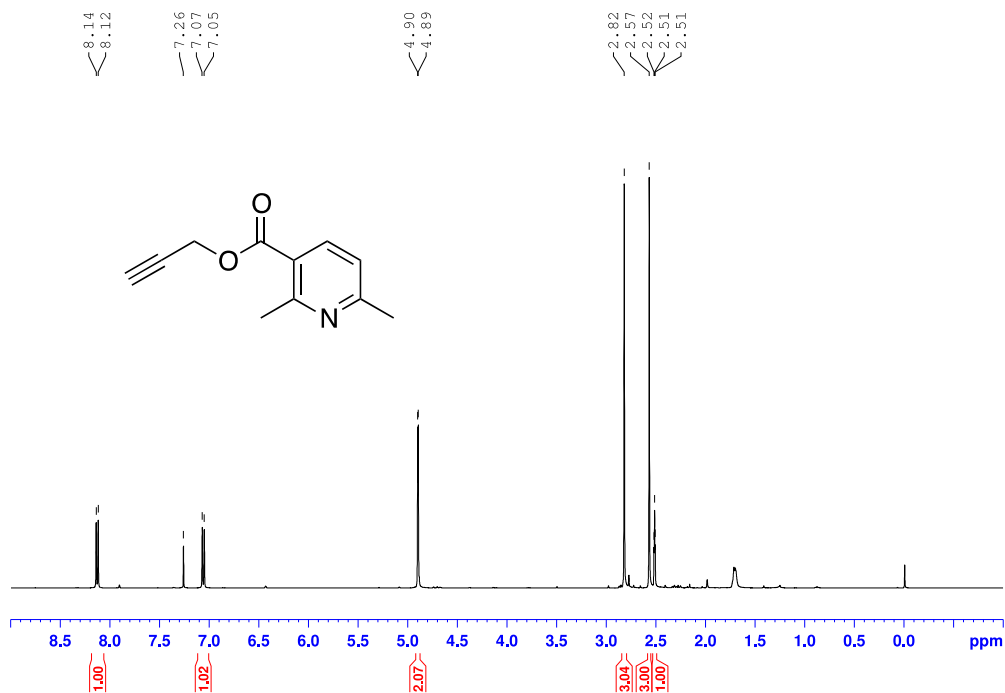
2-Phenylethyl 2,6-dimethylpyridine-3-carboxylate (3ka)



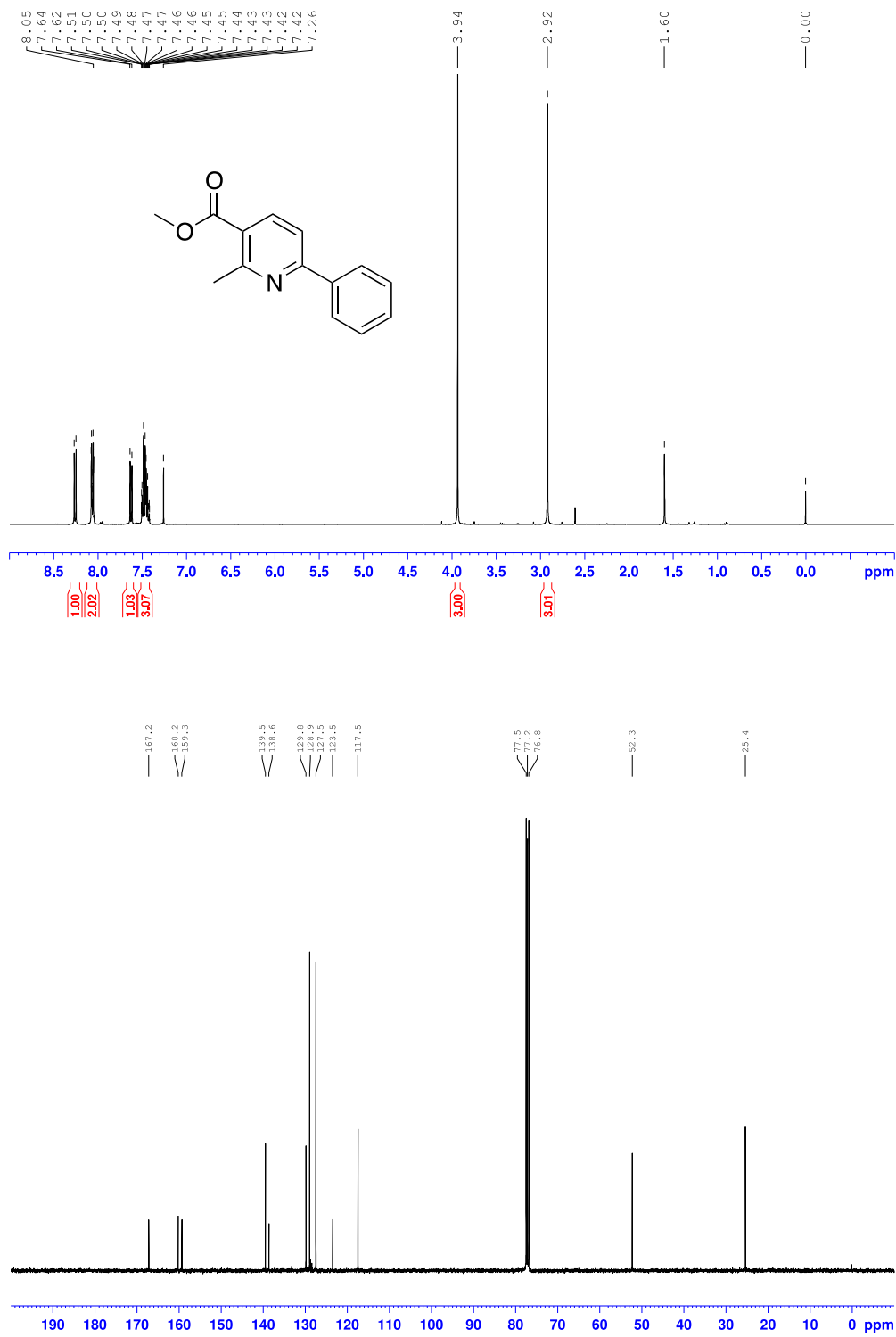
**3-Propenyl 2,6-dimethylpyridine-3-carboxylate (3la)**



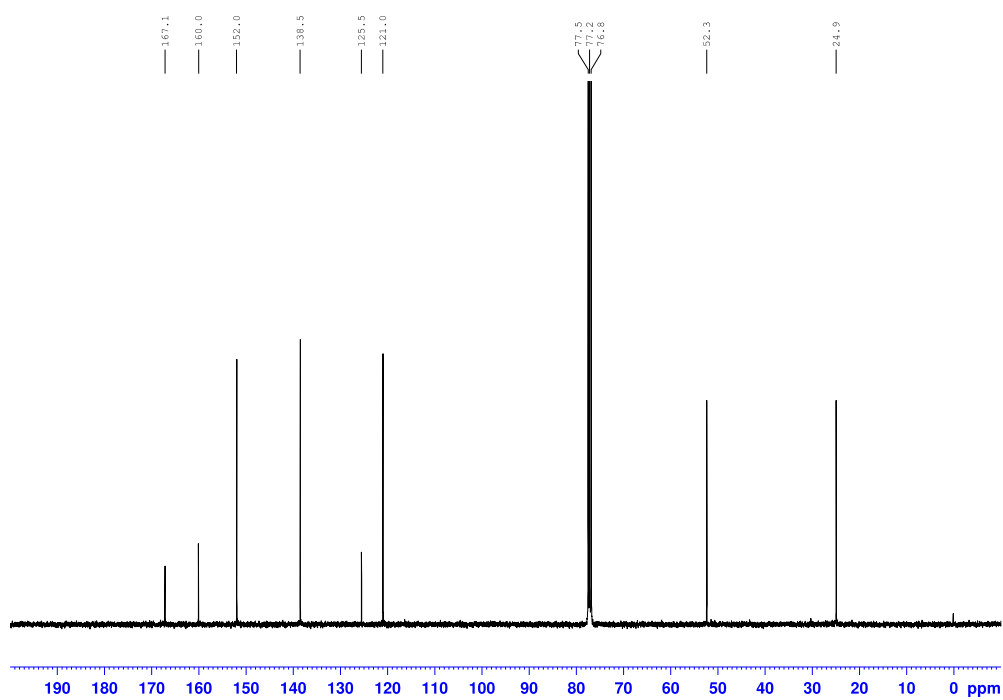
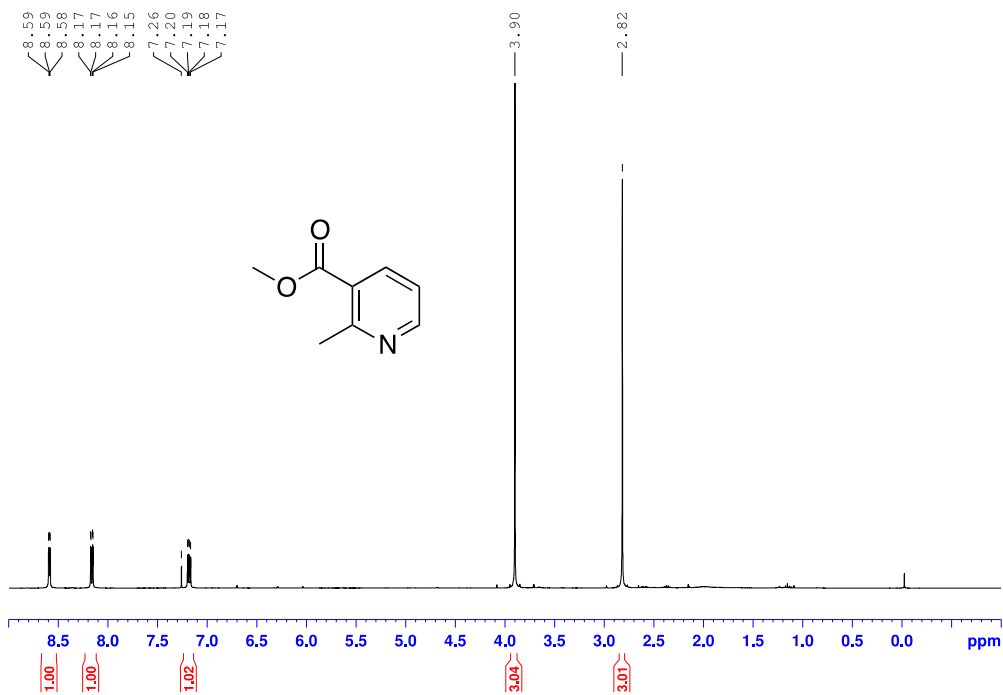
3-Propynyl 2,6-dimethylpyridine-3-carboxylate (3ma)



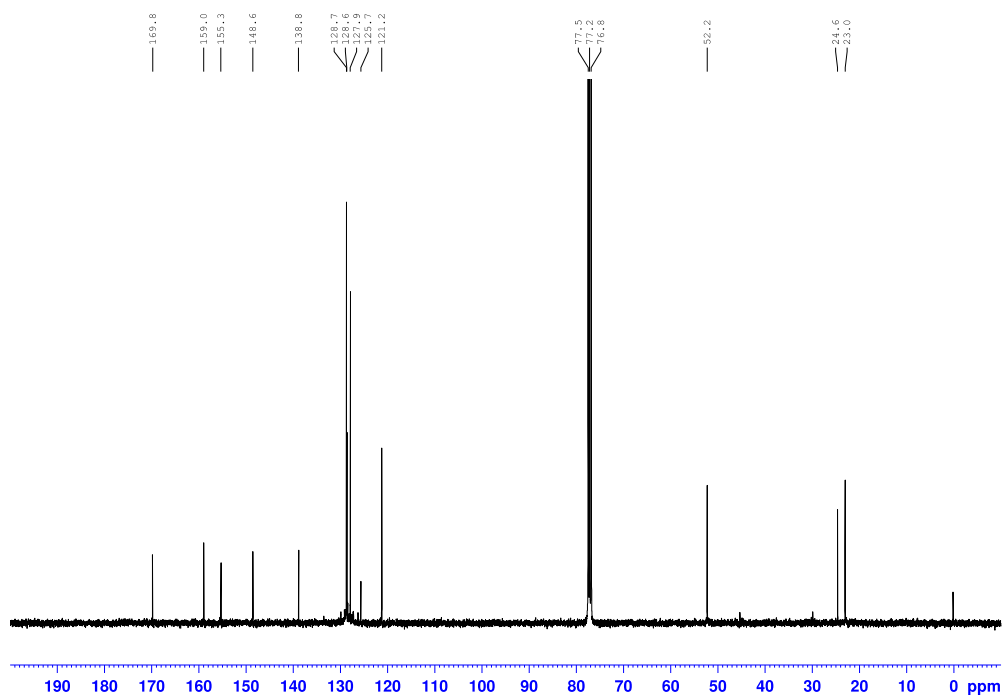
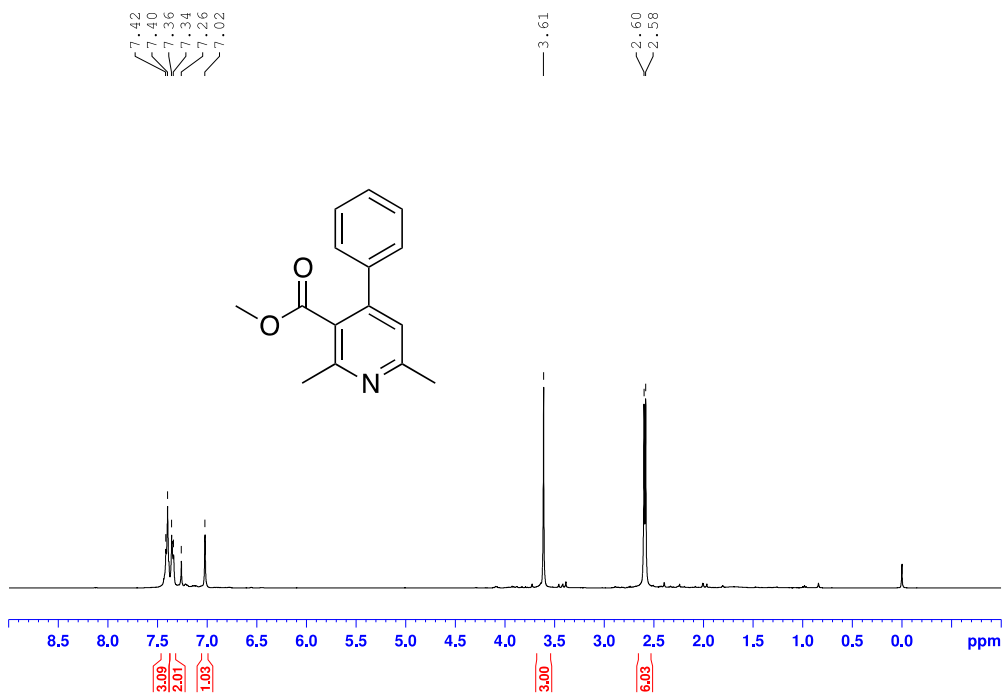
**Methyl 2-methyl-6-phenylpyridine-3-carboxylate (3ab)**



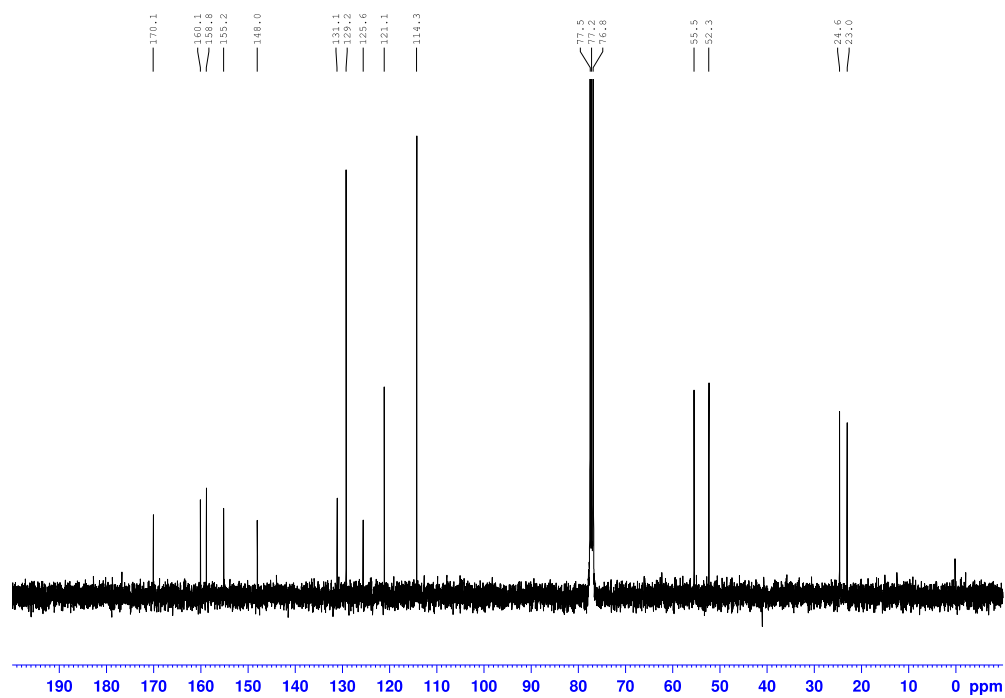
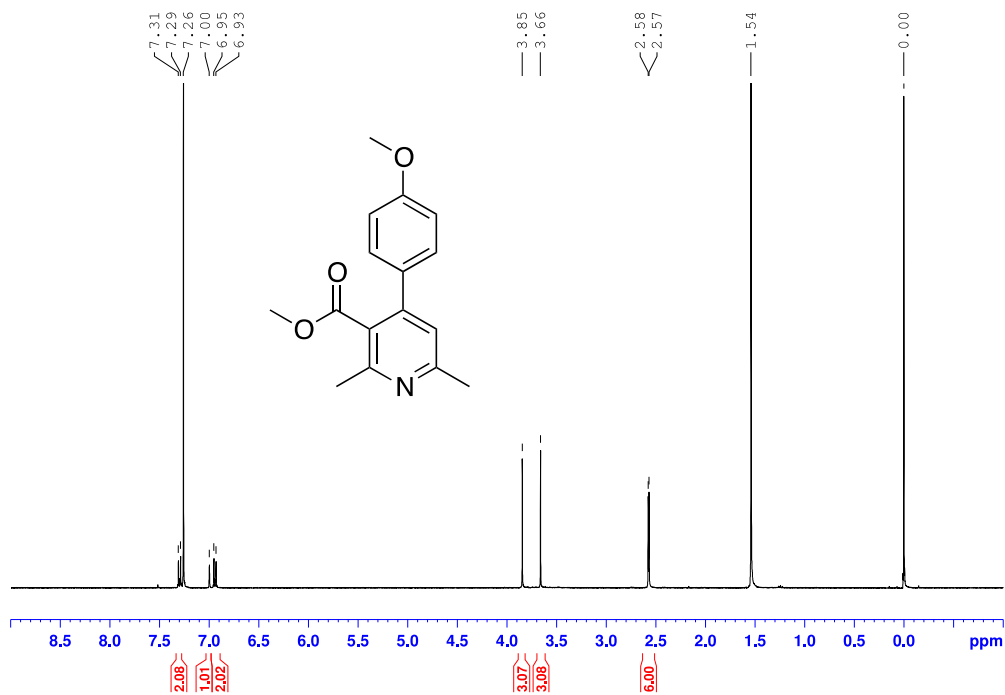
Methyl 2-methylpyridine-3-carboxylate (3ac)



Methyl 2,6-dimethyl-4-phenylpyridine-3-carboxylate (3ad)

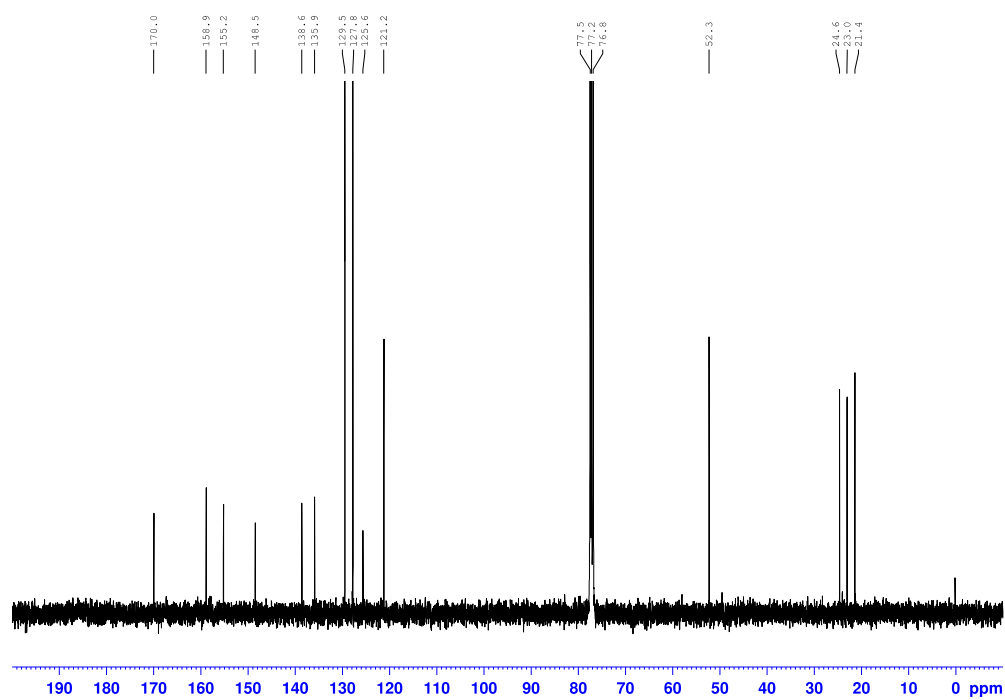
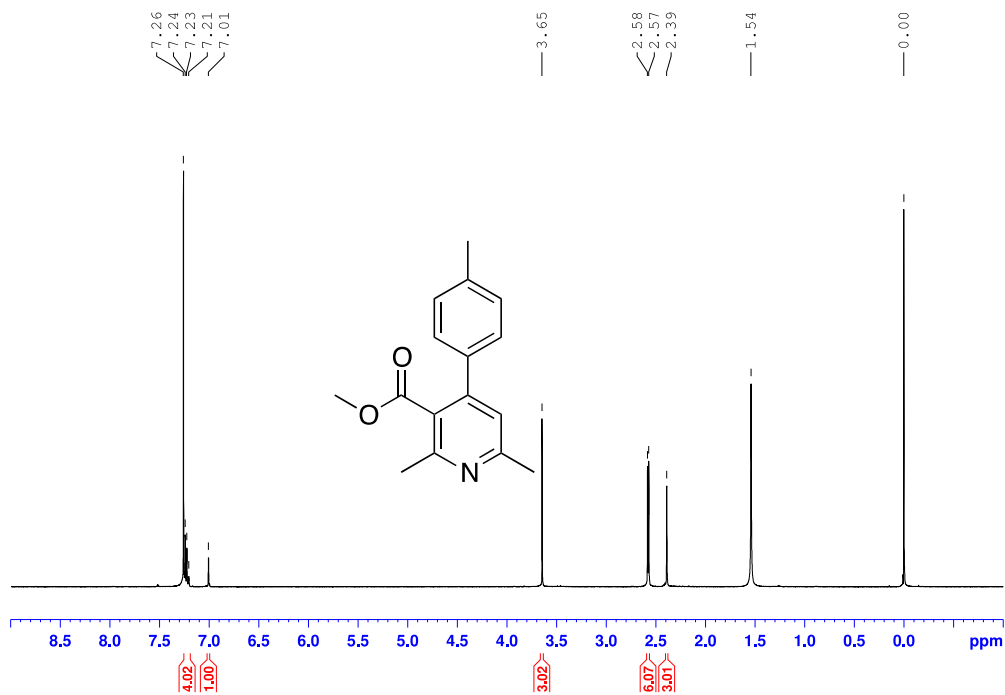


Methyl 2,6-dimethyl-4-(4-methoxyphenyl)pyridine-3-carboxylate (3ae)

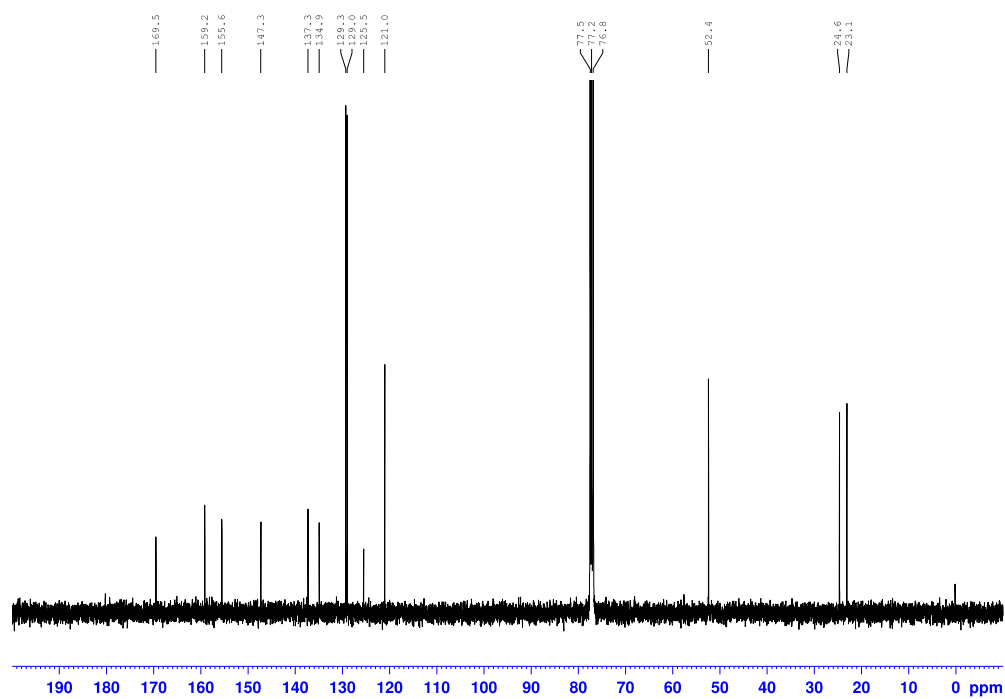
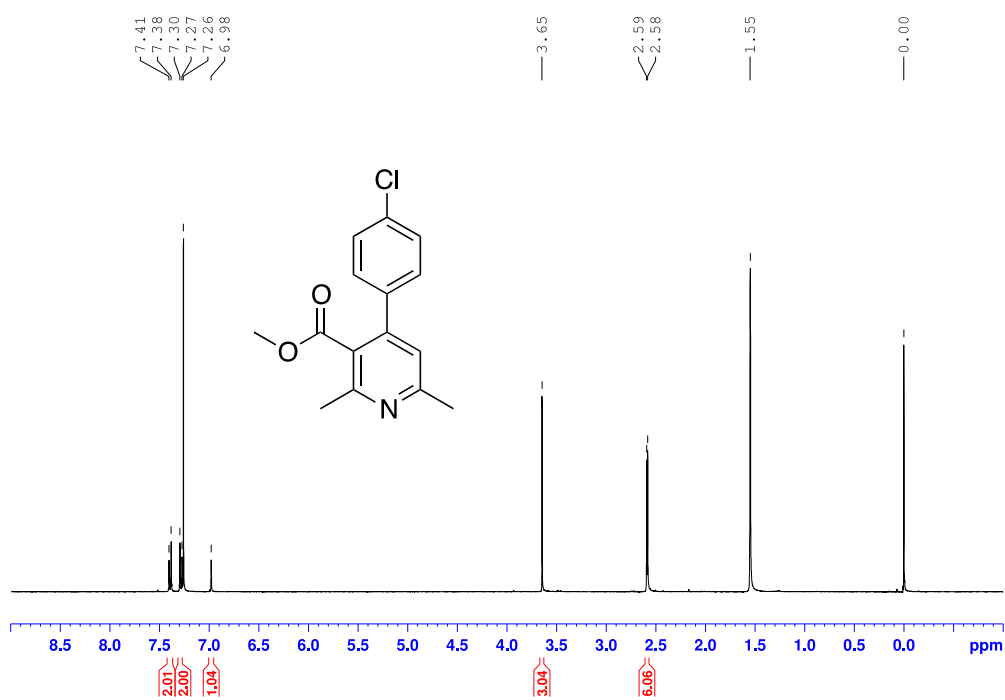


**Methyl 2,6-dimethyl-4-(4-methylphenyl)pyridine-3-carboxylate (3af)**

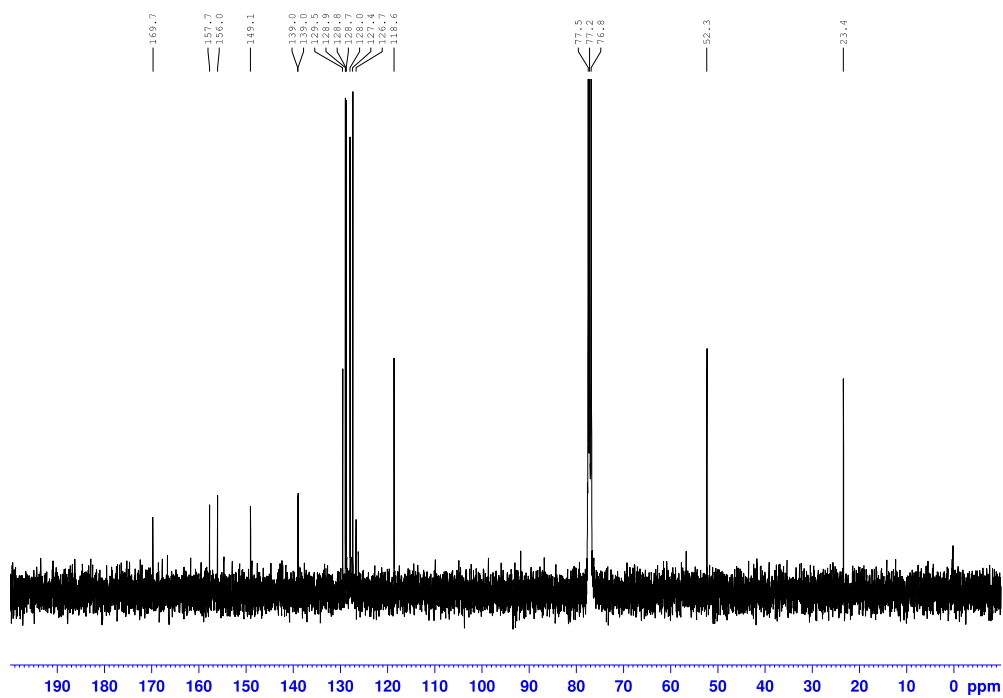
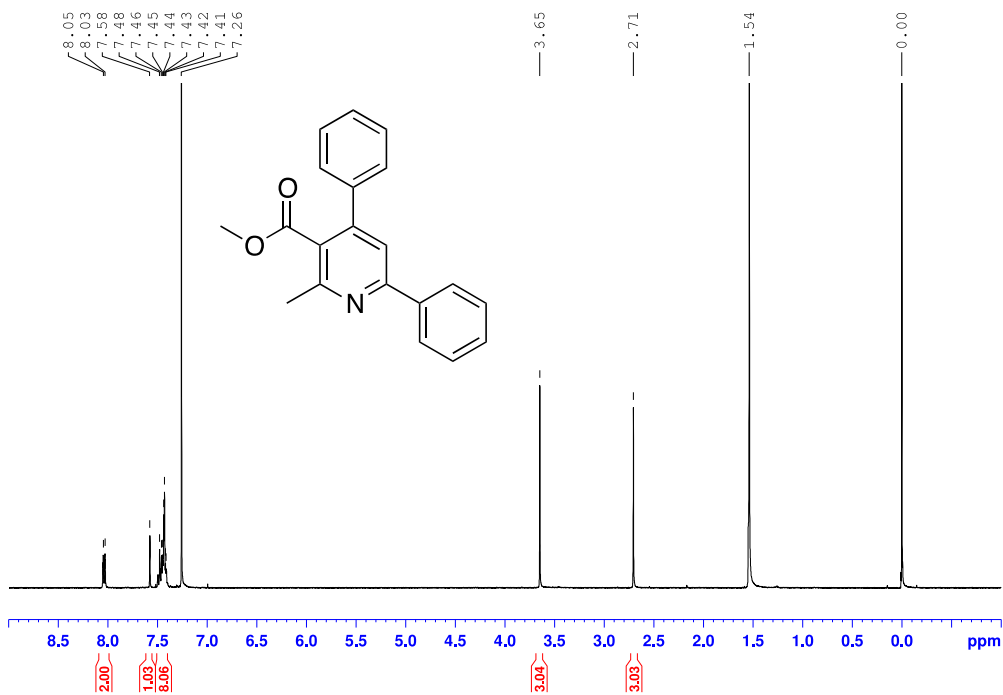




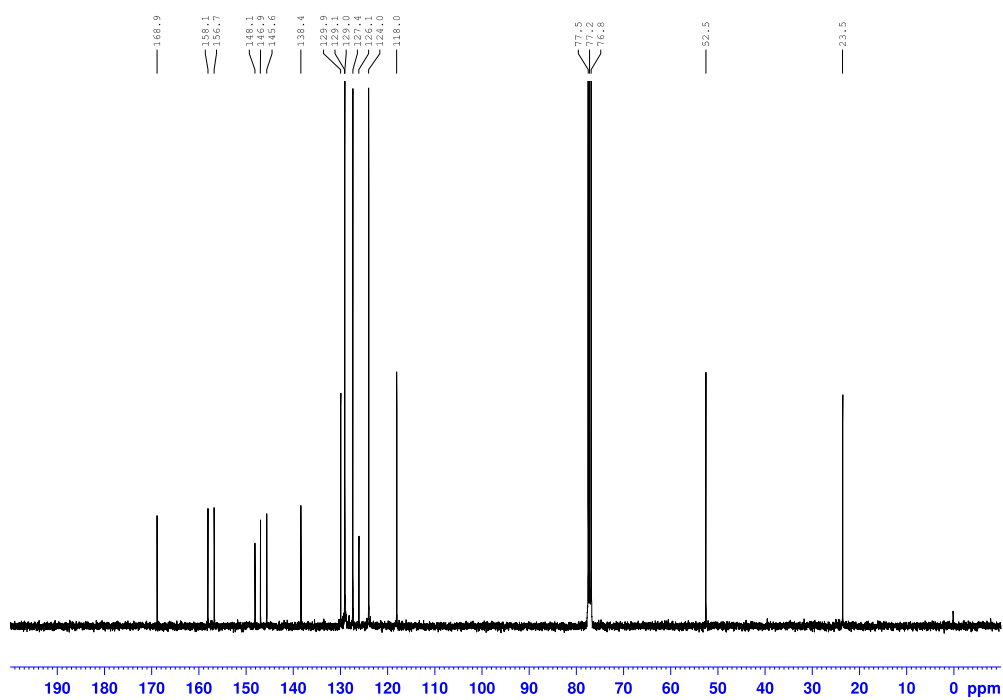
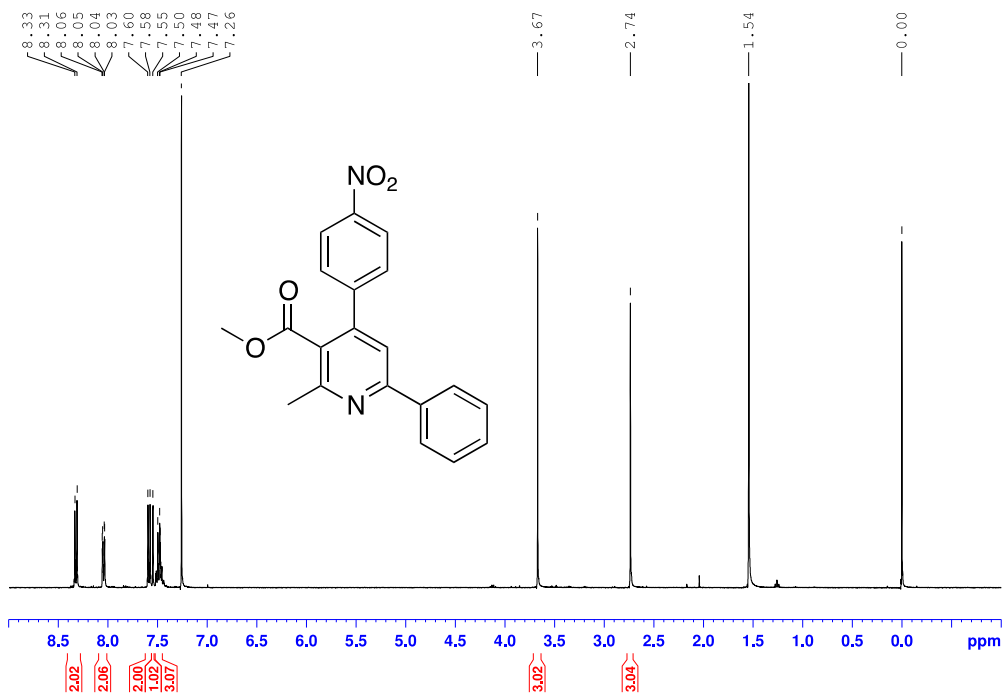
**Methyl 4-(4-chlorophenyl)-2,6-dimethylpyridine-3-carboxylate (3ag)**



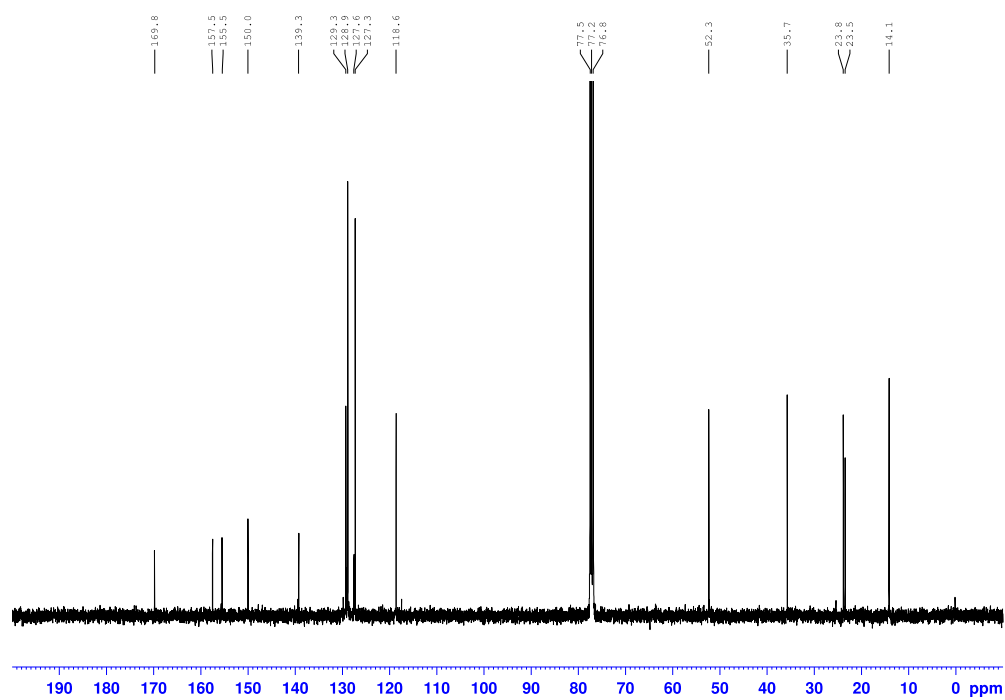
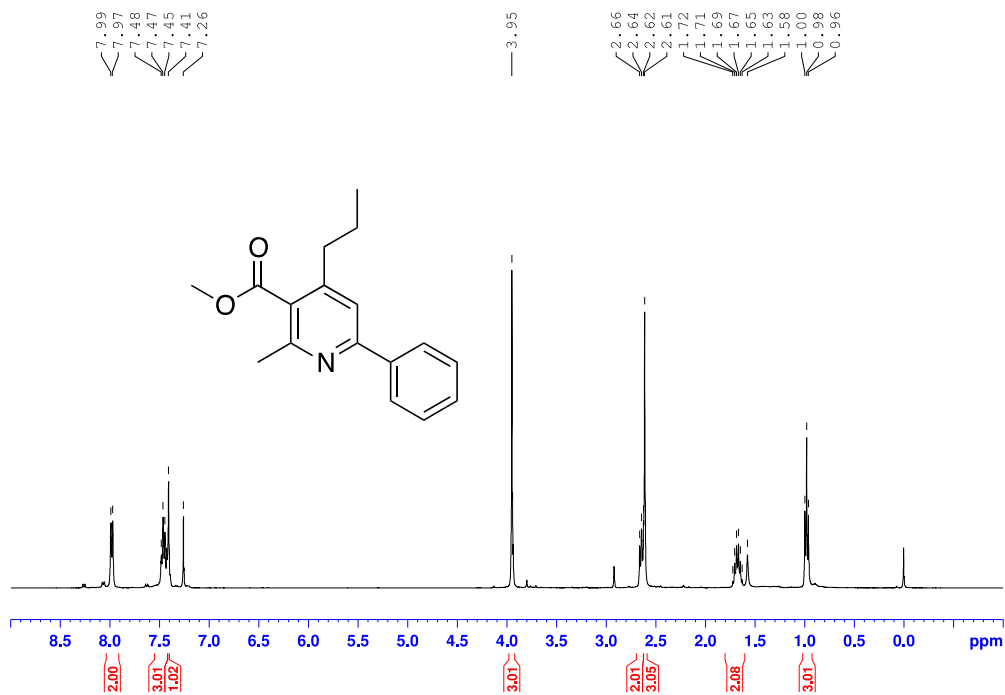
Methyl 4,6-diphenyl-2-methylpyridine-3-carboxylate (3ah)



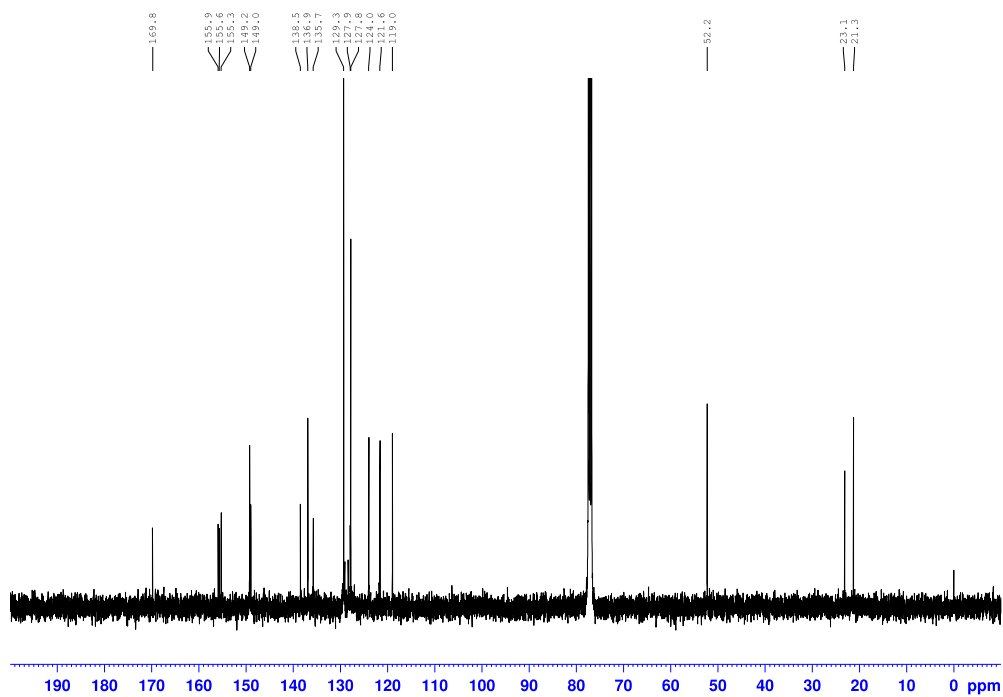
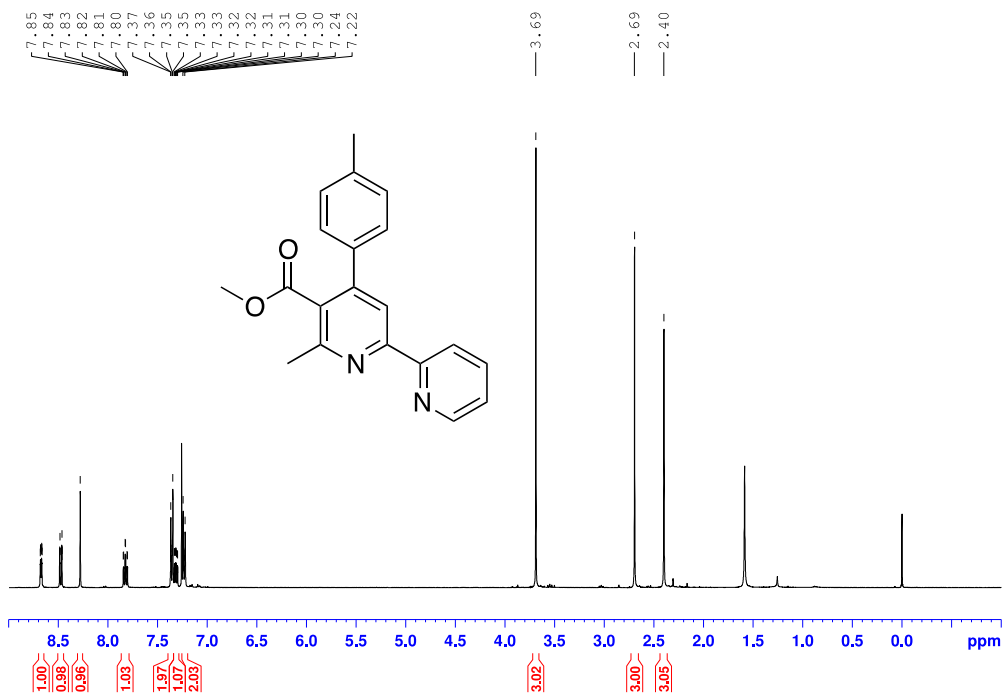
Methyl 2-methyl-4-(4-nitrophenyl)-6-phenylpyridine-3-carboxylate (3ai)



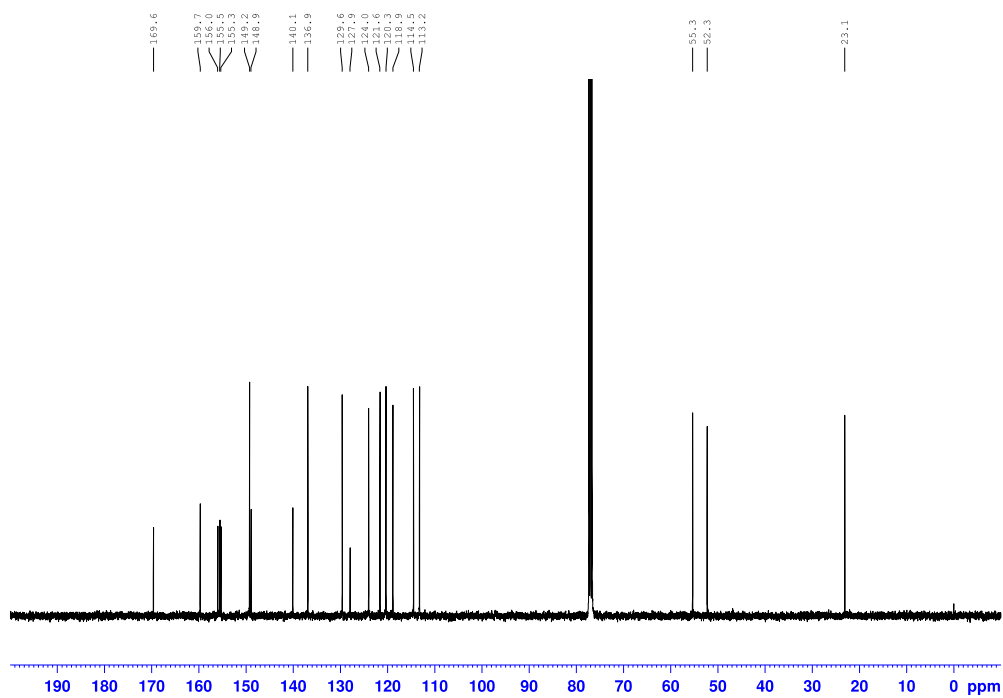
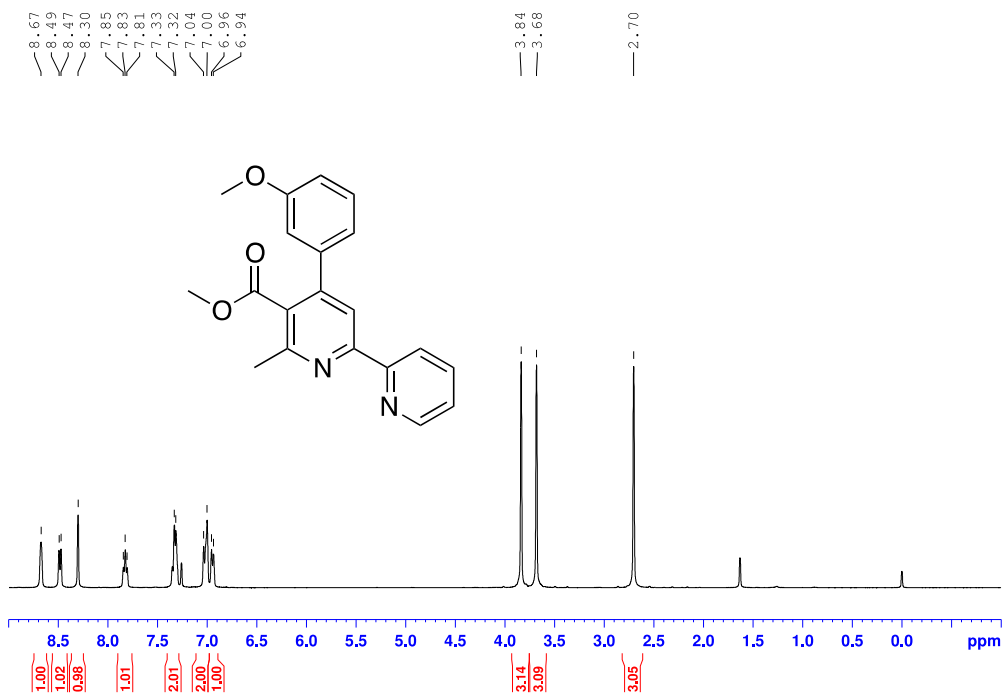
Methyl 2-methyl-6-phenyl-4-propylpyridine-3-carboxylate (3aj)



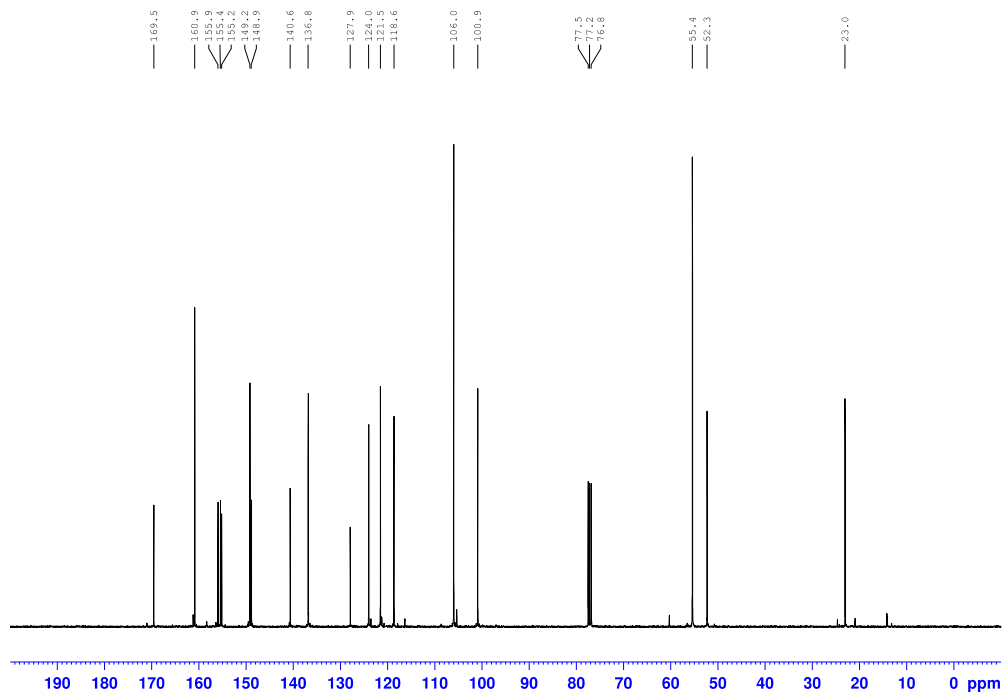
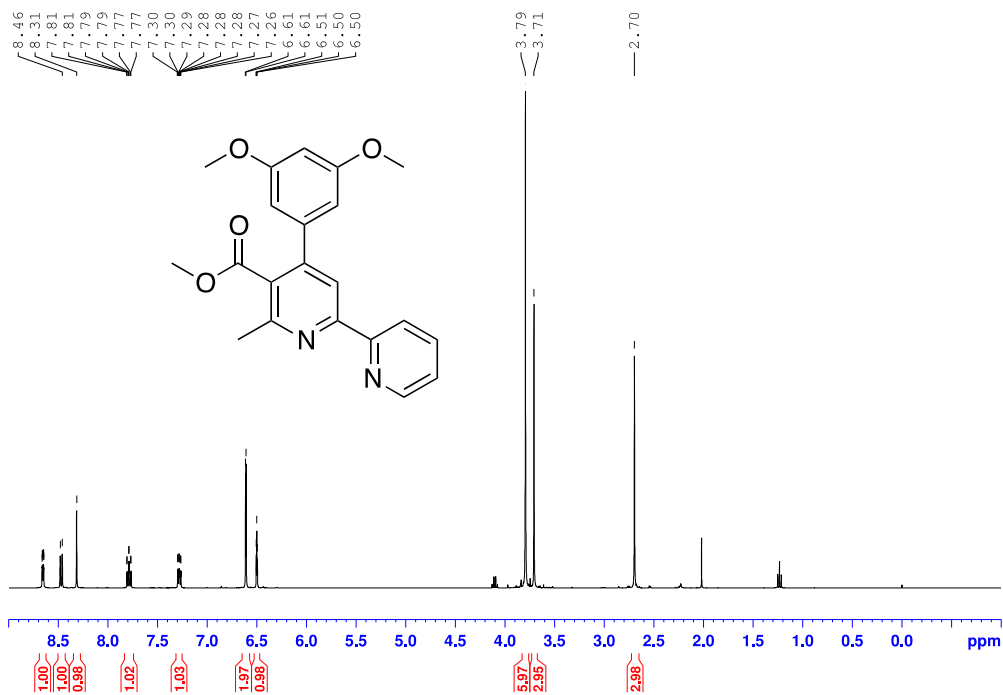
Methyl 2-methyl-4-(4-methylphenyl)-6-(2-pyridinyl)pyridine-3-carboxylate (3ak)



Methyl 2-methyl-4-(3-methoxyphenyl)-6-(2-pyridinyl)pyridine-3-carboxylate (3a)

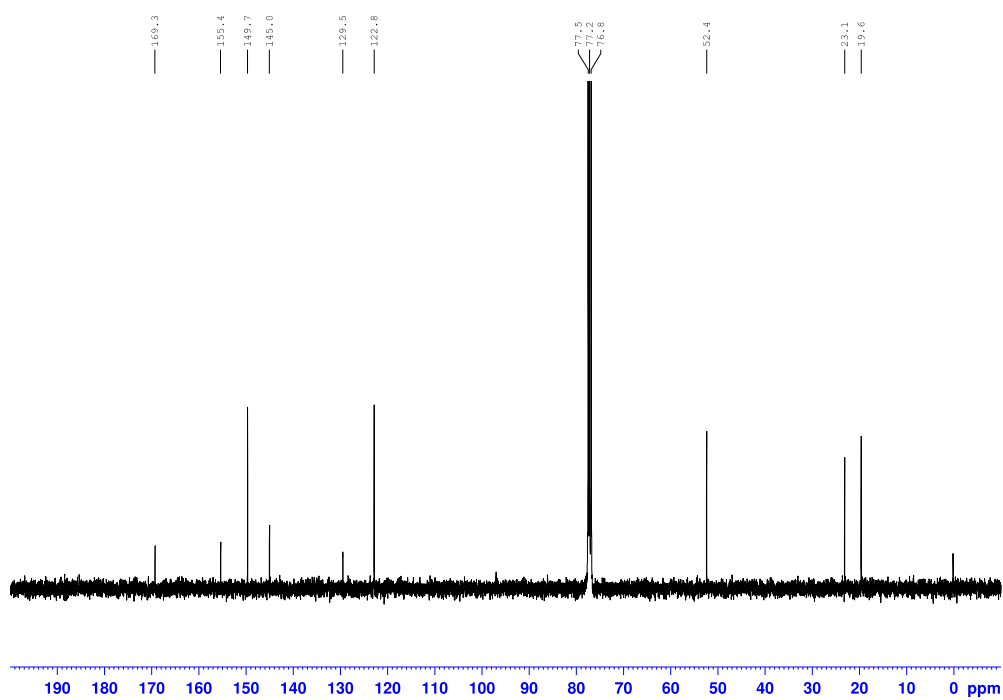
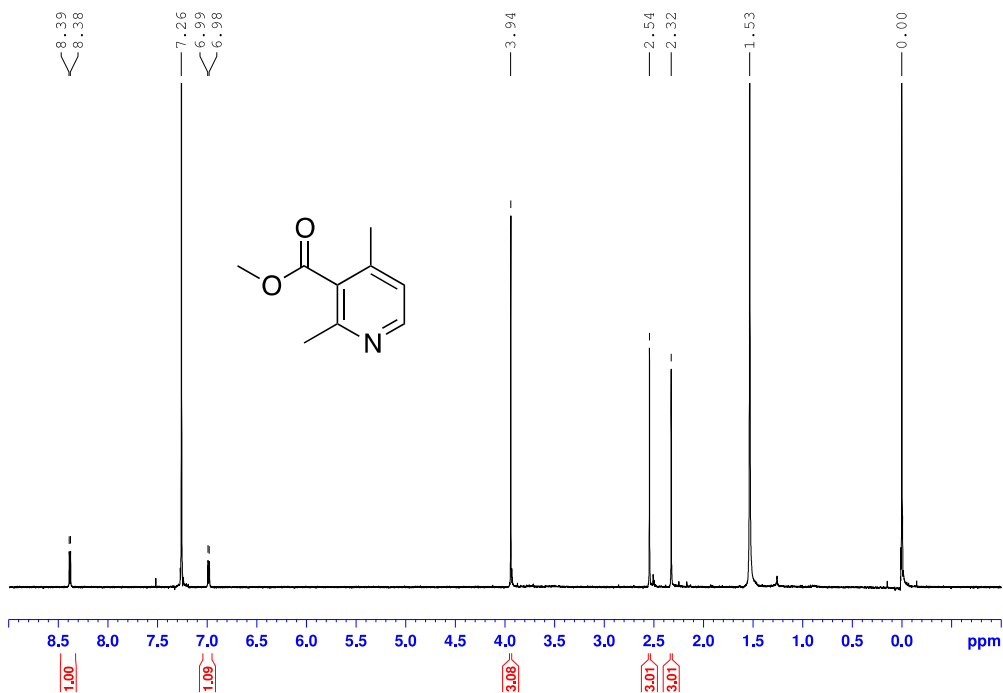


Methyl 2-methyl-4-(3,5-dimethoxyphenyl)-6-(2-pyridinyl) pyridine-3-carboxylate (3am)

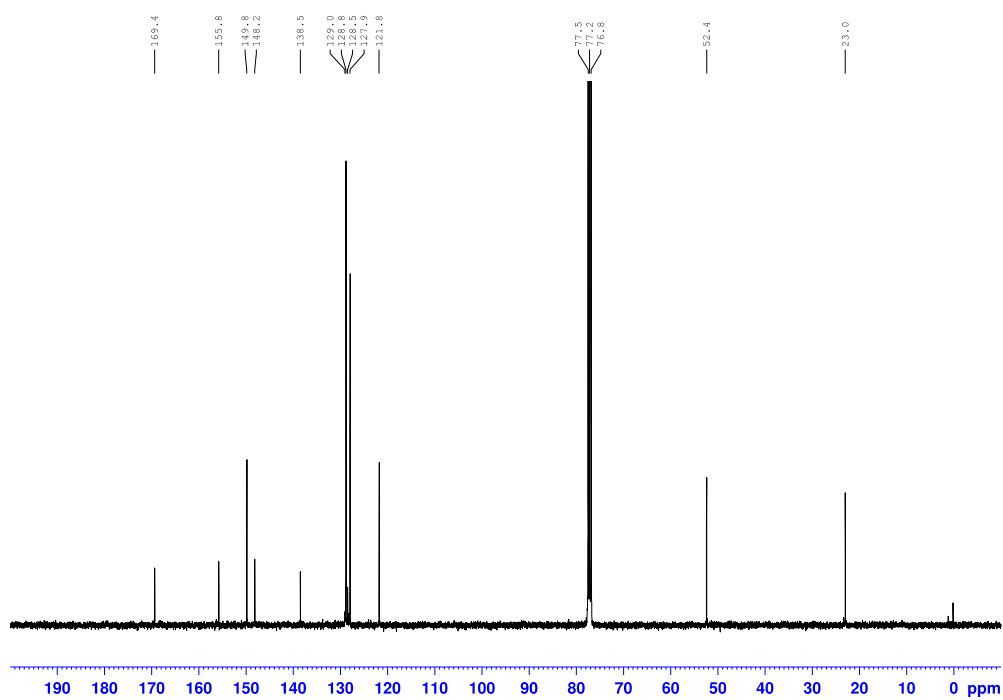
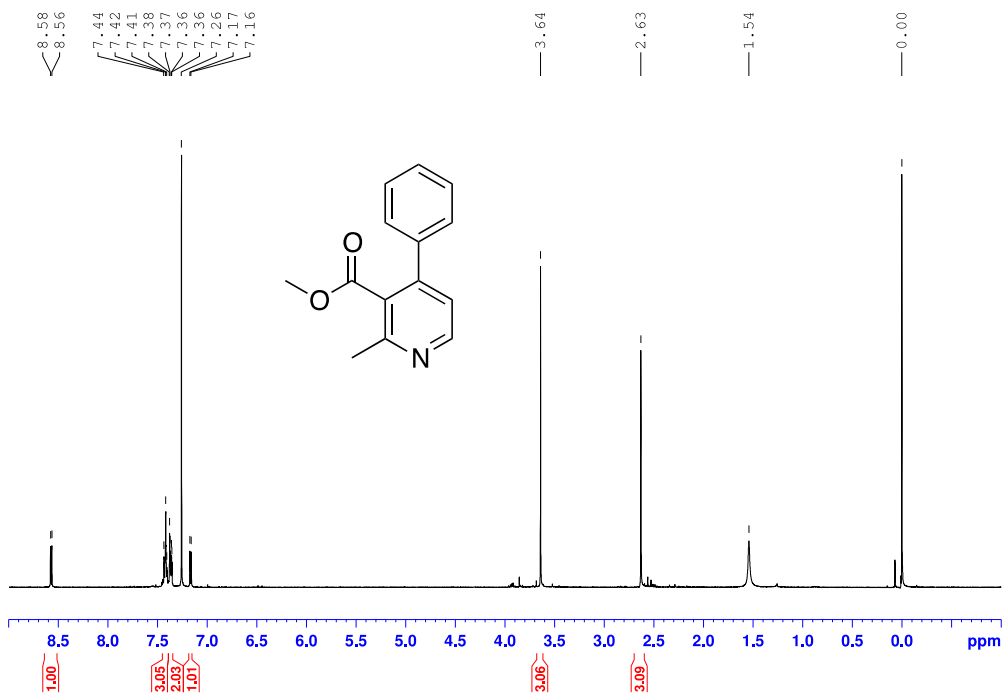


Methyl 2,4-dimethylpyridine-3-carboxylate (3an)

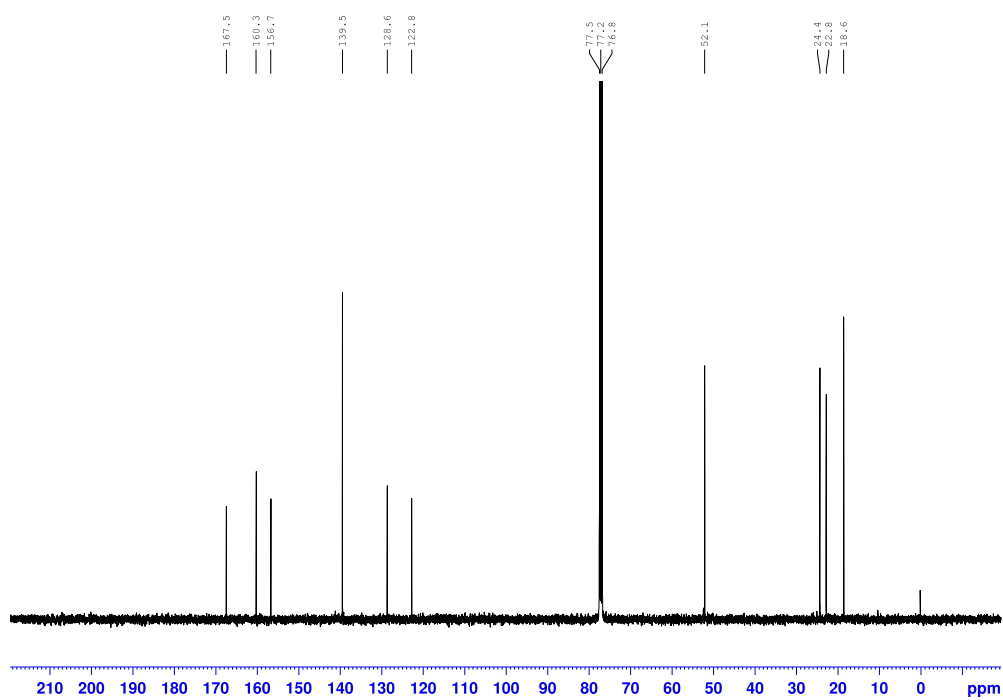
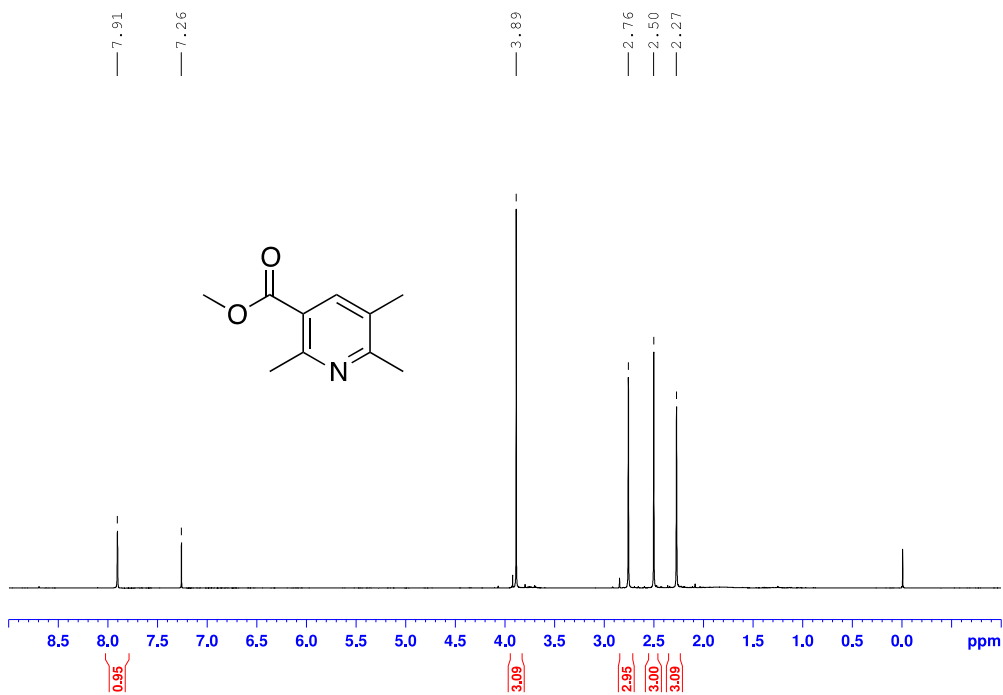




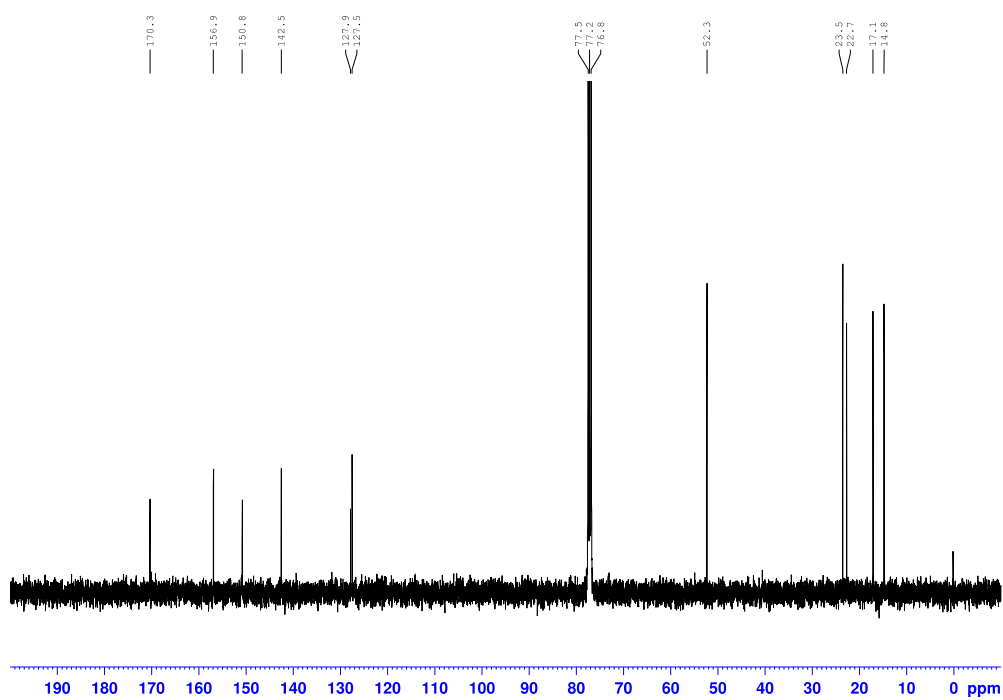
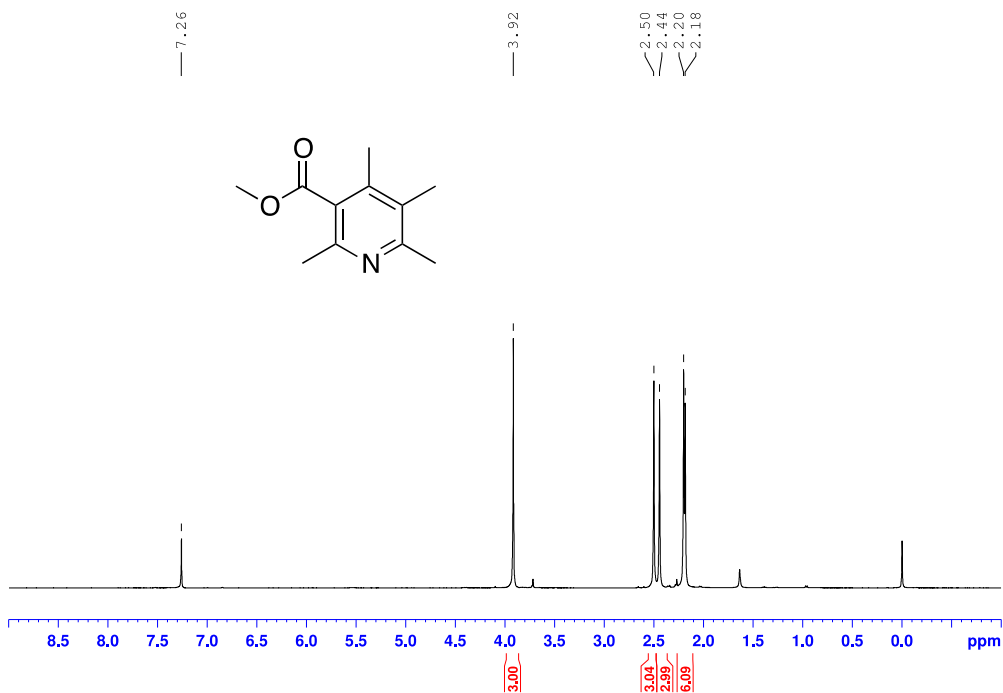
Methyl 2-methyl-4-phenylpyridine-3-carboxylate (3ao)



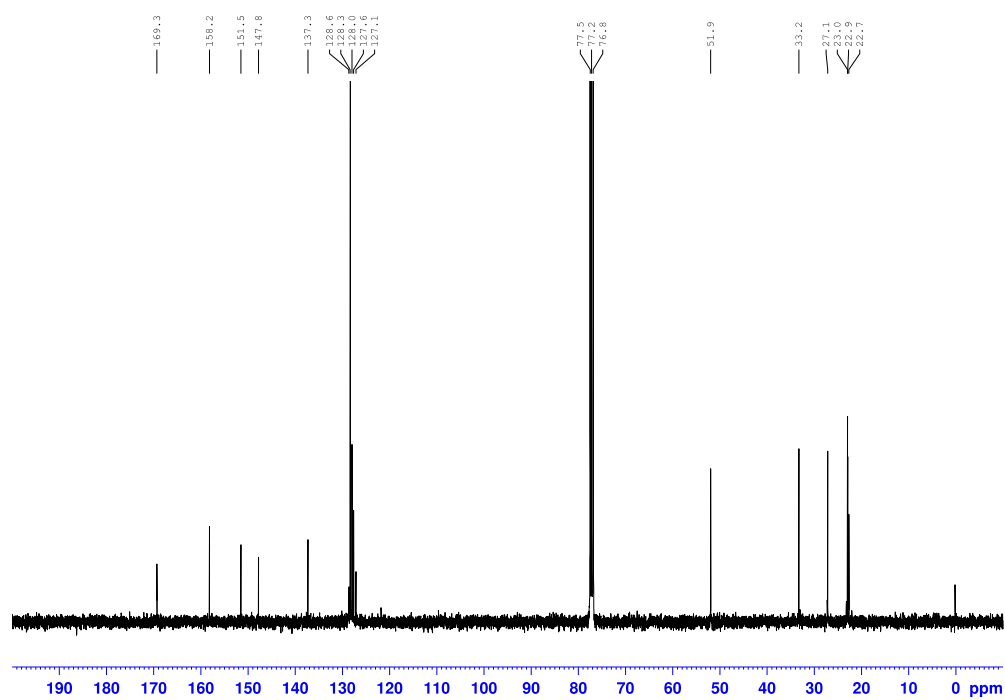
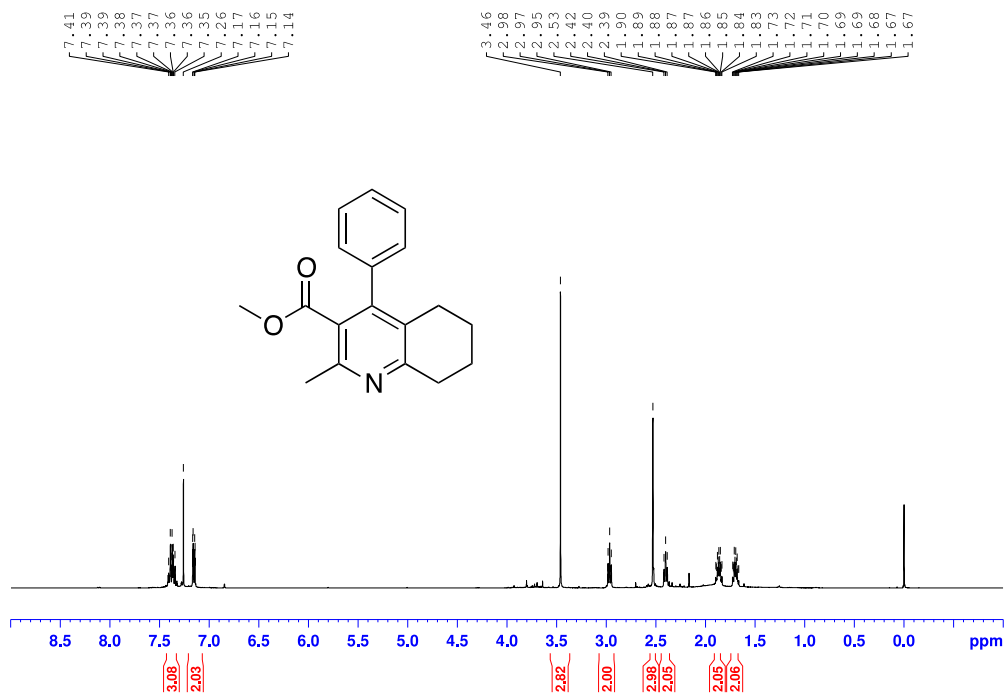
Methyl 2,5,6-trimethylpyridine-3-carboxylate (3ap)



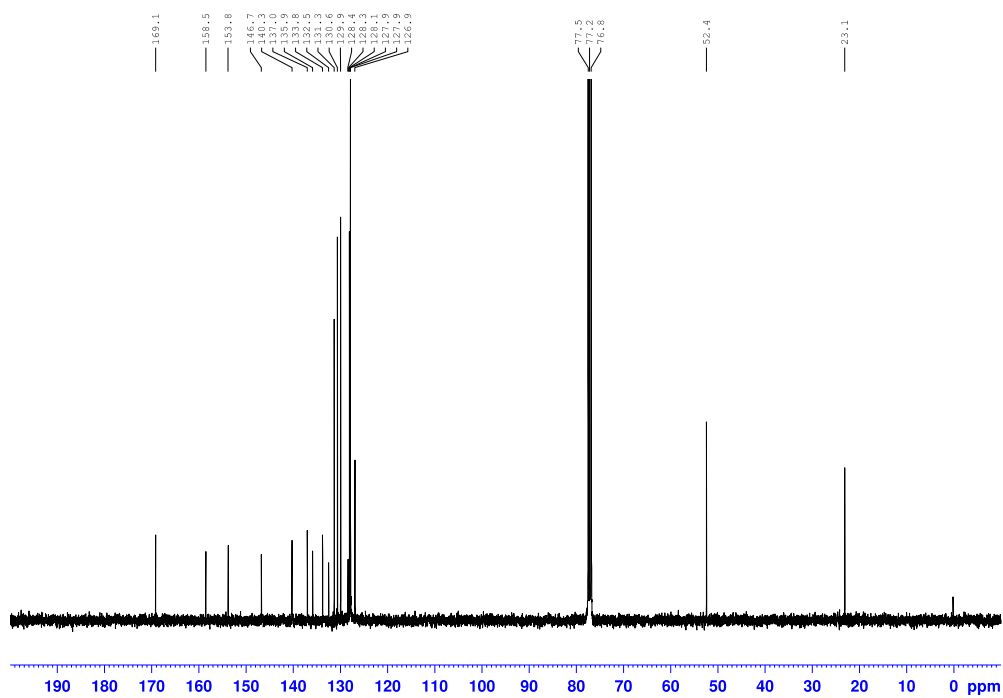
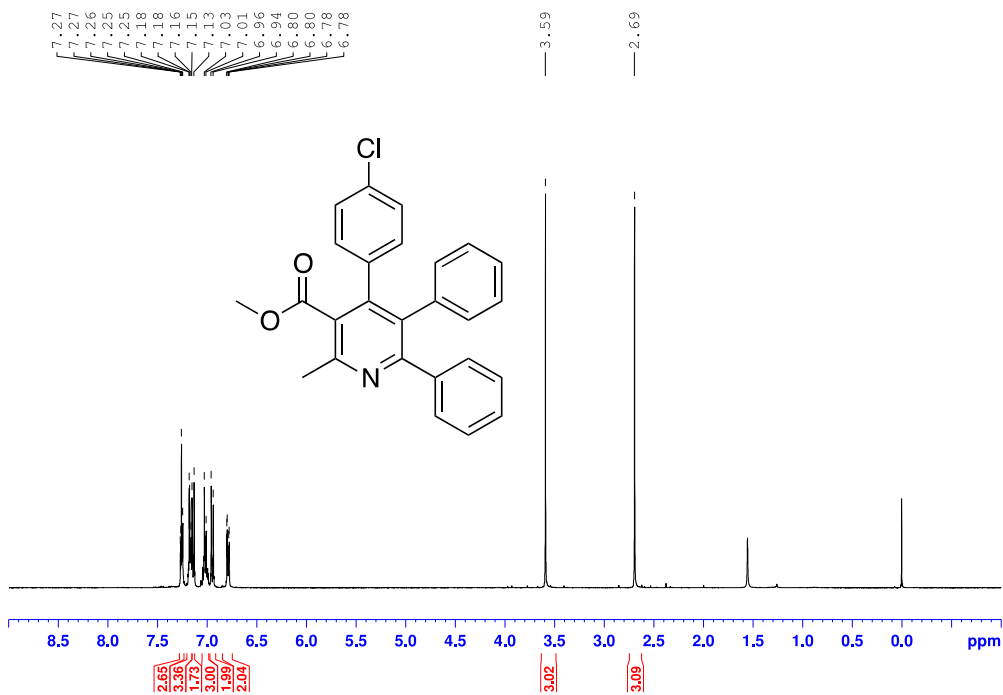
Methyl 2,4,5,6-tetramethylpyridine-3-carboxylate (3aq)



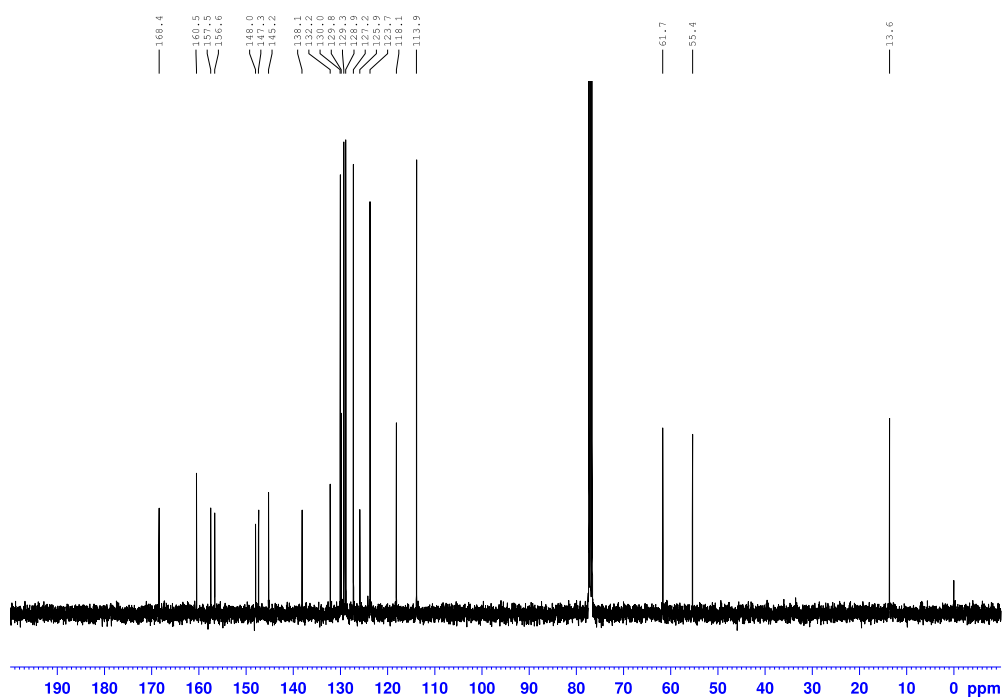
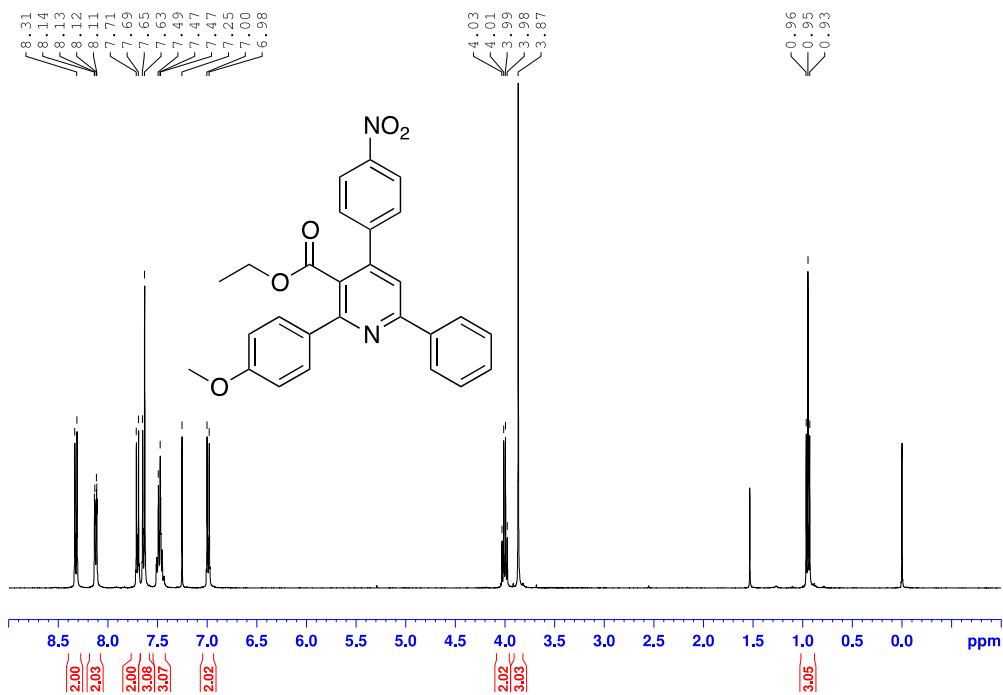
Methyl 2-methyl-5,6,7,8-tetrahydroquinoline-3-carboxylate (3ar)



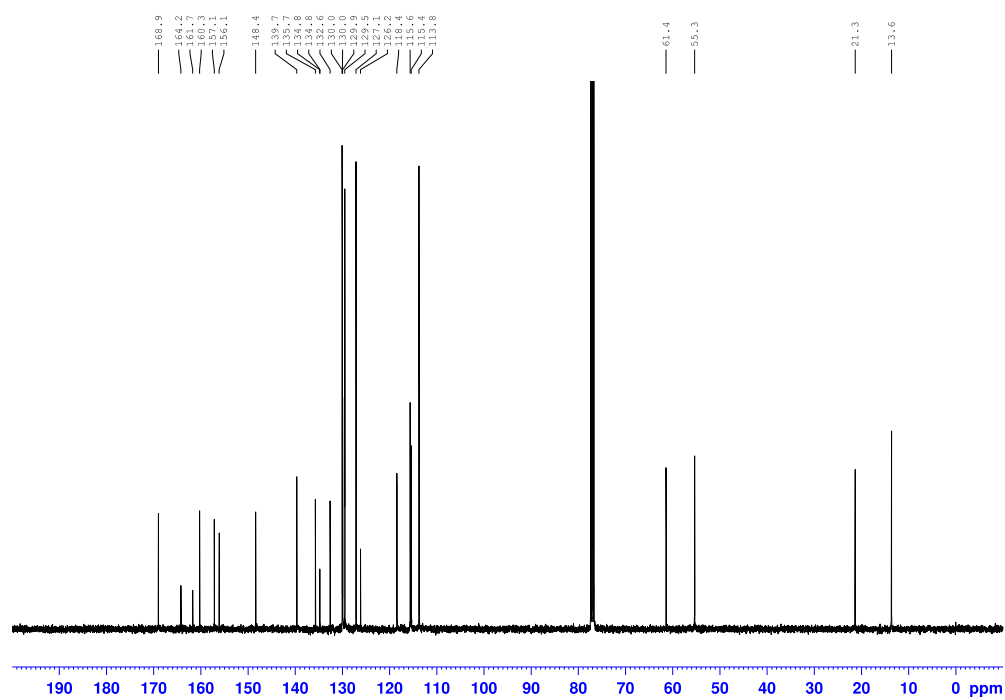
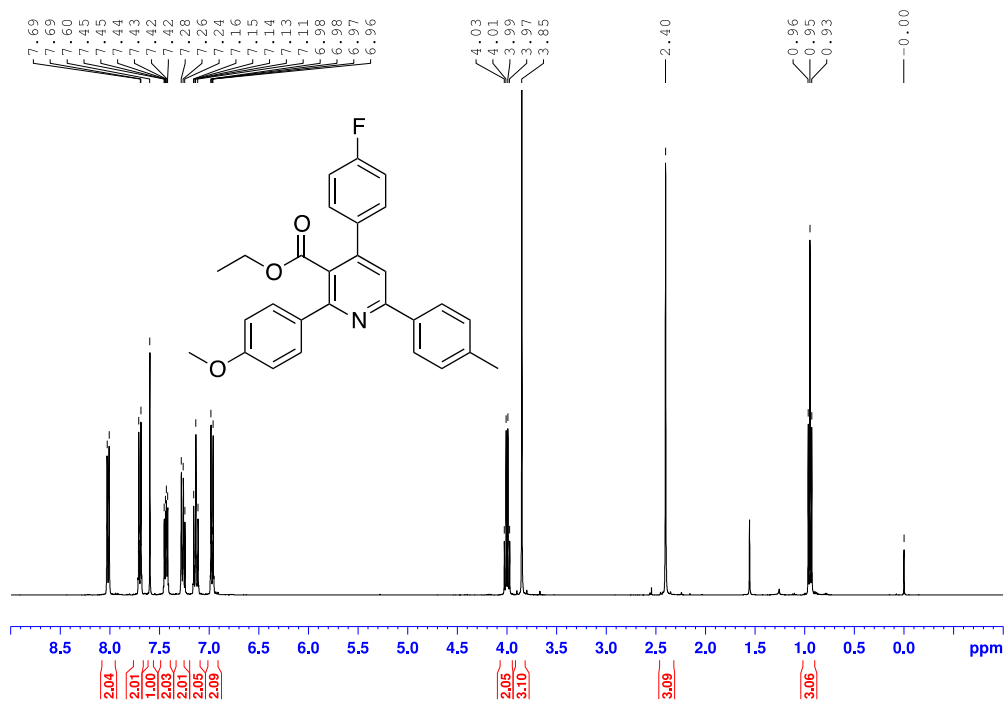
Methyl-4-(4-chlorophenyl)-5,6-diphenyl-2-methylpyridine-3-carboxylate (3as)



**Ethyl 2-(4-methoxyphenyl)-4-(4-nitrophenyl)-6-phenylpyridine-3-carboxylate (3ei)**

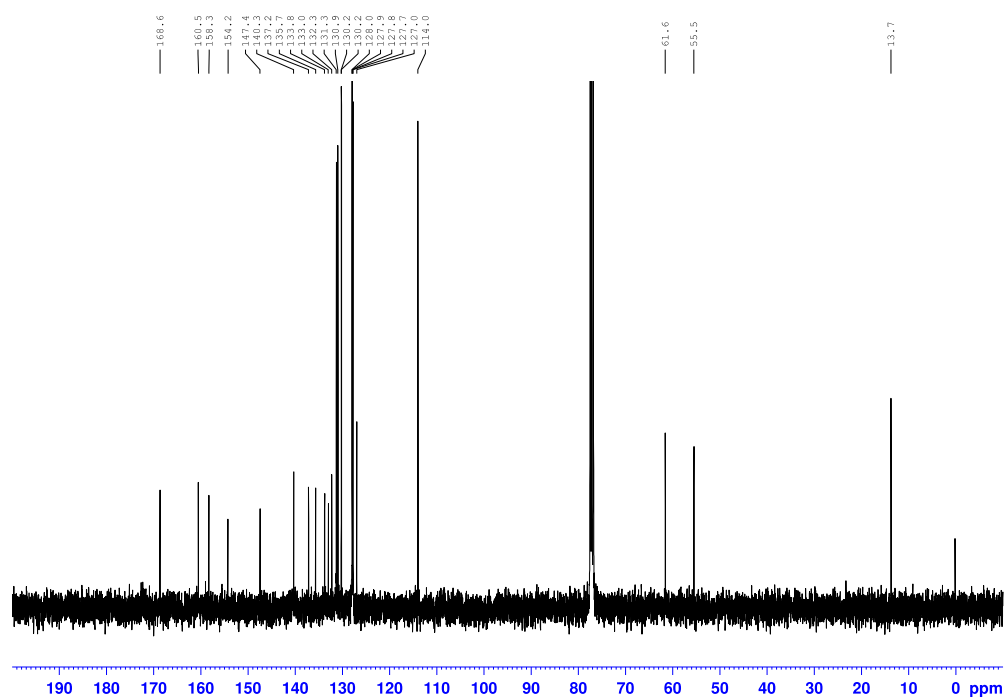
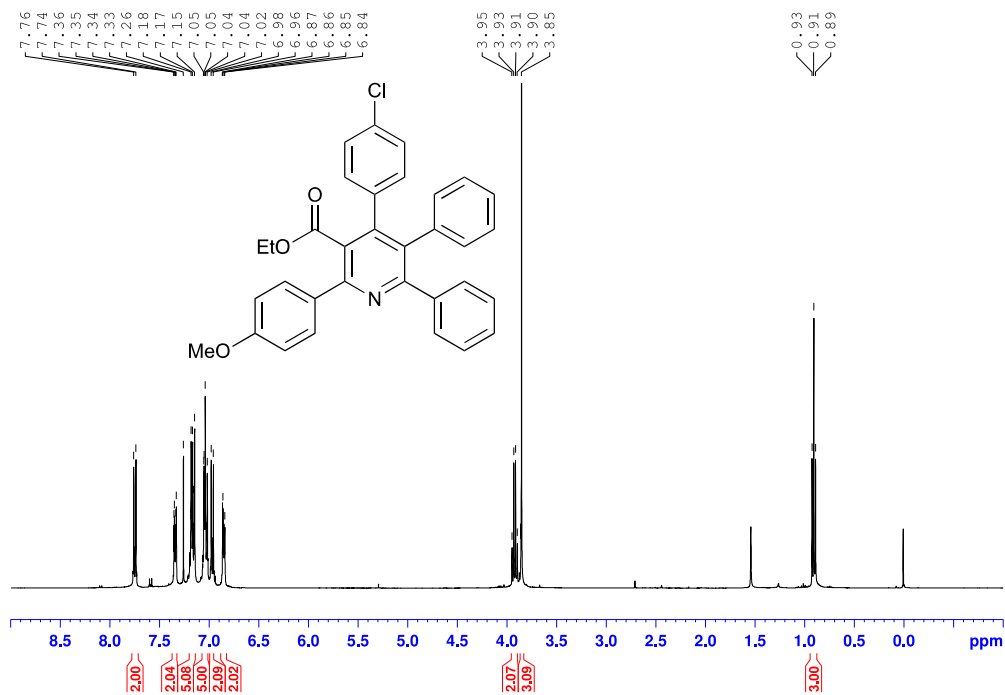


**Ethyl 4-(4-fluorophenyl)-2-(4-methoxyphenyl)-6-(4-methylphenyl)pyridine-3-carboxylate (3et)**

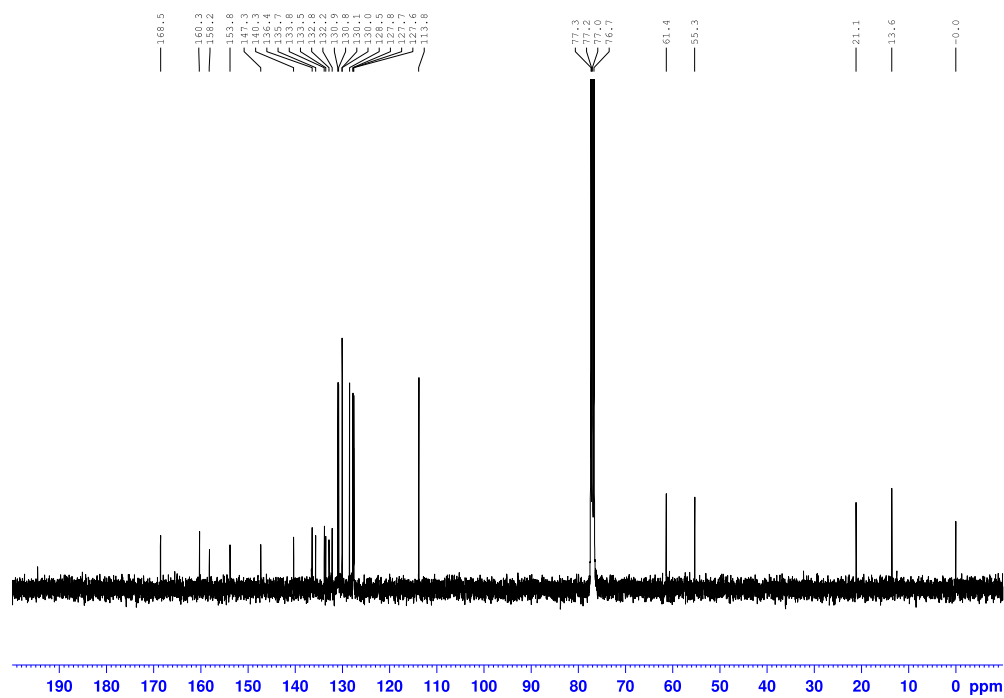
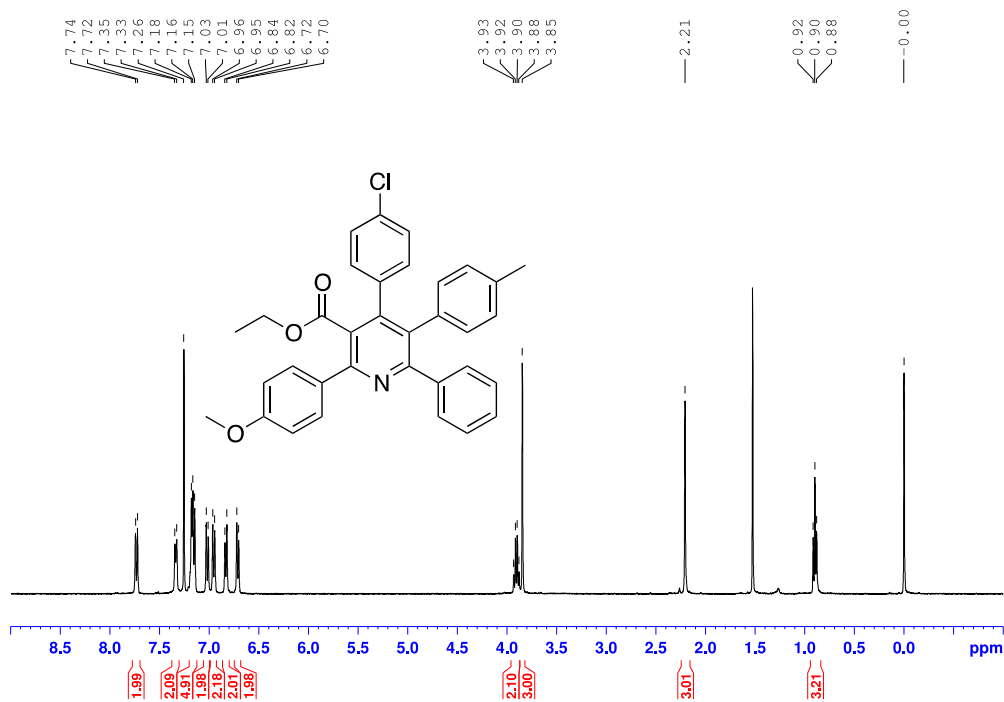


Ethyl 4-(4-chlorophenyl)-2-(4-methoxyphenyl)-5,6-diphenylpyridine-3-carboxylate (3es)

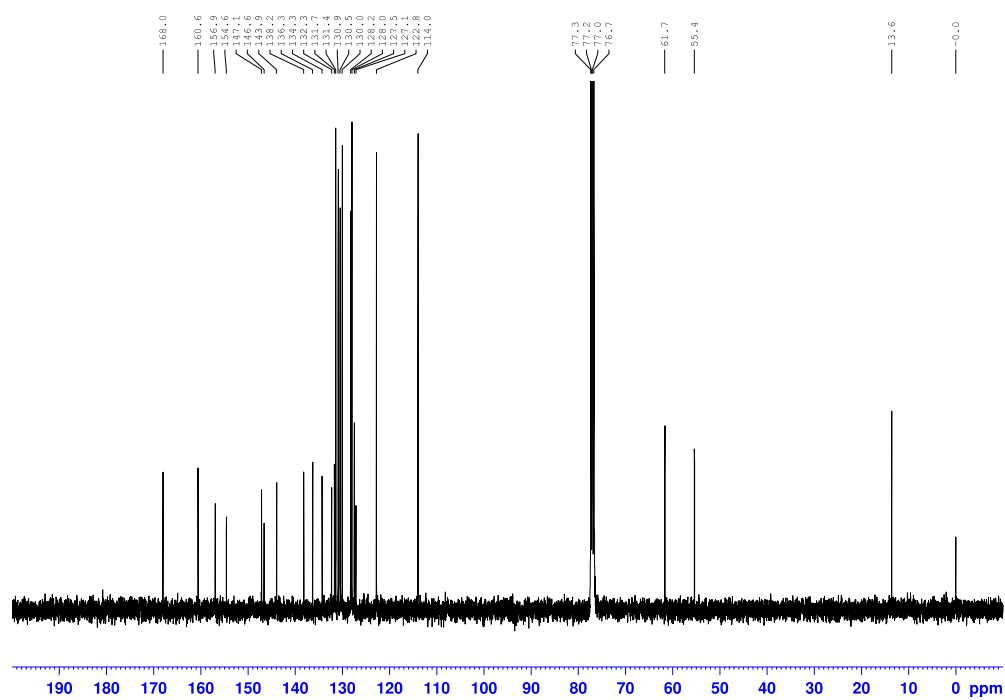
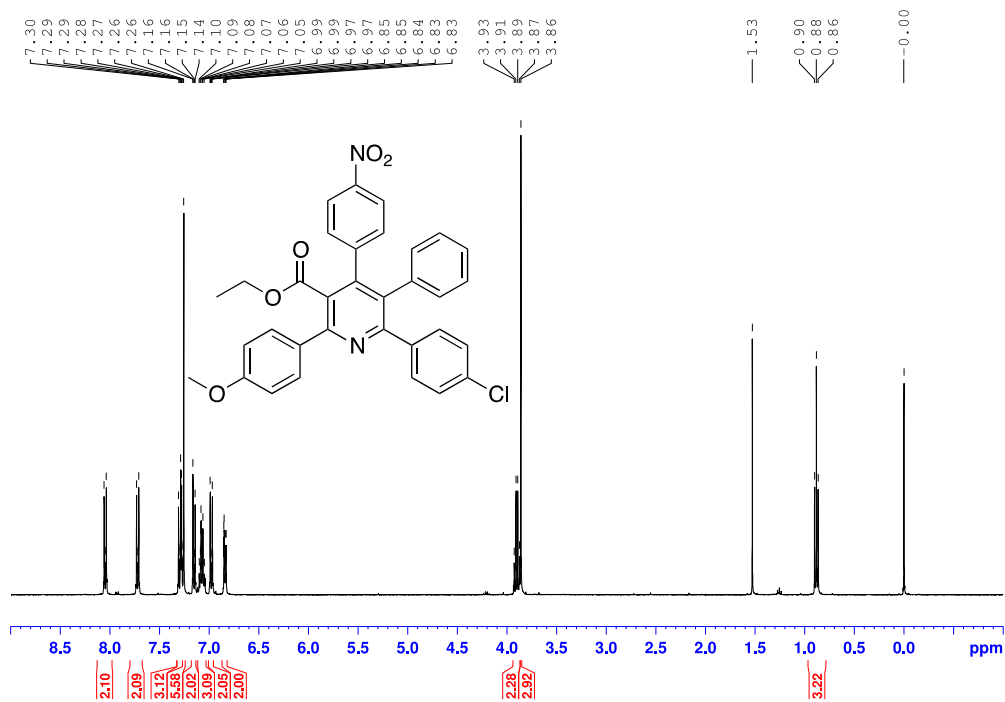




**Ethyl 4-(4-chlorophenyl)-2-(4-methoxyphenyl)-5-(4-methylphenyl)-6-phenylpyridine-3-carboxylate (3eu)**

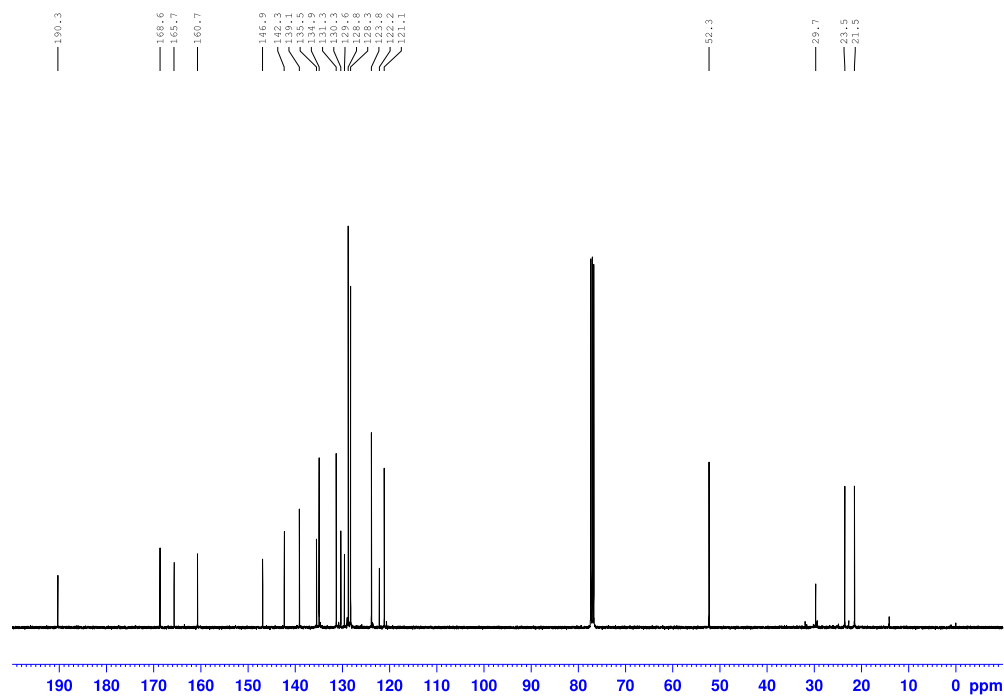
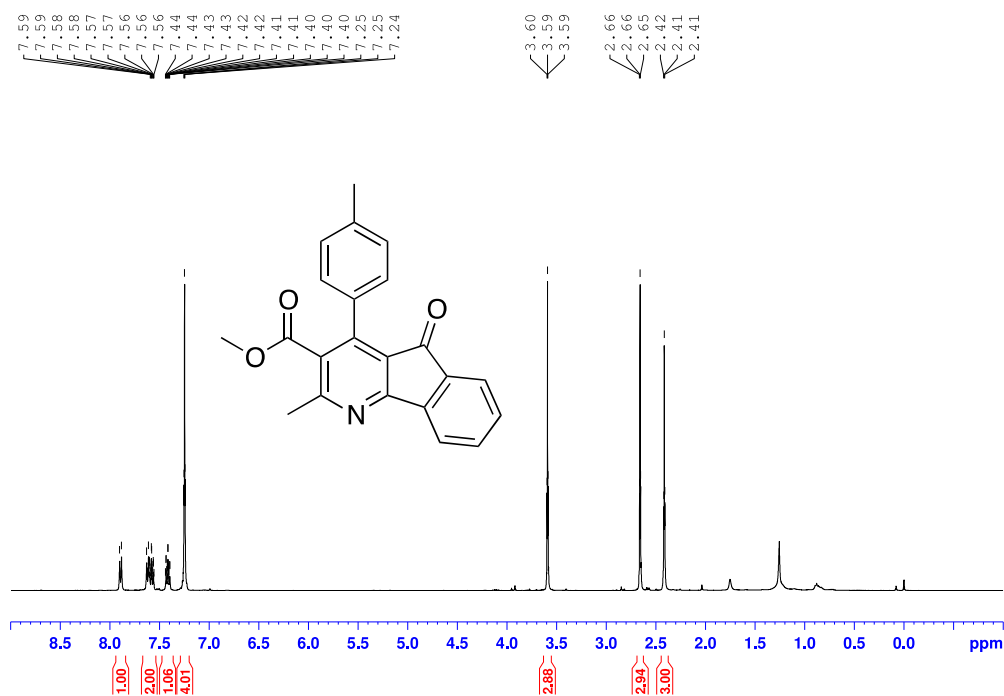


Ethyl 6-(4-chlorophenyl)-2-(4-methoxyphenyl)-4-(4-nitrophenyl)-5-phenyl-3-carboxylate (3ev)

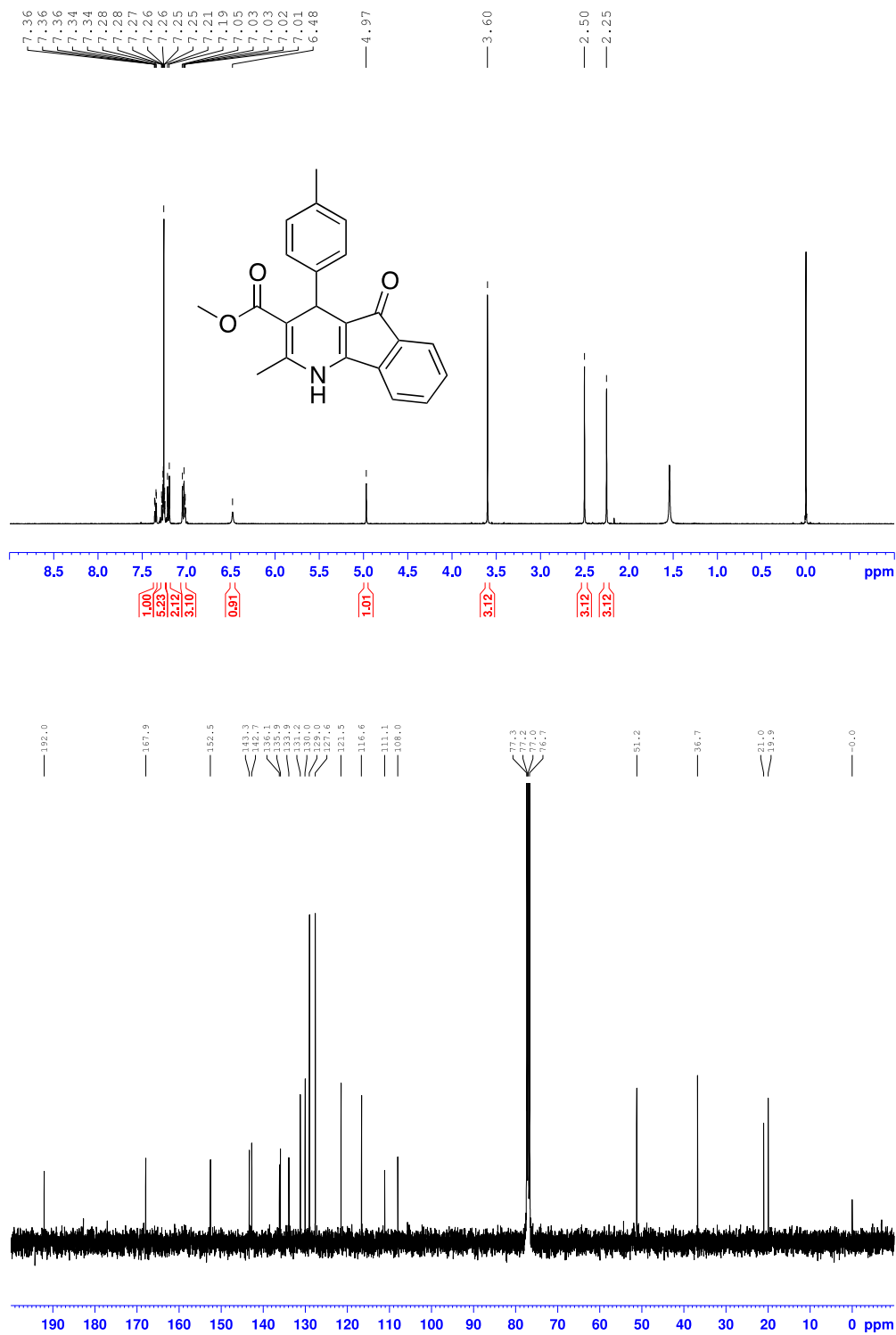


9. Copies of <sup>1</sup>H NMR and <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectra of azafluorenones

Methyl 2-methyl-4-(4-methylphenyl)-5-oxo-indeno[1,2-*b*]pyridine-3-carboxylate (14)



Methyl 4,5-dihydro-2-methyl-4-(4-methylphenyl)-5-oxo-1*H*-indeno[1,2-*b*]pyridine-3-carboxylate (15)



1,3-Dimethyl-3-azafluorenone 12

