

# Supporting Information

## Palladium-Catalyzed Oxidative Amination of Homoallylic Alcohols: Sequential Installing Carbonyl and Amino Groups along an Alkyl Chain

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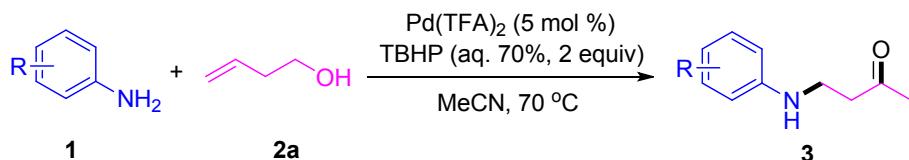
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## A. General Methods

<sup>1</sup>H and <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectra were recorded by using a Bruker DRX-400 spectrometer (400 MHz for <sup>1</sup>H; 100 MHz for <sup>13</sup>C), using CDCl<sub>3</sub> as solvent and TMS as an internal standard. The chemical shifts are referenced to signals at 7.26 and 77.0 ppm, respectively. Chemical shifts ( $\delta$ ) are reported in ppm and quoted to the nearest 0.01 ppm relative to the residual protons in CDCl<sub>3</sub> (7.26 ppm for 1H) or TMS (0 ppm for 1H) and CDCl<sub>3</sub> (77.0 ppm for <sup>13</sup>C). Data are reported as follows: Chemical shift (number of protons, multiplicity, coupling constants). Coupling constants were quoted to the nearest 0.1 Hz and multiplicity reported according to the following convention: s = singlet, d = doublet, t = triplet, q = quartet, m = multiplet, br = broad. GC analyses were performed on a GC-7900 chromatograph with an FID and equipped with an AT.SE-30 capillary column (internal diameter: 0.32 mm, length: 30 m). Mass spectra were recorded on a Thermo Scientific ISQ gas chromatograph-mass spectrometer at an ionization voltage of 70 eV and equipped with a DB-WAX capillary column (internal diameter: 0.25 mm, length: 30 m). The data of HRMS was carried out on a high-resolution mass spectrometer (LCMS-IT-TOF). IR spectra were obtained either as potassium bromide pellets or as liquid films between two potassium bromide pellets with a TENSOR 27 spectrometer. Melting points were determined with a Büchi Melting Point B-545 instrument. All compounds were commercially purchased and used without further purification.

## B. Procedure for the Preparation of 3



To a 25 mL dried tube was added the mixture of anilines **1** (0.25 mmol), homoallylic alcohol **2a** (0.5 mmol), 70% aq. TBHP (2 equiv), Pd(TFA)<sub>2</sub> (5 mol %) in MeCN (1.0 mL) successively. The mixture was stirred at 70 °C for 12 h under an air atmosphere. After the reaction was completed, the mixture was cooled to room temperature and diluted with H<sub>2</sub>O (15 mL), neutralized with NH<sub>4</sub>Cl, and extracted with EtOAc (10 mL × 3). The organic extract was washed with H<sub>2</sub>O (10 mL × 3) and dried over anhydrous MgSO<sub>4</sub>. After removal of the EtOAc in vacuum, the crude product was purified by column chromatography on silica gel with hexanes or petroleum ether/ethyl acetate (5:1 to 20:1) to give the desired products **3**.

### C. Procedure for the Preparation of 2a-d<sup>[1, 2]</sup>

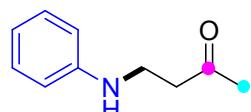


Lithium aluminum deuteride (6 mmol) was suspended in anhydrous THF (10 mL) and cooled to 0 °C under nitrogen. 3-Butenoic acid (5 mmol) was added dropwise. The mixture was stirred for 20 min and heated to reflux. After 2 h the mixture was cooled to room temperature and stirred for another 4 h. Then, water (0.12 mL) and 15% aq. NaOH (0.35 mL) were added dropwise. After stirring for 15 min, the mixture was extracted with Et<sub>2</sub>O (10 mL × 3) and filtered. The filtrate was dried (MgSO<sub>4</sub>) and evaporated to afford the title compound (0.33 g, 90% accounting for 1.1 equiv. Et<sub>2</sub>O) as a clear oil.

### Reference

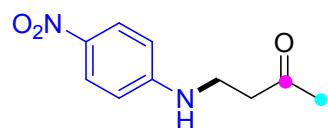
- [1] E. Negishi, L. D. Boardman, H. Sawada, V. Bagheri, A. T. Stoll, J. M. Tour, Cynthia L. Rand, *J. Am. Chem. Soc.*, **1988**, *110*, 5383.
- [2] J. P. Knowles, K. I. Booker-Milburn, *Chem. Eur. J.*, **2016**, *22*, 11429.

### D. Analytical Data



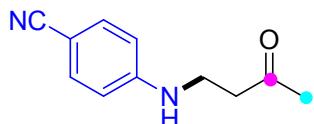
#### 4-(Phenylamino)butan-2-one (3aa)

Yield: 65% (26.5 mg) as a yellow oil; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 7.17 (t, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 6.71 (t, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 1H), 6.61 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 3.42 (t, *J* = 6.1 Hz, 2H), 2.74 (t, *J* = 6.2 Hz, 2H), 2.16 (s, 3H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 208.0, 147.7, 129.3, 117.7, 113.1, 42.6, 38.4, 30.3.  $\nu_{\max}$ (KBr)/cm<sup>-1</sup> 3393, 2926, 1709, 1601, 1504, 1364, 1169, 752, 694, 509. HRMS-ESI (m/z): calcd for C<sub>10</sub>H<sub>14</sub>NO, [M+H]<sup>+</sup>: 164.1070, found 164.1068.



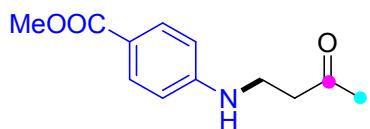
#### 4-((4-Nitrophenyl)amino)butan-2-one (3ab)

Yield: 81% (42.1 mg) as a yellow solid; mp = 88.9 – 92.3 °C; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 8.06 (d, *J* = 9.0 Hz, 2H), 6.52 (d, *J* = 9.0 Hz, 2H), 3.51 (t, *J* = 5.9 Hz, 2H), 2.81 (t, *J* = 5.9 Hz, 2H), 2.20 (s, 3H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 207.5, 153.0, 137.9, 126.5, 111.0, 42.1, 37.6, 30.3.  $\nu_{\max}$ (KBr)/cm<sup>-1</sup> 3373, 2918, 1598, 1467, 1305, 1109, 833, 751, 539, 488. HRMS-ESI (m/z): calcd for C<sub>10</sub>H<sub>12</sub>N<sub>2</sub>NaO<sub>3</sub>, [M+Na]<sup>+</sup>: 231.0740, found 231.0744.



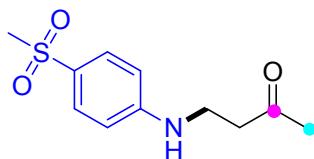
**4-((3-Oxobutyl)amino)benzonitrile (3ac)**

Yield: 74% (34.9 mg) as a yellow solid; mp = 90.4 – 92.2 °C; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 7.41 (d, *J* = 8.6 Hz, 2H), 6.55 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 3.45 (t, *J* = 5.9 Hz, 2H), 2.76 (t, *J* = 5.9 Hz, 2H), 2.19 (s, 3H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 207.5, 150.9, 133.8, 120.4, 112.2, 98.8, 42.1, 37.5, 30.3. *v*<sub>max</sub>(KBr)/cm<sup>-1</sup> 3374, 2854, 2212, 1712, 1607, 1527, 1459, 1375, 1169, 949, 825, 546. HRMS-ESI (m/z): calcd for C<sub>11</sub>H<sub>12</sub>N<sub>2</sub>NaO, [M+Na]<sup>+</sup>: 211.0842, found 211.0845.



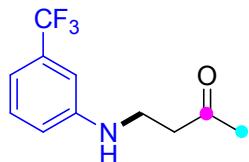
**Methyl 4-((3-oxobutyl)amino)benzoate (3ad)**

Yield: 73% (40.3 mg) as a canary yellow solid; mp = 108.3 – 111.6 °C; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 7.85 (d, *J* = 8.5 Hz, 2H), 6.54 (d, *J* = 8.5 Hz, 2H), 3.84 (s, 3H), 3.46 (t, *J* = 6.0 Hz, 2H), 2.75 (t, *J* = 6.0 Hz, 2H), 2.17 (s, 3H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 207.7, 167.3, 151.4, 131.6, 118.5, 111.5, 51.6, 42.3, 37.7, 30.3. *v*<sub>max</sub>(KBr)/cm<sup>-1</sup> 3381, 2900, 1708, 1612, 1281, 1181, 1111, 835, 767, 502. HRMS-ESI (m/z): calcd for C<sub>12</sub>H<sub>15</sub>NNaO<sub>3</sub>, [M+Na]<sup>+</sup>: 244.0944, found 244.0947.



**4-((4-(Methylsulfonyl)phenyl)amino)butan-2-one (3ae)**

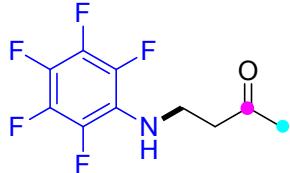
Yield: 72% (43.4 mg) as a canary yellow solid; mp = 78.9 – 80.6 °C. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 7.68 (d, *J* = 8.5 Hz, 2H), 6.61 (d, *J* = 8.5 Hz, 2H), 3.47 (t, *J* = 6.0 Hz, 2H), 3.00 (s, 3H), 2.77 (t, *J* = 6.0 Hz, 2H), 2.19 (s, 3H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 207.6, 151.9, 129.4, 127.3, 111.8, 45.0, 42.1, 37.6, 30.3. *v*<sub>max</sub>(KBr)/cm<sup>-1</sup> 3380, 3011, 2925, 1710, 1598, 1523, 1348, 1289, 1137, 958, 828, 767. HRMS-ESI (m/z): calcd for C<sub>11</sub>H<sub>15</sub>NNaO<sub>3</sub>S, [M+Na]<sup>+</sup>: 264.0665, found 264.0669.



**4-((3-(Trifluoromethyl)phenyl)amino)butan-2-one (3af)**

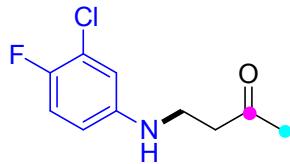
Yield: 68% (39.1 mg) as a yellow oil; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 7.26 – 7.22 (m, 1H), 6.93 (d, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 6.78 (s, 1H), 6.73 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 4.23 (d, *J* = 5.5 Hz, 1H), 3.43 (t, *J* = 6.0 Hz, 2H), 2.75 (t, *J* = 6.0 Hz, 2H),

2.18 (s, 3H).  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  207.8, 147.9, 131.6 (q,  $J = 31.6$  MHz, 1C), 129.7, 124.3 (q,  $J = 271.0$  MHz, 1C), 116.04, 113.9 (q,  $J = 3.6$  MHz, 1C), 108.9 (q,  $J = 4.0$  MHz, 1C), 42.30, 38.10, 30.28.  $\nu_{\text{max}}(\text{KBr})/\text{cm}^{-1}$  3395, 2925, 1713, 1613, 1498, 1343, 1167, 1121, 992, 862, 766, 699. HRMS-ESI (m/z): calcd for  $\text{C}_{11}\text{H}_{13}\text{F}_3\text{NO}$ ,  $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$ : 232.0944, found 232.0945.



#### **4-((Perfluorophenyl)amino)butan-2-one (3ag)**

Yield: 58% (36.7 mg) as a yellow oil;  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  4.10 (s, 1H), 3.55 (t,  $J = 5.9$  Hz, 2H), 2.75 (t,  $J = 5.8$  Hz, 2H), 2.19 (s, 3H).  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  207.56, 139.5 - 139.2 (M, 1C), 137.1 - 136.7 (M, 2C), 135.0 - 134.8 (m, 1C), 132.6 - 132.3 (m, 1C), 123.6 - 123.4 (m, 1C), 43.38, 40.88 (t,  $J = 40$  MHz, 1C), 30.09.  $\nu_{\text{max}}(\text{KBr})/\text{cm}^{-1}$  3382, 2926, 1713, 1522, 1370, 1258, 1168, 988, 794, 746. HRMS-ESI (m/z): calcd for  $\text{C}_{10}\text{H}_8\text{F}_5\text{NNaO}$ ,  $[\text{M}+\text{Na}]^+$ : 276.0418, found 276.0414.



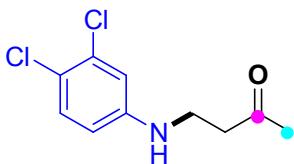
#### **4-((3-Chloro-4-fluorophenyl)amino)butan-2-one (3ah)**

Yield: 71% (38.2 mg) as a reddish black oil;  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  6.93 (t,  $J = 8.8$  Hz, 1H), 6.61 - 6.58 (m, 1H), 6.45 - 6.40 (m, 1H), 3.34 (t,  $J = 6.0$  Hz, 2H), 2.74 (t,  $J = 6.0$  Hz, 2H), 2.18 (s, 3H).  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  207.9, 151.1 (d,  $J = 236$  Hz), 144.6 (d,  $J = 3$  Hz), 121.1 (d,  $J = 18$  Hz), 116.9 (d,  $J = 22$  Hz), 113.9, 112.5 (d,  $J = 6$  Hz), 42.2, 38.8, 30.3.  $\nu_{\text{max}}(\text{KBr})/\text{cm}^{-1}$  3400, 2922, 1717, 1594, 1501, 1467, 1325, 1168, 1018, 765. HRMS-ESI (m/z): calcd for  $\text{C}_{10}\text{H}_{12}\text{ClFNO}$ ,  $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$ : 216.0586, found 216.0587.



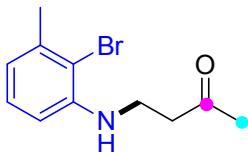
#### **4-((4-Bromo-2-chlorophenyl)amino)butan-2-one (3ai)**

Yield: 62% (42.6 mg) as a yellow oil;  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  7.36 (d,  $J = 2.3$  Hz, 1H), 7.22 (dd,  $J = 8.7$ , 2.3 Hz, 1H), 6.53 (d,  $J = 8.7$  Hz, 1H), 3.43 (t,  $J = 6.3$  Hz, 2H), 2.77 (t,  $J = 6.3$  Hz, 2H), 2.18 (s, 3H).  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  207.3, 142.8, 131.5, 130.6, 120.1, 112.1, 107.8, 42.4, 38.1, 30.4.  $\nu_{\text{max}}(\text{KBr})/\text{cm}^{-1}$  3402, 2921, 1711, 1590, 1500, 1373, 1241, 1165, 1099, 1044, 799. HRMS-ESI (m/z): calcd for  $\text{C}_{10}\text{H}_{11}\text{BrClNaNO}$ ,  $[\text{M}+\text{Na}]^+$ : 297.9605, found 297.9605.



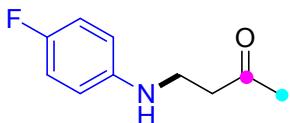
**4-((3,4-Dichlorophenyl)amino)butan-2-one (3aj)**

Yield: 68% (39.3 mg) as a yellow oil;  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  7.16 (d,  $J = 2.4$  Hz, 1H), 7.01 (dd,  $J = 8.8, 2.4$  Hz, 1H), 6.50 (d,  $J = 8.7$  Hz, 1H), 4.47 (s, 1H), 3.36 (t,  $J = 6.4$  Hz, 2H), 2.69 (t,  $J = 6.3$  Hz, 2H), 2.10 (s, 3H).  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  207.3, 142.4, 128.9, 127.7, 121.3, 119.8, 111.6, 42.4, 38.6, 30.3.  $\nu_{\text{max}}(\text{KBr})/\text{cm}^{-1}$  3403, 2925, 1712, 1596, 1505, 1366, 1321, 1167, 1105, 867, 803, 710. HRMS-ESI (m/z): calcd for  $\text{C}_{10}\text{H}_{11}\text{Cl}_2\text{NNaO}$ ,  $[\text{M}+\text{Na}]^+$ : 254.0110, found 254.0111.



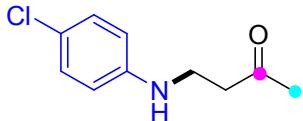
**4-((2-Bromo-3-methylphenyl)amino)butan-2-one (3ak)**

Yield: 58% (40.0 mg) as a red oil;  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  6.99 (t,  $J = 7.8$  Hz, 1H), 6.53 (d,  $J = 7.5$  Hz, 1H), 6.42 (d,  $J = 8.1$  Hz, 1H), 3.39 (t,  $J = 6.4$  Hz, 2H), 2.70 (t,  $J = 6.4$  Hz, 2H), 2.28 (s, 3H), 2.10 (s, 3H).  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  207.5, 144.7, 138.7, 127.6, 119.2, 112.8, 108.6, 42.6, 38.5, 30.4, 23.8.  $\nu_{\text{max}}(\text{KBr})/\text{cm}^{-1}$  3400, 2922, 1713, 1594, 1501, 1467, 1325, 1168, 1123, 1018, 765, 509. HRMS-ESI (m/z): calcd for  $\text{C}_{11}\text{H}_{14}\text{BrNNaO}$ ,  $[\text{M}+\text{Na}]^+$ : 278.0151, found 278.0153.



**4-((4-Fluorophenyl)amino)butan-2-one (3al)**

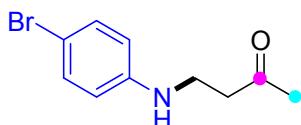
Yield: 72% (32.6 mg) as a reddish blackoil;  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  6.91 – 6.85 (m, 2H), 6.56 – 6.53 (m, 2H), 3.36 (t,  $J = 6.1$  Hz, 2H), 2.73 (t,  $J = 6.1$  Hz, 2H), 2.17 (s, 3H).  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  208.1, 156.0 (d,  $J = 234$  Hz), 144.0 (d,  $J = 2$  Hz), 115.7 (d,  $J = 22$  Hz), 114.1 (d,  $J = 8$  Hz), 42.5, 39.2, 30.3.  $\nu_{\text{max}}(\text{KBr})/\text{cm}^{-1}$  3393, 2923, 1709, 1596, 1510, 1363, 1218, 1166, 823.  $\nu_{\text{max}}(\text{KBr})/\text{cm}^{-1}$  3394, 2922, 1709, 1599, 1501, 1318, 1169, 1088, 816, 505. HRMS-ESI (m/z): calcd for  $\text{C}_{10}\text{H}_{13}\text{FNO}$ ,  $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$ : 182.0976, found 182.0979.



**4-((4-Chlorophenyl)amino)butan-2-one (3am)**

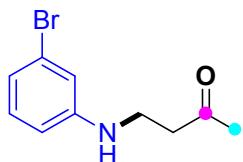
Yield: 75% (36.9 mg) as a red solid; mp = 70.2 – 72.5 °C.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  7.11 (d,  $J = 8.5$  Hz, 2H), 6.52 (d,  $J = 8.5$  Hz, 2H), 3.37 (t,  $J = 6.0$  Hz, 2H), 2.73 (t,  $J = 6.0$  Hz, 2H), 2.16 (s, 3H).  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,

$\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  208.0, 146.3, 129.1, 122.2, 114.1, 42.4, 38.5, 30.3. HRMS-ESI (m/z): calcd for  $\text{C}_{10}\text{H}_{13}\text{ClNO}$ ,  $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$ : 198.0680, found 198.0681.



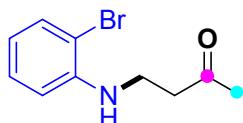
#### 4-((4-Bromophenyl)amino)butan-2-one (3an)

Yield: 68% (41.0 mg) as a red solid; mp = 68.2 – 72.5 °C.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  7.24 (d,  $J$  = 8.8 Hz, 2H), 6.47 (d,  $J$  = 8.8 Hz, 2H), 3.37 (t,  $J$  = 6.0 Hz, 2H), 2.72 (t,  $J$  = 6.1 Hz, 2H), 2.16 (s, 3H).  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  207.9, 146.7, 132.0, 114.6, 109.2, 42.3, 38.4, 30.3.  $\nu_{\text{max}}(\text{KBr})/\text{cm}^{-1}$  3396, 2922, 1708, 1593, 1497, 1317, 1169, 1070, 1000, 812, 501. HRMS-ESI (m/z): calcd for  $\text{C}_{10}\text{H}_{12}\text{BrNNaO}$ ,  $[\text{M}+\text{Na}]^+$ : 263.9994, found 263.9996.



#### 4-((3-Bromophenyl)amino)butan-2-one (3ao)

Yield: 70% (42.2 mg) as a yellow oil;  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  7.00 (t,  $J$  = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 6.80 (ddd,  $J$  = 7.8, 1.8, 0.9 Hz, 1H), 6.72 (t,  $J$  = 2.1 Hz, 1H), 6.49 (ddd,  $J$  = 8.2, 2.3, 0.9 Hz, 1H), 3.38 (t,  $J$  = 6.0 Hz, 2H), 2.73 (t,  $J$  = 6.0 Hz, 2H), 2.17 (s, 3H).  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  207.8, 149.0, 130.5, 123.3, 120.3, 115.3, 111.8, 42.3, 38.1, 30.3.  $\nu_{\text{max}}(\text{KBr})/\text{cm}^{-1}$  3392, 2921, 1708, 1592, 1478, 1365, 1166, 1071, 983, 841, 762, 630. HRMS-ESI (m/z): calcd for  $\text{C}_{10}\text{H}_{12}\text{BrNNaO}$ ,  $[\text{M}+\text{Na}]^+$ : 263.9994, found 263.9995.



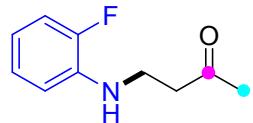
#### 4-((2-Bromophenyl)amino)butan-2-one (3ap)

Yield: 61% (36.7 mg) as a yellow oil;  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  7.33 (d,  $J$  = 7.9 Hz, 1H), 7.09 (t,  $J$  = 7.7 Hz, 1H), 6.56 (d,  $J$  = 8.2 Hz, 1H), 6.49 (t,  $J$  = 7.9 Hz, 1H), 3.38 (t,  $J$  = 6.4 Hz, 2H), 2.69 (t,  $J$  = 6.4 Hz, 2H), 2.10 (s, 3H).  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  207.4, 144.6, 132.6, 128.5, 118.0, 111.2, 110.1, 42.6, 38.3, 30.4.  $\nu_{\text{max}}(\text{KBr})/\text{cm}^{-1}$  3399, 2922, 1712, 1594, 1507, 1365, 1320, 1166, 1090, 1016, 740. HRMS-ESI (m/z): calcd for  $\text{C}_{10}\text{H}_{12}\text{BrNNaO}$ ,  $[\text{M}+\text{Na}]^+$ : 263.9994, found 263.9997.



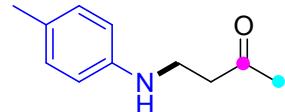
#### 2-((3-Oxobutyl)amino)benzonitrile (3aq)

Yield: 60% (28.2 mg) as a yellow oil;  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  7.39 – 7.35 (m, 2H), 6.68 – 6.65 (m, 2H), 3.49 (t,  $J$  = 6.5 Hz, 2H), 2.78 (t,  $J$  = 6.5 Hz, 2H), 2.18 (s, 3H).  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  206.8, 149.9, 134.3, 132.9, 117.7, 116.8, 110.6, 96.2, 42.5, 37.8, 30.3.  $\nu_{\text{max}}(\text{KBr})/\text{cm}^{-1}$  3381, 2924, 2212, 172, 1603, 1516, 1459, 1169, 1074, 752, 501. HRMS-ESI (m/z): calcd for  $\text{C}_{11}\text{H}_{12}\text{N}_2\text{NaO}$ ,  $[\text{M}+\text{Na}]^+$ : 211.0842, found 211.0846.



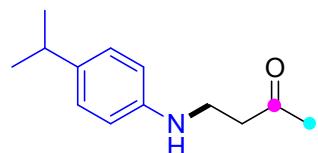
#### **4-((2-Fluorophenyl)amino)butan-2-one (3ar)**

Yield: 58% (26.2 mg) as a yellow oil;  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  7.02 – 6.92 (m, 2H), 6.72 – 6.68 (m, 1H), 6.65 – 6.60 (m, 1.6 Hz, 1H), 3.45 (t,  $J$  = 6.3 Hz, 2H), 2.76 (t,  $J$  = 6.3 Hz, 2H), 2.17 (s, 3H).  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  207.5, 151.8 (d,  $J$  = 238 Hz), 136.2 (d,  $J$  = 11 Hz), 124.6 (d,  $J$  = 3 Hz), 116.9 (d,  $J$  = 7 Hz), 114.6 (d,  $J$  = 19 Hz), 112.1 (d,  $J$  = 3 Hz), 42.7, 38.1, 30.3.  $\nu_{\text{max}}(\text{KBr})/\text{cm}^{-1}$  3404, 2922, 1712, 1620, 1518, 1455, 1338, 1251, 1187, 1117, 744. HRMS-ESI (m/z): calcd for  $\text{C}_{10}\text{H}_{13}\text{FNO}$ ,  $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$ : 182.0976, found 182.0981.



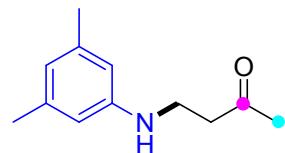
#### **4-(p-Tolylamino)butan-2-one (3as)**

Yield: 64% (28.3 mg) as a yellow oil;  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  6.98 (d,  $J$  = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 6.53 (d,  $J$  = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 3.39 (t,  $J$  = 6.1 Hz, 2H), 2.73 (t,  $J$  = 6.1 Hz, 2H), 2.23 (s, 3H), 2.15 (s, 3H).  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  208.2, 145.4, 129.8, 127.0, 113.3, 42.6, 38.8, 30.3, 20.4.  $\nu_{\text{max}}(\text{KBr})/\text{cm}^{-1}$  3392, 2921, 1701, 1615, 1516, 1382, 1168, 1120, 809. HRMS-ESI (m/z): calcd for  $\text{C}_{11}\text{H}_{16}\text{NO}$ ,  $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$ : 178.1226, found 178.1227.



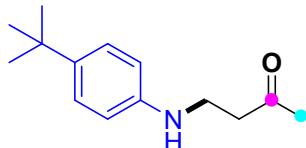
#### **4-((4-Isopropylphenyl)amino)butan-2-one (3at)**

Yield: 58% (29.7 mg) as a reddish black oil;  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  7.05 (d,  $J$  = 8.5 Hz, 2H), 6.56 (d,  $J$  = 8.5 Hz, 2H), 3.40 (t,  $J$  = 6.2 Hz, 2H), 2.83 – 2.77 (m, 1H), 2.74 (t,  $J$  = 6.1 Hz, 2H), 2.16 (s, 3H), 1.21 (d,  $J$  = 6.9 Hz, 6H).  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  208.1, 145.6, 138.3, 127.1, 113.1, 42.7, 38.7, 33.1, 30.2, 24.2.  $\nu_{\text{max}}(\text{KBr})/\text{cm}^{-1}$  3376, 2959, 1709, 1615, 1516, 1461, 1363, 1170, 823, 550. HRMS-ESI (m/z): calcd for  $\text{C}_{13}\text{H}_{20}\text{NO}$ ,  $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$ : 206.1539, found 206.1543.



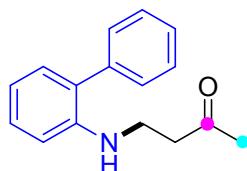
#### **4-((3,5-Dimethylphenyl)amino)butan-2-one (3au)**

Yield: 54% (25.8mg) as a red oil;  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  6.37 (s, 1H), 6.24 (s, 2H), 3.39 (t,  $J = 6.1$  Hz, 2H), 2.72 (t,  $J = 6.2$  Hz, 2H), 2.23 (s, 6H), 2.15 (s, 3H).  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  208.1, 147.8, 139.0, 119.7, 111.0, 42.8, 38.5, 30.3, 21.5.  $\nu_{\text{max}}(\text{KBr})/\text{cm}^{-1}$  3393, 2919, 1711, 1601, 1471, 1341, 1167, 824, 692. HRMS-ESI (m/z): calcd for  $\text{C}_{12}\text{H}_{18}\text{NO}$ ,  $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$ : 192.1383, found 192.1385.



#### **4-((4-(*tert*-Butyl)phenyl)amino)butan-2-one (3av)**

Yield: 51% (27.9 mg) as a reddish black oil;  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  7.20 (d,  $J = 8.6$  Hz, 2H), 6.57 (d,  $J = 8.5$  Hz, 2H), 3.40 (t,  $J = 6.1$  Hz, 2H), 2.74 (t,  $J = 6.1$  Hz, 2H), 2.15 (s, 3H), 1.27 (s, 9H).  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  208.1, 145.2, 140.6, 126.1, 112.9, 42.8, 38.8, 33.9, 31.5, 30.3.  $\nu_{\text{max}}(\text{KBr})/\text{cm}^{-1}$  3392, 3398, 2957, 1710, 1614, 1518, 1362, 1261, 1166, 821. HRMS-ESI (m/z): calcd for  $\text{C}_{14}\text{H}_{22}\text{NO}$ ,  $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$ : 220.1696, found 220.1699.



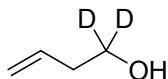
#### **4-((1,1'-Biphenyl)-2-ylamino)butan-2-one (3aw)**

Yield: 54% (32.3 mg) as a yellow oil;  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  7.26 (d,  $J = 7.1$  Hz, 2H), 7.00 (t,  $J = 7.4$  Hz, 1H), 6.91 (t,  $J = 8.5$  Hz, 4H), 6.60 (d,  $J = 8.3$  Hz, 2H), 3.39 (t,  $J = 6.2$  Hz, 2H), 2.76 (t,  $J = 6.2$  Hz, 2H), 2.18 (s, 3H).  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  208.1, 159.0, 148.0, 144.3, 129.5, 122.0, 121.2, 117.2, 114.2, 42.6, 39.1, 30.3.  $\nu_{\text{max}}(\text{KBr})/\text{cm}^{-1}$  3397, 2920, 2852, 1764, 1709, 1578, 1508, 1375, 1243, 739, 699. HRMS-ESI (m/z): calcd for  $\text{C}_{16}\text{H}_{18}\text{NO}$ ,  $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$ : 240.1383, found 240.1387.



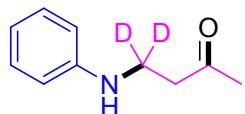
#### **4-((4-Benzylphenyl)amino)butan-2-one (3ax)**

Yield: 50% (31.6 mg) as a yellow oil;  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  7.29 – 7.25 (m, 2H), 7.20 – 7.16 (m, 3H), 7.08 (t,  $J = 7.8$  Hz, 1H), 6.55 (d,  $J = 7.5$  Hz, 1H), 6.46 – 6.40 (m, 2H), 3.88 (s, 2H), 3.37 (t,  $J = 6.1$  Hz, 2H), 2.70 (t,  $J = 6.1$  Hz, 2H), 2.14 (s, 3H).  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  208.0, 147.9, 142.3, 141.2, 129.4, 128.9, 128.4, 126.0, 118.5, 113.9, 110.7, 42.7, 42.1, 38.4, 30.3.  $\nu_{\text{max}}(\text{KBr})/\text{cm}^{-1}$  3365, 3026, 2920, 2851, 1707, 1598, 1489, 1164, 765, 696. HRMS-ESI (m/z): calcd for  $\text{C}_{17}\text{H}_{19}\text{NNaO}$ ,  $[\text{M}+\text{Na}]^+$ : 276.1359, found 276.1361.



**2a-d2**

Yield: 90% (0.33 g) as a colorless oil with 1.1 equivalent Et<sub>2</sub>O; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 5.86 – 5.76 (m, 1H), 5.16 - 5.08 (m, 2H), 4.71 (s, 1H), 2.31 (d, *J* = 6.9 Hz, 2H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 134.9, 117.4, 60.9, 36.9.



**3aa-d2**

Yield: 43% (17.7 mg) as a yellow oil; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 7.10 (t, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 6.64 (t, *J* = 7.3 Hz, 1H), 6.53 (d, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 2H), 2.66 (s, 2H), 2.09 (s, 3H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 208.1, 147.7, 129.3, 117.7, 113.1, 42.5, 41.8, 30.3. v<sub>max</sub>(KBr)/cm<sup>-1</sup> 3391, 2921, 2852, 1708, 1600, 1502, 1356, 1165, 751, 694. HRMS-ESI (m/z): calcd for C<sub>10</sub>H<sub>12</sub>D<sub>2</sub>NO, [M+H]<sup>+</sup>: 166.1195, found 166.1196.

## Generic Display Report

### Analysis Info

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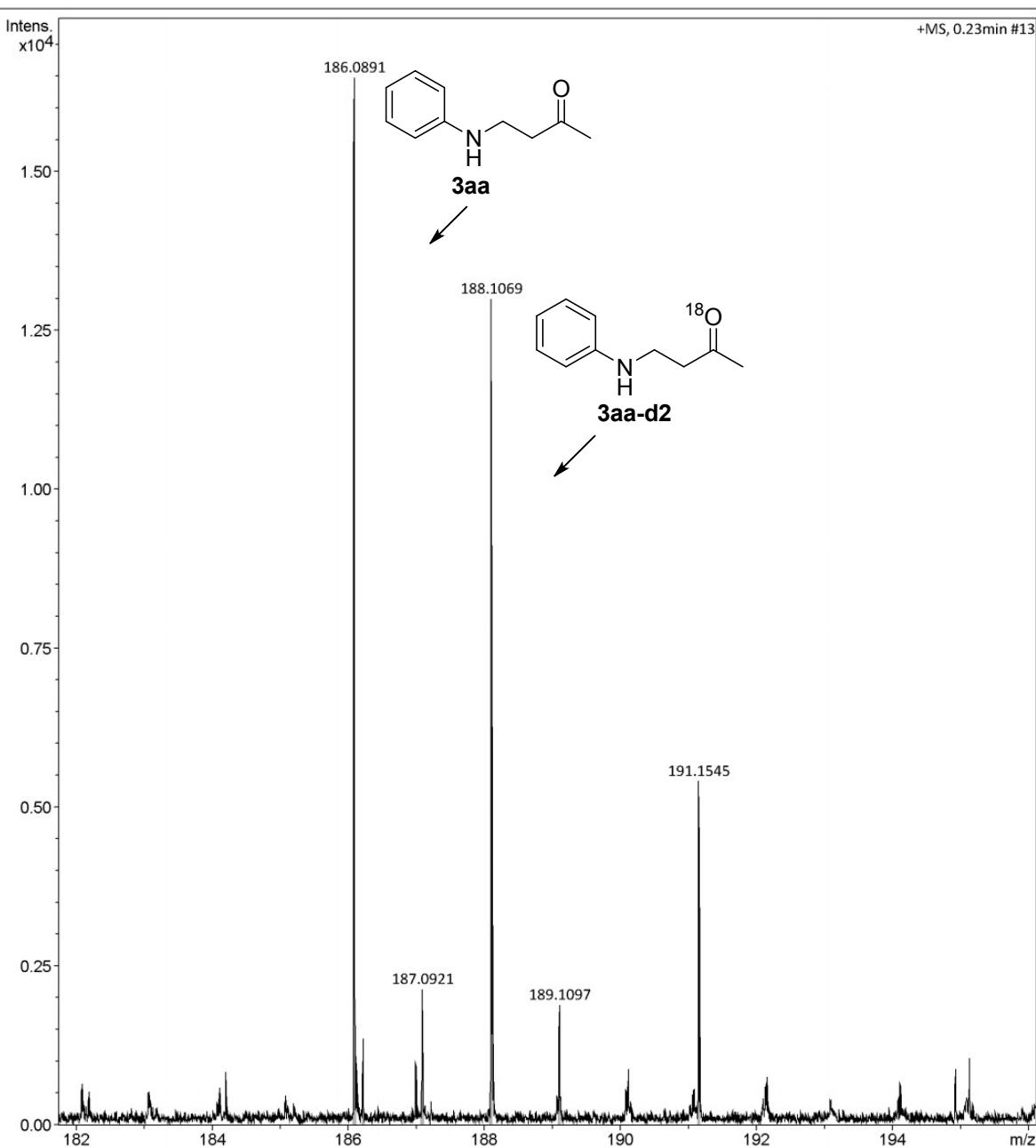
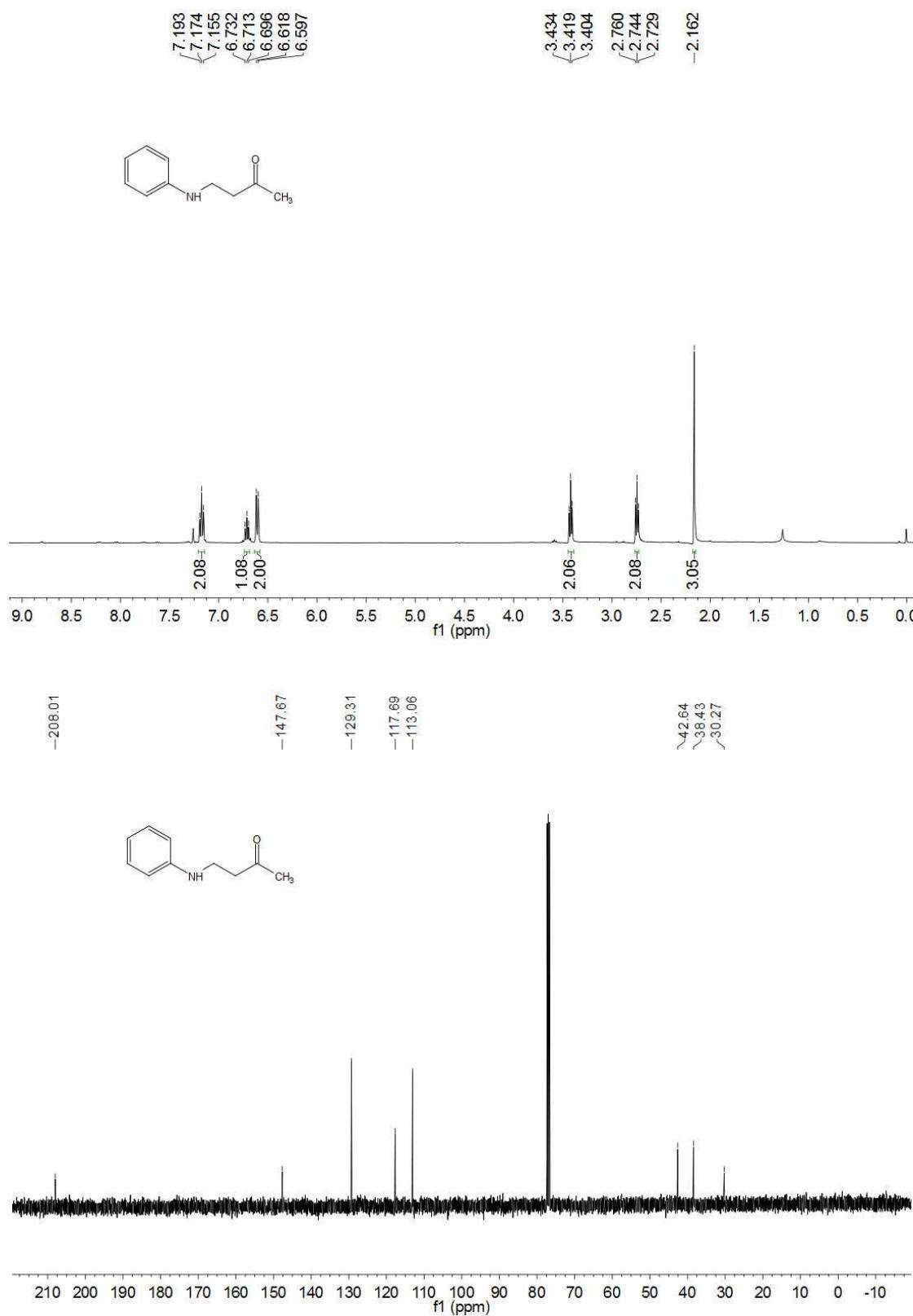


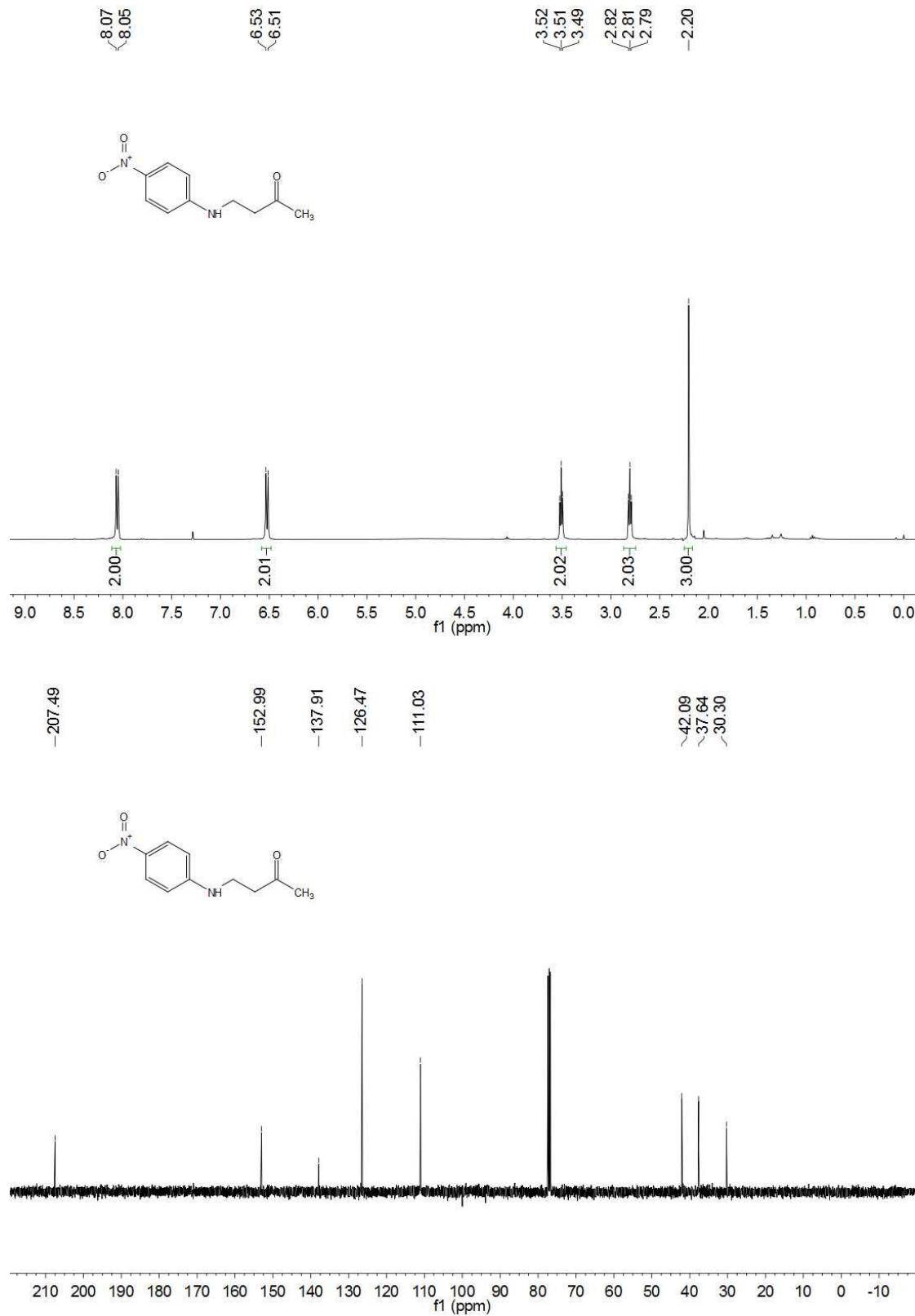
Figure S1. HRMS of 3aa and 3aa-d2

## E. NMR Spectra

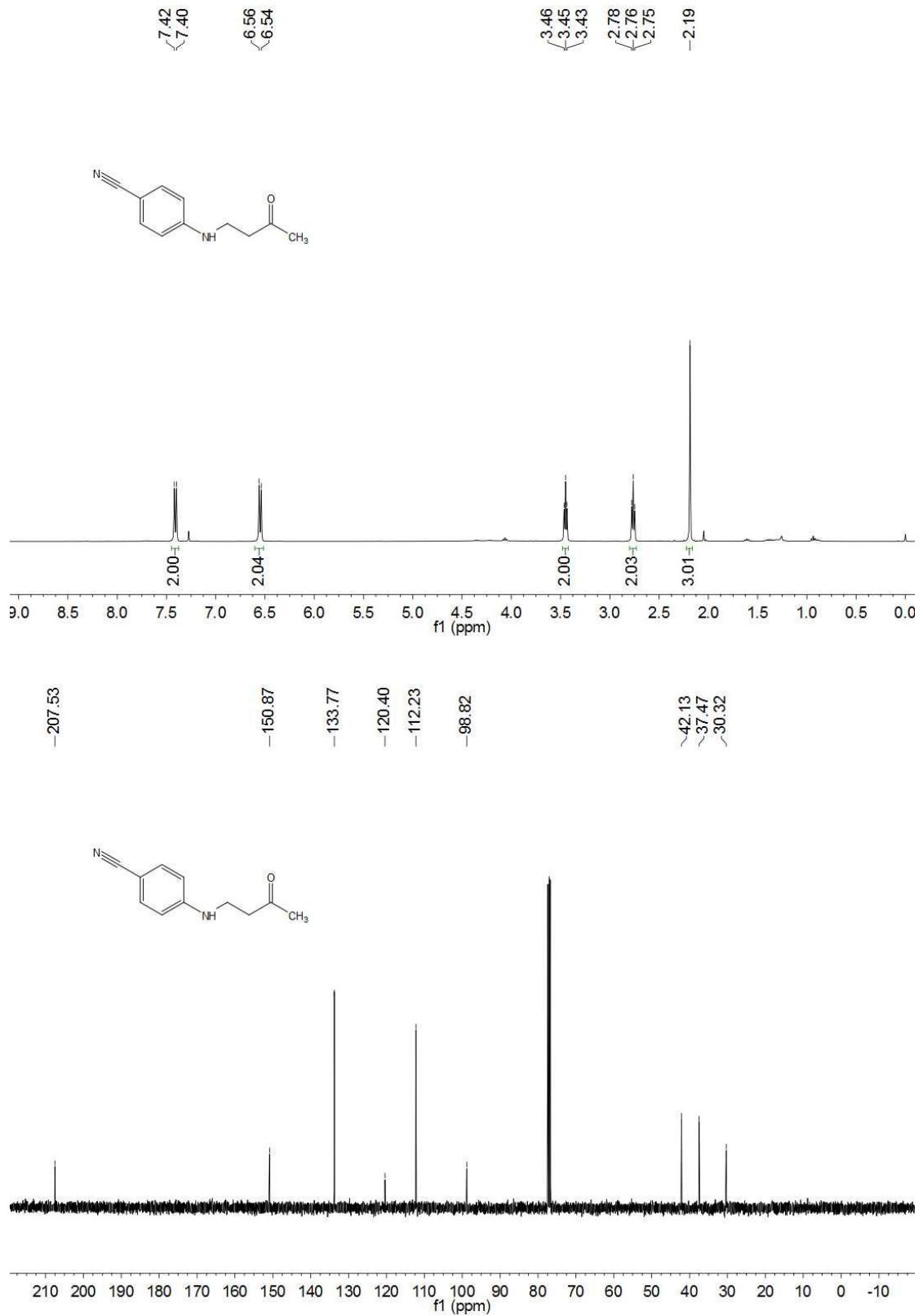
### 4-(Phenylamino)butan-2-one (3aa)



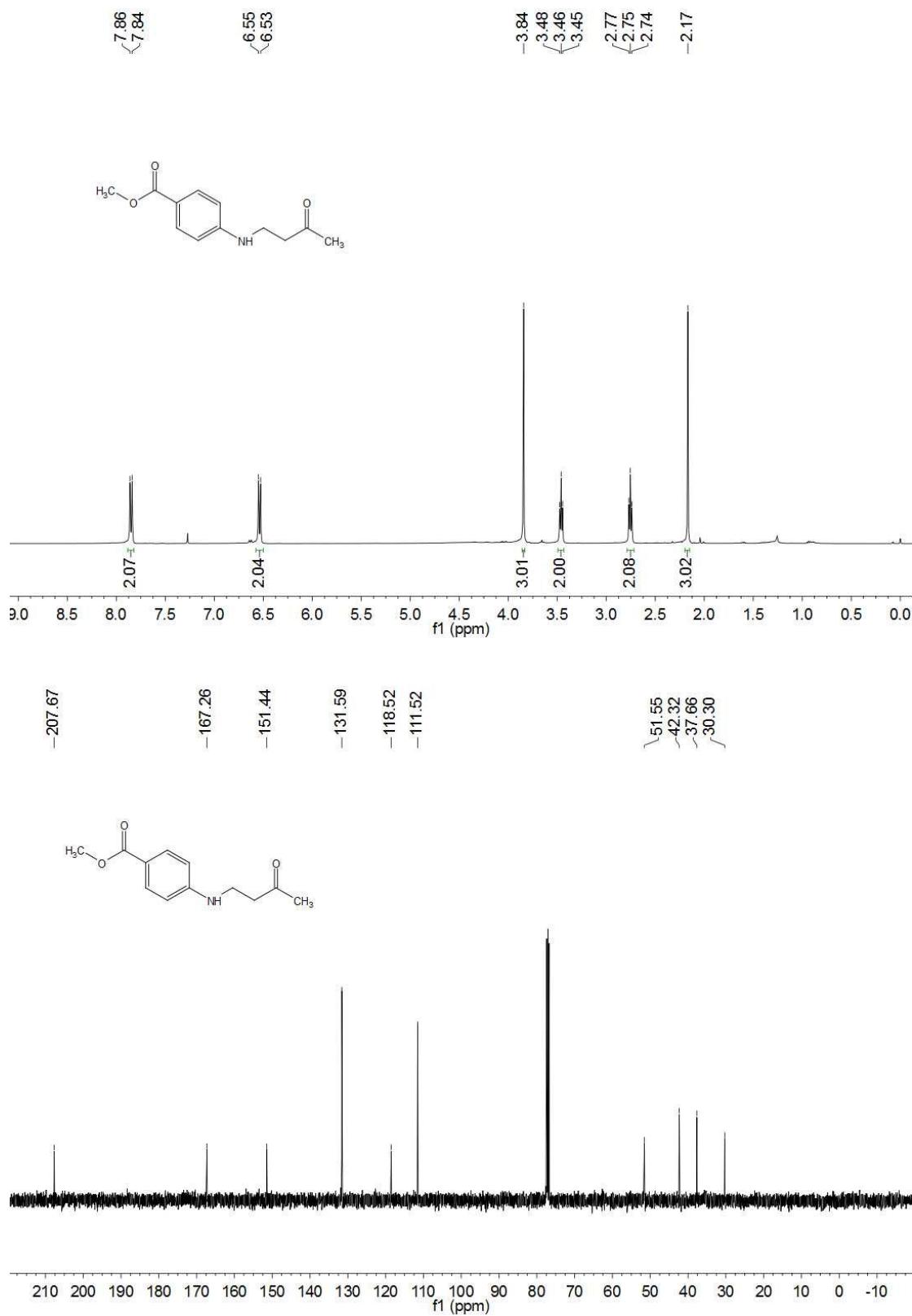
**4-((4-Nitrophenyl)amino)butan-2-one (3ab)**



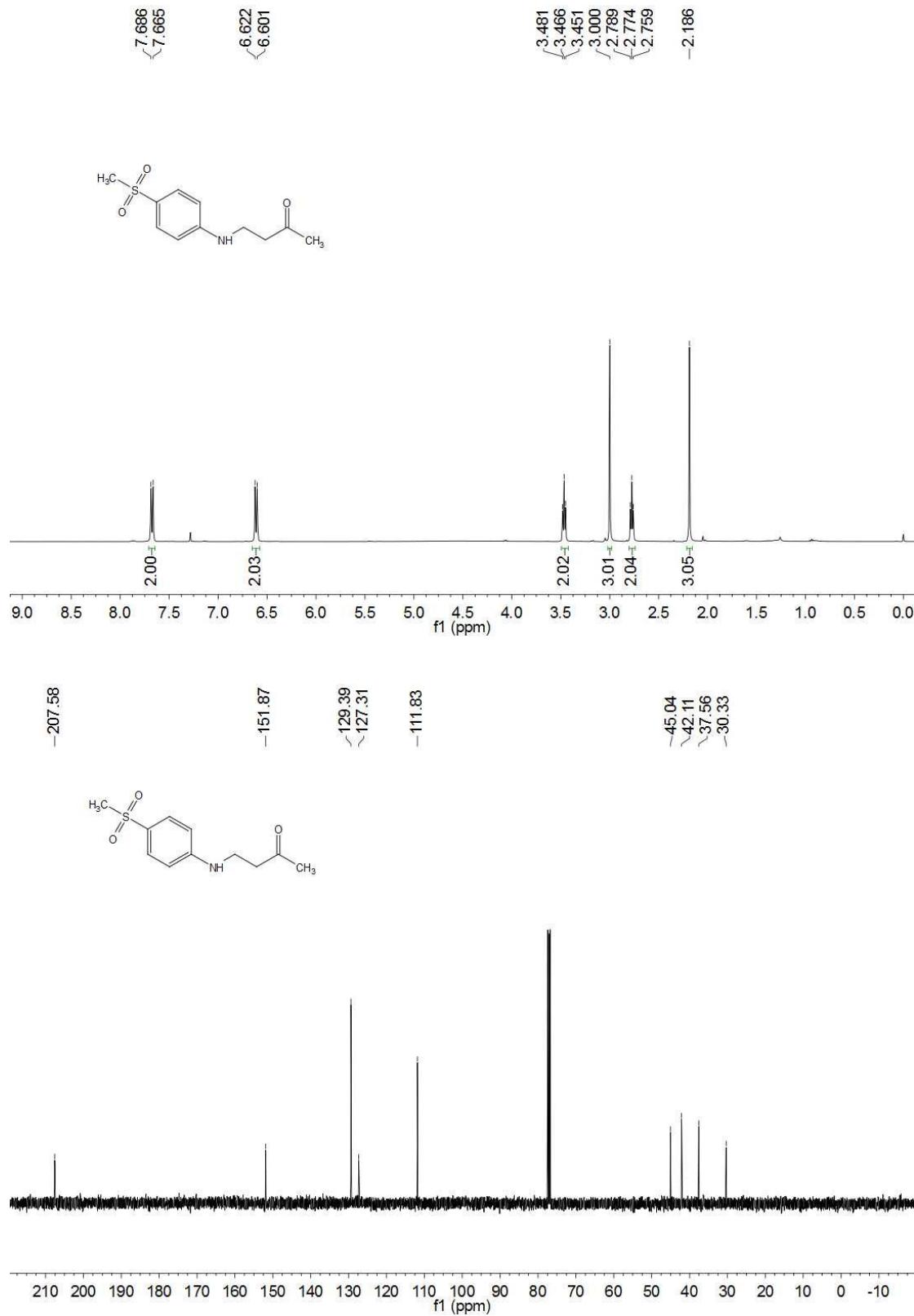
**4-((3-Oxobutyl)amino)benzonitrile (3ac)**



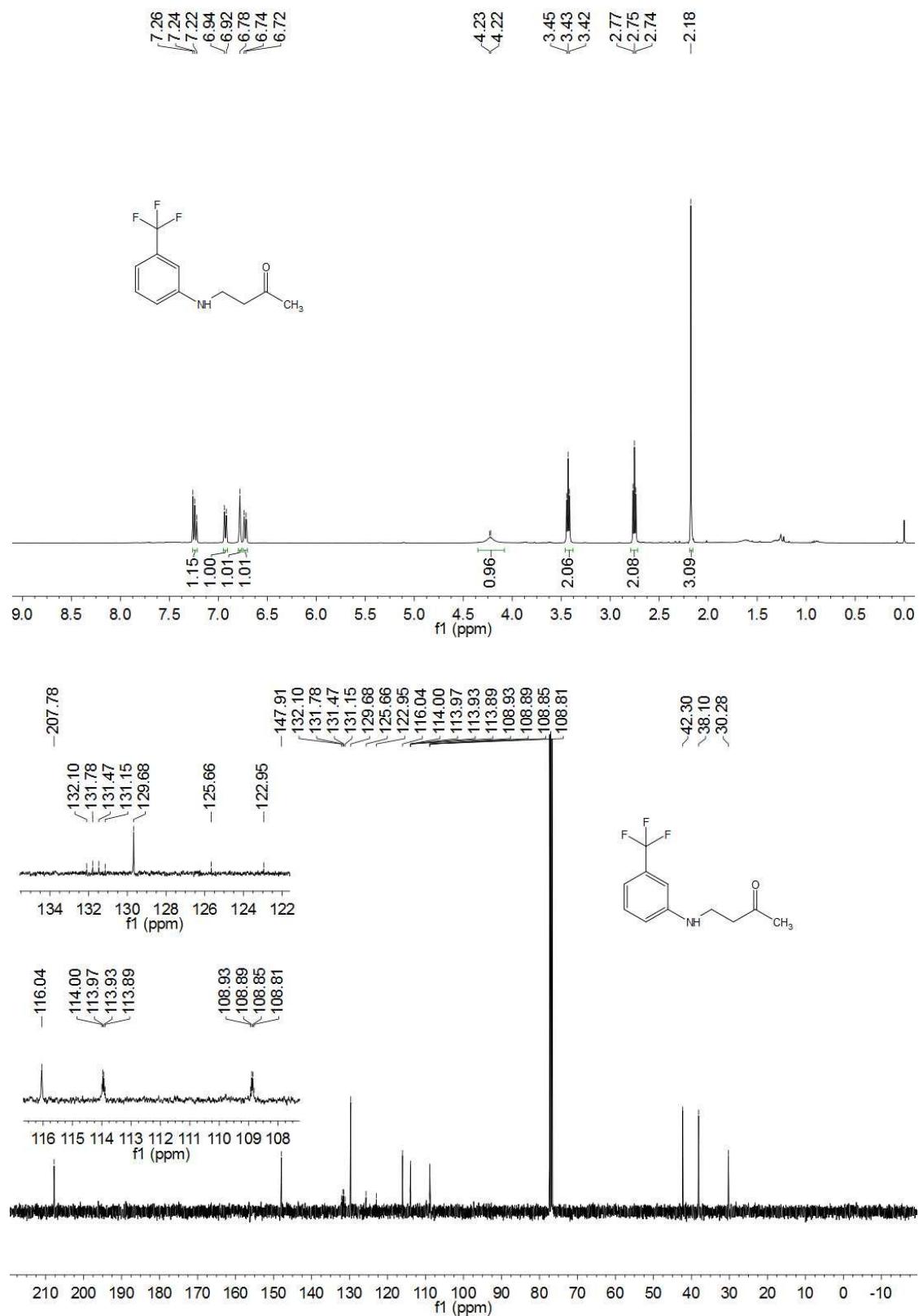
**Methyl 4-((3-oxobutyl)amino)benzoate (3ad)**



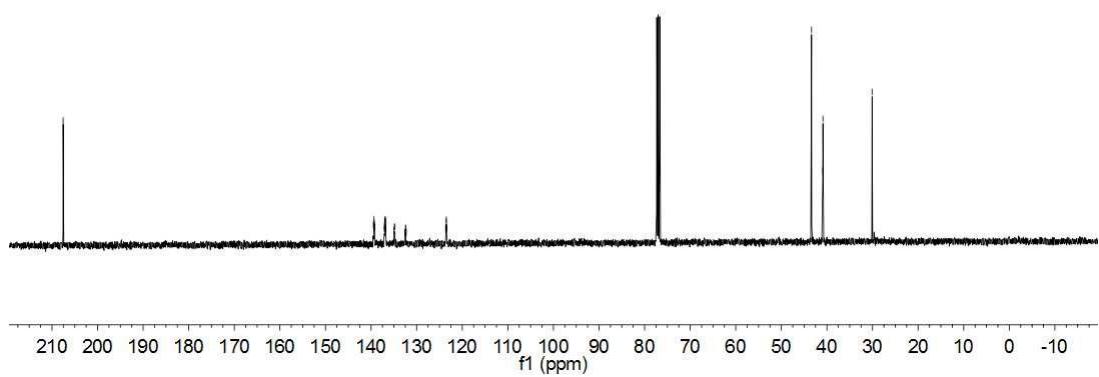
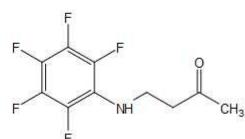
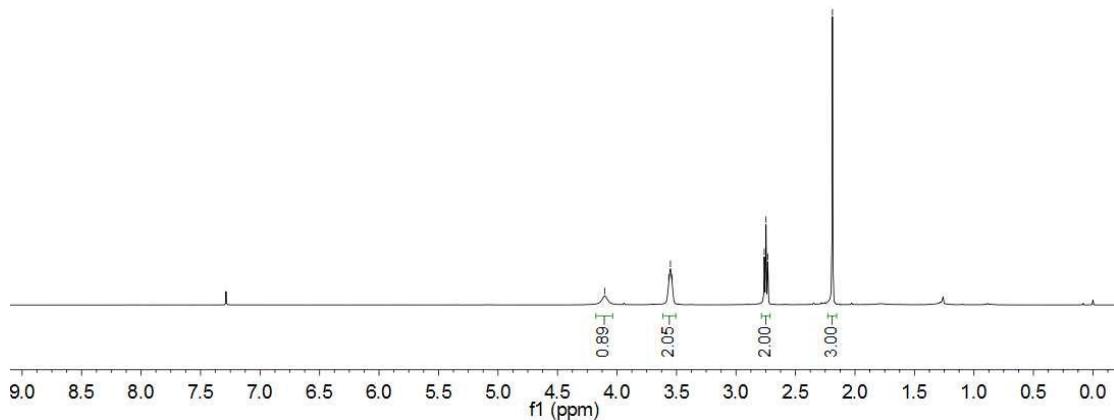
**4-((4-(Methylsulfonyl)phenyl)amino)butan-2-one (3ae)**



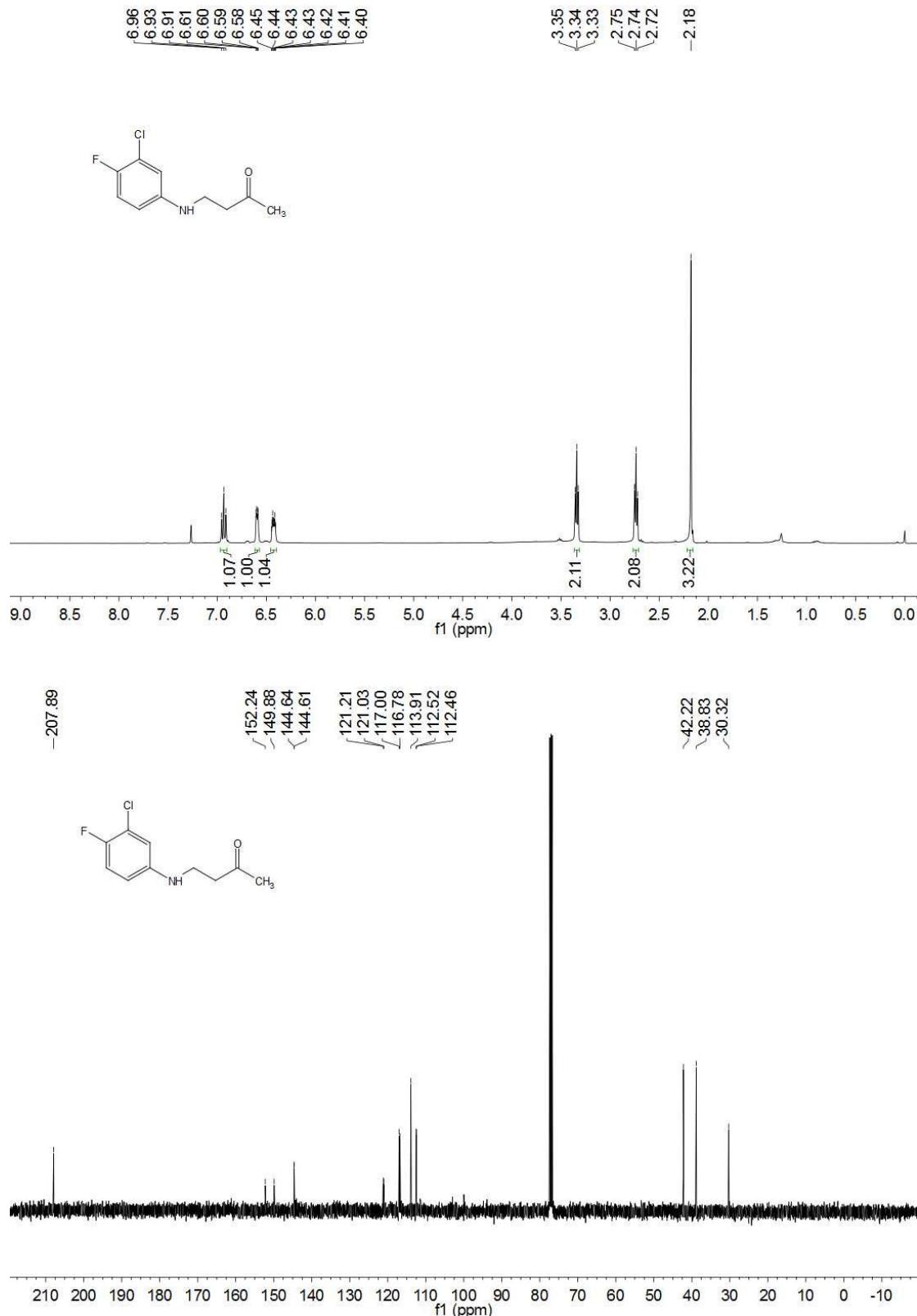
#### **4-((3-(Trifluoromethyl)phenyl)amino)butan-2-one (3af)**



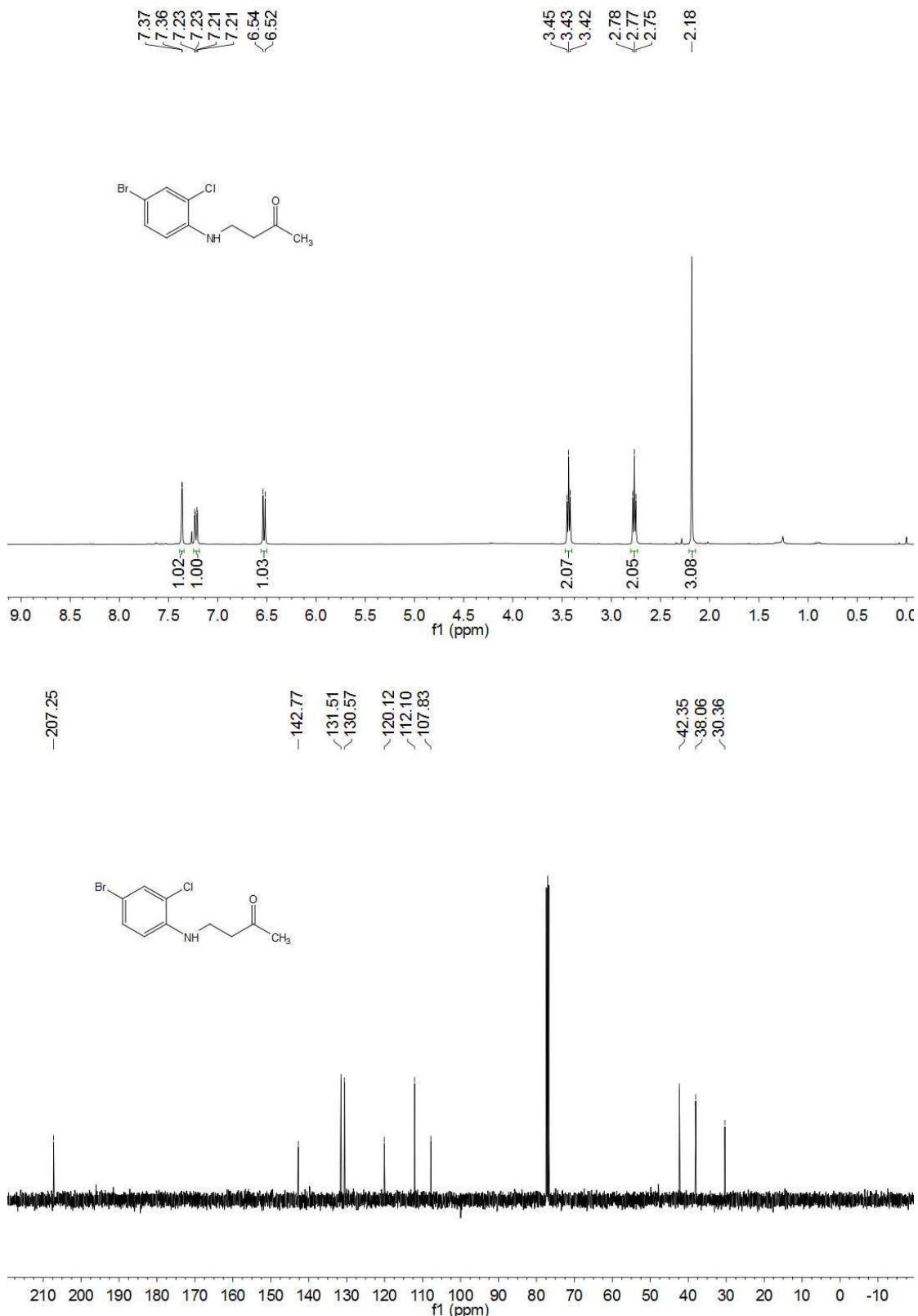
#### **4-((Perfluorophenyl)amino)butan-2-one (3ag)**



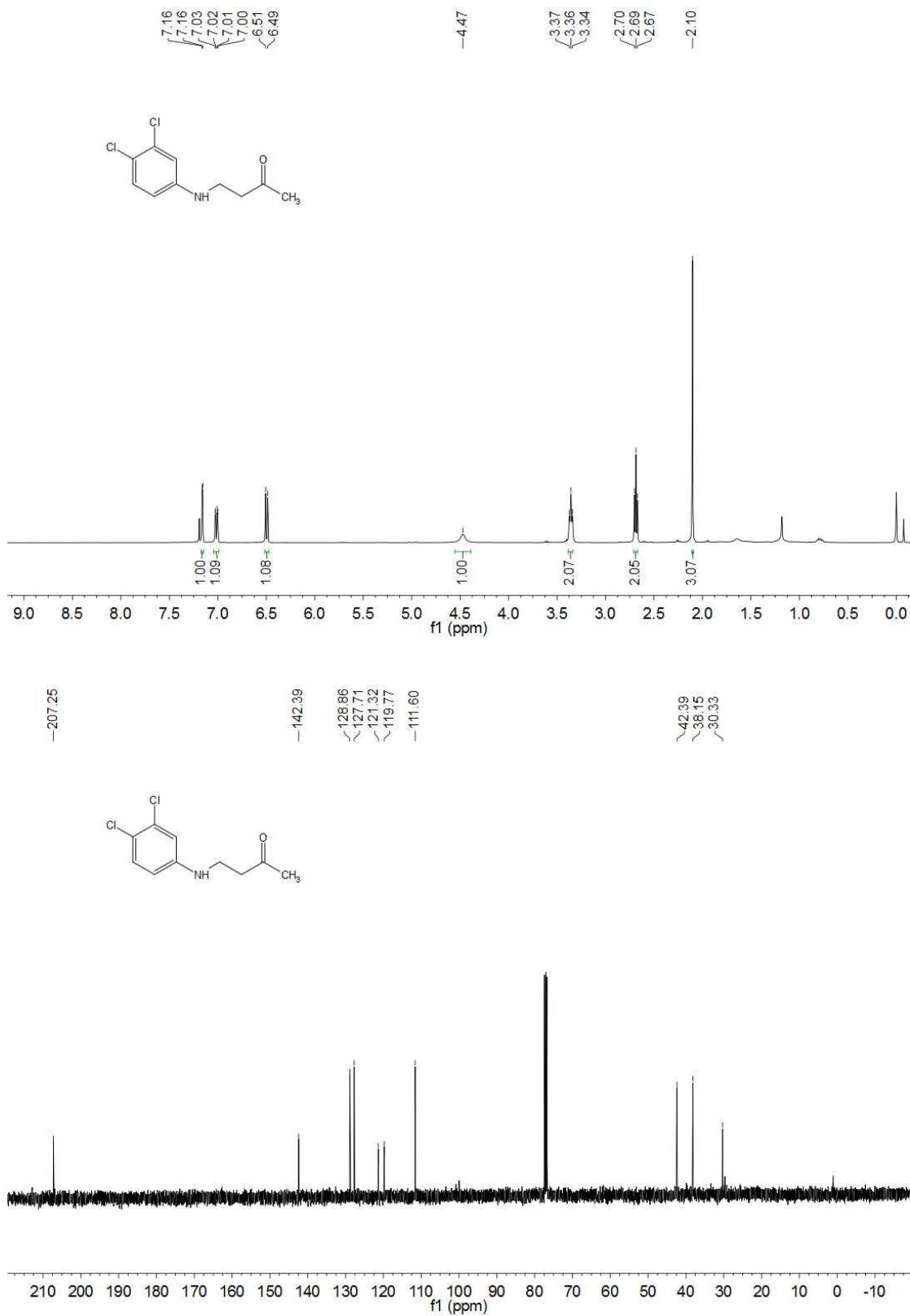
**4-((3-Chloro-4-fluorophenyl)amino)butan-2-one (3ah)**



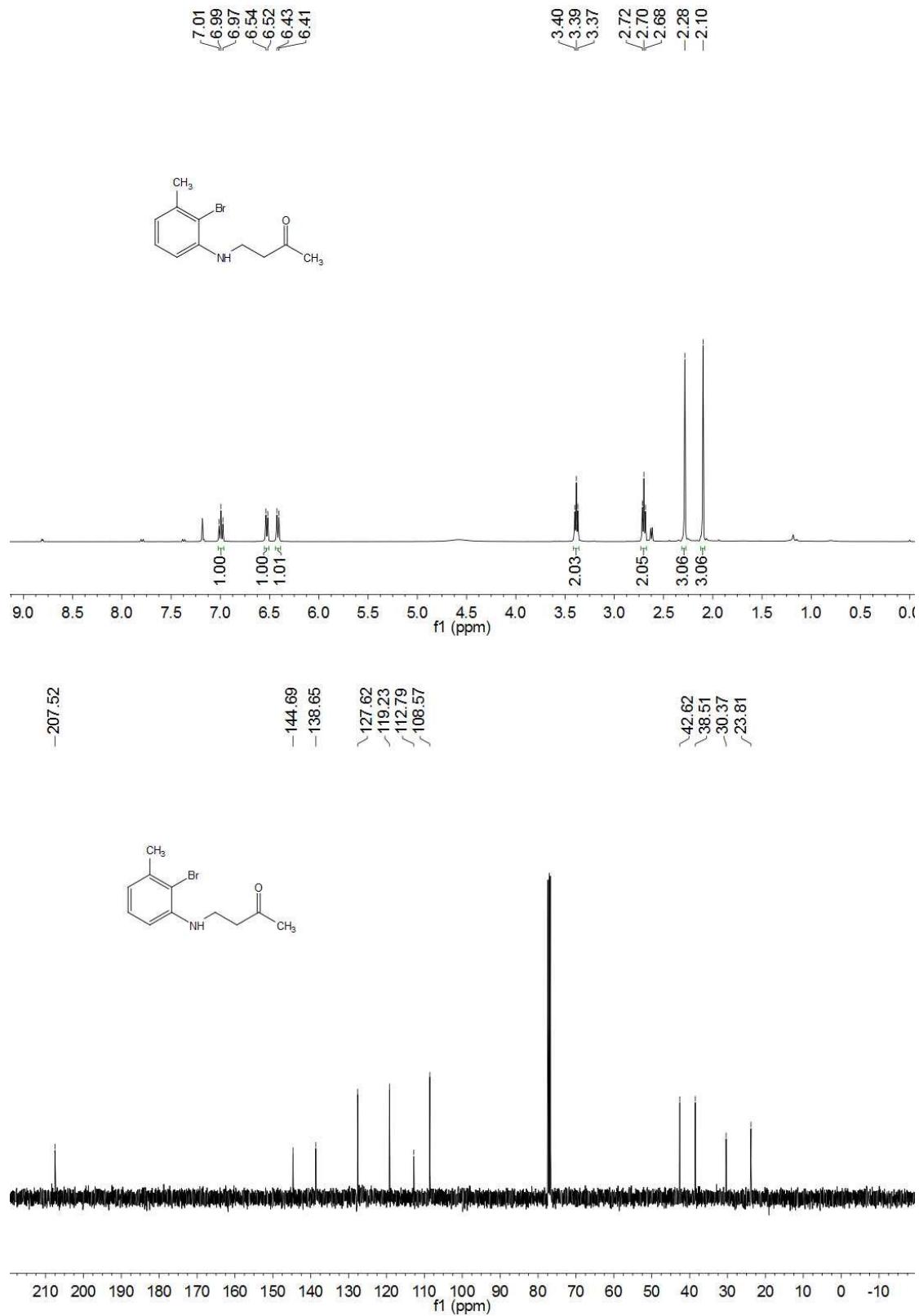
**4-((4-Bromo-2-chlorophenyl)amino)butan-2-one (3ai)**



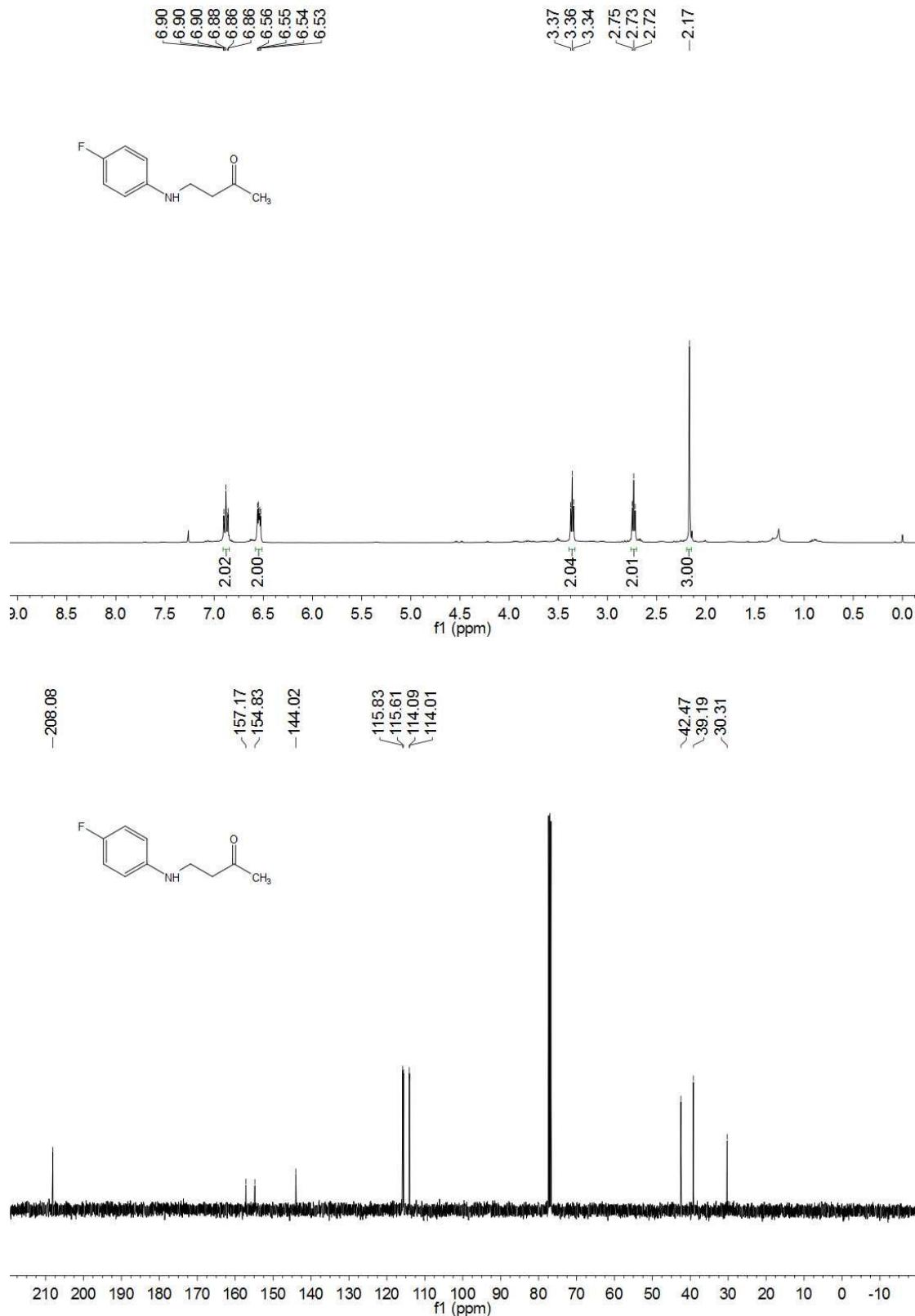
**4-((3,4-Dichlorophenyl)amino)butan-2-one (3aj)**



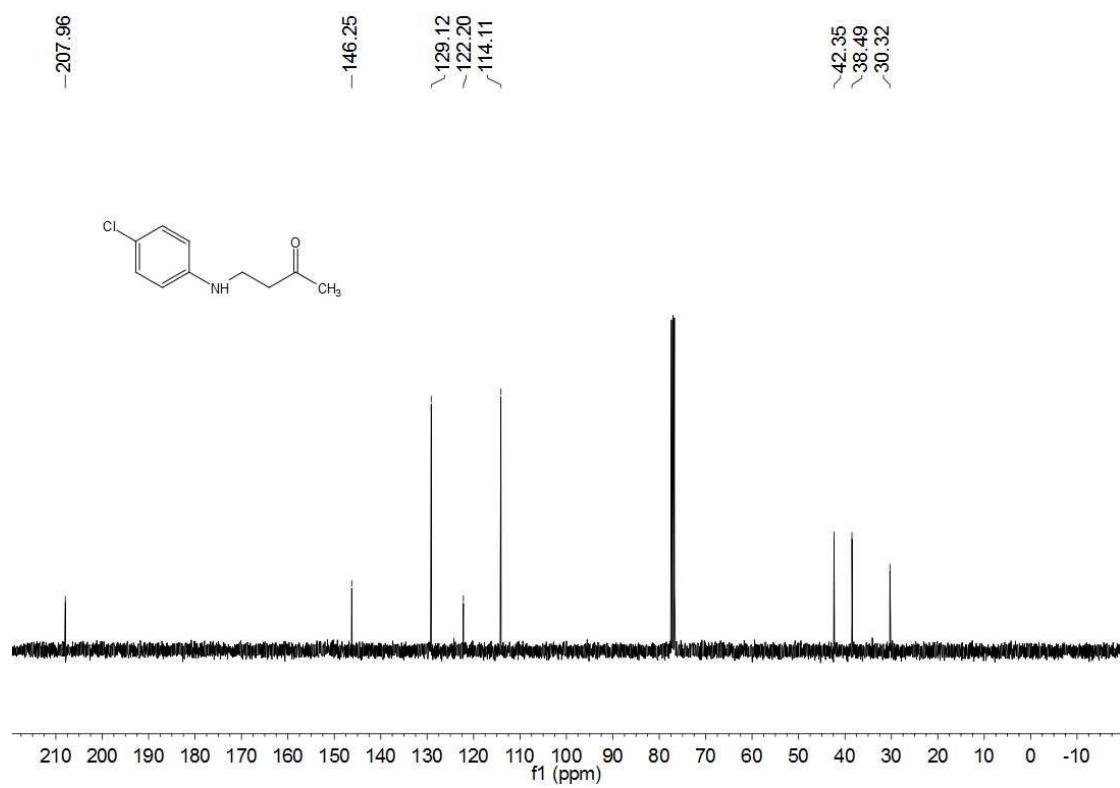
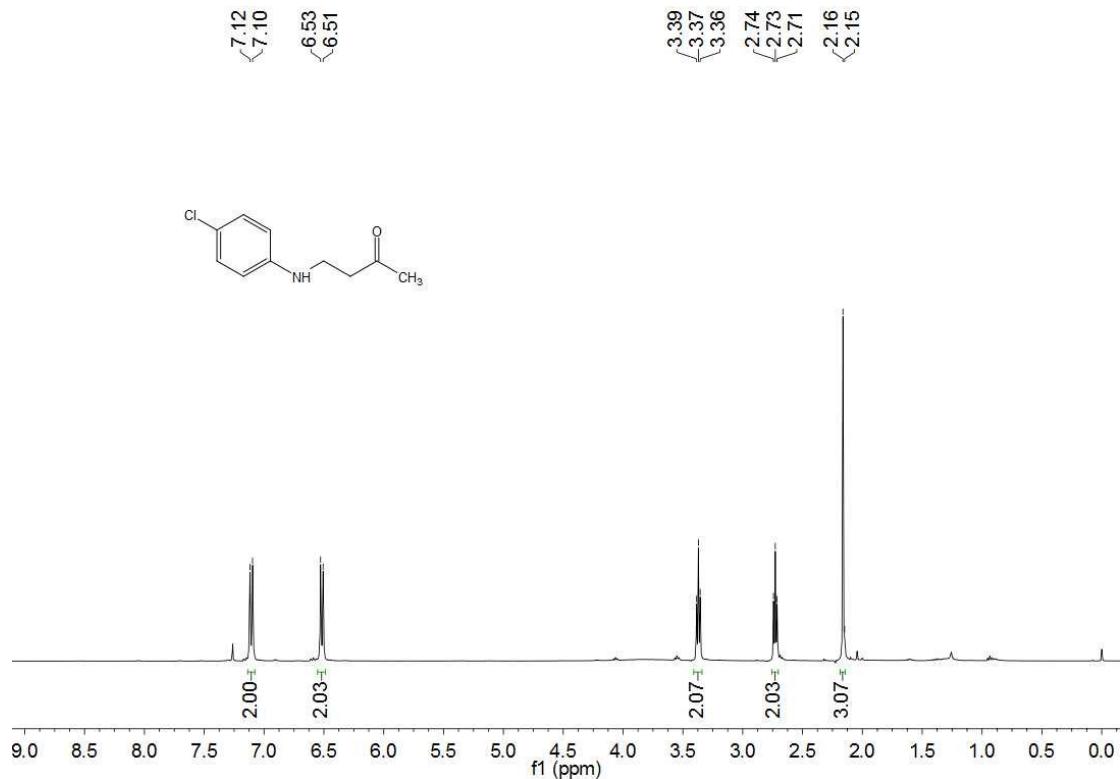
**4-((2-Bromo-3-methylphenyl)amino)butan-2-one (3ak)**



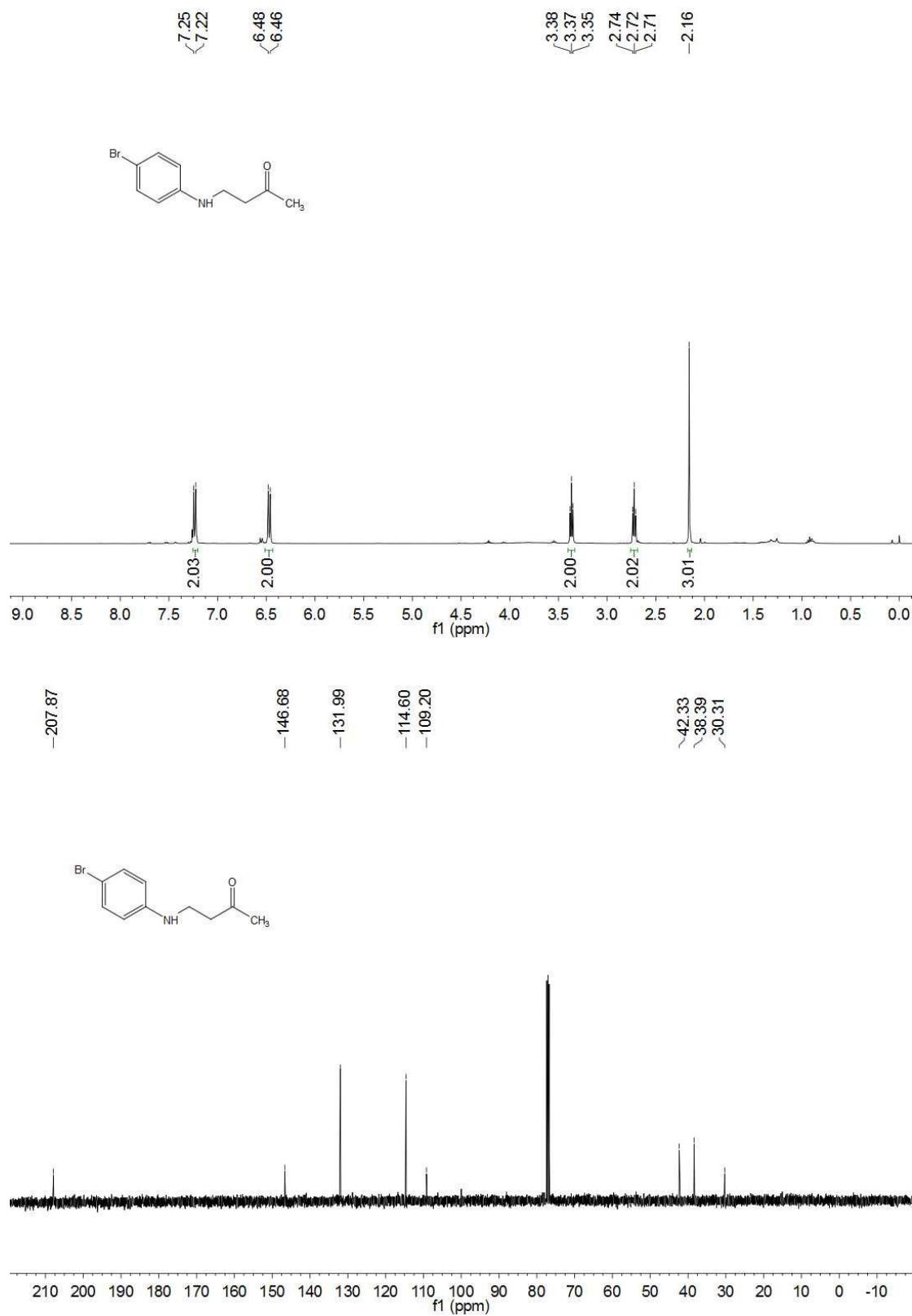
**4-((4-Fluorophenyl)amino)butan-2-one (3al)**



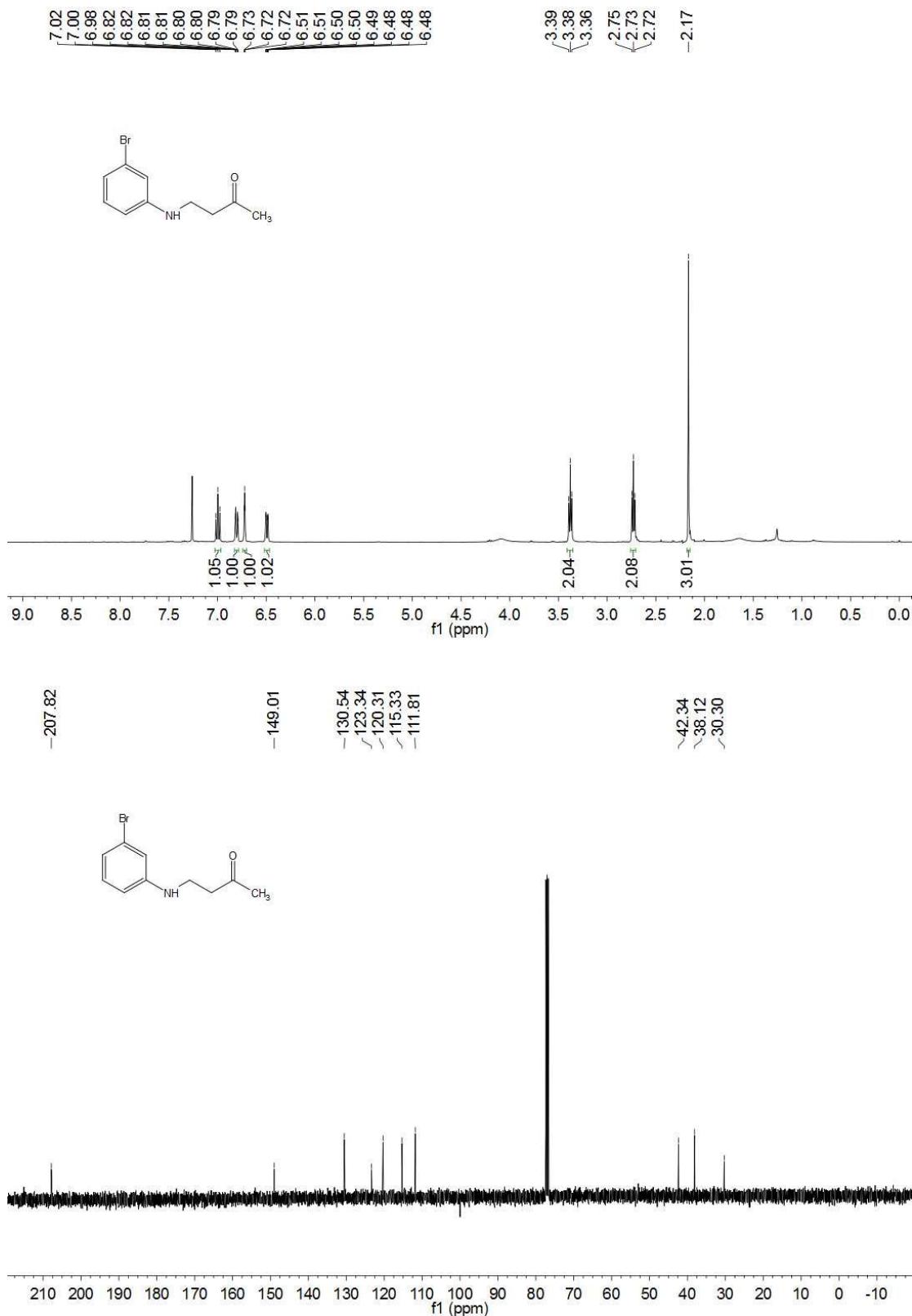
**4-((4-Chlorophenyl)amino)butan-2-one (3am)**



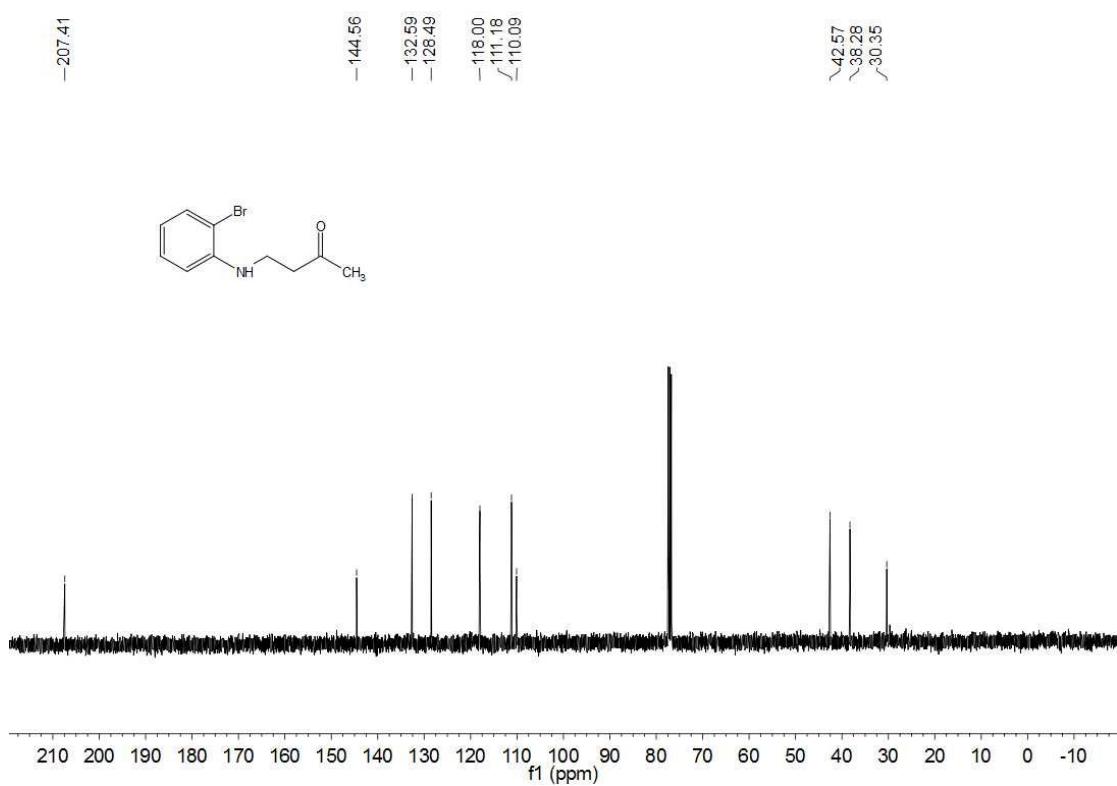
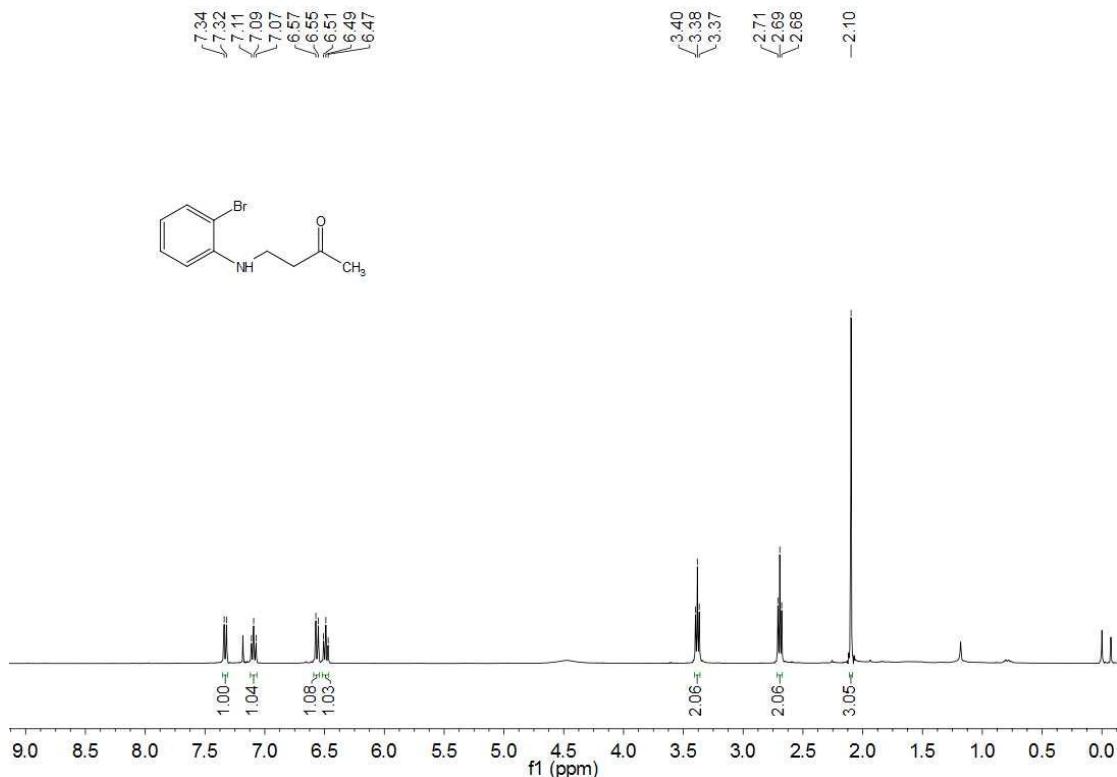
**4-((4-Bromophenyl)amino)butan-2-one (3an)**



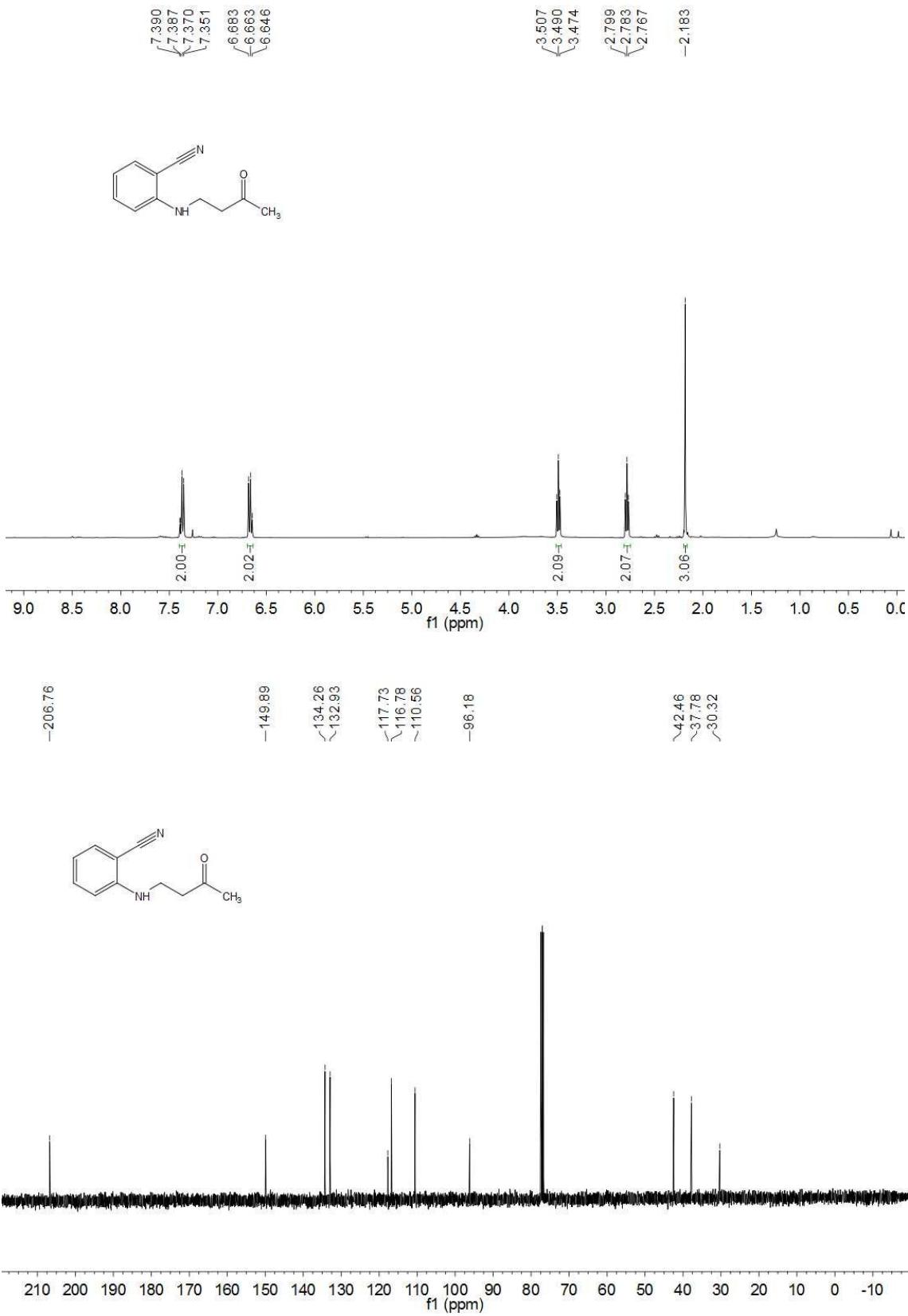
**4-((3-Bromophenyl)amino)butan-2-one (3ao)**



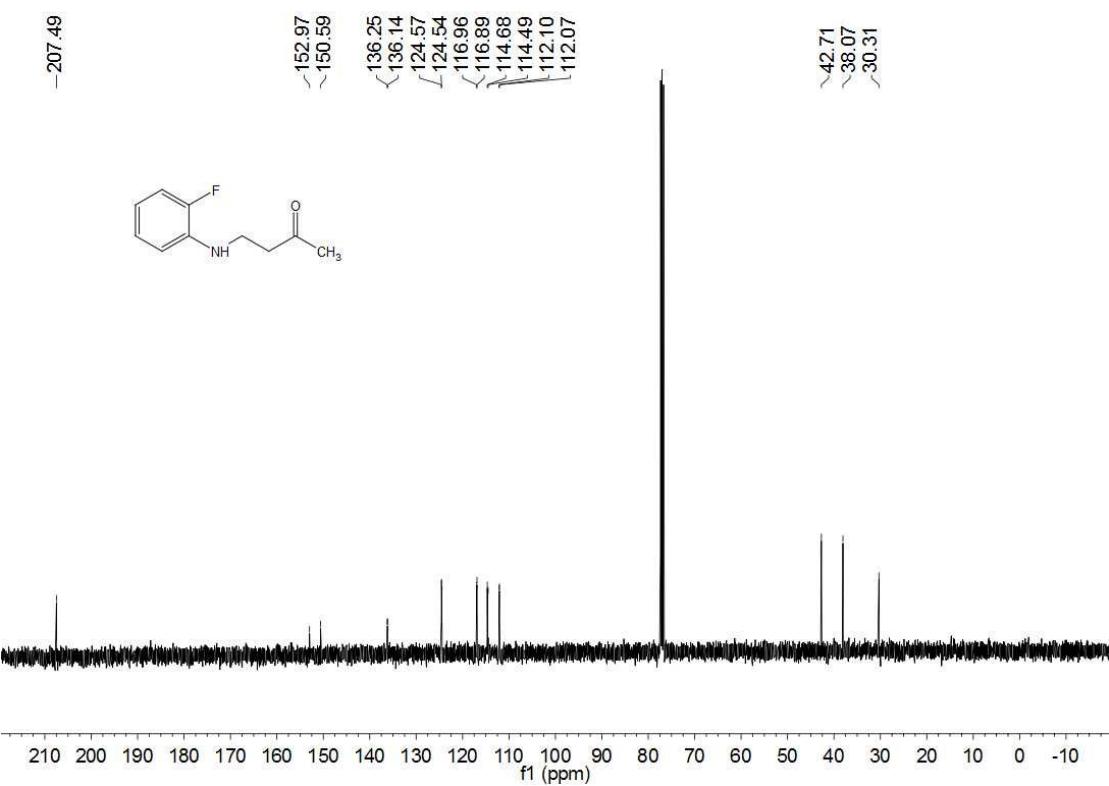
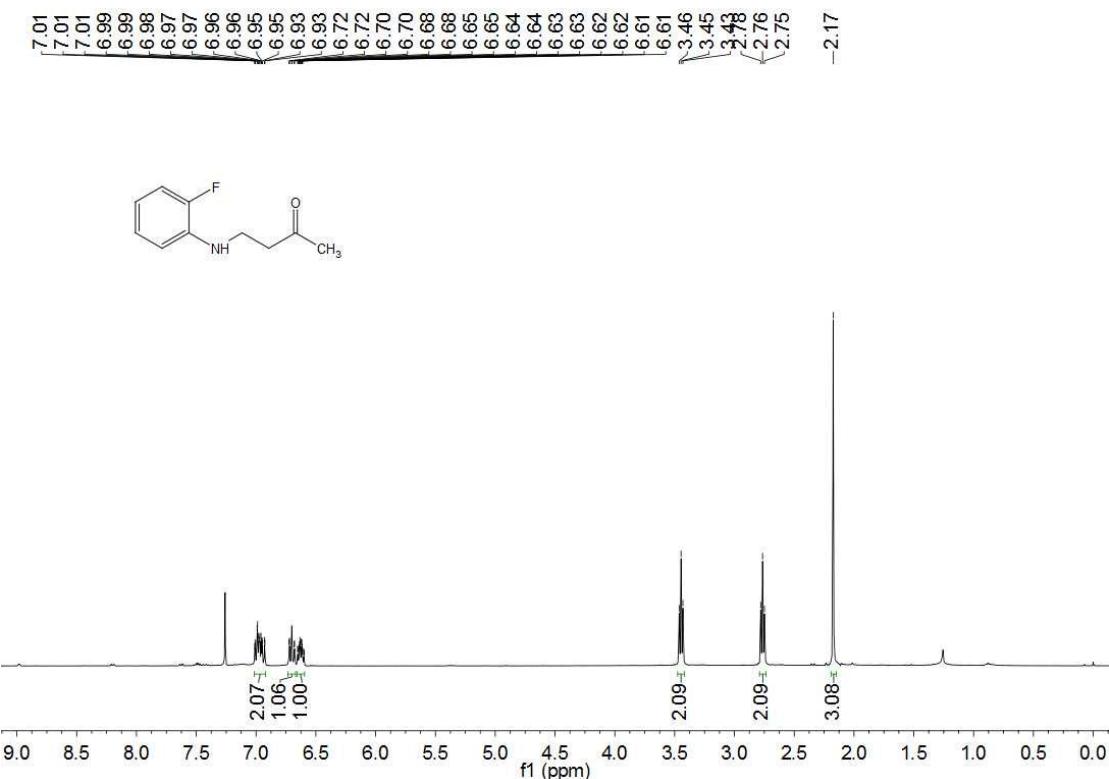
**4-((2-Bromophenyl)amino)butan-2-one (3ap)**



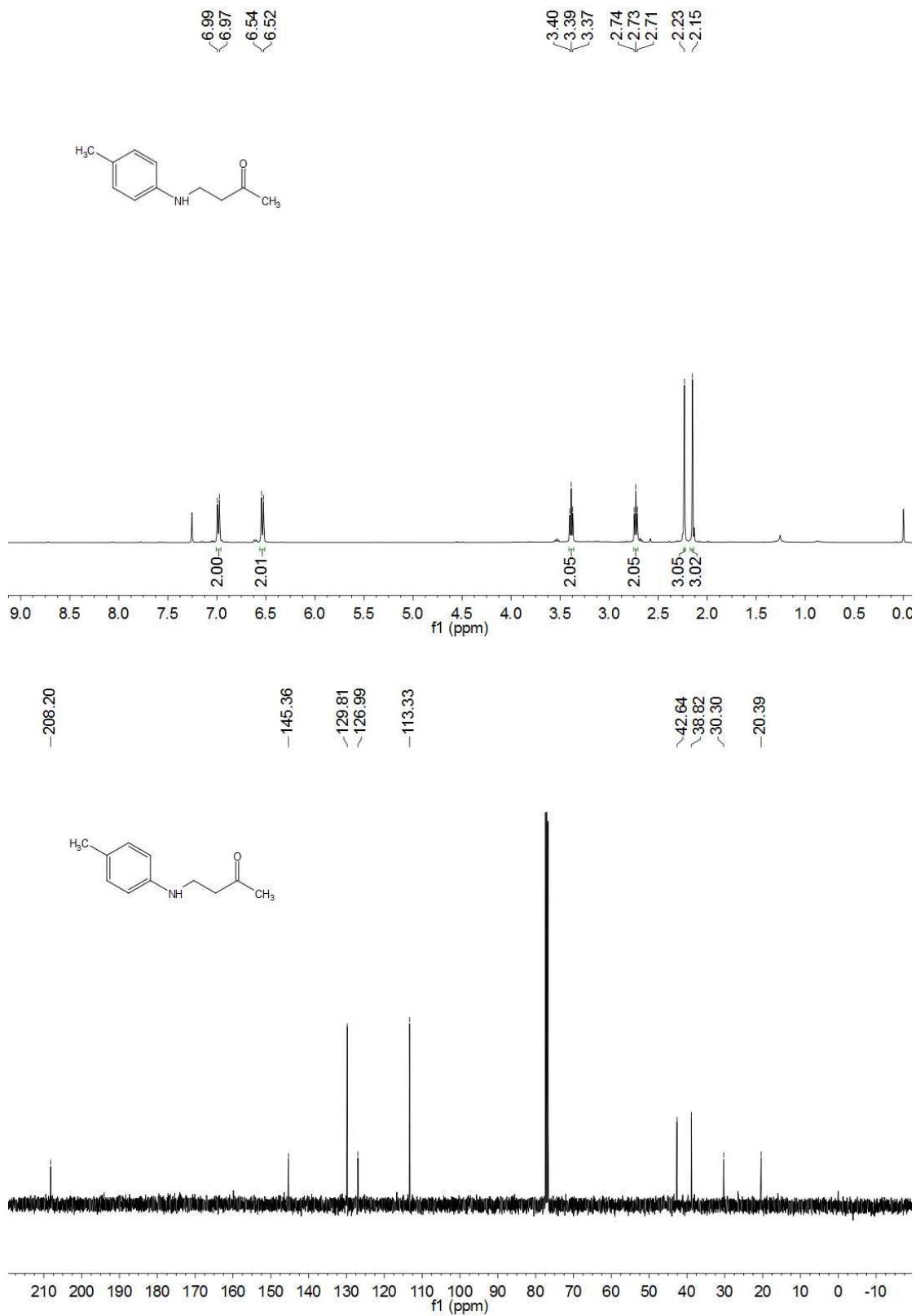
**2-((3-Oxobutyl)amino)benzonitrile (3aq)**



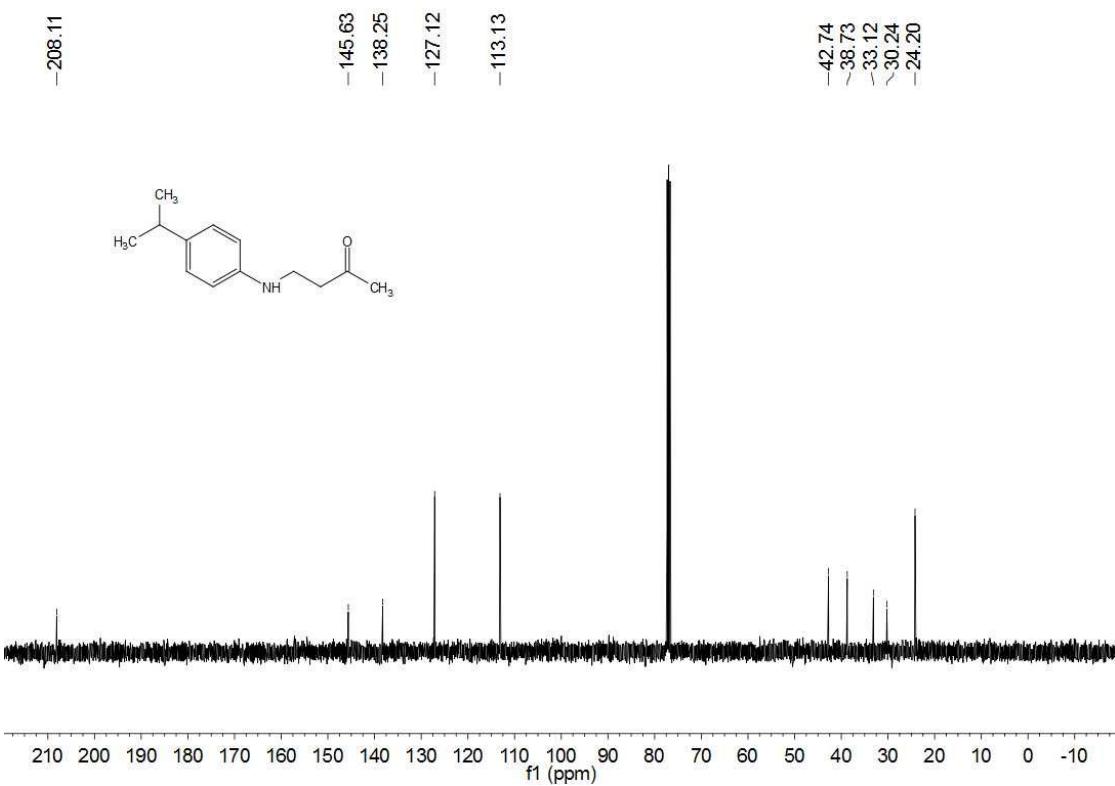
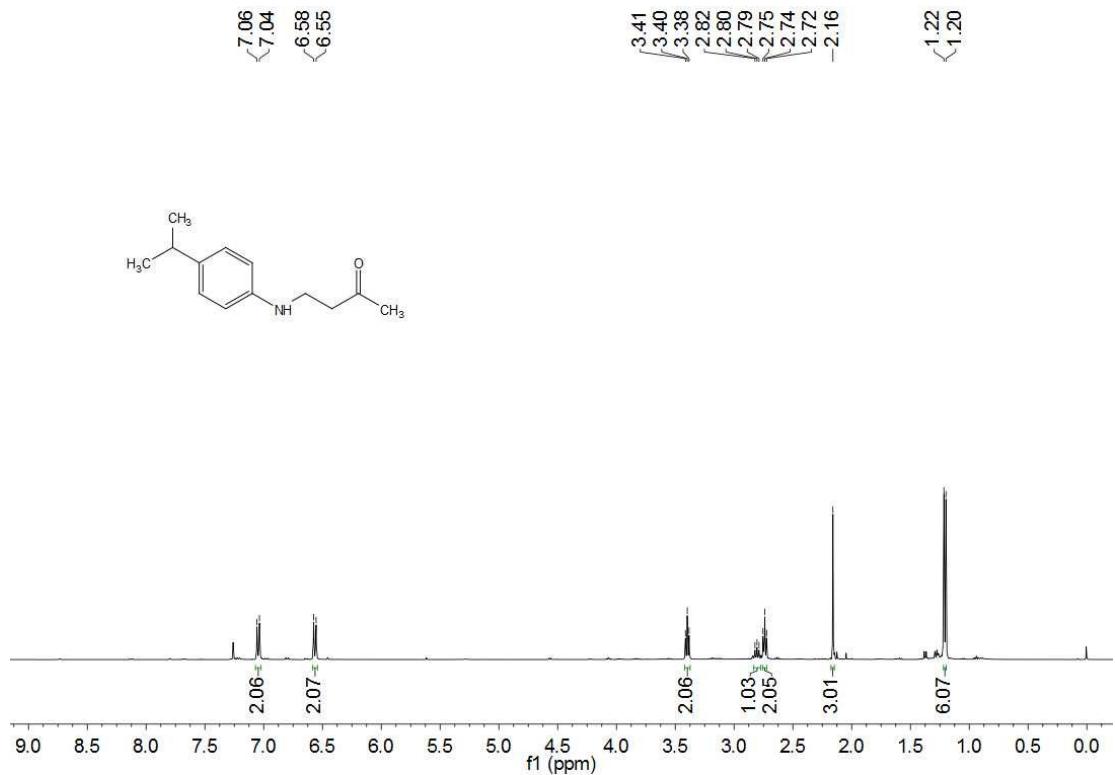
**4-((2-Fluorophenyl)amino)butan-2-one (3ar)**



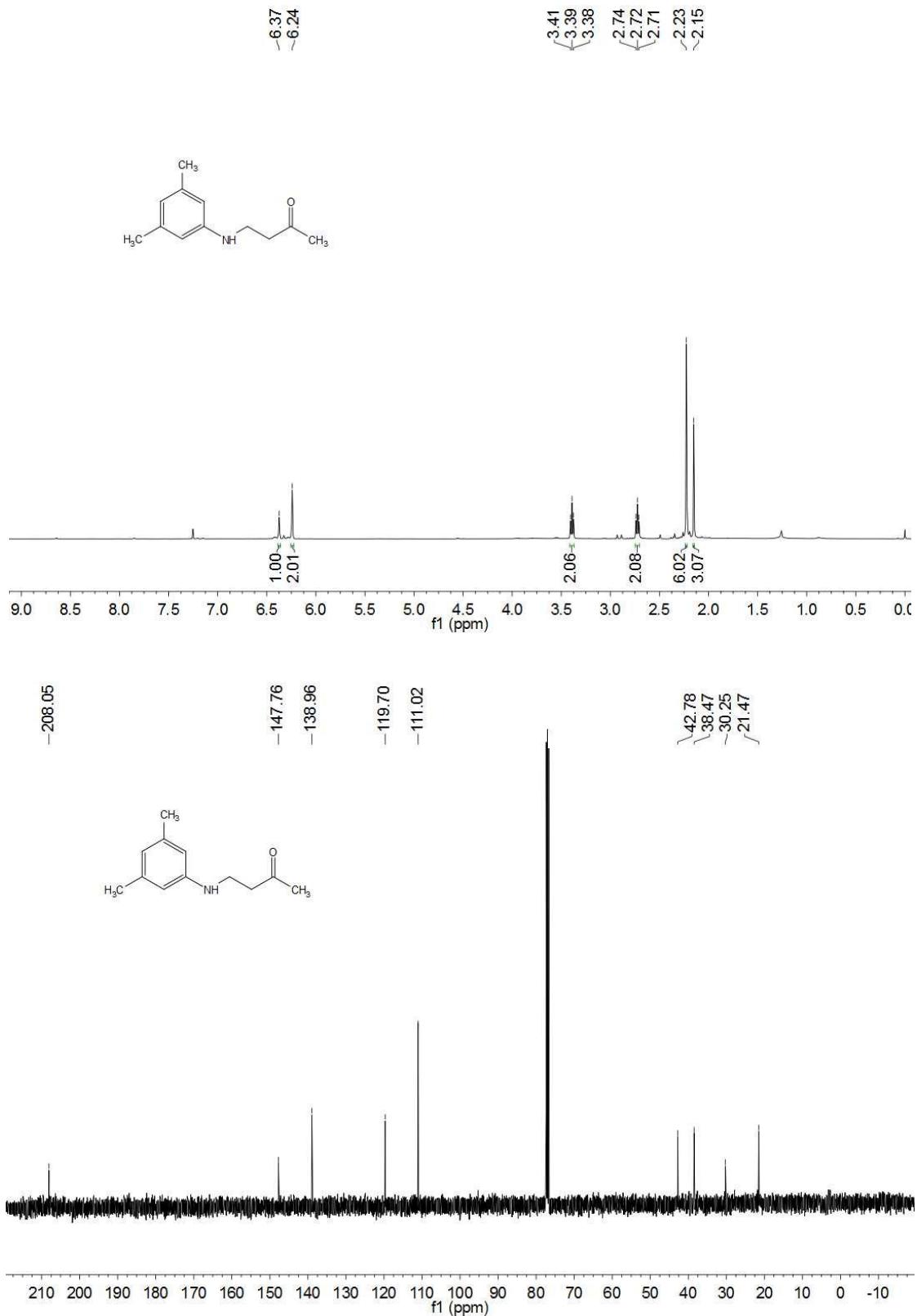
**4-(*p*-tolylamino)butan-2-one (3as)**



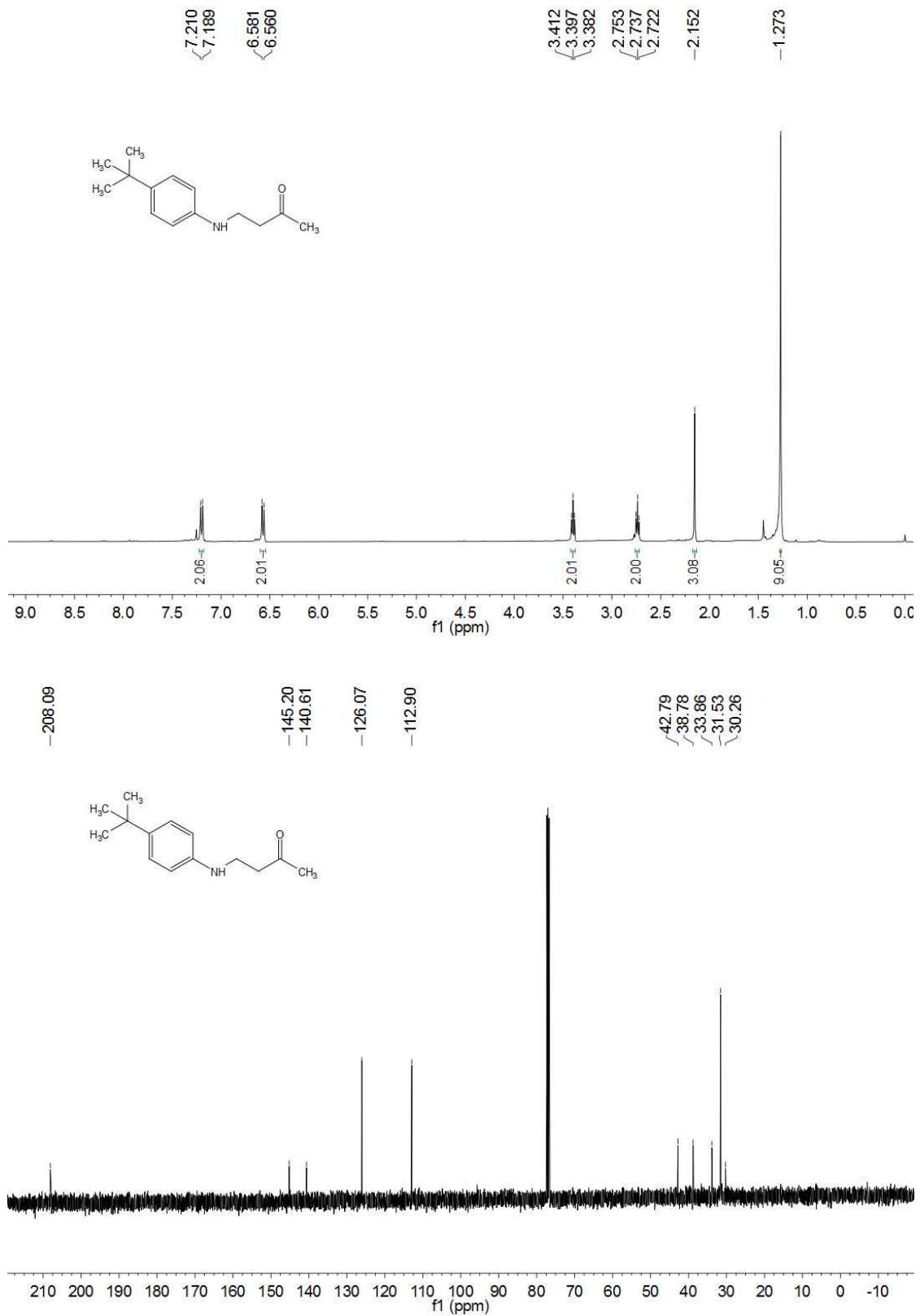
**4-((4-Isopropylphenyl)amino)butan-2-one (3at)**



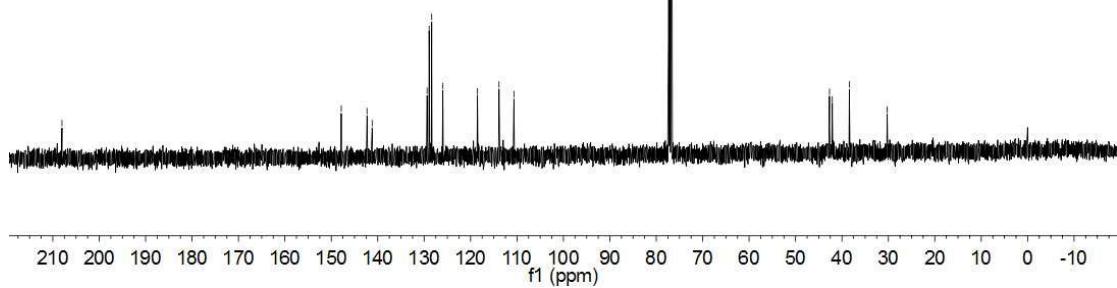
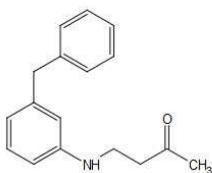
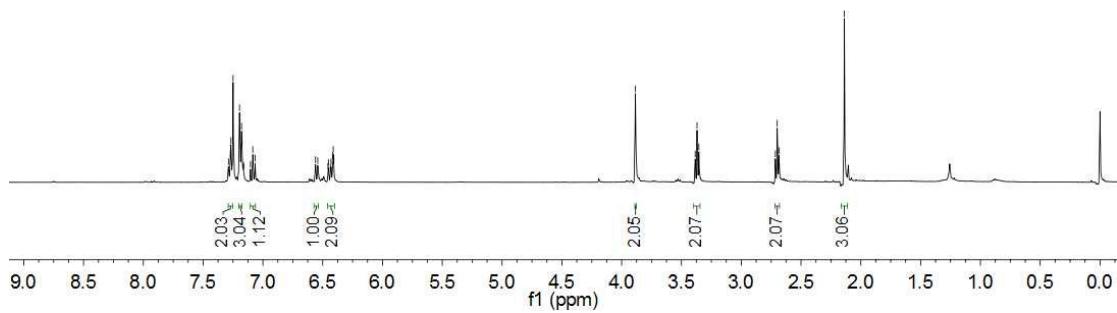
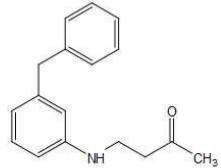
**4-((3,5-Dimethylphenyl)amino)butan-2-one (3au)**



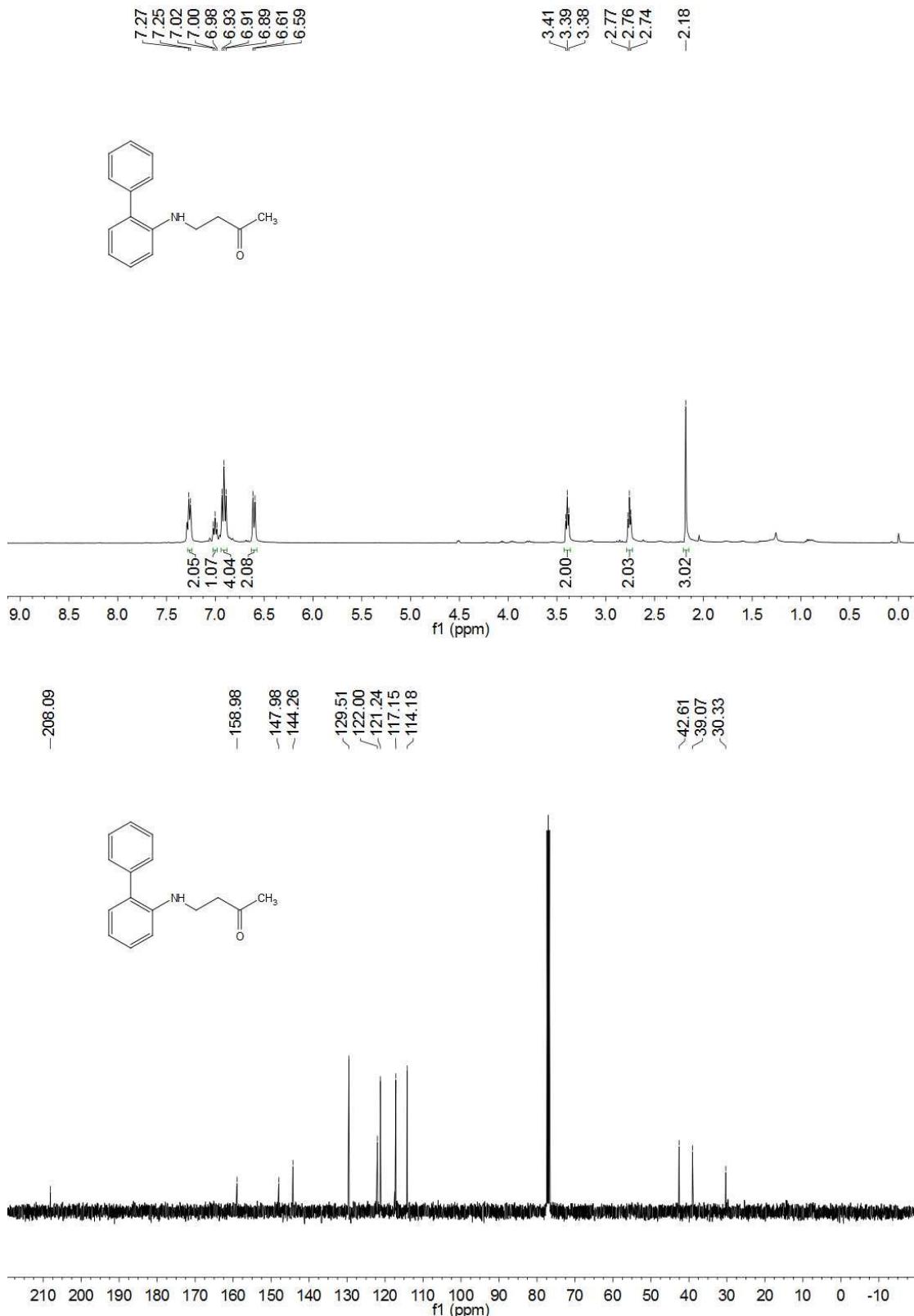
**4-((4-(*tert*-Butyl)phenyl)amino)butan-2-one (3av)**



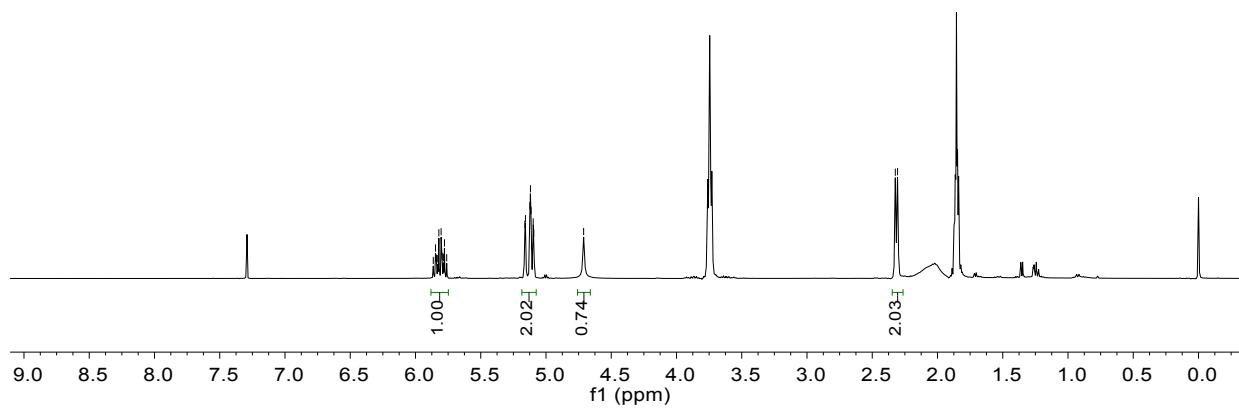
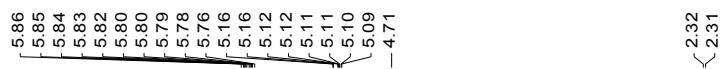
#### 4-((4-Benzylphenyl)amino)butan-2-one (3aw)



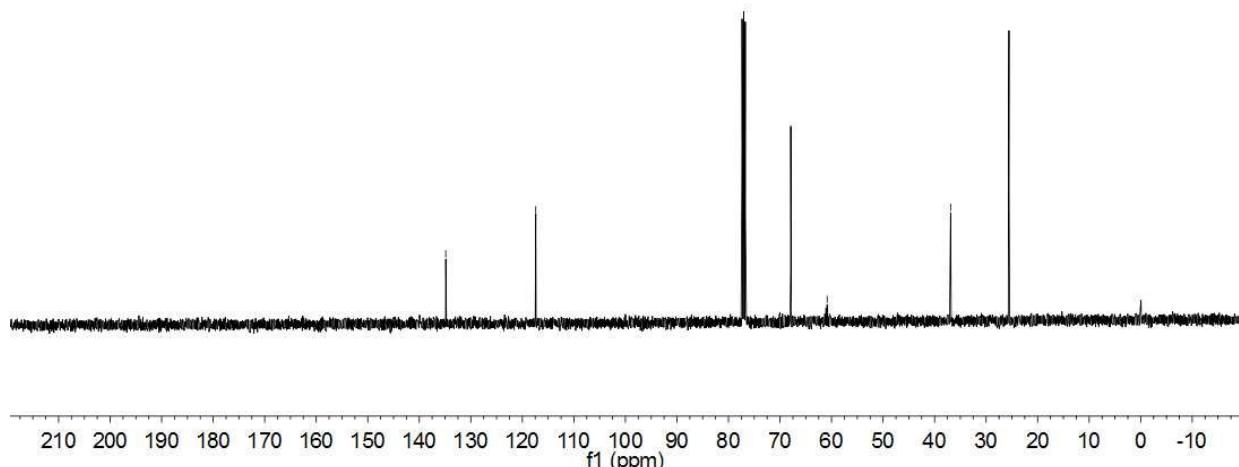
**4-([1,1'-Biphenyl]-2-ylamino)butan-2-one (3ax)**



**2a-d2**

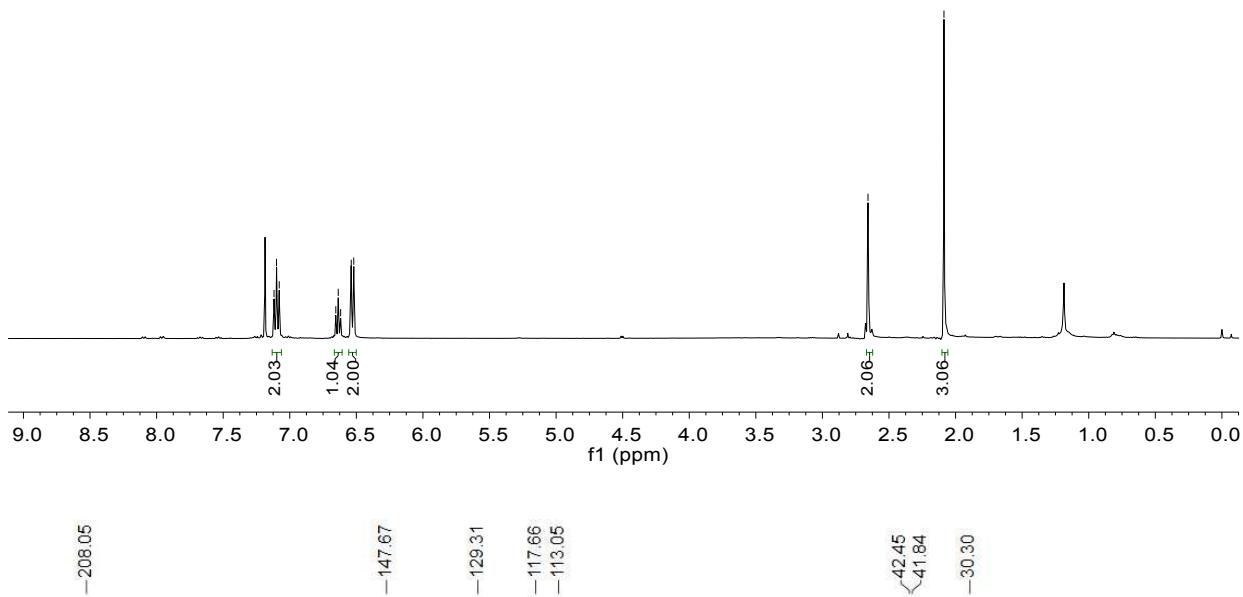
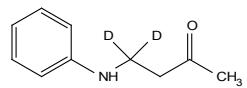


—134.86  
—117.40  
—60.85  
—36.89



**3aa-d2**

7.12  
7.10  
7.08  
6.65  
6.64  
6.62  
6.54  
6.52



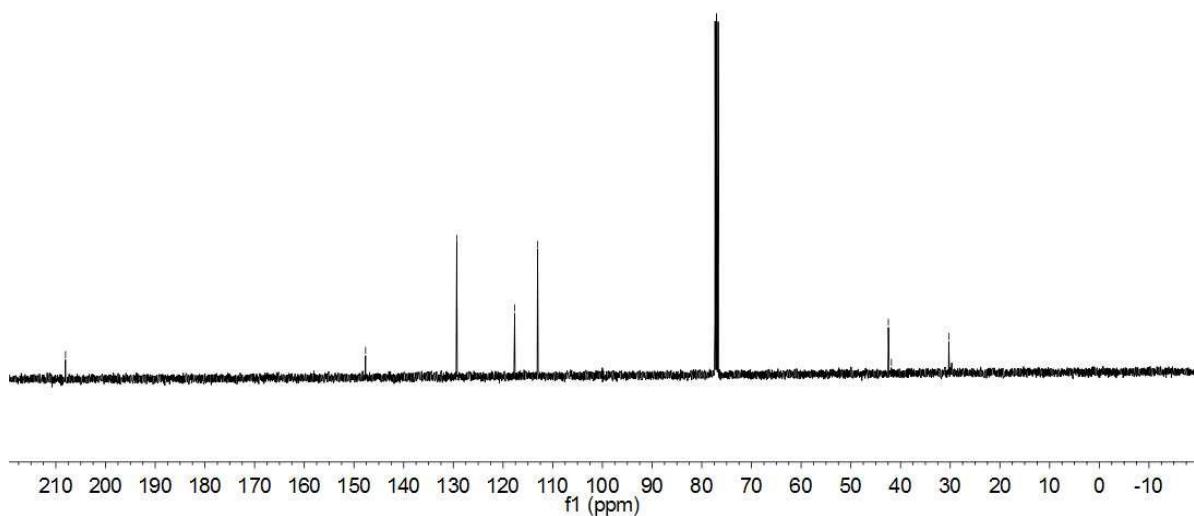
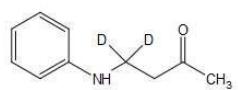
-208.05

-147.67

-129.31  
-117.66  
-113.05

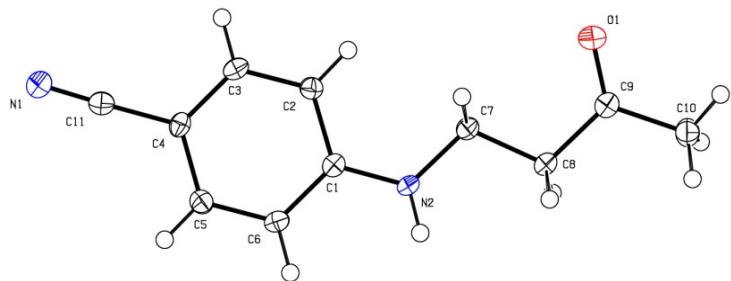
-42.45  
-41.84

-30.30



## F. X-ray Crystallographic Data

Single-crystal X-ray diffraction data for **3ac** were collected on a Rigaku Mercury CCD diffractometer operated at 90 kV and 50 mA using MoK $\alpha$  radiation ( $\lambda = 0.71073 \text{ \AA}$ ) at the temperature 100.00(10)K. All empirical absorption corrections were performed using the CrystalClear program. The structure was solved by a direct method and refined on  $F^2$  by the full-matrix least squares technique using the SHELXTL-97 program package. All non-hydrogen atoms were refined with anisotropic displacement parameters. Hydrogen atoms attached to carbon were placed in geometrically idealized positions and refined using a riding model. Crystallographic data for compound **3ac** is given in Table S1. Metrical parameters for the structures of **3ac** are available free of charge from the Cambridge Crystallographic Data Centre under accession numbers CCDC- 1559763, respectively.



**Figure S1.** X-ray crystal structure of compound **3ca**

**Table S1.** Crystal data and structure refinements for **3ac**

Compound	<b>3ac</b>
Empirical formula	C <sub>11</sub> H <sub>12</sub> N <sub>2</sub> O <sub>2</sub>
Formula weight	188.23
Temperature (K)	100.00(10)
Wavelength (Å)	0.71073
Crystal system	triclinic
Space group	<i>P</i> <sub>-1</sub>
	<i>a</i> = 6.2899(4) Å $\alpha$ = 85.248(6) $^{\circ}$
	<i>b</i> = 7.1826(5) Å $\beta$ = 82.608(6) $^{\circ}$
	<i>c</i> = 11.47223(8) Å $\gamma$ = 72.427(6) $^{\circ}$
Volume (Å <sup>3</sup> )	489.46(6)
Z	2
Density (calcd g cm <sup>-3</sup> )	1.277
Absorption coeff. (mm <sup>-1</sup> )	0.084
<i>F</i> (000)	200
Crystal size (mm)	0.18 × 0.14 × 0.11
Crystal color and shape	Orange block
$\theta$ range for data collection	3.404 to 29.539 deg.
Limiting indices	-8 ≤ <i>h</i> ≤ 6, -9 ≤ <i>k</i> ≤ 9, -14 ≤ <i>l</i> ≤ 14
Reflections collected	4215
Unique	2259 [ <i>R</i> <sub>(int)</sub> = 0.0202]
Refinement method	Full-matrix least-squares on <i>F</i> <sup>2</sup>
Data/restraints/parameters	2259 / 0 / 128
Goodness-of-fit on <i>F</i> <sup>2</sup>	1.036
Final <i>R</i> indexes [ <i>I</i> >=2σ ( <i>I</i> )]	<i>R</i> <sub><i>I</i></sub> = 0.0502, <i>wR</i> <sub><i>2</i></sub> = 0.1164
<i>R</i> indexes (all data)	<i>R</i> <sub><i>I</i></sub> = 0.0674, <i>wR</i> <sub><i>2</i></sub> = 0.1294