

## Supporting Information For

### Catalyst-free *N*-formylation of amines using $\text{BH}_3\text{NH}_3$ and $\text{CO}_2$ at mild conditions

*Tian-Xiang Zhao, Gao-Wen Zhai, Jian Liang, Ping Li, Xing-Bang Hu, \*and You-Ting Wu\**

*School of Chemistry and Chemical Engineering, Separation Engineering Research Center,*

*Nanjing University, Nanjing 210093 (P. R. China).*

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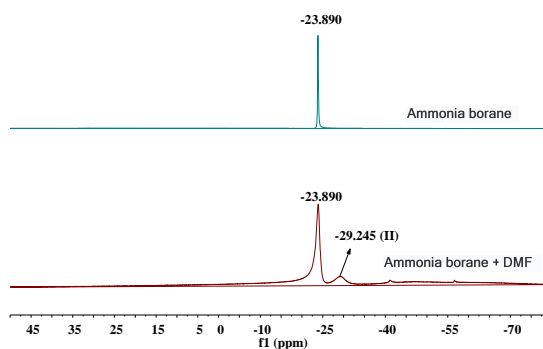
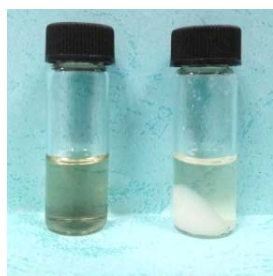
**1. General information.** All solvents and chemicals are analytically pure agents purchased from Energy Chemical, Inc and are used without further purification unless otherwise indicated. The  $\text{BH}_3\text{NH}_3$  is purchased from Aladdin reagent Chemical Company. The deuterated solvents are purchased from TCI Chemical Company.  $\text{CO}_2$  (99.99 wt.%) is purchased from Nanjing Tianze Gas Center, Nanjing. The NMR spectra were recorded on a Bruker AV 400 spectrometer at 400 MHz ( $^1\text{H}$  NMR) and 101 MHz ( $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR). The NMR multiplicities are abbreviated as follows: *s* = singlet, *d* = doublet, *t* = triplet, *q* = quartet, *sept* = septet, *m* = multiplet, *br* = broad signal. Chemical shifts are given in ppm and are referenced to  $\text{SiMe}_4$  ( $^1\text{H}$ ,  $^{13}\text{C}$ ). The yields were determined using a Shimadzu GC2014 gas chromatograph with a flame-ionization detector. The conversion and yield of the product were resolved by  $^1\text{H}$  NMR using 1,3,5-trimethoxybenzene as an internal standard or GC/MS analysis using dodecane as the internal standard, meanwhile, the substrates and their corresponding products also were decided by a Shimadzu GC-MS-QP2010. To isolate the products, the corresponding formamides were obtained after purification by flash chromatography on silica gel.

**2. Typical procedure for the synthesis of 1a.** A stainless autoclave reactor coupled with a magnetic stirrer was charged with *N*-methylaniline (1 mmol),  $\text{BH}_3\text{NH}_3$  (3 mmol), and DMF (5 mL). The reactor was pressurized with 1 MPa of  $\text{CO}_2$  at ambient temperature, and then was heated and stirred at 50 °C for 24 h. After the reaction, excess  $\text{CO}_2$  was vented discreetly. The conversion and yield of the product were resolved by  $^1\text{H}$  NMR using 1,3,5-trimethoxybenzene as an internal standard or GC/MS analysis using dodecane as the

internal standard. The desired products were obtained in the corresponding isolated yields after purification by flash chromatography on silica gel with petroleum ether and ethyl acetate. Other substrates are performed using the same method unless otherwise specified.

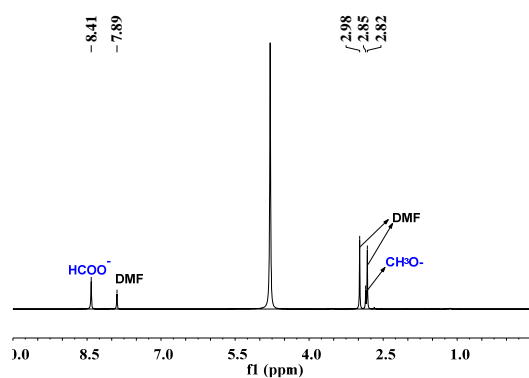
**3. Gram scale synthesis of 15a.** A stainless autoclave reactor coupled with a magnetic stirrer was charged with dibenzylamine (6 mmol, 1.18 g),  $\text{BH}_3\text{NH}_3$  (18 mmol, 0.56 g), and DMF (15 mL). The resulting mixture was stirred for 24 h at  $50^\circ\text{C}$  under 1 MPa of  $\text{CO}_2$ . After the reaction, excess  $\text{CO}_2$  was vented discreetly. The reaction mixture was quenched by water and extracted with ethyl acetate three times. The combined organic layers were dried over anhydrous  $\text{Na}_2\text{SO}_4$  and evaporated under vacuum. The product of *N,N'*-dibenzylformamide (**15a**) was obtained in a yield of 81% after purification by flash chromatography on silica gel with petroleum ether/ethyl acetate.

**4. Stepwise reaction of  $\text{BH}_3\text{NH}_3$ ,  $\text{CO}_2$  and morpholine.** A stainless autoclave reactor coupled with a magnetic stirrer was charged with  $\text{BH}_3\text{NH}_3$  (3 mmol), and DMF (5 mL). The reactor was pressurized with 1 MPa of  $\text{CO}_2$  at ambient temperature, then heated and stirred at  $50^\circ\text{C}$  for 24 h. After the reaction, excess  $\text{CO}_2$  was vented discreetly (The active intermediate III can be isolated as white solid by adding ethyl acetate to the reaction mixture). Then, the morpholine (1 mmol) was added to reactor. It was heated and stirred at  $50^\circ\text{C}$  for another 24 h. After the reaction, the conversion and yield of the product were resolved by GC/MS analysis using dodecane as the internal standard.

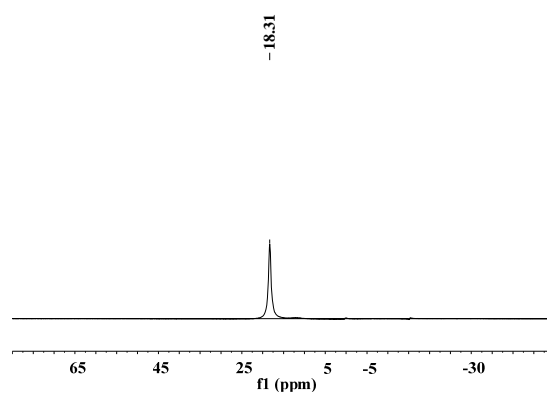


(a)

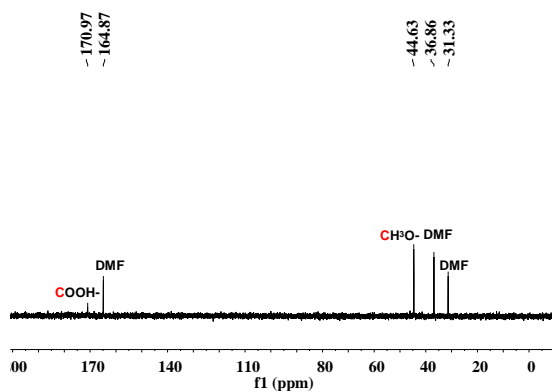
(b)



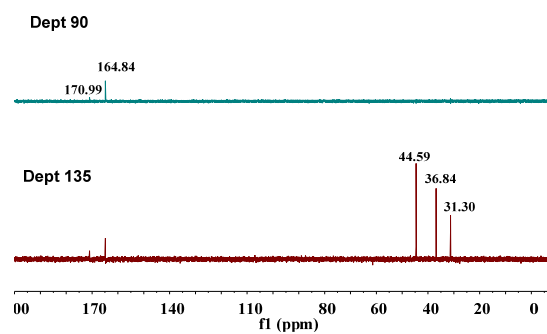
(c)



(d)



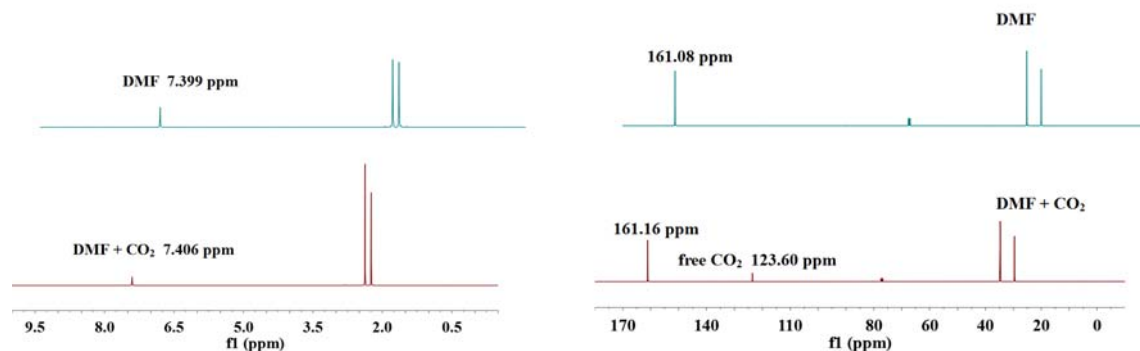
(e)



(f)

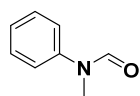
**Figure S1** (a): The reaction mixtures before (left) and after (right) addition of ethyl acetate (active species as white solid); (b): The  $^{11}\text{B}$ -NMR of  $\text{BH}_3\text{NH}_3$  and  $\text{BH}_3\text{NH}_3 + \text{DMF}$  in  $\text{D}_2\text{O}$ ; (c) The  $^1\text{H}$ -NMR of compound **III**; (d) The  $^{11}\text{B}\{^1\text{H}\}$  NMR of compound **III**; (e) The  $^{13}\text{C}$ -NMR of

compound **III**; and (f) The dept-90 and dept-135 of compound **III**.

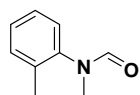


**Figure S2**  $^1\text{H}$ - and  $^{13}\text{C}$ -NMR spectra of DMF and DMF +  $\text{CO}_2$  in  $\text{CDCl}_3$ . (Chemical shift at 124.60 ppm derives from free  $\text{CO}_2$  (see *Angew. Chem. Int. Ed.* **2009**, *48*, 9839 -9843), suggesting that  $\text{CO}_2$  can dissolve in DMF well).

## 5. Detailed descriptions for products

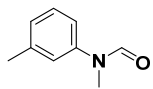


**(1a) *N*-methylformanilide**: light yellow oil, 91 % yield.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  8.48 (s, 1H, -CHO), 7.42 (t,  $J = 7.9$  Hz, 2H, -CH-ar), 7.29 (d,  $J = 7.5$  Hz, 1H, -CH-ar), 7.22 - 7.10 (m, 2H, -CH-ar), 3.33 (s, 3H, - $\text{CH}_3$ ).  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (101 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  162.56 (s, -CHO), 142.10 (s, -C-ar), 129.65 (s, -CH-ar), 126.50 (s, -CH-ar), 122.41 (s, -CH-ar), 32.14 (s, - $\text{CH}_3$ ).

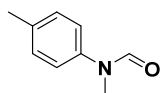


**(2a) *N*-methyl-*N*-(2-methylphenyl)formamide**: yellow oil, 76% yield.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  8.13 (s, 1H, -CHO), 7.35 - 7.24 (m, 3H, -CH-ar), 7.14 - 6.99 (m, 1H, -CH-ar), 3.20 (s, 3H, - $\text{CH}_3$ ), 2.27 (s, 3H, - $\text{CH}_3$ ).  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (101 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  163.01 (s, -CHO), 140.72 (s, -C-ar), 135.44 (s, -C-ar), 131.47 (s, -CH-ar), 128.44 (s, -CH-ar), 127.81 (s,

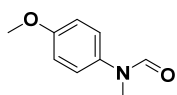
-CH-ar), 127.20 (s, -CH-ar), 33.05 (s, -CH<sub>3</sub>), 17.70 (s, -CH<sub>3</sub>).



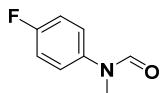
**(3a) N-Methyl-N-(3-methylphenyl)formamide:** yellow oil, 85% yield. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 8.13 (s, 1H, -CHO), 7.35 - 7.24 (m, 3H, -CH-ar), 7.14 - 6.99 (m, 1H, -CH-ar), 3.20 (s, 3H, -CH<sub>3</sub>), 2.27 (s, 3H, -CH<sub>3</sub>). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 162.31 (s, -CHO), 142.15 (s, -C-ar), 139.65 (s, -C-ar), 129.39 (s, -CH-ar), 127.15 (s, -CH-ar), 123.05 (s, -CH-ar), 119.42 (s, -CH-ar), 32.02 (s, -CH<sub>3</sub>), 21.40 (s, -CH<sub>3</sub>).



**(4a) N-methyl-N-(4-methylphenyl)formamide:** light yellow oil, 92 % yield. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 8.13 (s, 1H, -CHO), 7.35 - 7.24 (m, 3H, -CH-ar), 7.14 - 6.99 (m, 1H, -CH-ar), 3.20 (s, 3H, -CH<sub>3</sub>), 2.27 (s, 3H, -CH<sub>3</sub>). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 162.14 (s, -CHO), 139.64 (s, -C-ar), 136.12 (s, -C-ar), 130.07 (s, -CH-ar), 122.33 (s, -CH-ar), 31.98 (s, -CH<sub>3</sub>), 20.75 (s, -CH<sub>3</sub>).

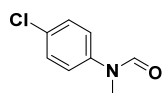


**(5a) N-(4-methoxy)-N-methylformamide:** brown oil, 95% yield. Mixture of cis and trans rotamers. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 8.33 (s, 1H, -CHO), 7.10 (d, *J* = 9.0 Hz, 2H, -CH-ar), 6.93 (d, *J* = 9.0 Hz, 2H, -CH-ar), 3.81 (s, 3H, O-CH<sub>3</sub>), 3.29 - 3.22 (m, 3H, N-CH<sub>3</sub>). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 162.40 (s, -CHO), 158.23 (s, -CHO), 135.14 (s, -C-ar), 124.53 (s, -CH-ar), 114.71 (s, -CH-ar), 55.46 (s, O-CH<sub>3</sub>), 32.57 (s, N-CH<sub>3</sub>).



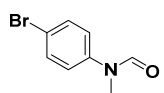
**(6a) N-(4-fluorophenyl)-N-methylformamide:** claybank oil, 71% yield. <sup>1</sup>H

NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  8.31 (s, 1H, -CHO), 7.09 - 6.93 (m, 4H, -CH-ar), 3.21 (s, 3H, -CH<sub>3</sub>). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  162.19 (s, -CHO), 159.80 (s, -C-ar), 138.33 (s, -CH-ar), 124.59 (s, -CH-ar), 116.57 (s, -CH-ar), 116.35 (s, -CH-ar), 32.44 (s, -CH<sub>3</sub>).



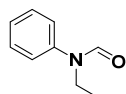
**(7a) N-(4-chlorophenyl)-N-methylformamide:** claybank oil, 75% yield. <sup>1</sup>H

NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  8.35 (s, 1H, -CHO), 7.30 - 7.21 (m, 2H, -CH-ar), 7.04 - 6.97 (m, 2H, -CH-ar), 3.19 (s, 3H, -CH<sub>3</sub>). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  161.95 (s, -CHO), 140.73 (s, -C-ar), 131.87 (s, -C-ar), 129.71 (s, -CH-ar), 123.44 (s, -CH-ar), 31.97 (s, -CH<sub>3</sub>).

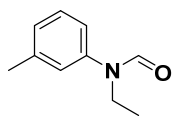


**(8a) N-(4-bromophenyl)-N-methylformamide:** brown solid 83% yield. <sup>1</sup>H

NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  8.46 (s, 1H, -CHO), 7.57 - 7.50 (m, 2H, -CH-ar), 7.08 - 6.99 (m, 2H, -CH-ar), 3.30 (s, 3H, -CH<sub>3</sub>). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  161.91 (s, -CHO), 141.25 (s, -C-ar), 132.72 (s, -CH-ar), 123.75 (s, -CH-ar), 119.67 (s, -C-ar), 31.96 (s, -CH<sub>3</sub>).

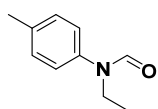


**(10a) N-Ethylformanilide:** light yellow oil, 77 % yield. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  8.36 (s, 1H, -CHO), 7.42 (t,  $J = 7.7$  Hz, 2H, -CH-ar), 7.31 (d,  $J = 7.4$  Hz, 1H, -CH-ar), 7.17 (d,  $J = 7.5$  Hz, 2H, -CH-ar), 3.87 (q,  $J = 7.2$  Hz, 2H, -CH<sub>2</sub>-), 1.16 (t,  $J = 7.2$  Hz, 3H, -CH<sub>3</sub>). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  162.01 (s, -CHO), 140.81 (s, -C-ar), 129.63 (s, -CH-ar), 126.85 (s, -CH-ar), 124.23 (s, -CH-ar), 40.06 (s, -CH<sub>2</sub>-), 13.04 (s, -CH<sub>3</sub>).



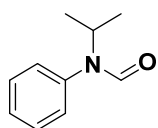
**(11a) *N*-ethyl-*N*-(3-methylphenyl)formamide:** light yellow oil, 80 % yield.

$^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  8.33 (s, 1H, -CHO), 7.29 (t,  $J = 7.7$  Hz, 1H, -CH-ar), 7.11 (d,  $J = 7.5$  Hz, 1H, -CH-ar), 6.97 (d,  $J = 7.8$  Hz, 2H, -CH-ar), 3.85 (q,  $J = 7.2$  Hz, 2H, -CH<sub>2</sub>-), 2.38 (s, 3H, -CH<sub>3</sub>), 1.16 (dd,  $J = 8.6, 5.7$  Hz, 3H, -CH<sub>3</sub>).  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (101 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  161.98 (s, -CHO), 140.73 (s, -C-ar), 139.63 (s, -C-ar), 129.37 (s, -CH-ar), 127.61 (s, -CH-ar), 124.90 (s, -CH-ar), 121.28 (s, -CH-ar), 40.02 (s, -CH-ar), 21.34 (s, -CH<sub>2</sub>-), 13.04 (s, -CH<sub>3</sub>).



**(12a) *N*-ethyl-*N*-(4-methylphenyl)formamide:** light yellow oil, 85 % yield.  $^1\text{H}$

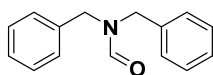
NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  8.30 (s, 1H, -CHO), 7.21 (d,  $J = 8.1$  Hz, 2H, -CH-ar), 7.05 (dd,  $J = 8.6, 2.1$  Hz, 2H, -CH-ar), 3.83 (q,  $J = 7.2$  Hz, 2H, -CH<sub>2</sub>-), 2.35 (d,  $J = 7.9$  Hz, 3H, -CH<sub>3</sub>), 1.22 - 1.08 (m, 3H, -CH<sub>3</sub>).  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (101 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  161.97 (s, -CHO), 138.17 (s, -C-ar), 136.77 (s, -C-ar), 130.14 (s, -CH-ar), 124.37 (s, -CH-ar), 40.06 (s, -CH<sub>2</sub>-), 20.85 (s, -CH<sub>3</sub>), 12.96 (s, -CH<sub>3</sub>).



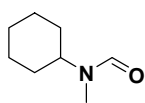
**(13a) *N*-isopropyl-*N*-phenylformamide:** light yellow oil, 64 % yield.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR

(400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  8.17 (s, 1H, -CHO), 7.47 - 7.36 (m, 3H, -CH-ar), 7.18 - 7.08 (m, 2H, -CH-ar), 4.80 (dt,  $J = 13.7, 6.8$  Hz, 1H, -CH-), 1.20 (d,  $J = 6.8$  Hz, 6H, -CH<sub>3</sub>).  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (101 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  162.55 (s, -CHO), 138.40 (s, -C-ar), 129.24 (s, -CH-ar), 128.97 (s, -CH-ar), 128.15 (s, -CH-ar), 45.77 (s, -CH-), 20.93 (s, -CH<sub>3</sub>).

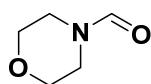




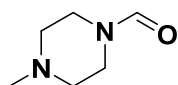
(15a) *N,N'*-dibenzylformamide: colorless solid, 96 % yield.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  8.36 (s, 1H, -CHO), 7.41 - 7.20 (m, 6H, -CH-ar), 7.20 - 7.03 (m, 4H, -CH-ar), 4.36 (s, 2H, -CH<sub>2</sub>-), 4.19 (s, 2H, -CH<sub>2</sub>-).  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (101 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  162.89 (s, -CHO), 136.13 (s, -C-ar), 135.77 (s, -C-ar), 128.96 (s, -CH-ar), 128.75 (s, -CH-ar), 128.54 (s, -CH-ar), 128.16 (s, -CH-ar), 127.74 (d, -CH-ar), 50.21 (s, -CH<sub>2</sub>-), 44.62 (s, -CH<sub>2</sub>-).



(16a) *N*-cyclohexyl-*N*-methylformamide: light yellow oil, 93 % yield. Mixture of cis and trans rotamers.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  8.07 (s, 1H, -CHO), 7.95 (s, 1H, -CHO), 4.12 (d,  $J = 3.7$  Hz, 1H, -CH-), 3.22 (dd,  $J = 7.8, 4.0$  Hz, 1H, -CH-), 2.83 - 2.69 (m, 3H, -CH<sub>3</sub>), 1.77 - 1.11 (m, 10H, -CH<sub>2</sub>-).  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (101 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  162.38 (d, -CHO), 62.96 (s, -CH-), 58.18 (s, -CH-), 50.79 (s, -CH<sub>2</sub>-), 38.05 (s, -CH<sub>2</sub>-), 31.31 (s, -CH<sub>2</sub>-), 30.25 (s, -CH<sub>2</sub>-), 29.46 (s, -CH<sub>2</sub>-), 29.20 (s, -CH<sub>2</sub>-), 27.88 (s, -CH<sub>2</sub>-), 25.95 (s, -CH<sub>2</sub>-), 25.49 (s, -CH<sub>3</sub>), 25.13 (s, -CH<sub>3</sub>).

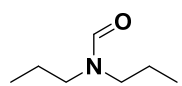


(17a) *N*-formylmorpholine: colourless liquid 92% yield.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  8.06 (s, 1H, -CHO), 3.69 (ddd,  $J = 15.5, 7.3, 3.8$  Hz, 4H, -CH<sub>2</sub>-), 3.59 - 3.55 (m, 2H, -CH<sub>2</sub>-), 3.42 (dd,  $J = 6.3, 3.4$  Hz, 2H, -CH<sub>2</sub>-).  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (101 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ , -CHO)  $\delta$  160.79 (s, -CH<sub>2</sub>-), 67.16 (s, -CH<sub>2</sub>-), 66.34 (s, -CH<sub>2</sub>-), 45.71 (s, -CH<sub>2</sub>-), 40.50 (s, -CH<sub>2</sub>-).

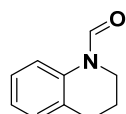


(18a) 1-formyl-4-methylpiperazine: light yellow oil, 84% yield.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  7.90 (s, 1H, -CHO), 3.50 - 3.37 (m, 2H, -CH<sub>2</sub>-), 3.33 - 3.19 (m, 2H,

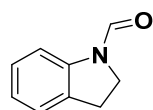
-CH<sub>2</sub>-), 2.34 - 2.21 (m, 4H, -CH<sub>2</sub>-), 2.20 (s, 3H, -CH<sub>3</sub>). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 160.63 (s, -CHO), 55.25 (s, -CH<sub>2</sub>-), 54.09 (s, -CH<sub>2</sub>-), 46.02 (s, -CH<sub>2</sub>-), 45.38 (s, -CH<sub>2</sub>-), 39.68 (s, -CH<sub>3</sub>).



**(19a) N,N-dipropylformamide:** colourless liquid 83% yield. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 7.99 (s, 1H, -CHO), 3.25 - 3.14 (m, 2H, -CH<sub>2</sub>-), 3.13 - 3.02 (m, 2H, -CH<sub>2</sub>-), 1.55 - 1.37 (m, 4H, -CH<sub>2</sub>-), 0.83 (td, *J* = 7.4, 2.6 Hz, 6H, -CH<sub>3</sub>). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 162.87 (s, -CHO), 49.17 (s, -CH<sub>2</sub>-), 43.73 (s, -CH<sub>2</sub>-), 21.79 (s, -CH<sub>2</sub>-), 20.50 (s, -CH<sub>2</sub>-), 11.30 (s, -CH<sub>3</sub>), 10.90 (s, -CH<sub>3</sub>).

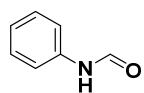


**(22a) 3,4-dihydroquinoline-1(2H)-carbaldehyde:** yellow oil, 88% yield. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 8.77 (s, 1H, -CHO), 7.22 - 7.02 (m, 4H, -CH-ar), 3.85 - 3.69 (m, 2H, -CH<sub>2</sub>-), 2.80 (t, *J* = 6.4 Hz, 2H, -CH<sub>2</sub>-), 1.94 (dt, *J* = 12.5, 6.3 Hz, 2H, -CH<sub>2</sub>-). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 161.06 (s, -CHO), 137.19 (s, -C-ar), 129.60 (s, -CH-ar), 128.85 (s, -C-ar), 127.06 (s, -CH-ar), 124.50 (s, -CH-ar), 116.97 (s, -CH-ar), 40.24 (s, -CH<sub>2</sub>-), 27.08 (s, -CH<sub>2</sub>-), 22.22 (s, -CH<sub>2</sub>-).

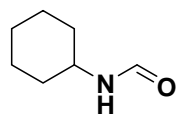


**(23a) Indoline-1-carbaldehyde:** claybank oil, 95% yield. Mixture of cis and trans rotamers. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 8.94 (s, 1H, -CHO), 8.53 (s, 1H, -CHO), 8.08 (d, *J* = 8.5 Hz, 1H, -CHO), 7.31 - 7.11 (m, 3H, -CH-ar), 7.12 - 6.99 (m, 1H, -CH-ar), 4.20 - 3.96 (m, 2H, -CH<sub>2</sub>-), 3.24 - 3.06 (m, 2H, -CH<sub>2</sub>-). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 159.35 (s, -CHO),

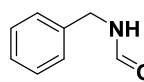
157.57 (s, -CHO), 141.06 (s, -C-ar), 131.93 (s, -C-ar), 127.56 (d, -CH-ar), 126.06 (s, -CH-ar), 124.87 (s, -CH-ar), 124.56 (s, -C-ar), 116.60 (s, -C-ar), 109.40 (s, -CH-ar), 46.95 (s, -CH<sub>2</sub>-), 44.64 (s, -CH<sub>2</sub>-), 27.74 (s, -CH<sub>2</sub>-), 27.17 (s, -CH<sub>2</sub>-).



**(26a) N-phenylformamide:** colorless solid, 74% yield. Mixture of cis and trans rotamers. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 9.11 (b, 1H, -NH-), 8.70 (d, *J* = 11.4 Hz, 1H, -CHO), 8.32 (d, *J* = 1.5 Hz, 2H, -CHO), 7.55 (dt, *J* = 8.7, 1.7 Hz, 2H, -CH-ar), 7.41 - 7.24 (m, 4H -CH-ar), 7.24 - 7.03 (m, 4H, -CH-ar). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 163.22 (s, -CHO), 159.73 (s, -CHO), 137.09 (s, -C-ar), 136.89 (s, -C-ar), 130.03 (s, -CH-ar), 129.75 (s, -CH-ar), 129.36 (s, -CH-ar), 129.09 (s, -CH-ar), 125.28 (s, -CH-ar), 124.80 (s, -CH-ar), 120.21 (s, -CH-ar), 118.79 (s, -CH-ar).

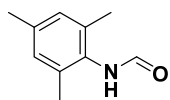


**(27a) N-cyclohexylformamide:** light yellow oil, 83% yield. Mixture of cis and trans rotamers. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 8.09 (d, *J* = 12.0 Hz, 1H, -CHO), 6.54 (d, *J* = 70.7 Hz, 1H, -NH-), 3.92 - 3.71 (m, 1H, -CH-), 3.29 (s, 1H, -CH-), 2.03 - 1.56 (m, 6H, -CH<sub>2</sub>-), 1.38 - 1.13 (m, 6H, -CH<sub>2</sub>-). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 163.95 (s, -CHO), 160.73 (s, -CHO), 51.26 (s, -CH-), 47.08 (s, -CH-), 34.48 (s, -CH<sub>2</sub>-), 32.84 (s, -CH<sub>2</sub>-), 25.36 (s, -CH<sub>2</sub>-), 24.71 (s, -CH<sub>2</sub>-).



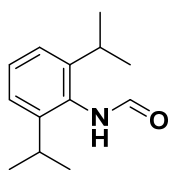
**(28a) N-benzylformamide:** light yellow oil, 90% yield. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 8.09 (s, 1H, -CHO), 7.21 (dt, *J* = 13.4, 7.7 Hz, 5H, -CH-ar), 6.36 (s, 1H, N-H), 4.34 (d, *J* = 5.9 Hz, 2H, -CH<sub>2</sub>-). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 161.27 (s, -CHO), 137.67 (s,

-C-ar), 128.74 (s), 127.67 (s, -C-ar), 127.61 (s, -C-ar), 42.10 (s, -CH<sub>2</sub>-).



**(29a) *N*-mesitylformamide:** colorless solid, 86% yield. Mixture of cis and trans

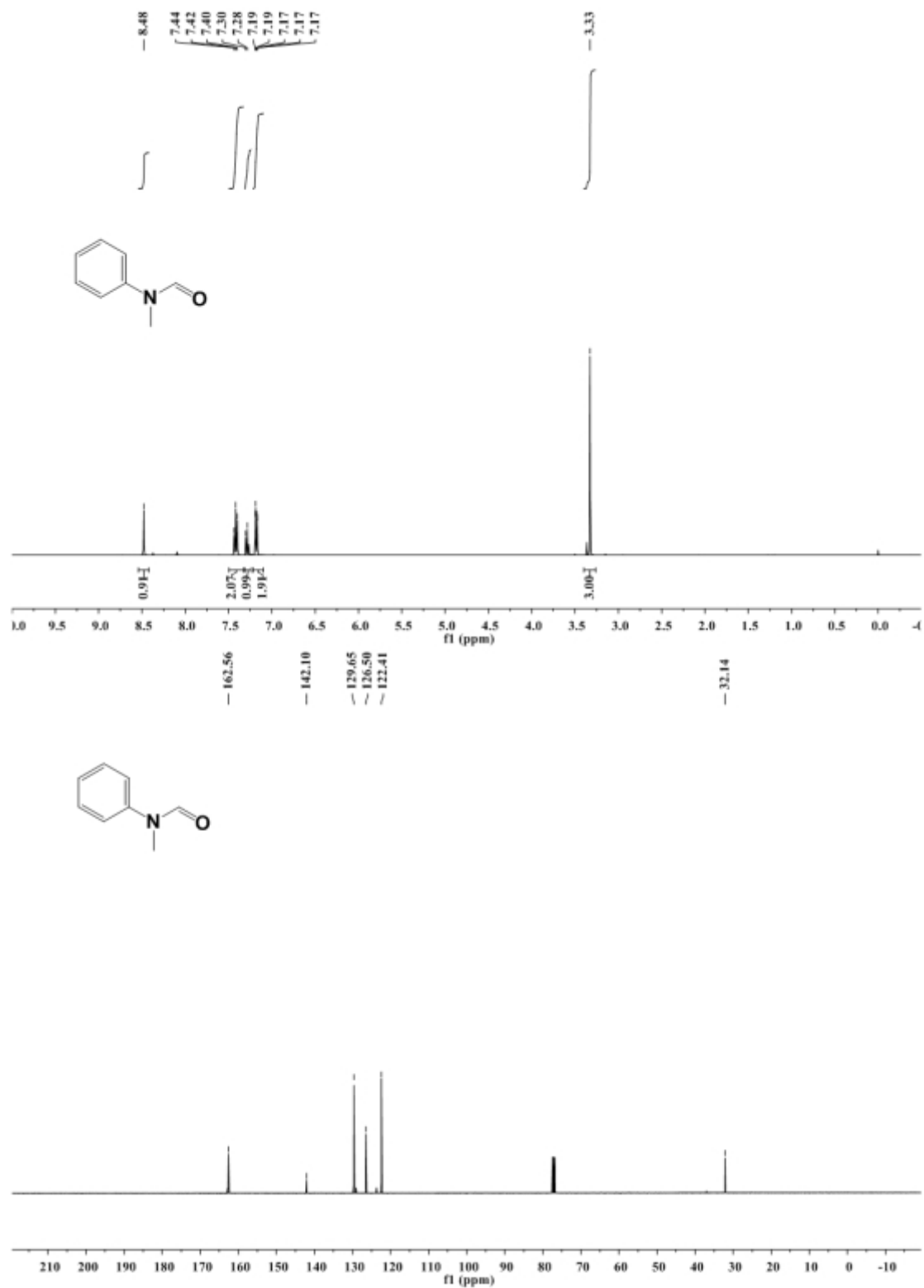
rotamers. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 8.32 (d, *J* = 1.2 Hz, 1H, -CHO), 8.04 (d, *J* = 11.9 Hz, 1H, -CHO), 6.90 (d, *J* = 21.4 Hz, 2H, -CH-ar), 2.24 (t, *J* = 22.0 Hz, 9H, -CH<sub>3</sub>). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 165.30 (s, -CHO), 159.97 (s, -CHO), 137.51 (s, -C-ar), 135.17 (s, -C-ar), 134.93 (s, -CH-ar), 130.52 (s, -CH-ar), 129.71 (s, -CH-ar), 129.33 (s, -C-ar), 128.96 (s, -C-ar), 20.92 (d, -CH<sub>3</sub>), 18.63 (s, -CH<sub>3</sub>), 18.42 (s, -CH<sub>3</sub>).



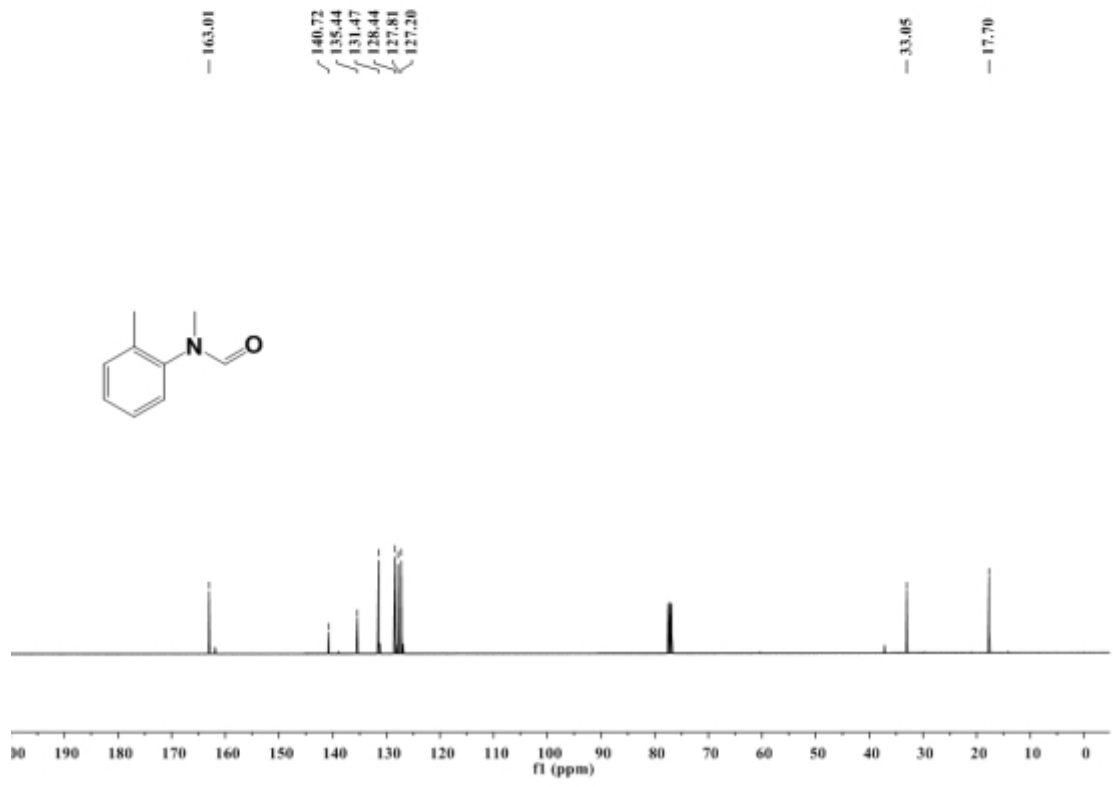
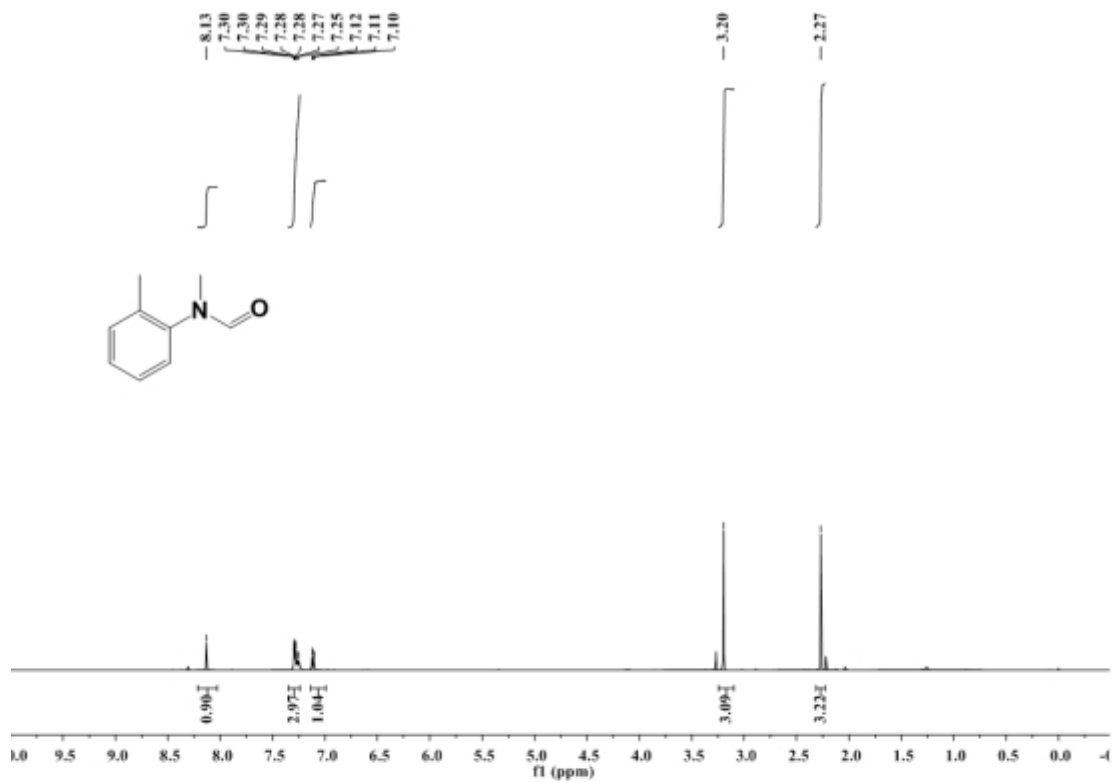
**(30a) *N*-(2,6-diisopropylphenyl)formamide:** colorless solid, 81% yield.

Mixture of cis and trans rotamers. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 8.45 (s, 1H, -CHO), 8.03 (d, *J* = 11.9 Hz, 1H, -CHO), 7.51 (d, *J* = 11.4 Hz, 1H, -CH-ar), 7.33 (dd, *J* = 15.1, 7.2 Hz, 1H, -CH-ar), 7.20 (dd, *J* = 7.7, 4.9 Hz, 2H, -CH-ar), 7.06 (s, 1H, -CH-ar), 3.22 (dt, *J* = 13.7, 6.9 Hz, 1H, -CH-), 3.11 (dt, *J* = 13.7, 6.9 Hz, 1H, -CH-), 1.21 (d, *J* = 2.7 Hz, 12H, -CH<sub>3</sub>). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 165.43 (s, -CHO), 160.83 (s, -CHO), 146.78 (s, -C-ar), 146.10 (s, -C-ar), 130.02 (s, -CH-ar), 129.47 (s, -CH-ar), 128.95 (s, -C-ar), 128.83 (s, -C-ar), 123.83 (s, -CH-ar), 123.59 (s, -CH-ar), 28.81 (s, -CH-), 28.43 (s, -CH-), 23.66 (s, -CH<sub>3</sub>).

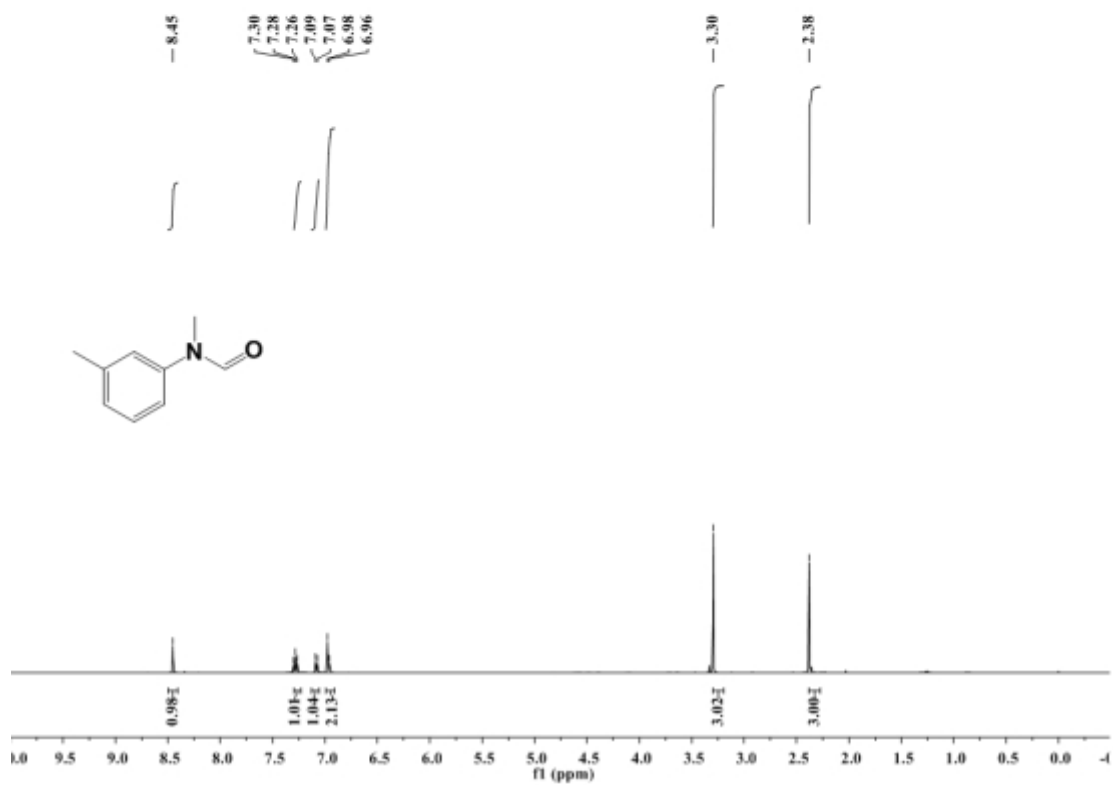
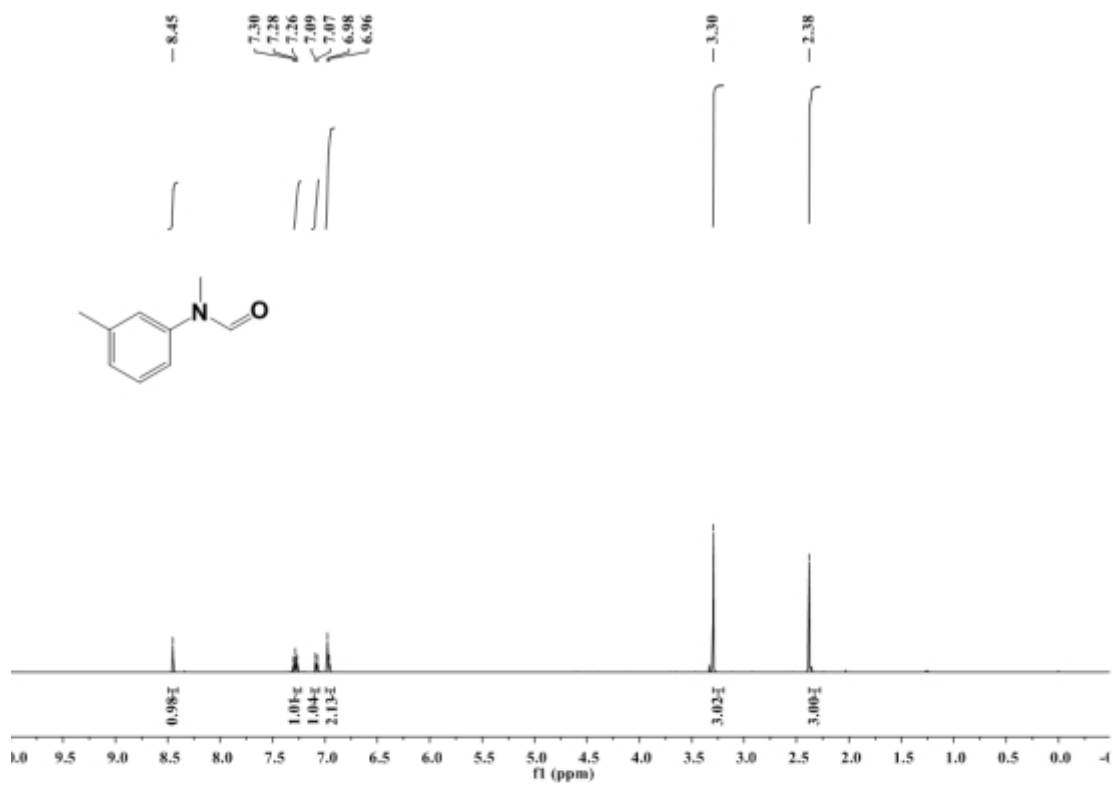
## 6. Original NMR spectra



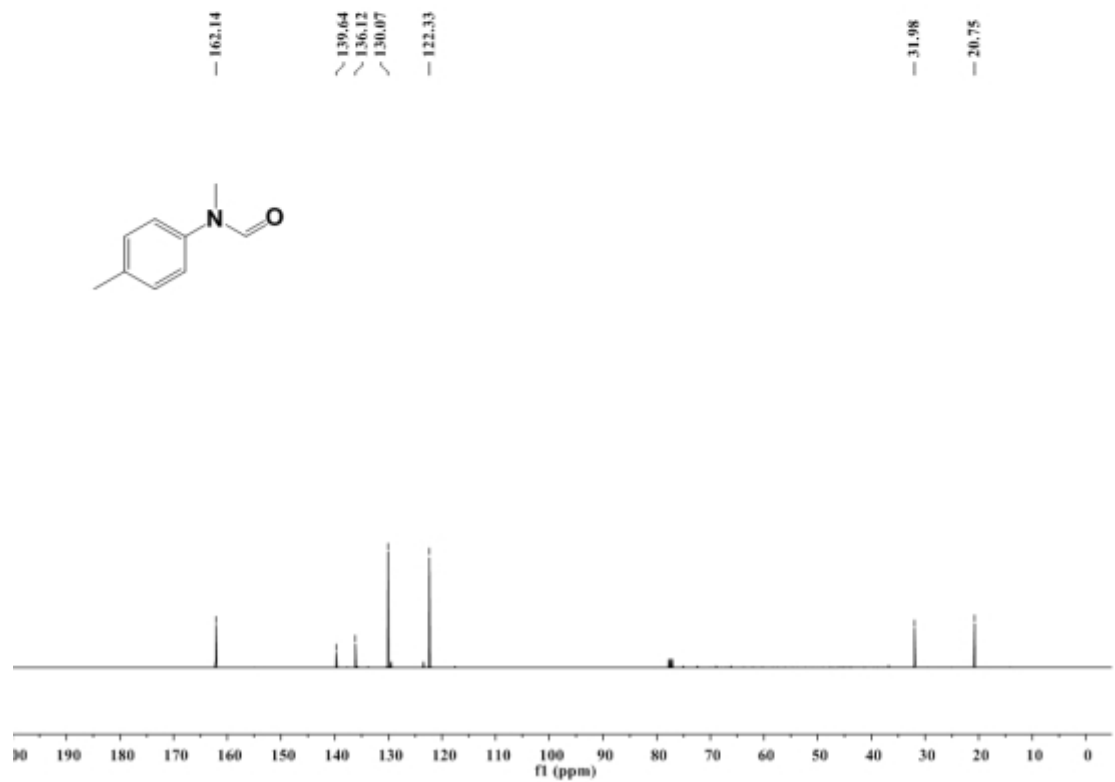
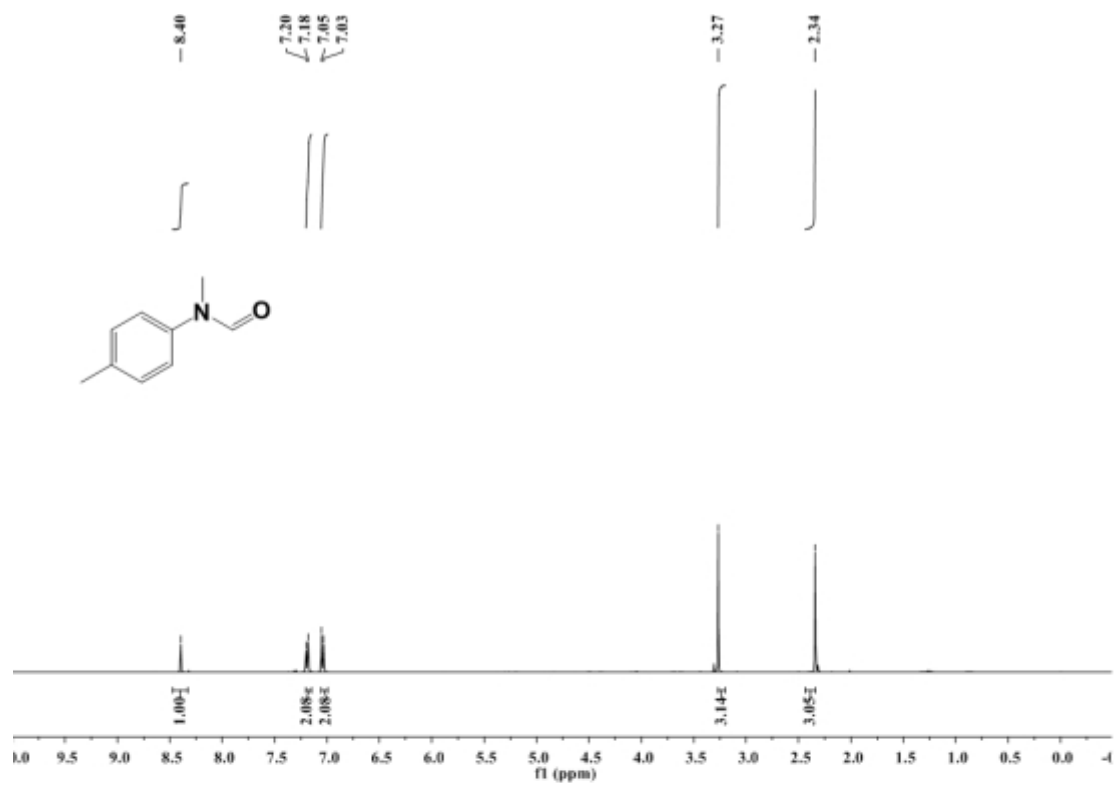
**Fig. S3** The  $^1\text{H}$  NMR and  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR spectra of **1a**.



**Fig. S4** The <sup>1</sup>H NMR and <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectra of **2a**.

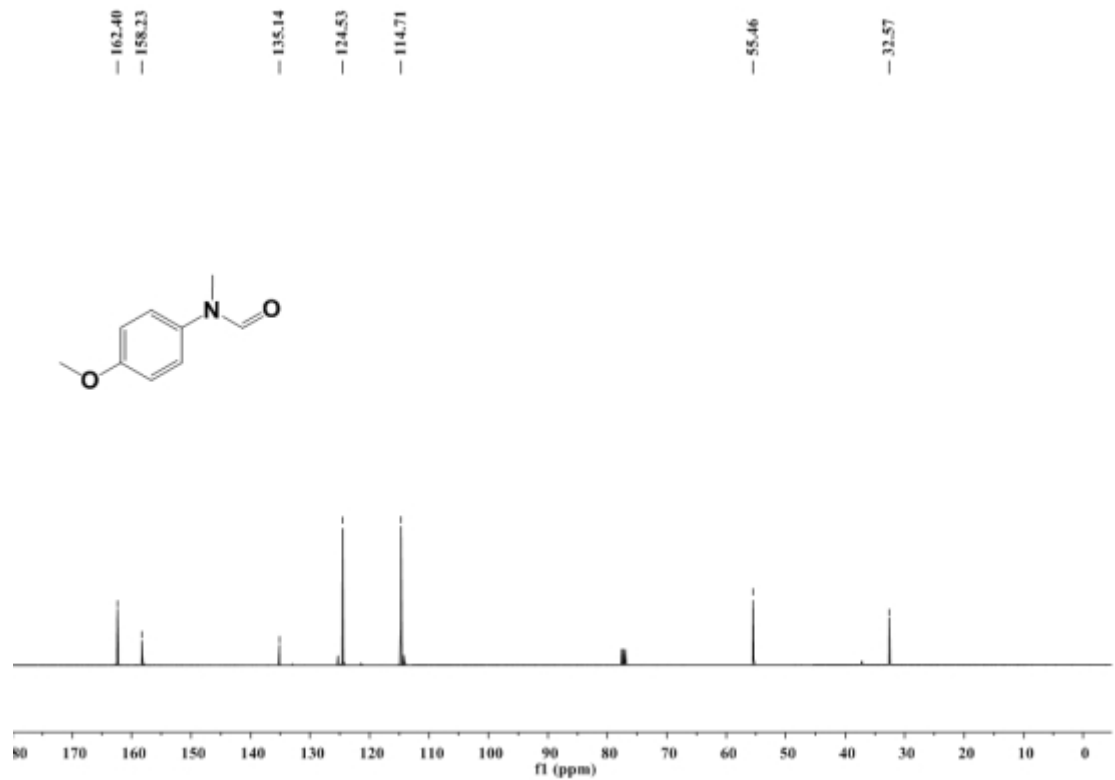
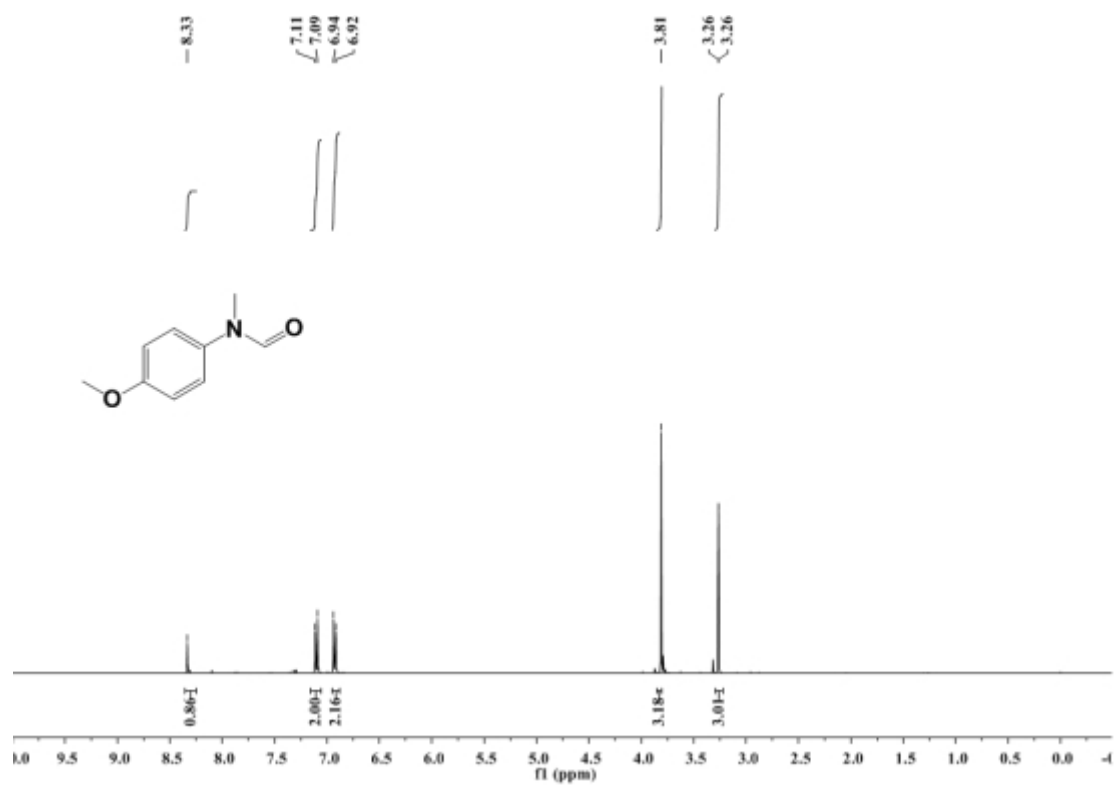


**Fig. S5** The  $^1\text{H}$  NMR and  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR spectra of **3a**.

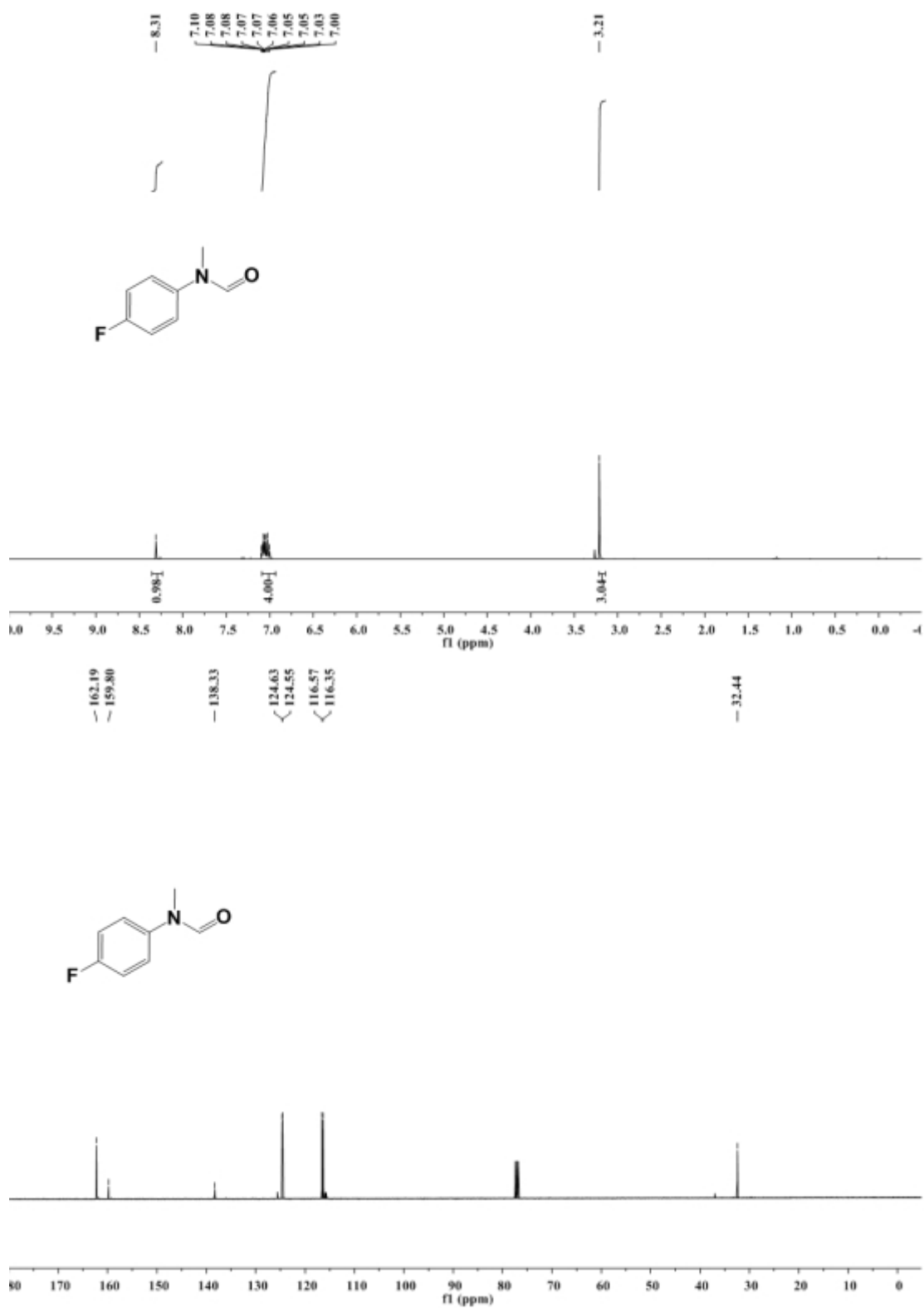


**Fig. S6** The  $^1\text{H}$  NMR and  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR spectra of **4a**.





**Fig. S7** The  $^1\text{H}$  NMR and  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR spectra of **5a**.



**Fig. S8** The  $^1\text{H}$  NMR and  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR spectra of **6a**.

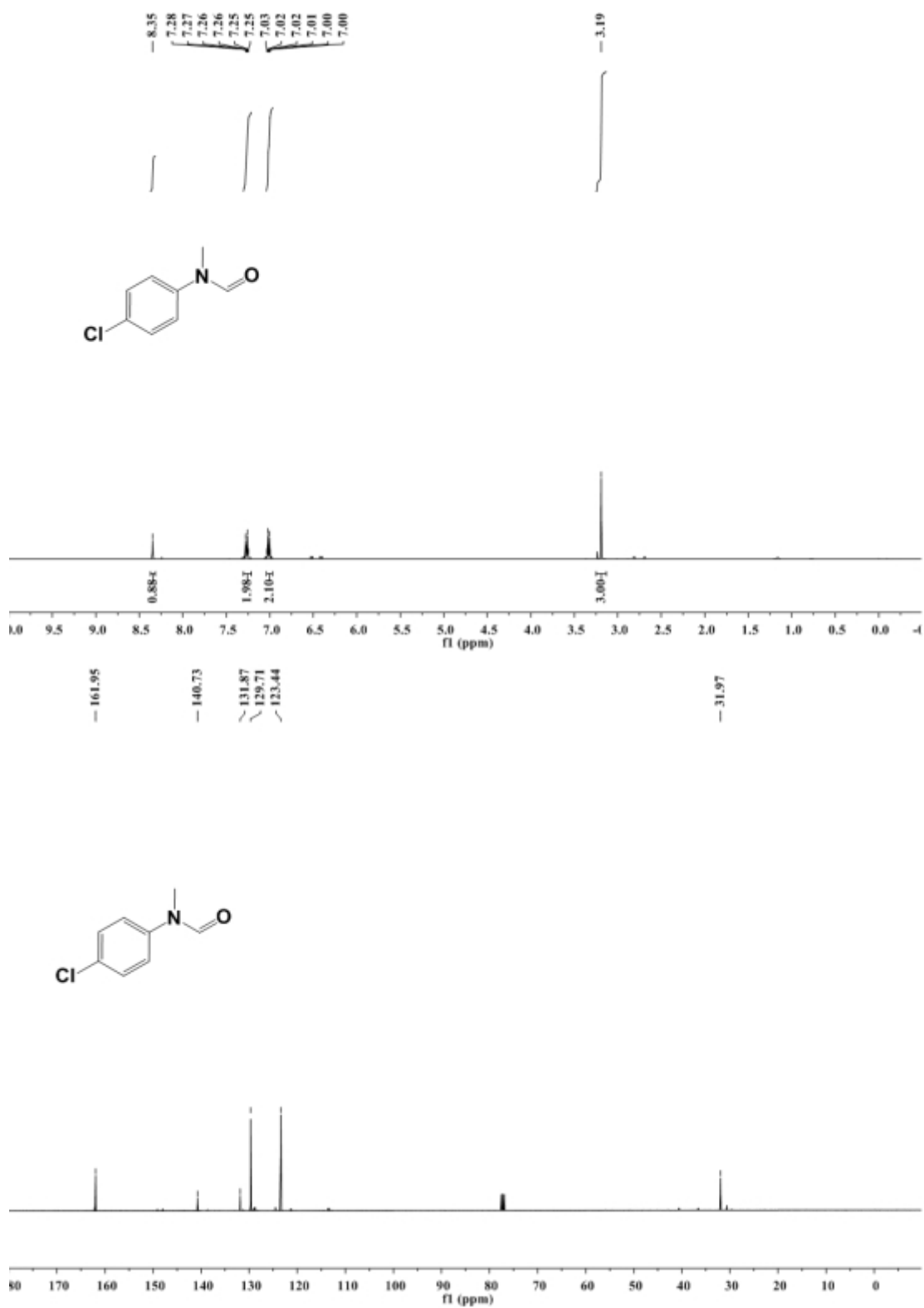
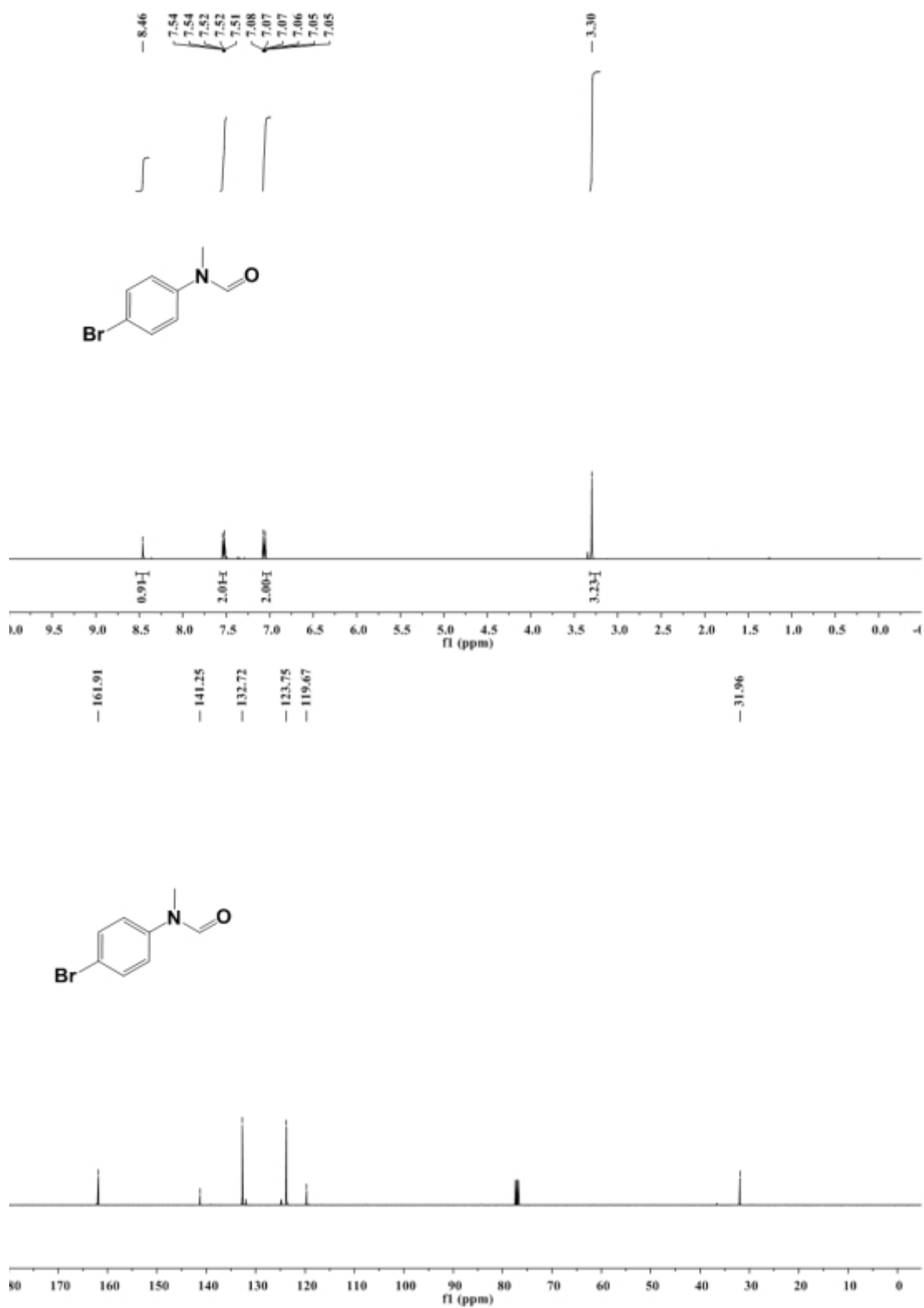
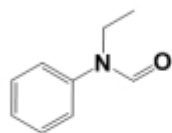
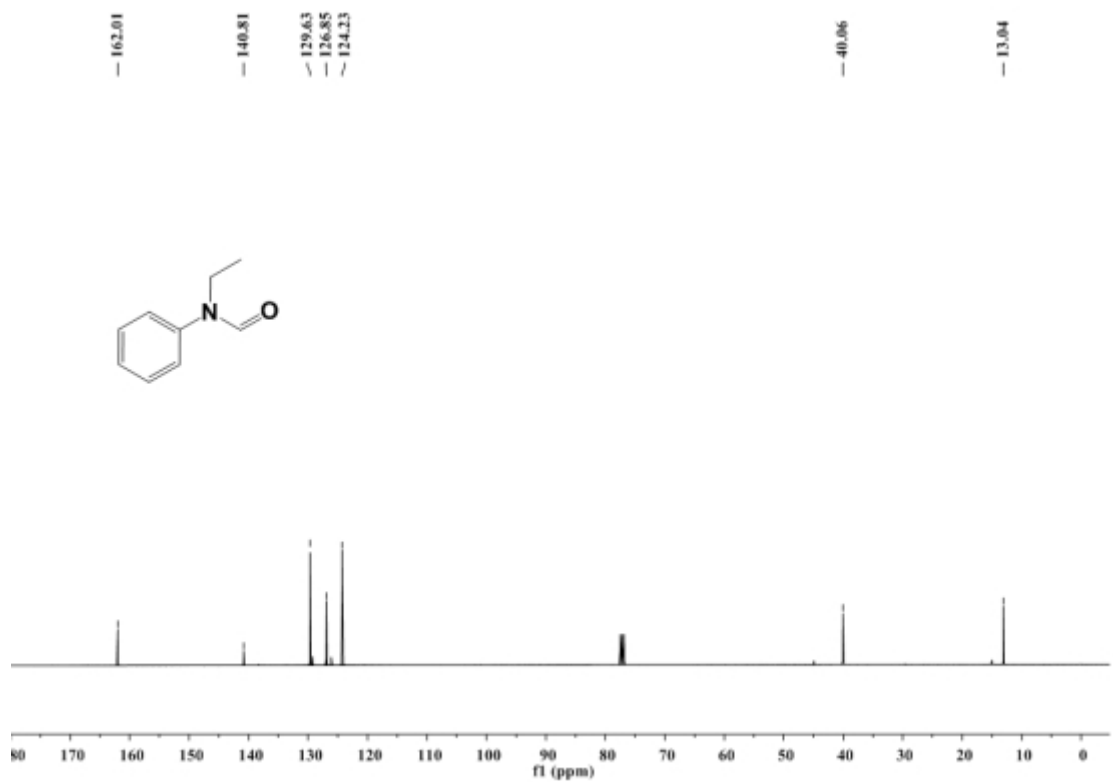
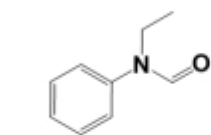
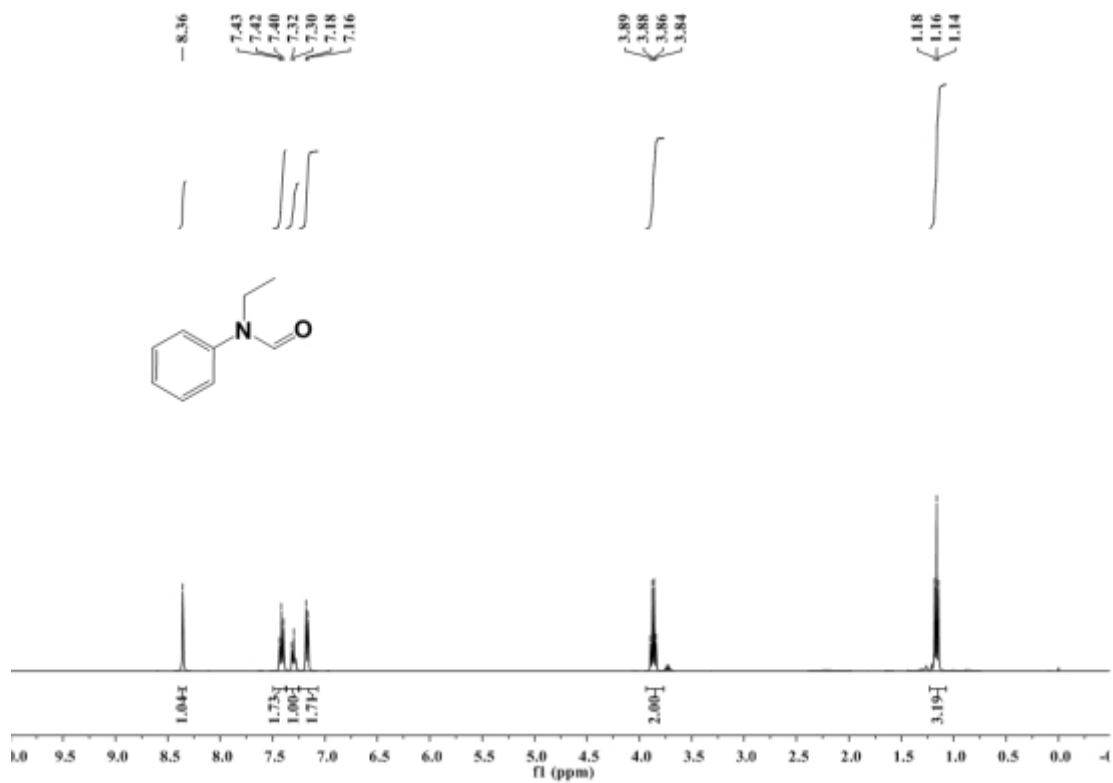


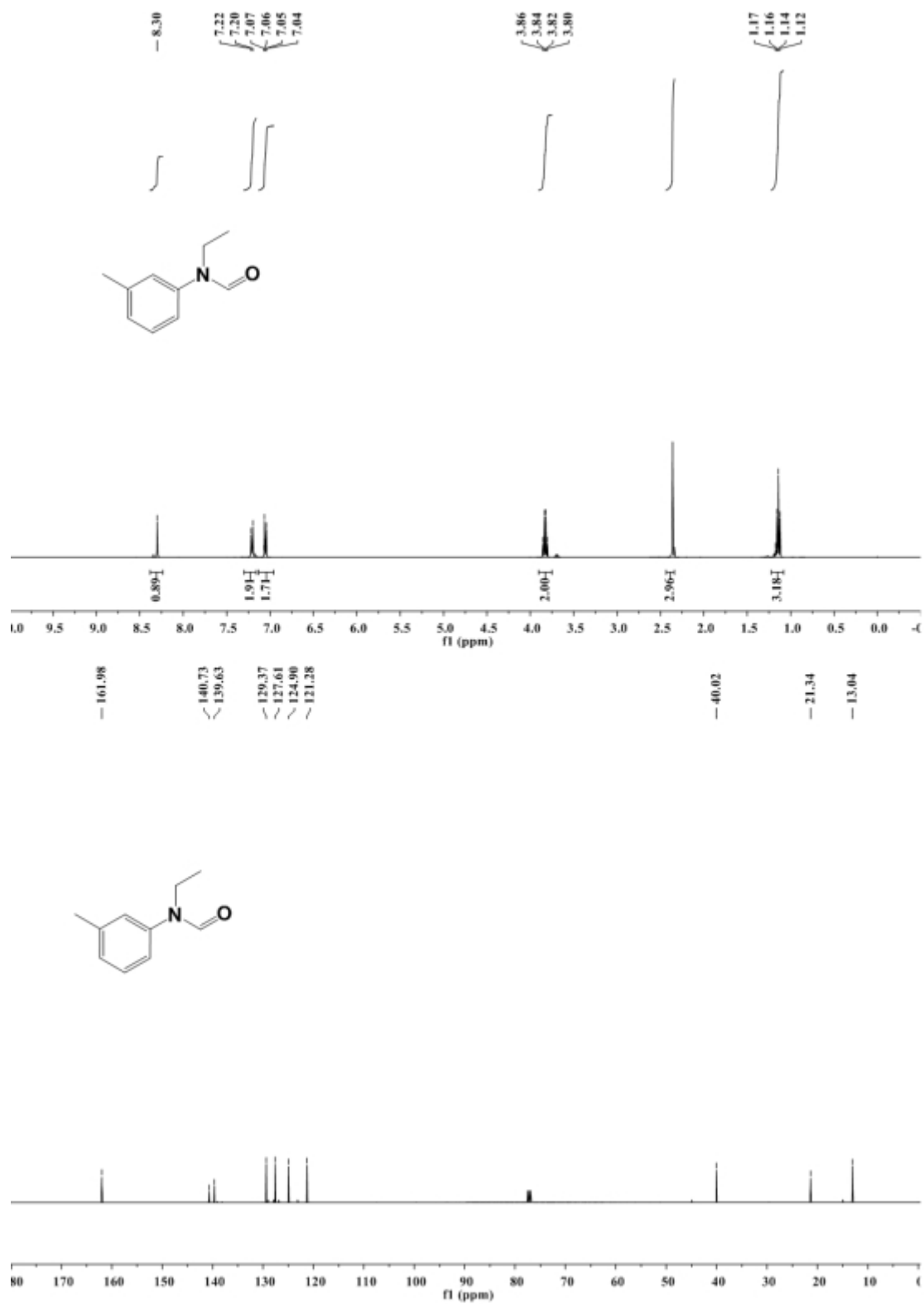
Fig. S9 The <sup>1</sup>H NMR and <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectra of 7a.



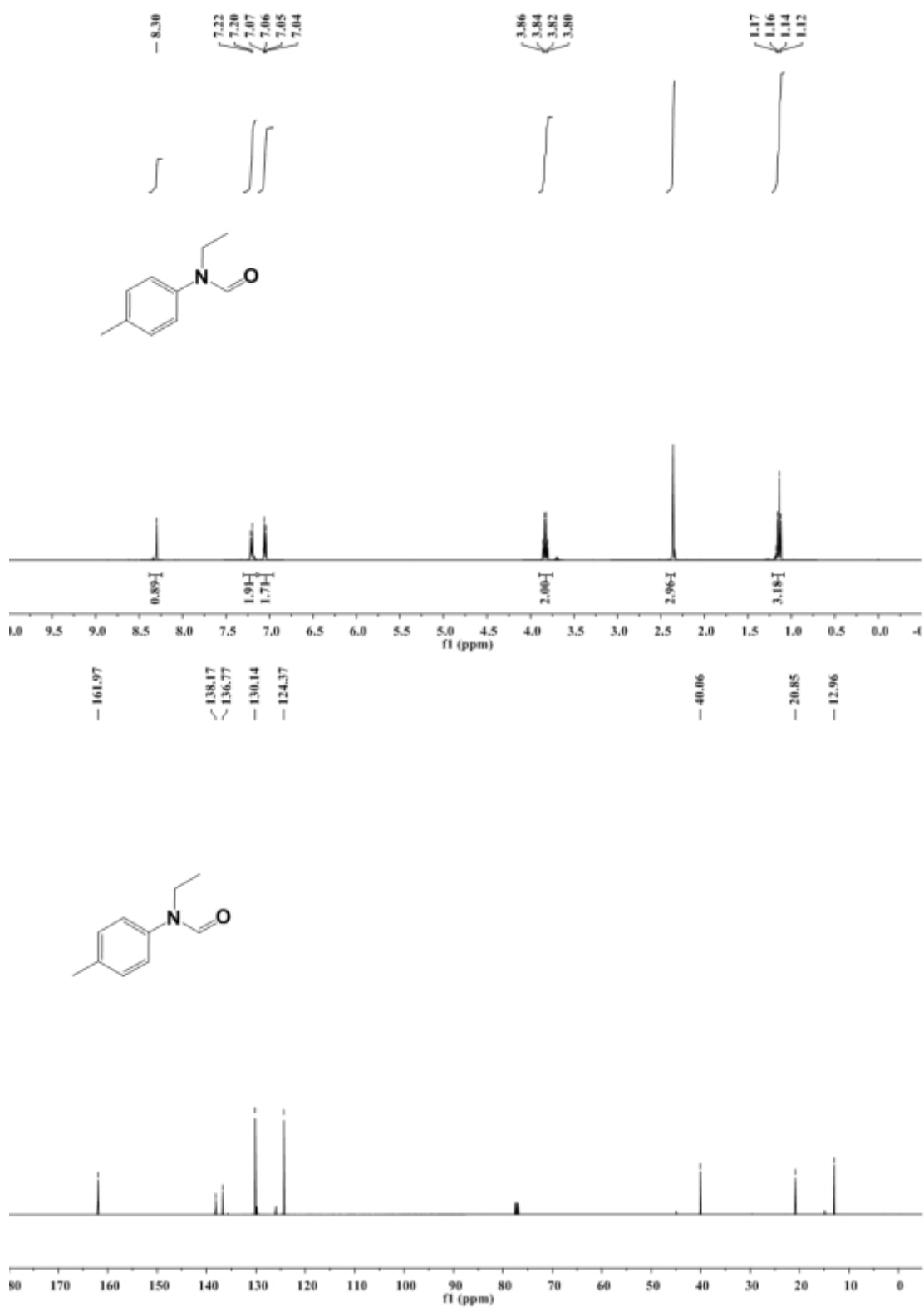
**Fig. S10** The <sup>1</sup>H NMR and <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectra of **8a**.



**Fig. S11** The <sup>1</sup>H NMR and <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectra of **10a**.



**Fig. S12** The  $^1\text{H}$  NMR and  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR spectra of **11a**.



**Fig. S13** The  $^1\text{H}$  NMR and  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR spectra of **12a**.

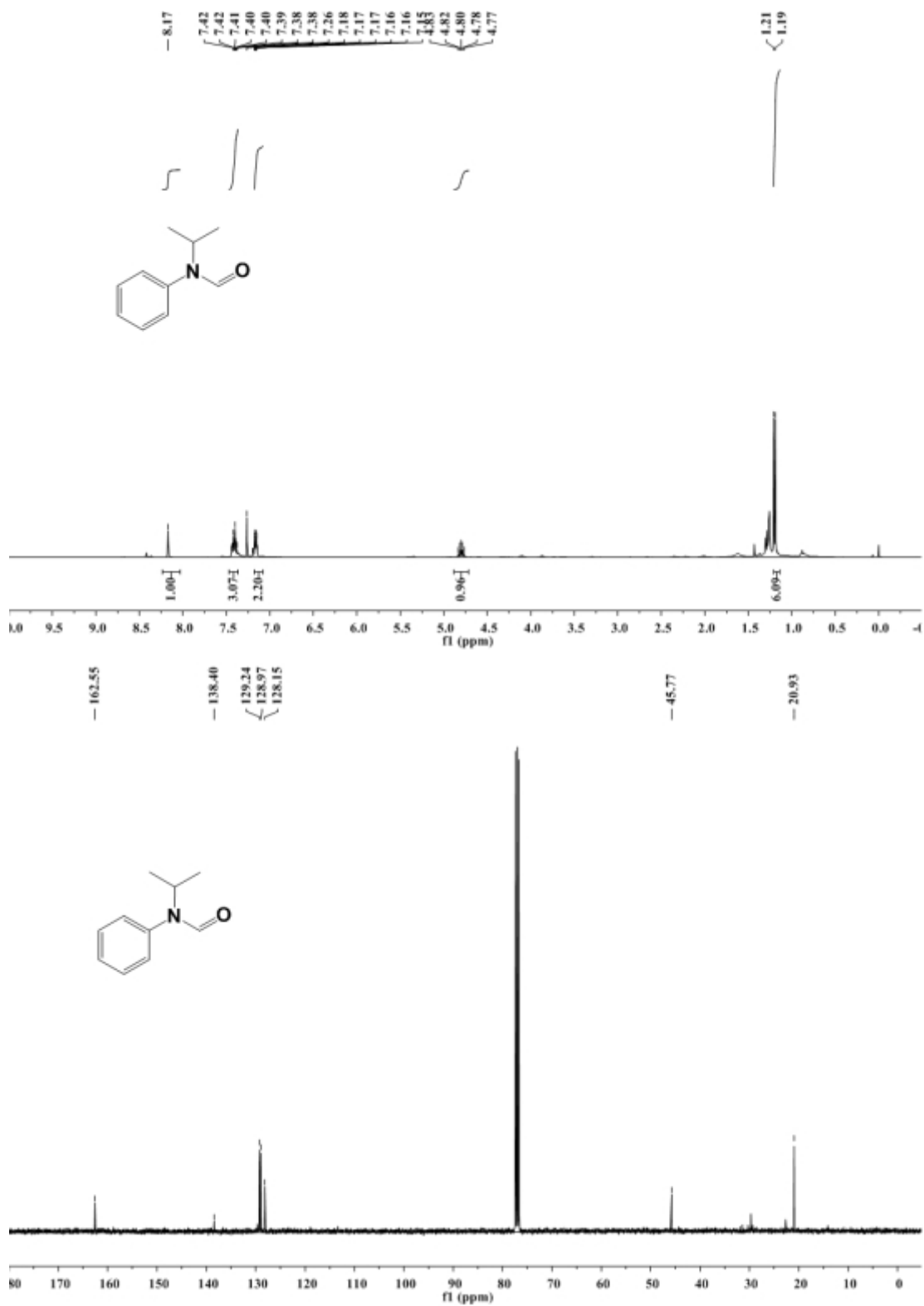
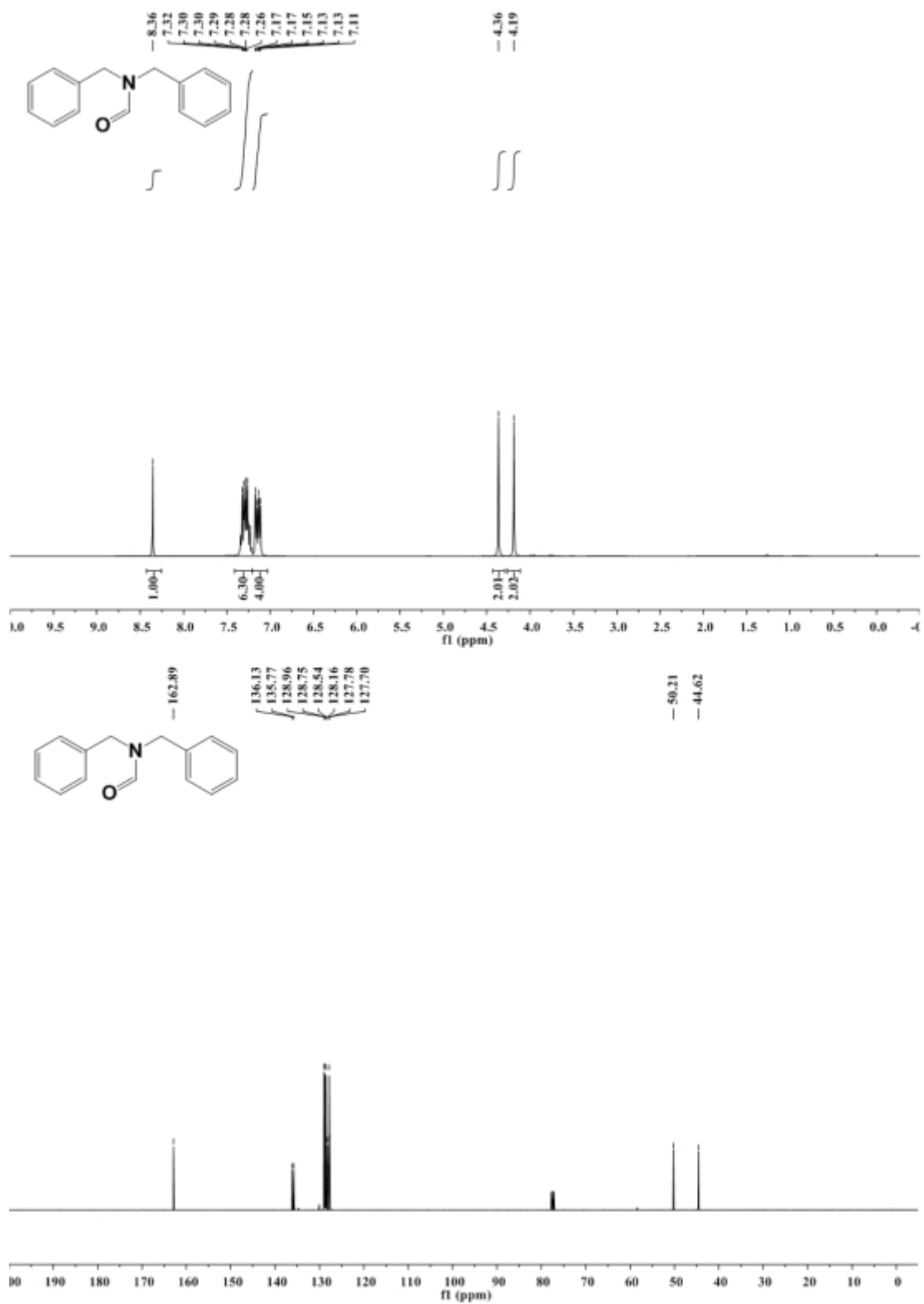


Fig. S14 The <sup>1</sup>H NMR and <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectra of 13a.





**Fig. S15** The <sup>1</sup>H NMR and <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectra of **15a**.

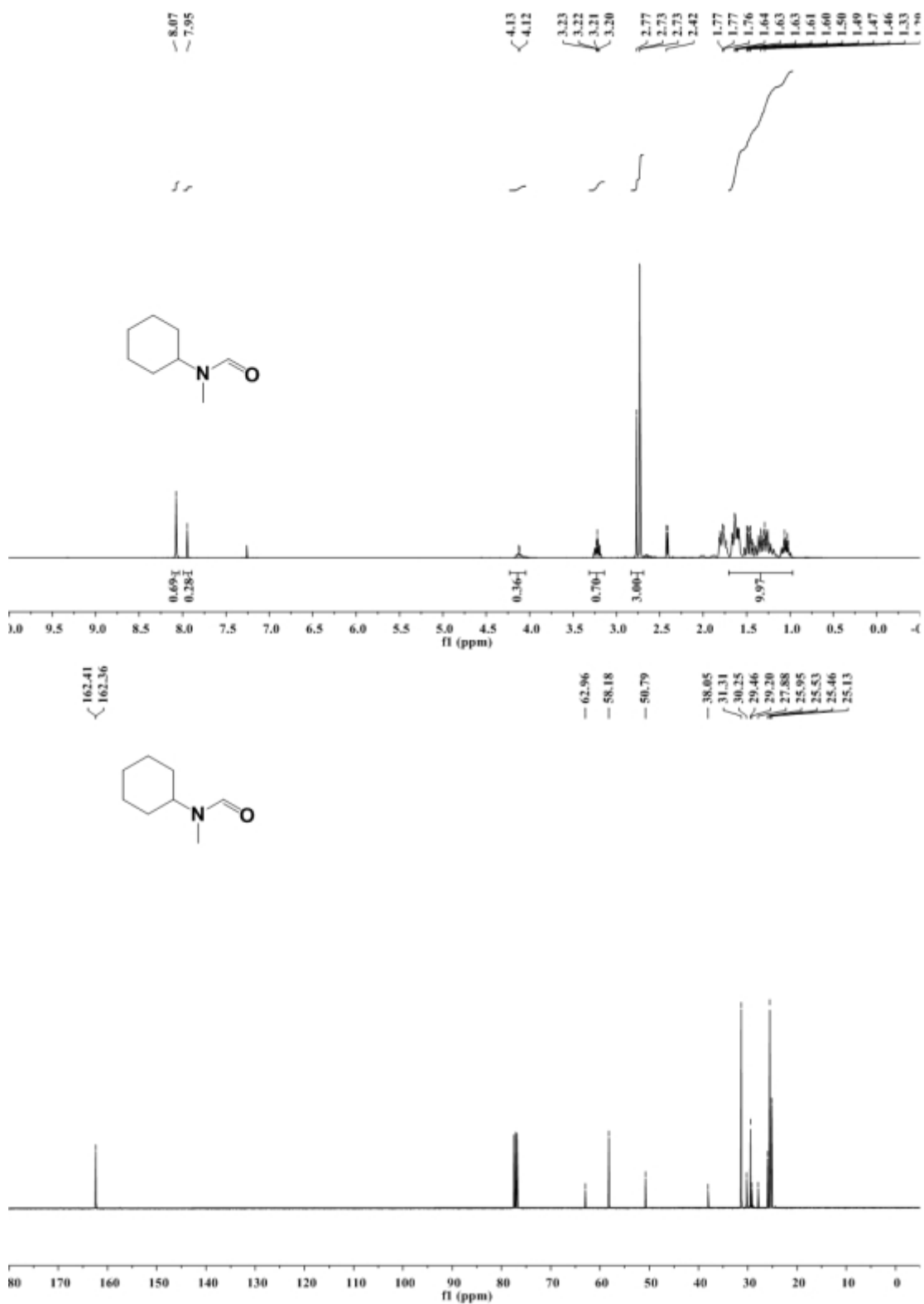
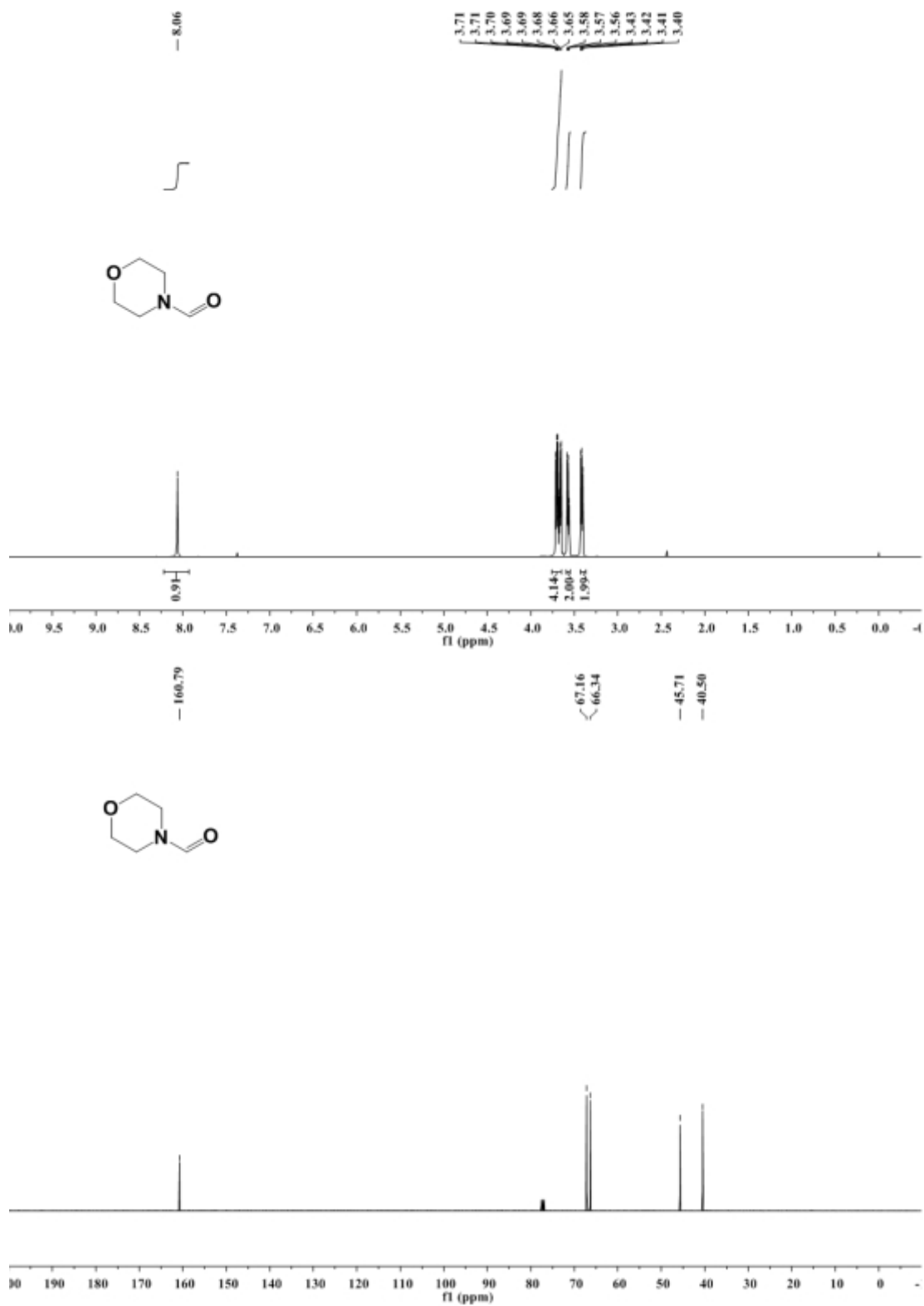
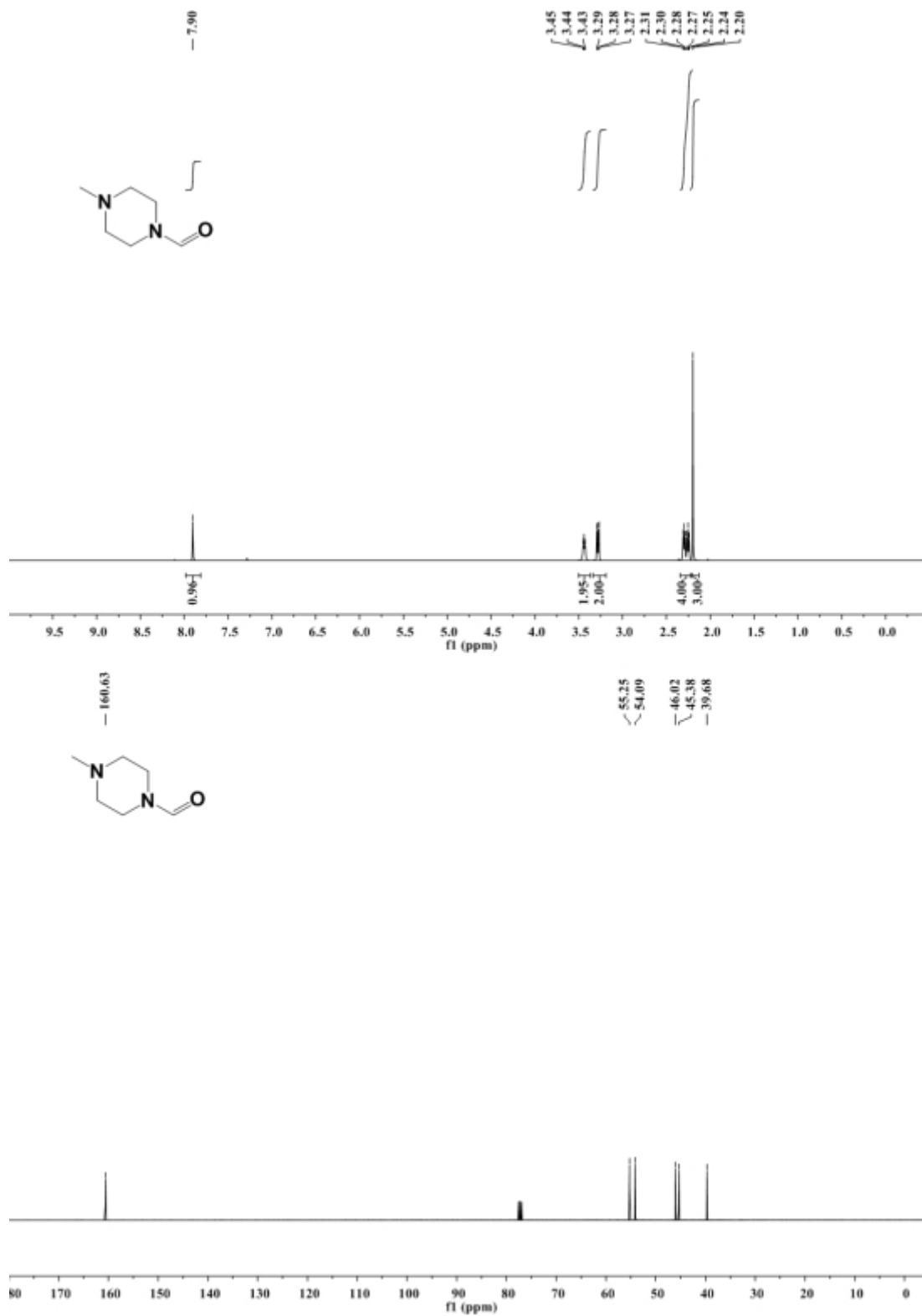


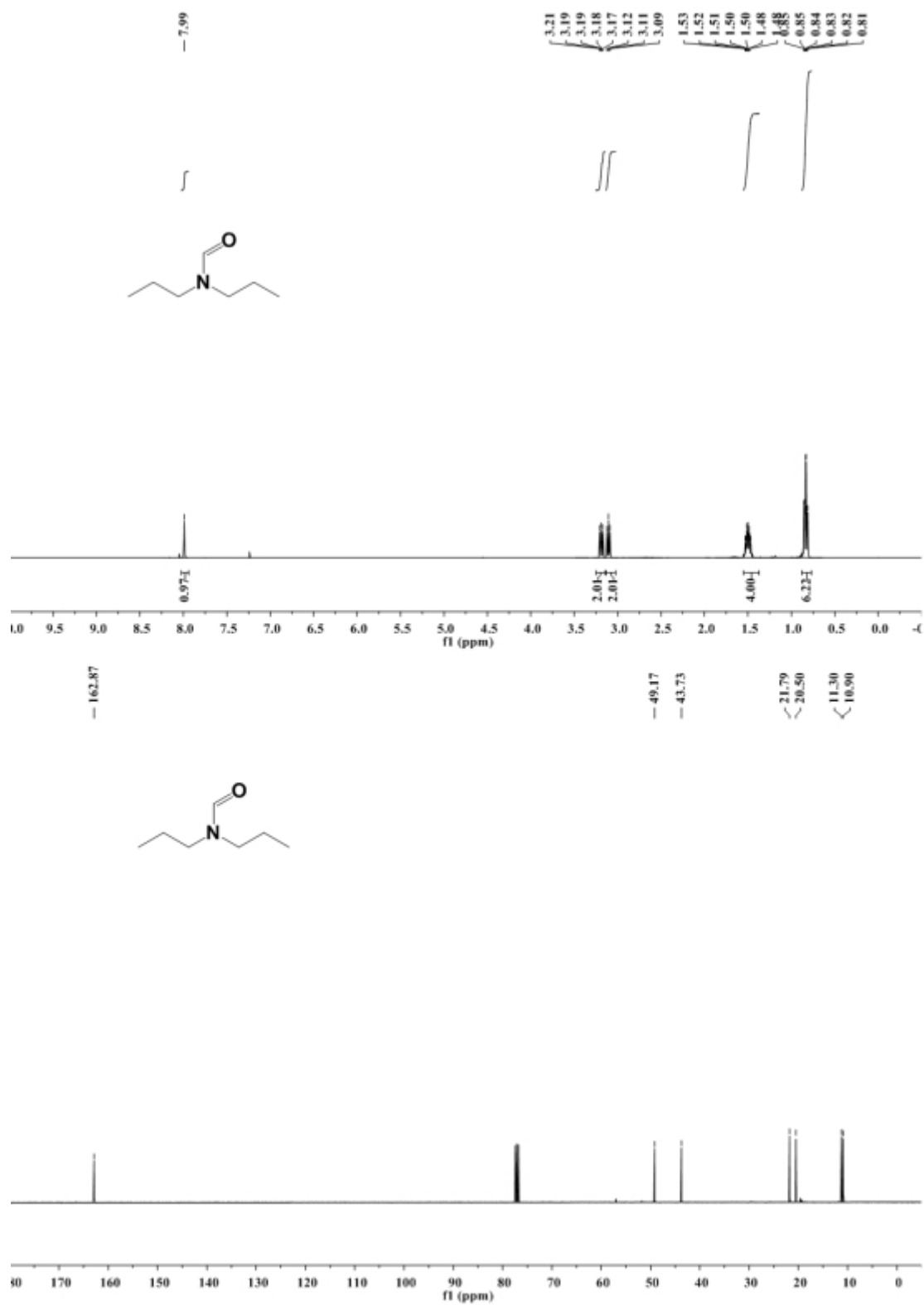
Fig. S16 The <sup>1</sup>H NMR and <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectra of **16a**.



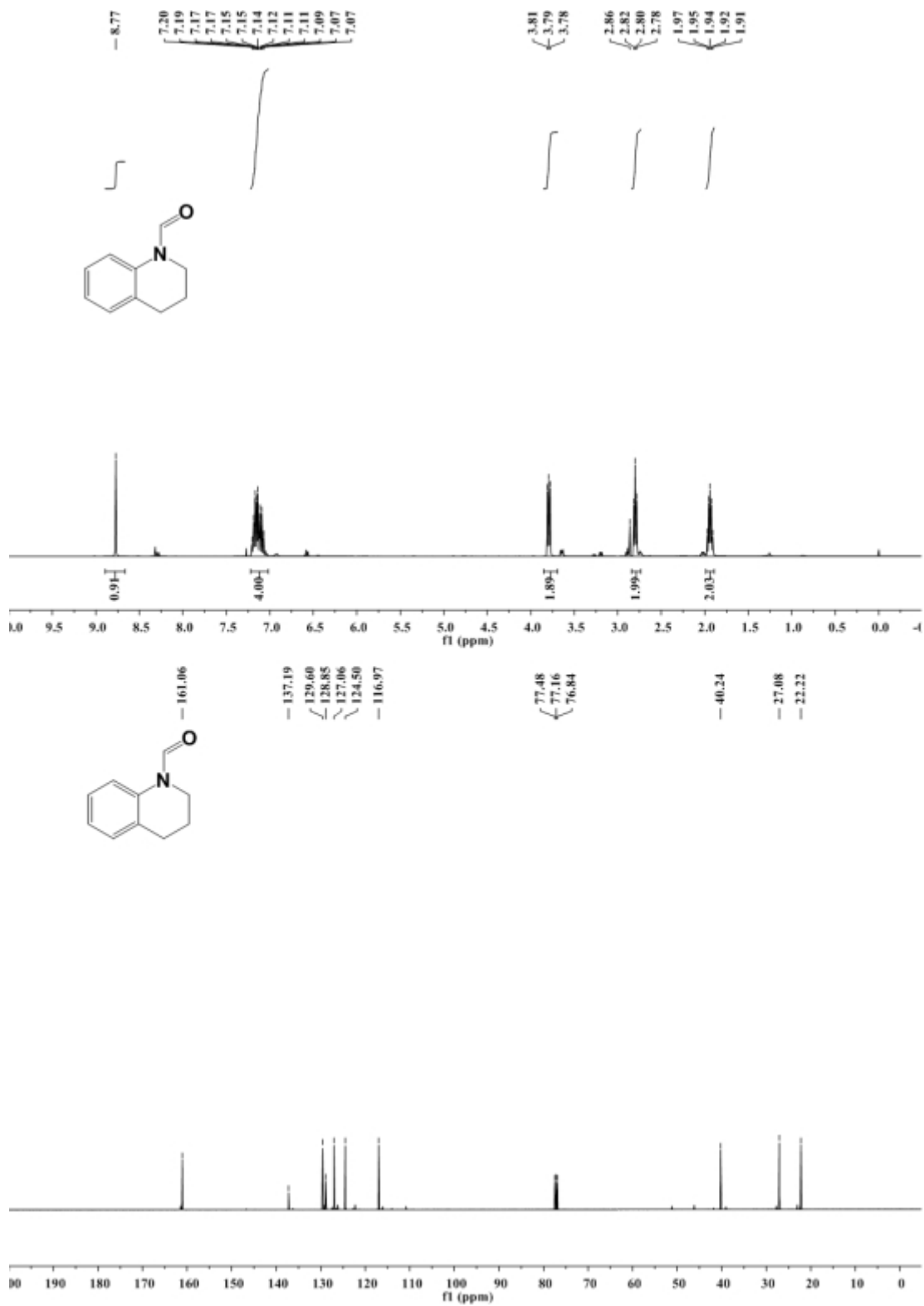
**Fig. S17** The <sup>1</sup>H NMR and <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectra of **17a**.



**Fig. S18** The <sup>1</sup>H NMR and <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectra of **18a**.



**Fig. S19** The  $^1\text{H}$  NMR and  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR spectra of **19a**.



**Fig. S20** The  $^1\text{H}$  NMR and  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR spectra of 22a.

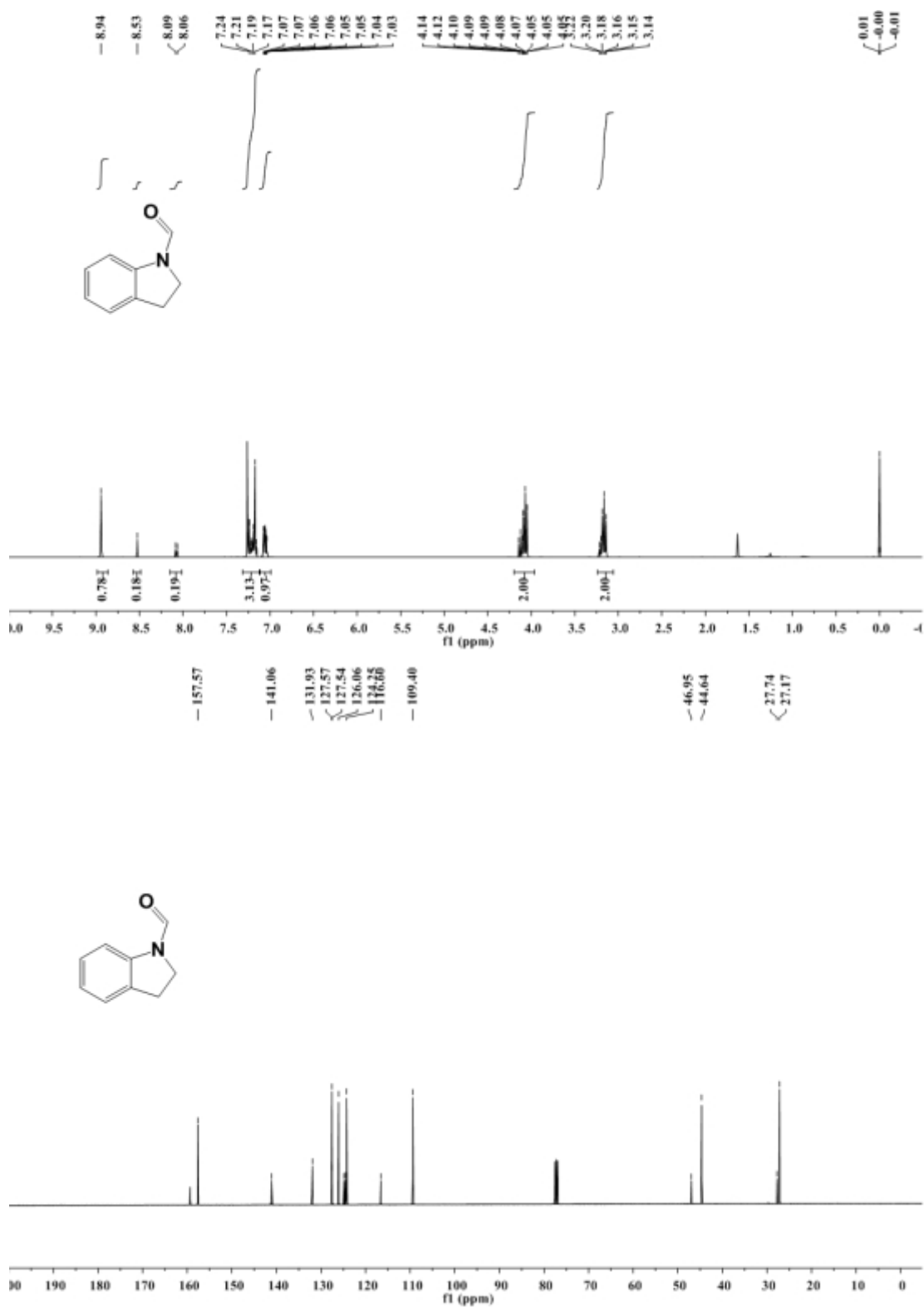
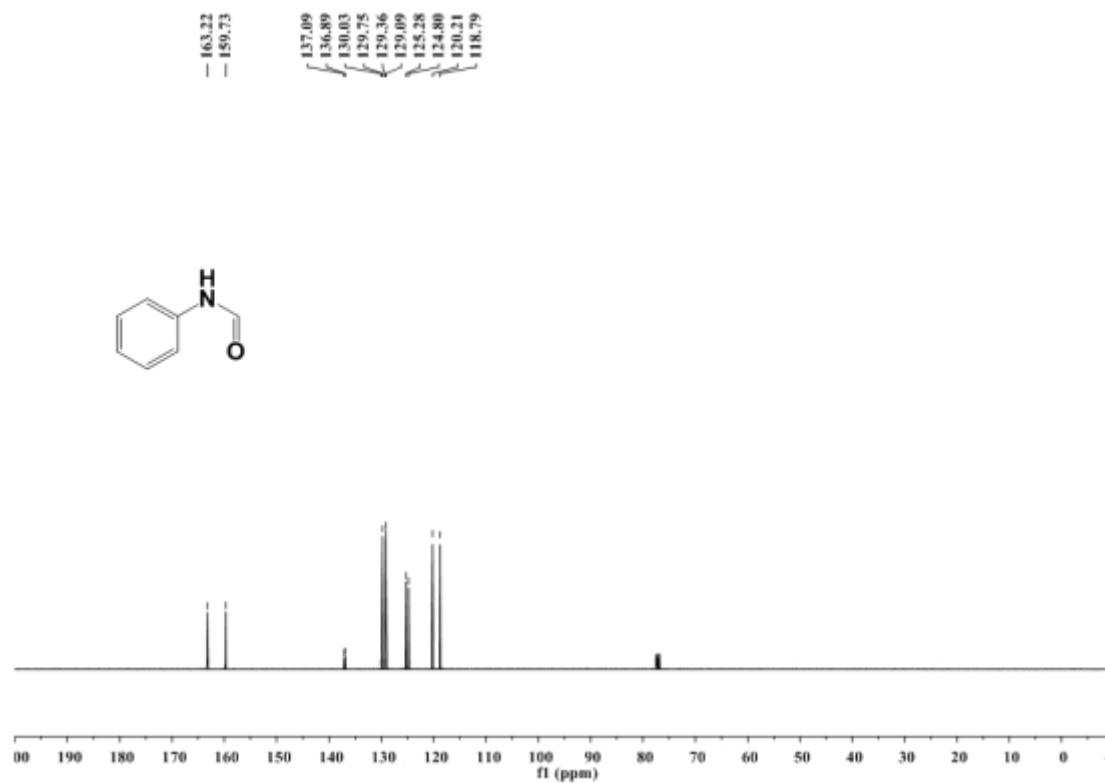
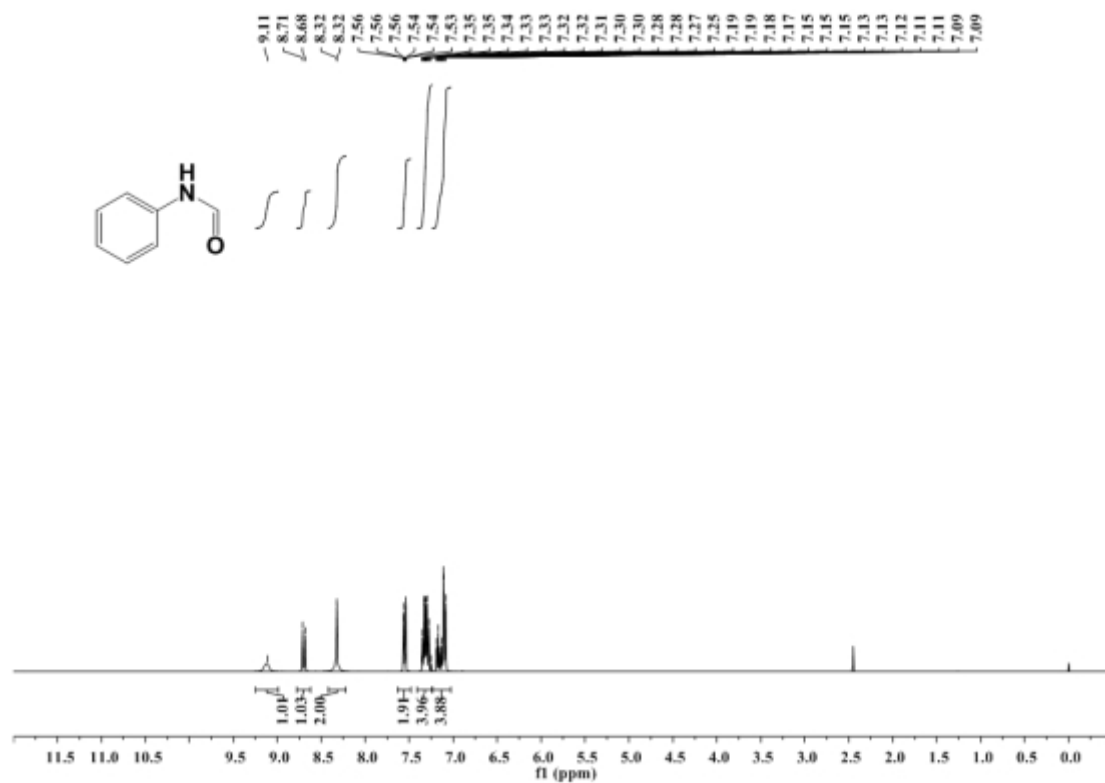
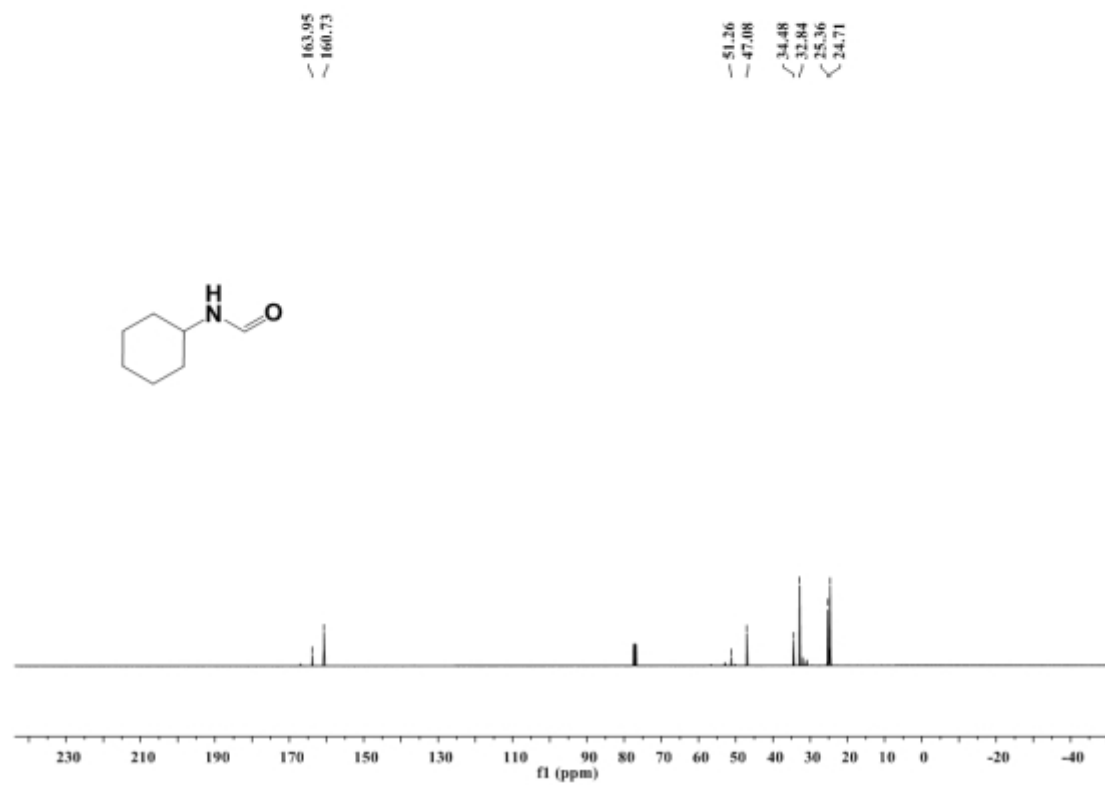
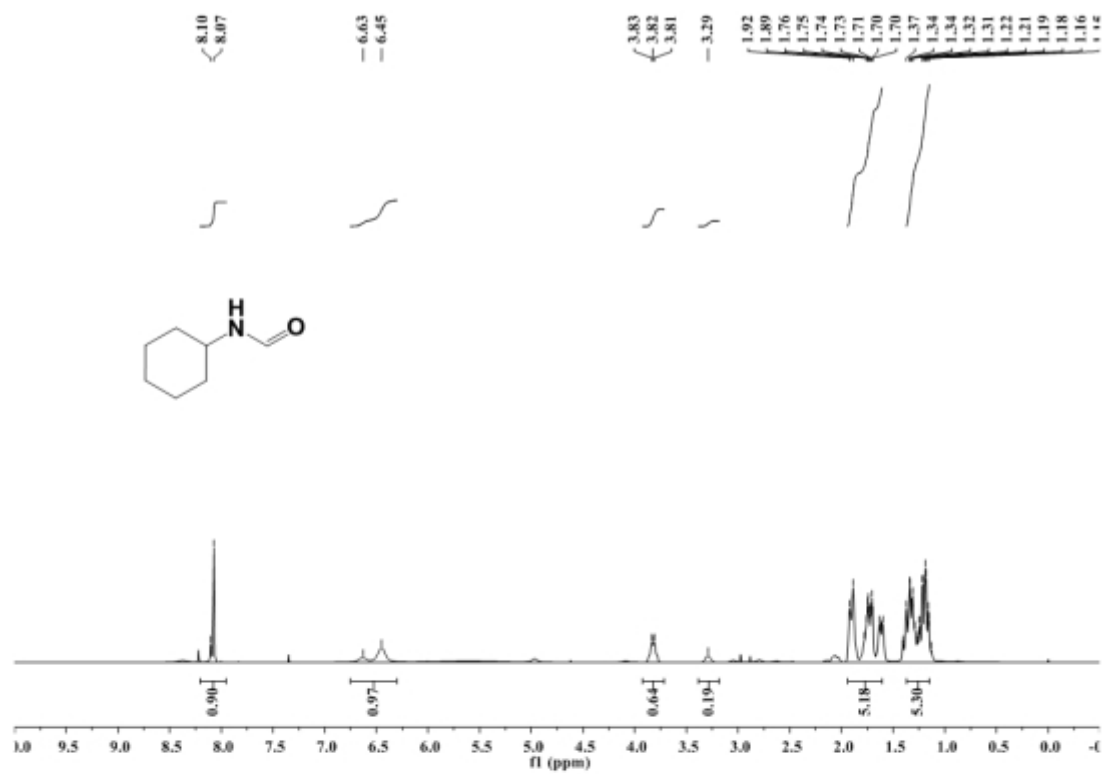


Fig. S21 The <sup>1</sup>H NMR and <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectra of 23a.

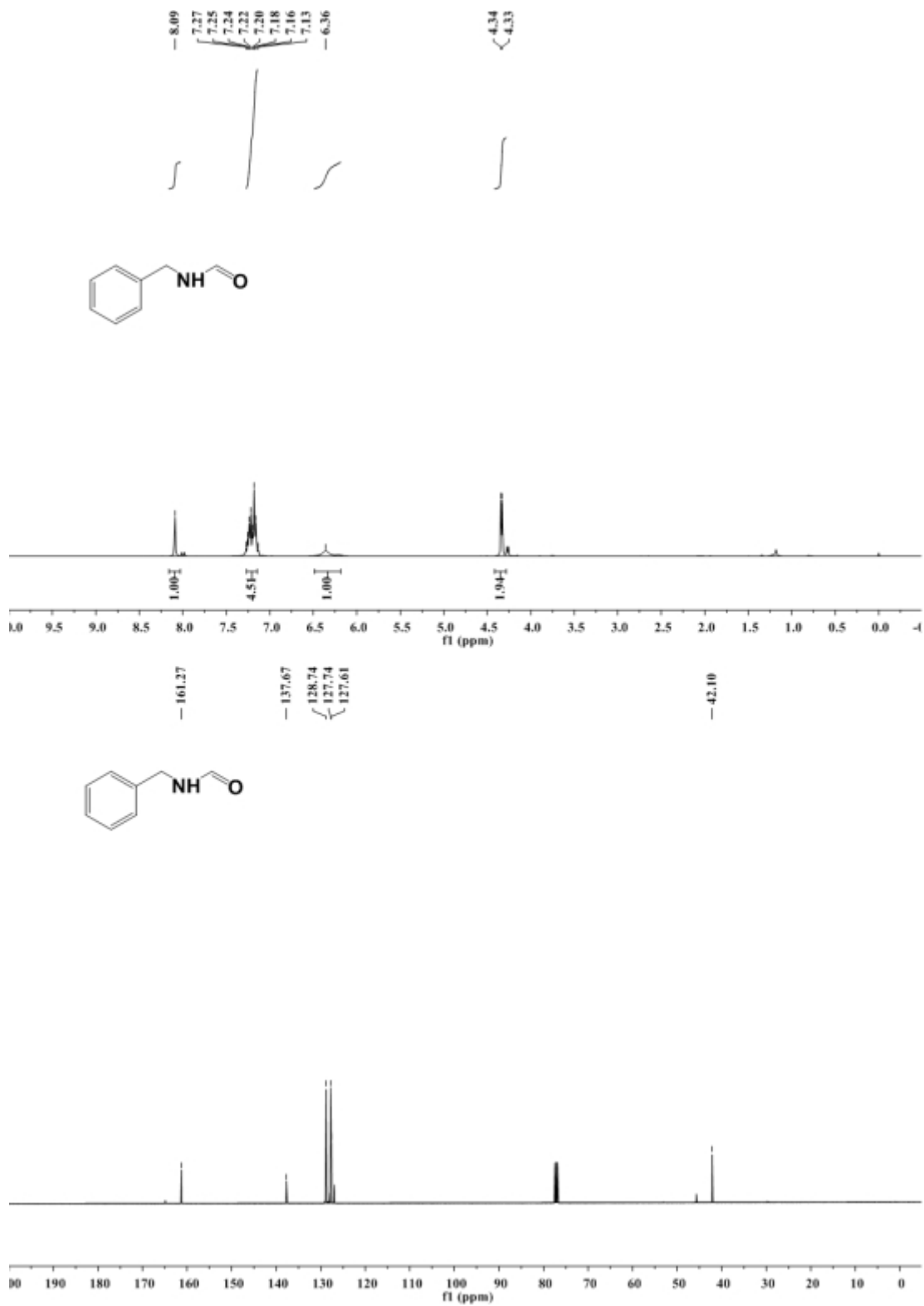


**Fig. S22** The  $^1\text{H}$  NMR and  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR spectra of **26a**.

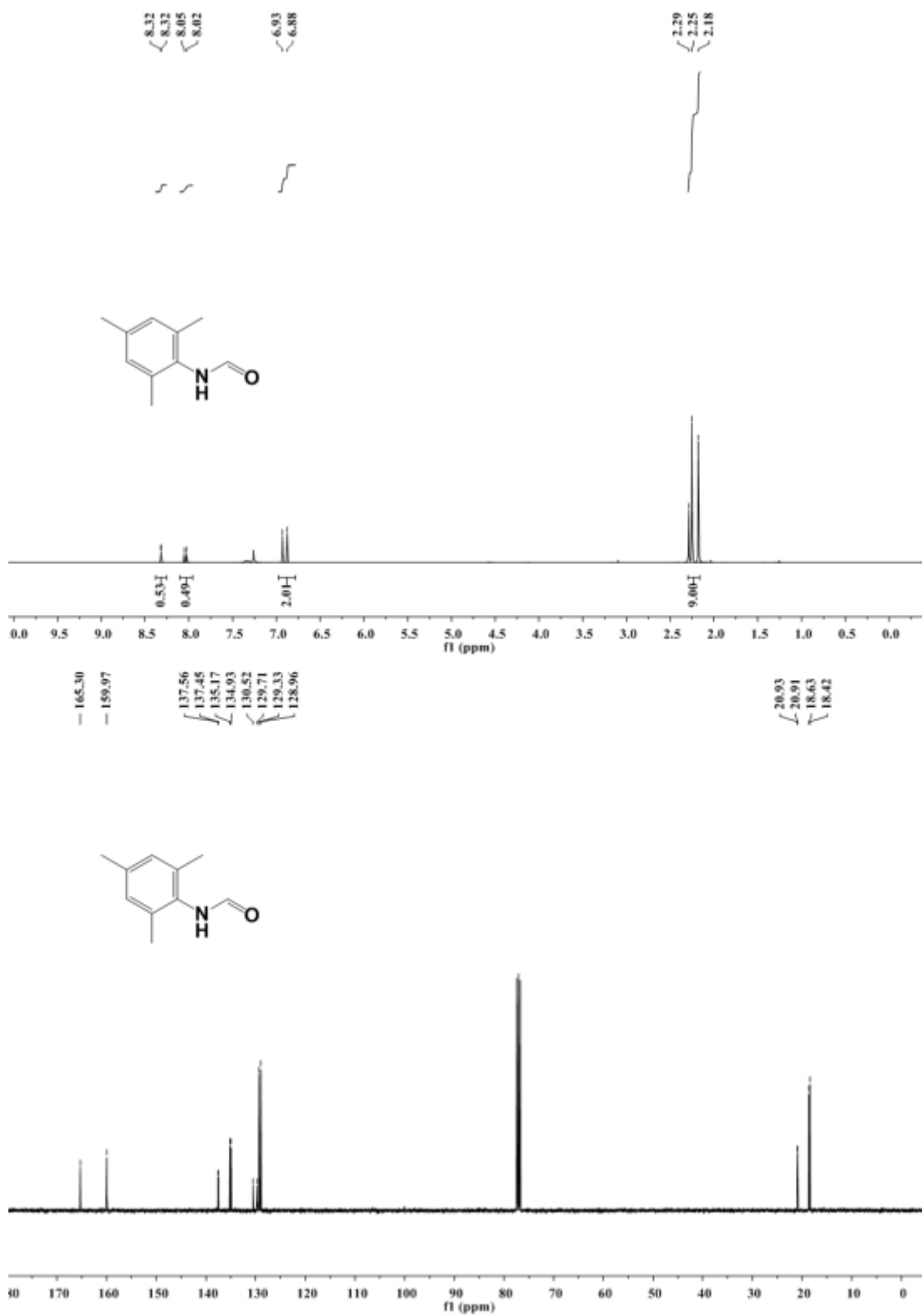




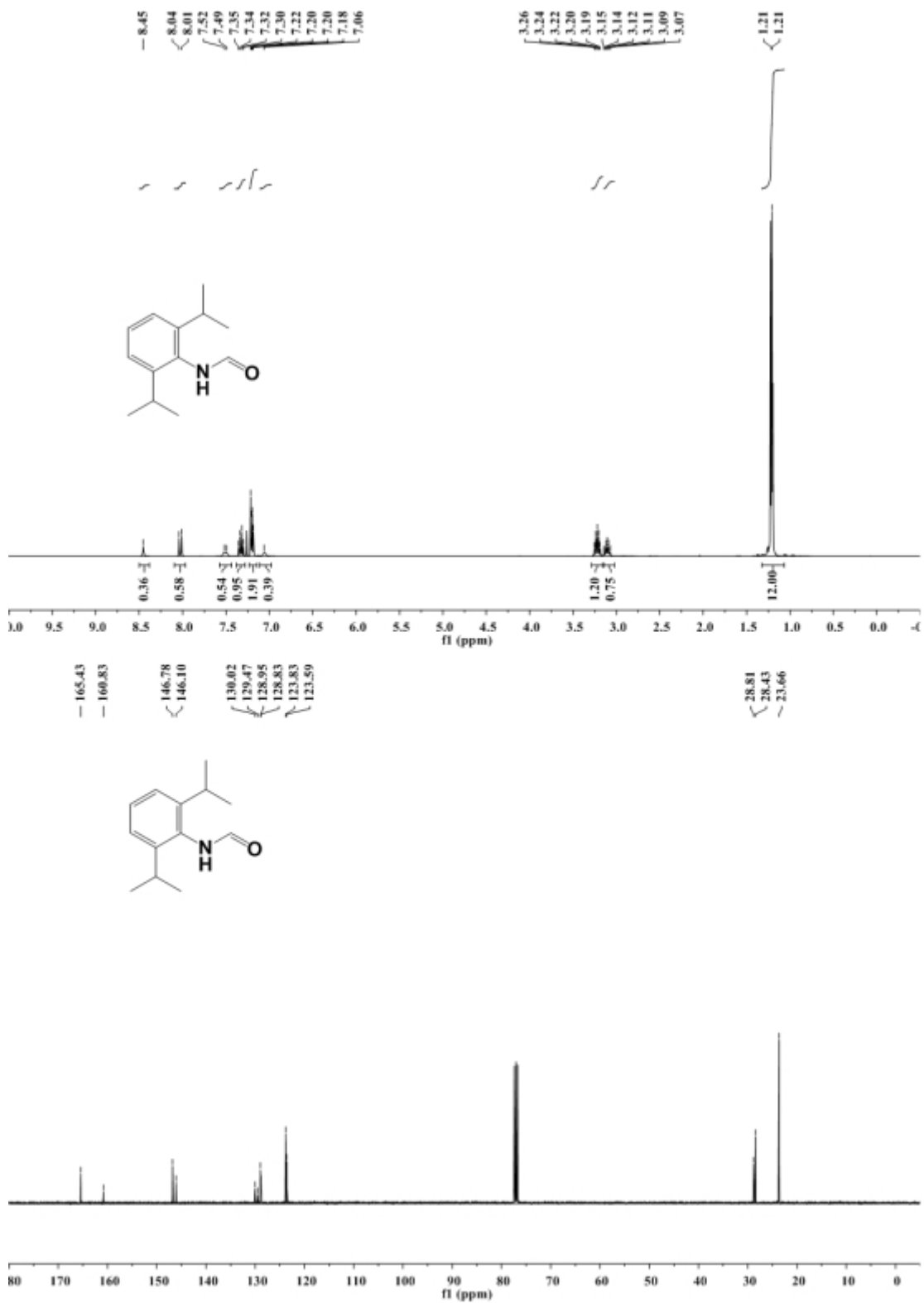
**Fig. S23** The  $^1\text{H}$  NMR and  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR spectra of **27a**.



**Fig. S24** The  $^1\text{H}$  NMR and  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR spectra of **28a**.



**Fig. S25** The <sup>1</sup>H NMR and <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectra of **29a**.



**Fig. S26** The <sup>1</sup>H NMR and <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectra of **30a**.