

Supporting Information

Direct arylation of unactivated benzene with aryl acyl peroxides toward biaryls

Changduo Pan,^{*,a} Jiawei Zhu,^b Rongzhen Chen^b and Jin-Tao Yu^{*,b}

^a School of Chemical and Environmental Engineering, Jiangsu University of Technology, Changzhou 213001, P. R. China

^b School of Petrochemical Engineering, Jiangsu Key Laboratory of Advanced Catalytic Materials & Technology, Changzhou University, Changzhou 213014, P. R. China

E-mail: panchangduo@jsut.edu.cn; yujintao@cczu.edu.cn

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1. General experimental details

General Information: All chemicals were used as received without further purification unless stated otherwise. NMR spectra were recorded at ambient temperature on a 400 MHz NMR spectrometer. Chemical shifts (δ) are given in ppm relative to TMS, the coupling constants J are given in Hz.

Experimental procedure for the procedure for direct arylation of unactivated benzene with aryl acyl peroxides toward biaryls. Under air, the mixture of aryl acyl peroxides **1** (0.2 mmol) and PhH (1 mL) were added into the sealed tube. The reaction mixture was vigorously stirred at 100 °C for 12 h. Then, the solvent was evaporated under reduced pressure and the residue was purified by flash column chromatography on silica gel to give the products.

Take 3aa for example for yield calculation. 0.2 mmol of 4-chlorobenzoic peroxyanhydride was divided into two parts: 0.1 mmol of 4-chlorobenzoic peroxyanhydride was served as aryl radical source to participate the arylation, another 0.1 mmol of 4-chlorobenzoic peroxyanhydride served as oxidant. As 4-chlorobenzoic peroxyanhydride contains two aryl equivalents, thus, the

yield calculated on 0.2 mmol scale.

$$\text{Yield of 3aa} = \frac{32.3 \text{ mg}}{188 \times 0.2} \times 100\% = 86\%$$

2. Mechanism Studies

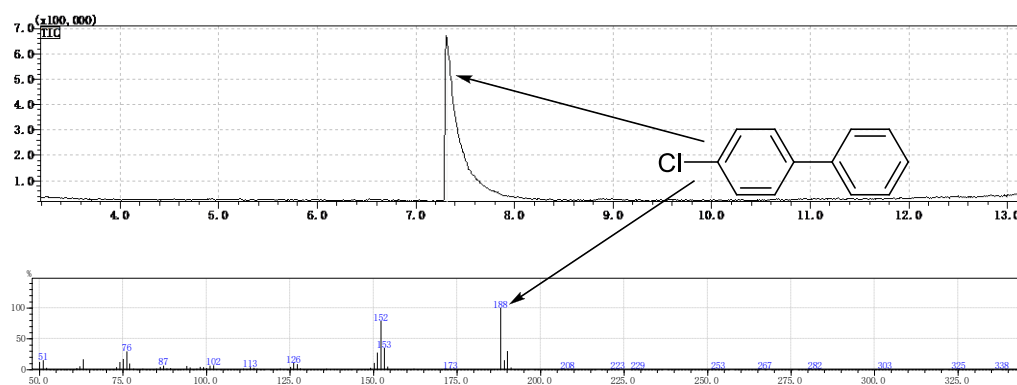
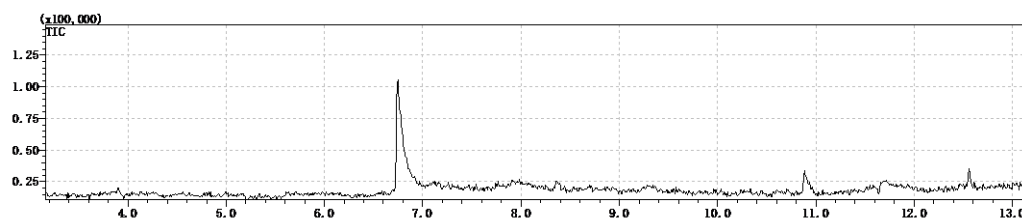


Figure S1 GC-MS spectra of the 3aa

Standard Procedure + BHT (1.0 equiv)



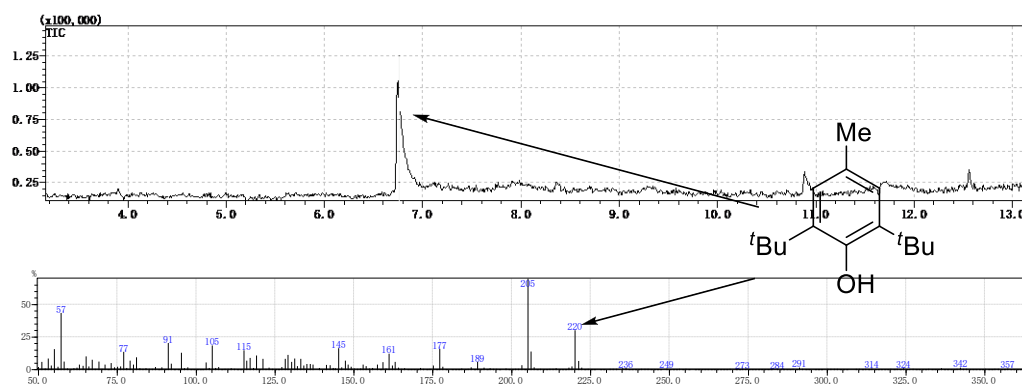
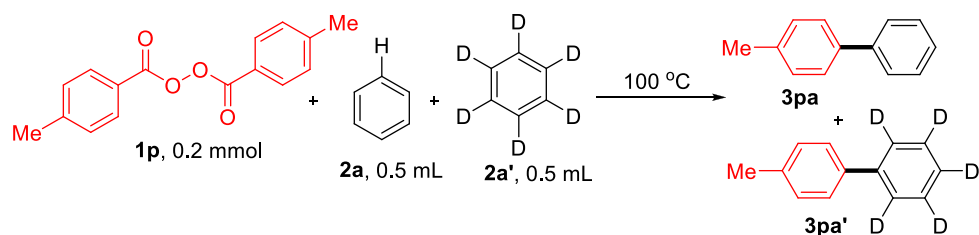
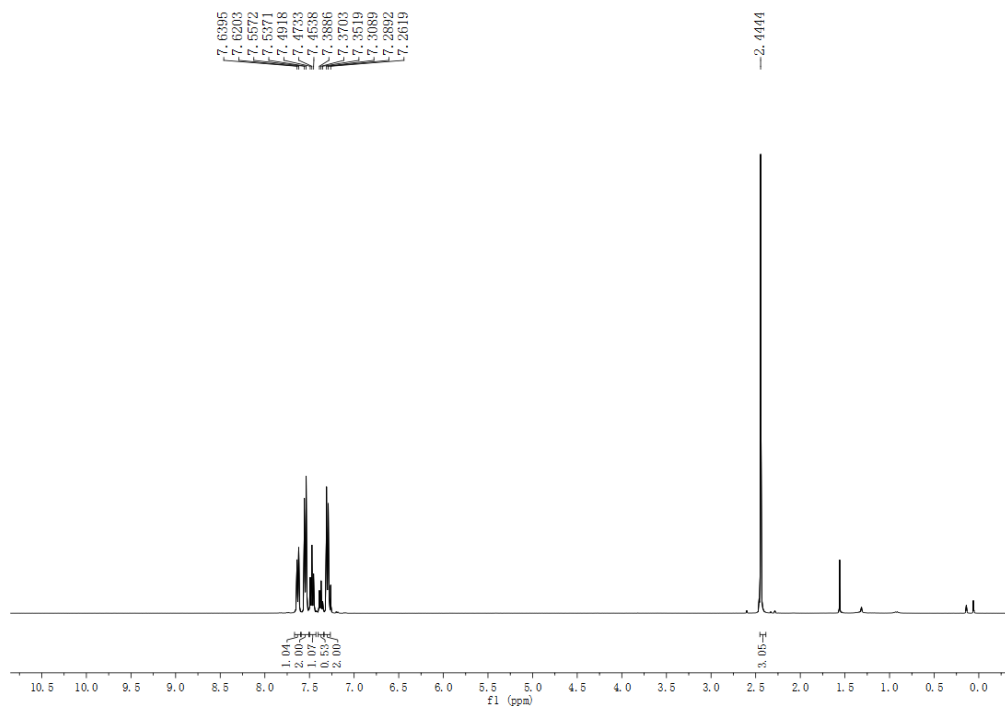


Figure S2 GC-MS spectra of adding BHT

Kinetic isotope effect experiments

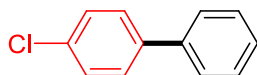


To a sealed tube, the mixture of **1p** (0.2 mmol), benzene- H_6 (0.5 mL) and benzene- D_6 (0.5 mL) were added into the flask. The reaction mixture was vigorously stirred at 100 °C for 12 h. After the completion of the reaction, the solvent was evaporated under reduced pressure and the residue was purified by flash column chromatography on silica gel to afford the products **3pa** and **3pa'**. 1H NMR ($CDCl_3$, 400 MHz): δ 7.63 (d, J = 7.7 Hz, 1.04H), 7.54 (d, J = 8.1 Hz, 2H), 7.47 (t, J = 7.4 Hz, 1.07H), 7.37 (t, J = 7.3 Hz, 0.53H), 7.29 (d, J = 7.9 Hz, 2H), 2.44 (s, 3H).



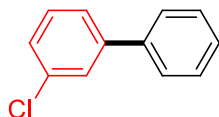
3. Characterization data of the products

4-chloro-1,1'-biphenyl (3aa)¹



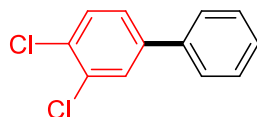
¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 400 MHz): δ 7.58-7.51 (m, 4H), 7.48-7.35 (m, 5H). ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃, 100 MHz): δ 140.0, 139.7, 133.4, 128.95, 128.93, 128.4, 127.6, 127.0.

3-chloro-1,1'-biphenyl (3ba)¹



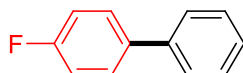
¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 400 MHz): δ 7.61-7.58 (m, 3H), 7.50-7.46 (m, 3H), 7.42-7.33 (m, 3H). ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃, 100 MHz): δ 143.1, 139.9, 134.7, 130.0, 128.9, 127.9, 127.4, 127.3, 127.2, 125.4.

3,4-dichloro-1,1'-biphenyl (3ca)²



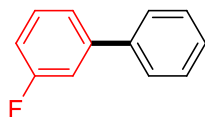
¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 400 MHz): δ 7.68 (d, *J* = 2.1 Hz, 1H), 7.56-7.53 (m, 2H), 7.52-7.38 (m, 5H). ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃, 100 MHz): δ 141.3, 138.8, 132.9, 131.5, 130.7, 129.1, 129.0, 128.2, 127.0, 126.4.

4-fluoro-1,1'-biphenyl (3da)³



¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 400 MHz): δ 7.59-7.556 (m, 4H), 7.47 (t, *J* = 7.3 Hz, 2H), 7.38 (t, *J* = 7.3 Hz, 1H), 7.16 (t, *J* = 8.7 Hz, 2H). ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃, 100 MHz): δ 162.5 (d, *J*_{C-F} = 244.7 Hz), 140.3, 137.4 (d, *J*_{C-F} = 3.2 Hz), 128.9, 128.7 (d, *J*_{C-F} = 7.9 Hz), 127.3, 127.1, 115.6 (d, *J*_{C-F} = 21.3 Hz).

3-fluoro-1,1'-biphenyl (3ea)⁴



¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 400 MHz): δ 7.62-7.59 (m, 2H), 7.50-7.46 (m, 2H), 7.43-7.38 (m, 3H), 7.34-7.31 (m, 1H), 7.09-7.04 (m, 1H). ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃, 100 MHz): δ 163.2 (d, *J*_{C-F} = 243.9 Hz),

¹ A. Kumar and B. Ali Shah, *Org. Lett.*, 2015, **17**, 5232.

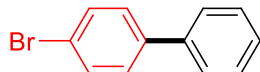
² F. Valle è, J. J. Mousseau and A. B. Charette, *J. Am. Chem. Soc.*, 2010, **132**, 1514.

³ O. Y. Yuen, C. M. So, H. W. Man and F. Y. Kwong, *Chem. Eur. J.*, 2016, **22**, 6471.

⁴ S. B. Blakey and D. W. C. MacMillan, *J. Am. Chem. Soc.*, 2003, **125**, 6046.

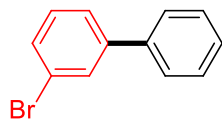
143.5 (d, J_{C-F} = 7.6 Hz), 140.0 (d, J_{C-F} = 2.1 Hz), 130.3 (d, J_{C-F} = 8.3 Hz), 128.9, 127.9, 127.1, 122.8 (d, J_{C-F} = 2.7 Hz), 114.1 (d, J_{C-F} = 1.6 Hz), 143.5 (d, J_{C-F} = 2.4 Hz).

4-bromo-1,1'-biphenyl (3fa)¹



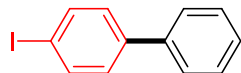
¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 400 MHz): δ 7.62-7.59 (m, 4H), 7.51-7.47 (m, 4H), 7.44-7.39 (m, 1H). ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃, 100 MHz): δ 140.2, 140.0, 131.9, 128.9, 128.8, 127.7, 127.0, 121.6.

3-bromo-1,1'-biphenyl (3ga)¹



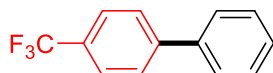
¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 400 MHz): δ 7.78 (t, J = 1.8 Hz, 1H), 7.60-7.57 (m, 2H), 7.55-7.46 (m, 4H), 7.43-7.39 (m, 1H), 7.33 (t, J = 7.8 Hz, 1H). ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃, 100 MHz): δ 143.3, 139.6, 130.2, 130.2, 130.1, 128.9, 127.8, 127.1, 125.7, 122.9.

4-iodo-1,1'-biphenyl (3ha)⁵



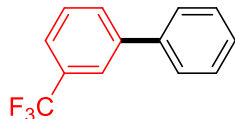
¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 400 MHz): δ 7.79-7.76 (m, 2H), 7.58-7.55 (m, 2H), 7.48-7.44 (m, 2H), 7.42-7.33 (m, 3H). ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃, 100 MHz): δ 140.7, 140.1, 137.9, 129.0, 128.9, 127.7, 126.9, 93.1.

4-(trifluoromethyl)-1,1'-biphenyl (3ia)³



¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 400 MHz): δ 7.74-7.69 (m, 4H), 7.62 (d, J = 7.5 Hz, 2H), 7.52-7.48 (m, 2H), 7.45-7.41 (m, 1H). ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃, 100 MHz): δ 144.8, 139.8, 129.3 (q, J_{C-F} = 32.2 Hz), 129.0, 128.2, 127.4, 127.3, 125.7 (q, J_{C-F} = 3.8 Hz), 124.3 (q, J_{C-F} = 268.9 Hz).

3-(trifluoromethyl)-1,1'-biphenyl (3ja)⁶

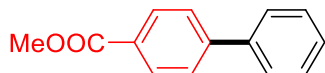


⁵ A. Klapars and S. L. Buchwald, *J. Am. Chem. Soc.*, 2002, **124**, 14844.

⁶ C.-L. Sun, H. Li, D.-G. Yu, M. Yu, X. Zhou, X.-Y. Lu, K. Huang, S.-F. Zheng, B.-J. Li and Z.-J. Shi, *Nature Chem.*, 2010, **2**, 1044.

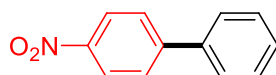
^1H NMR (CDCl_3 , 400 MHz): δ 7.87 (s, 1H), 7.79 (d, J = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.65-7.55 (m, 4H), 7.50 (d, J = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 7.43 (d, J = 7.2 Hz, 1H). ^{13}C NMR (CDCl_3 , 100 MHz): δ 142.1, 139.8, 131.2 (q, $J_{\text{C-F}}$ = 32.9 Hz), 130.5, 130.4, 129.3, 129.0, 128.1, 127.2, 124.3 (q, $J_{\text{C-F}}$ = 270.6 Hz), 123.9 (q, $J_{\text{C-F}}$ = 3.8 Hz).

methyl [1,1'-biphenyl]-4-carboxylate (3ka)³



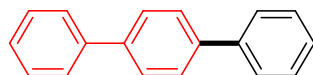
^1H NMR (CDCl_3 , 400 MHz): δ 8.12 (d, J = 8.5 Hz, 2H), 7.68-7.62 (m, 4H), 7.47 (t, J = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 7.40 (t, J = 7.2 Hz, 1H), 3.95 (s, 3H). ^{13}C NMR (CDCl_3 , 100 MHz): δ 167.0, 145.7, 140.0, 130.1, 128.97, 128.91, 128.2, 127.3, 127.1, 52.2.

4-nitro-1,1'-biphenyl (3la)⁷



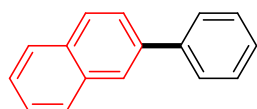
^1H NMR (CDCl_3 , 400 MHz): δ 8.29 (d, J = 8.8 Hz, 2H), 7.73 (d, J = 8.8 Hz, 2H), 7.64-7.62 (m, 2H), 7.53-7.42 (m, 3H). ^{13}C NMR (CDCl_3 , 100 MHz): δ 147.6, 147.0, 138.8, 129.2, 128.9, 127.8, 127.4, 124.1.

p-terphenyl (3ma)⁶



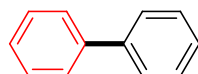
^1H NMR (CDCl_3 , 400 MHz): δ 7.70-7.65 (m, 8H), 7.50-7.46 (m, 4H), 7.38 (t, J = 7.3 Hz, 2H). ^{13}C NMR (CDCl_3 , 100 MHz): δ 140.7, 140.2, 128.8, 127.5, 127.4, 127.1.

2-phenylnaphthalene (3na)³



^1H NMR (CDCl_3 , 400 MHz): δ 8.08 (s, 1H), 7.95-7.88 (m, 3H), 7.79-7.74 (m, 3H), 7.55-7.48 (m, 4H), 7.40 (d, J = 7.4 Hz, 1H). ^{13}C NMR (CDCl_3 , 100 MHz): δ 141.2, 138.6, 133.7, 132.6, 128.9, 128.5, 128.2, 127.7, 127.5, 127.4, 126.3, 125.9, 125.8, 125.6.

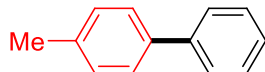
1,1'-biphenyl (3oa)¹



⁷ J.-H. Li, W.-J. Liu and Y.-X. Xie, *J. Org. Chem.*, 2005, **70**, 5409.

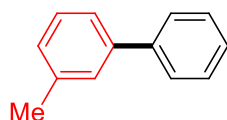
^1H NMR (CDCl_3 , 400 MHz): δ 7.64 (d, J = 7.7 Hz, 4H), 7.48 (t, J = 7.4 Hz, 4H), 7.39 (t, J = 7.2 Hz, 2H). ^{13}C NMR (CDCl_3 , 100 MHz): δ 141.3, 128.8, 127.3, 127.2.

4-methyl-1,1'-biphenyl (3pa)³



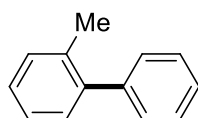
^1H NMR (CDCl_3 , 400 MHz): δ 7.65 (d, J = 7.7 Hz, 2H), 7.56 (d, J = 8.1 Hz, 2H), 7.48 (t, J = 7.4 Hz, 2H), 7.38 (t, J = 7.3 Hz, 1H), 7.31 (d, J = 7.8 Hz, 2H), 2.46 (s, 3H). ^{13}C NMR (CDCl_3 , 100 MHz): δ 141.2, 138.4, 137.0, 129.5, 128.7, 127.0, 126.9, 21.1.

3-methyl-1,1'-biphenyl (3qa)³



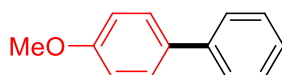
^1H NMR (CDCl_3 , 400 MHz): δ 7.62 (d, J = 7.4 Hz, 2H), 7.48-7.42 (m, 4H), 7.37 (t, J = 7.3 Hz, 2H), 7.20 (d, J = 7.4 Hz, 1H), 2.46 (s, 3H). ^{13}C NMR (CDCl_3 , 100 MHz): δ 141.4, 141.3, 138.4, 128.8, 128.7, 128.1, 128.0, 127.24, 127.22, 124.3, 21.6.

2-methyl-1,1'-biphenyl (3ra)³



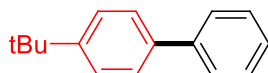
^1H NMR (CDCl_3 , 400 MHz): δ 7.49-7.44 (m, 2H), 7.40-7.36 (m, 3H), 7.33-7.28 (m, 4H), 2.32 (s, 3H). ^{13}C NMR (CDCl_3 , 100 MHz): δ 142.0, 141.9, 135.4, 130.3, 129.8, 129.2, 128.1, 127.3, 126.8, 125.8, 20.5.

4-methoxy-1,1'-biphenyl (3sa)³



^1H NMR (CDCl_3 , 400 MHz): δ 7.59-7.54 (m, 4H), 7.44 (t, J = 7.4 Hz, 2H), 7.33 (t, J = 7.4 Hz, 1H), 7.01 (d, J = 8.7 Hz, 2H), 3.87 (s, 3H). ^{13}C NMR (CDCl_3 , 100 MHz): δ 159.2, 140.8, 133.8, 128.8, 128.2, 126.8, 126.7, 114.2, 55.4.

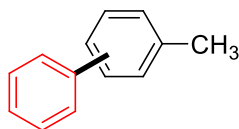
4-(tert-butyl)-1,1'-biphenyl (3ta)⁸



⁸ W. Liu, H. Cao and A. Lei, *Angew. Chem. Int. Ed.*, 2010, **49**, 2004.

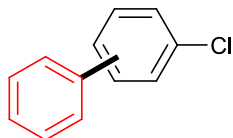
^1H NMR (CDCl_3 , 400 MHz): δ 7.64 (d, J = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 7.59 (d, J = 8.2 Hz, 2H), 7.52 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 7.47 (t, J = 7.4 Hz, 2H), 7.47 (t, J = 7.4 Hz, 1H), 1.41 (s, 9H). ^{13}C NMR (CDCl_3 , 100 MHz): δ 150.3, 141.1, 138.4, 128.7, 127.1, 127.0, 126.8, 125.9, 34.6, 31.4.

Mixture of 2-methylbiphenyl, 3-methylbiphenyl and 4-methylbiphenyl (3ob)¹



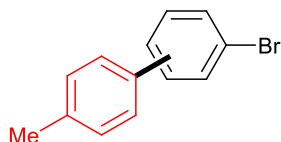
^1H NMR (CDCl_3 , 400 MHz): δ 7.62-7.59 (m, 1.02H), 7.52 (d, J = 8.1 Hz, 0.39H), 7.48-7.42 (m, 2.53H), 7.38-7.34 (m, 2.03H), 7.30-7.25 (m, 2.62H), 7.19 (d, J = 7.4 Hz, 0.43H), 2.45 (s, 0.96H), 2.42 (s, 0.6H), 2.30 (s, 1.44H).

Mixture of 2-chloro-1,1'-biphenyl, 3-chloro-1,1'-biphenyl and 4-chloro-1,1'-biphenyl (3oc)¹



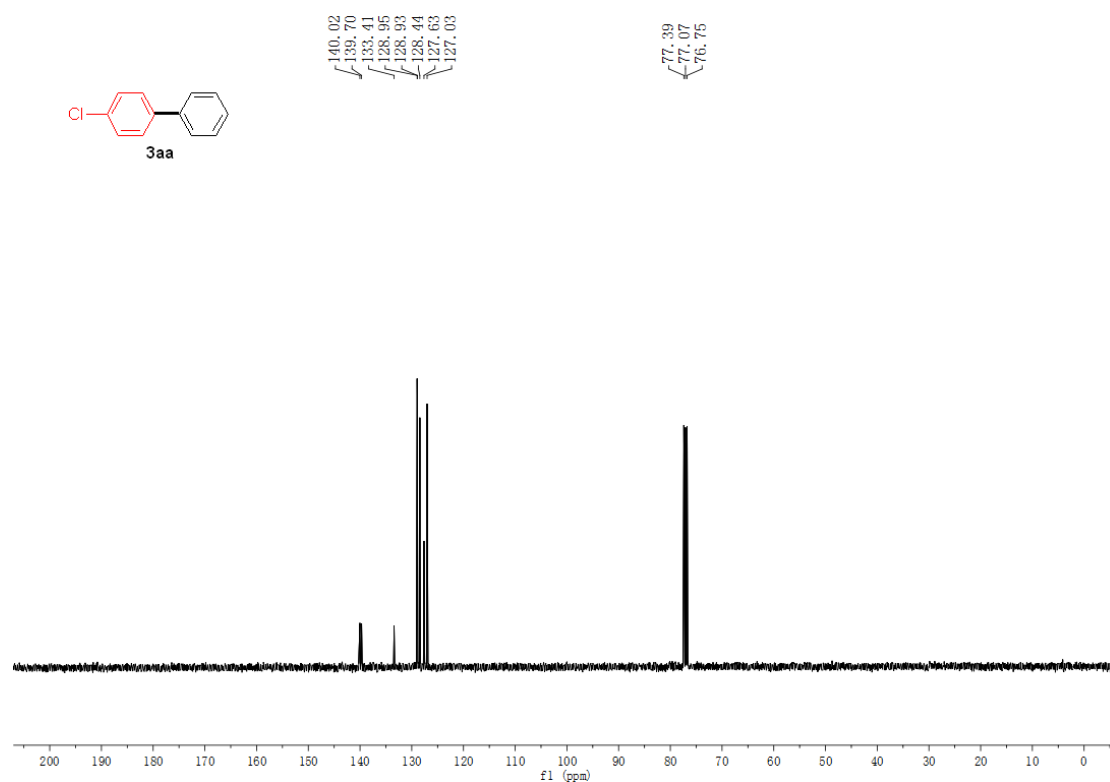
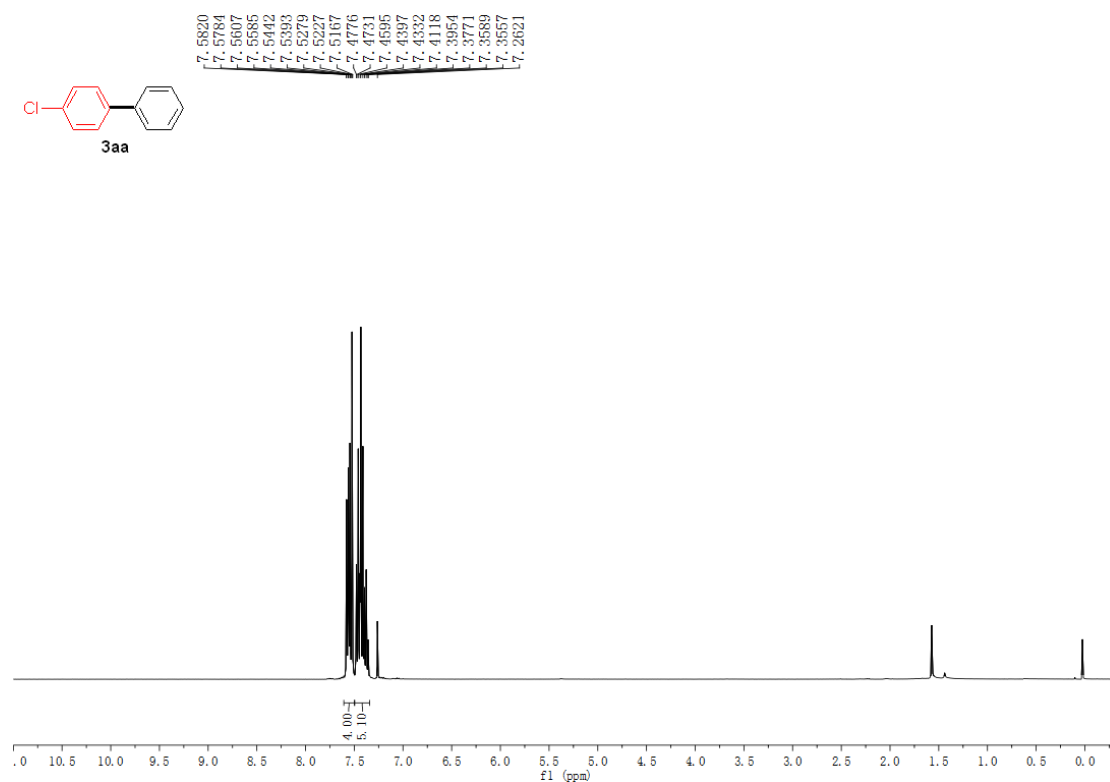
^1H NMR (CDCl_3 , 400 MHz): δ 7.61-7.28 (m, 9H).

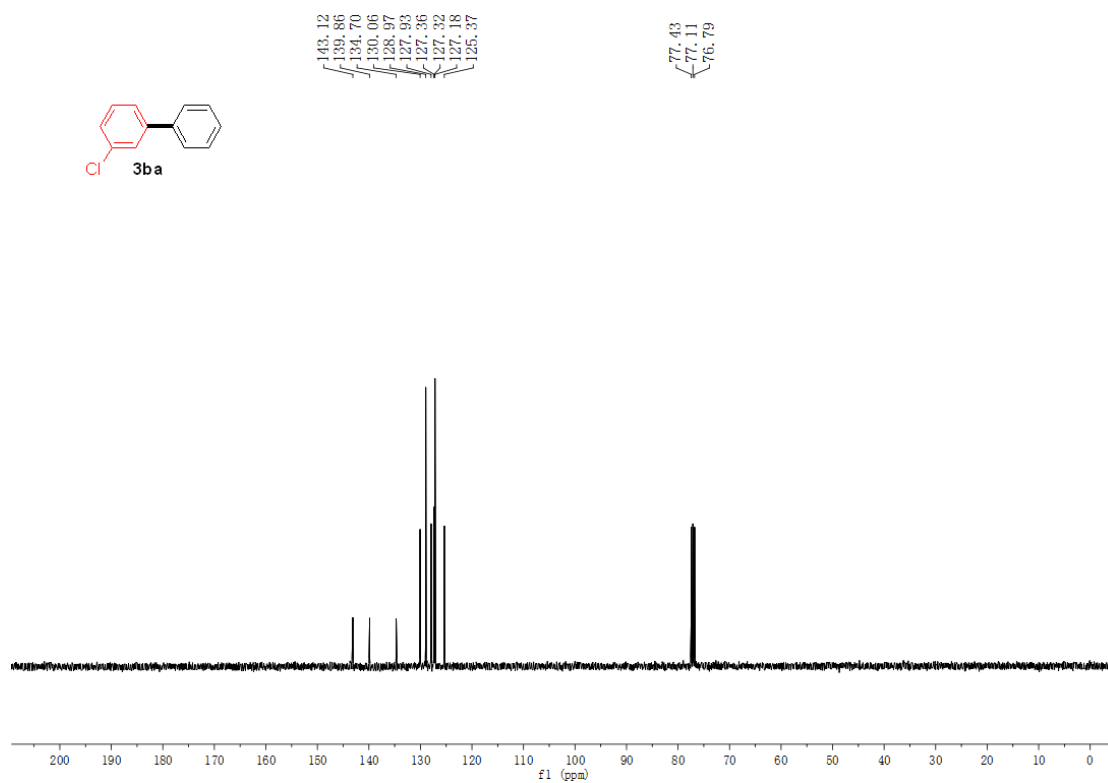
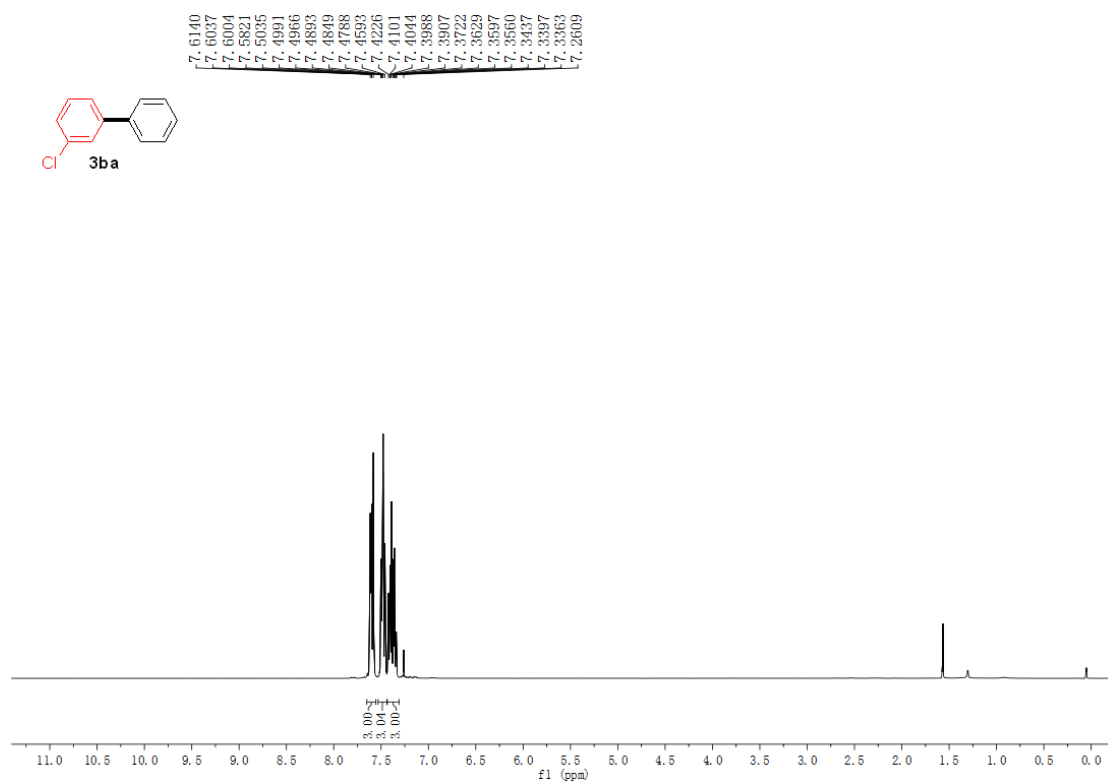
Mixture of 2-bromo-4'-methyl-1,1'-biphenyl, 3-bromo-4'-methyl-1,1'-biphenyl and 4-bromo-4'-methyl-1,1'-biphenyl (3pd)

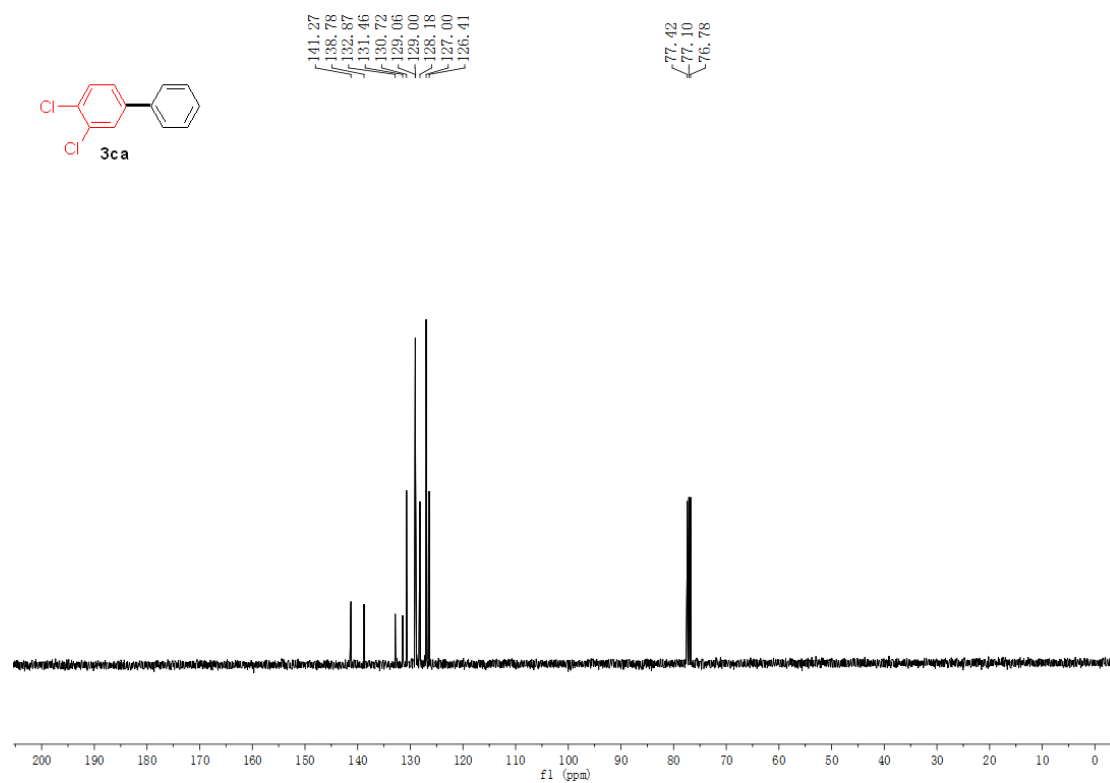
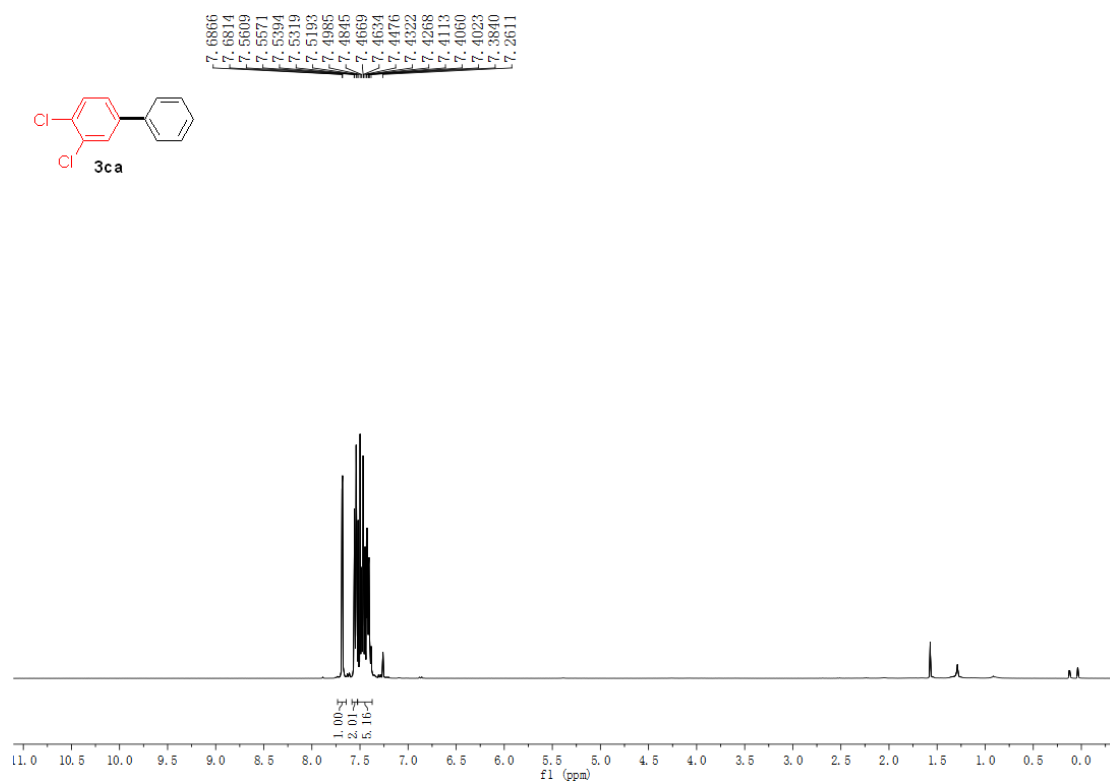


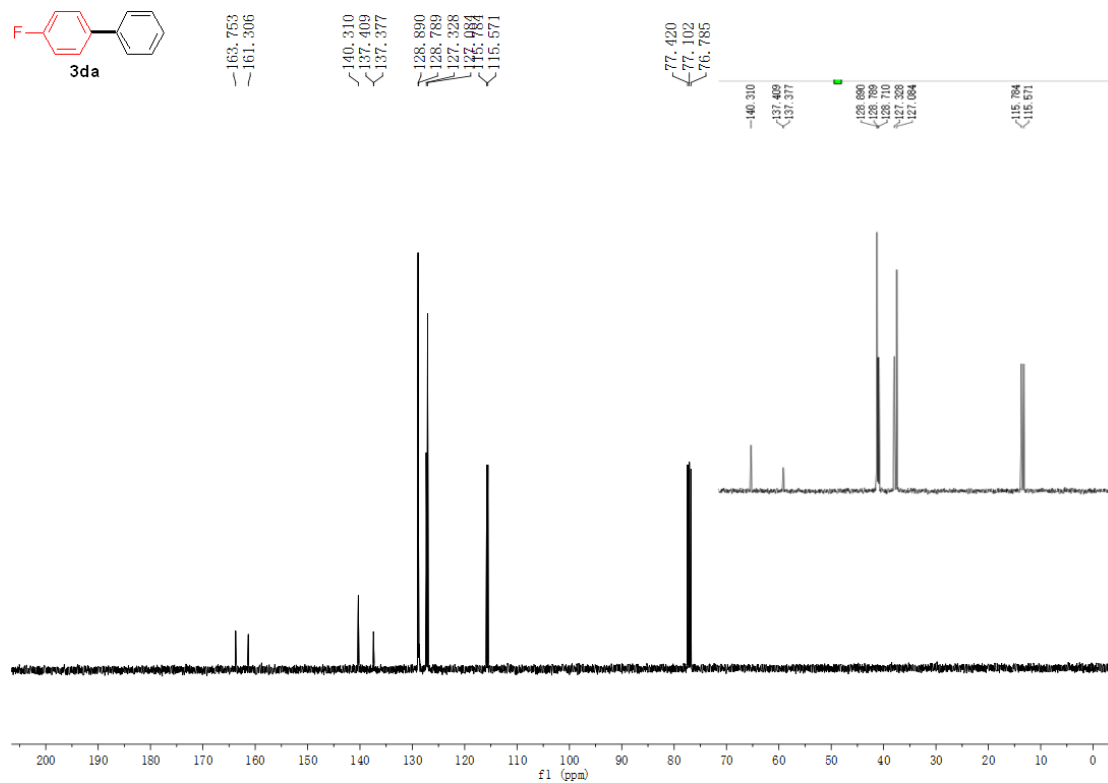
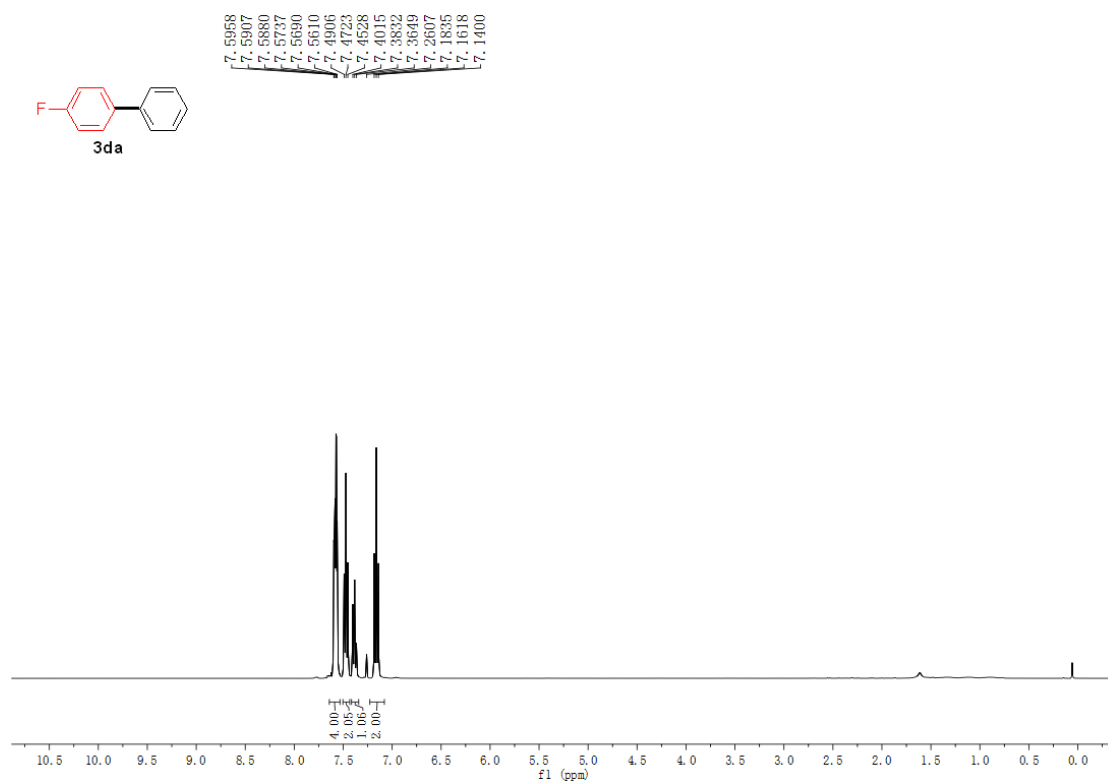
^1H NMR (CDCl_3 , 400 MHz): δ 7.70-7.69 (m, 0.69H), 7.65-7.62 (m, 0.53H), 7.53-7.51 (m, 0.37H), 7.48-7.40 (m, 1.73H), 7.34-7.28 (m, 2.33H), 7.23-7.21 (m, 2.08H), 7.18-7.14 (m, 0.56H), 2.39-2.37 (t, 3H).

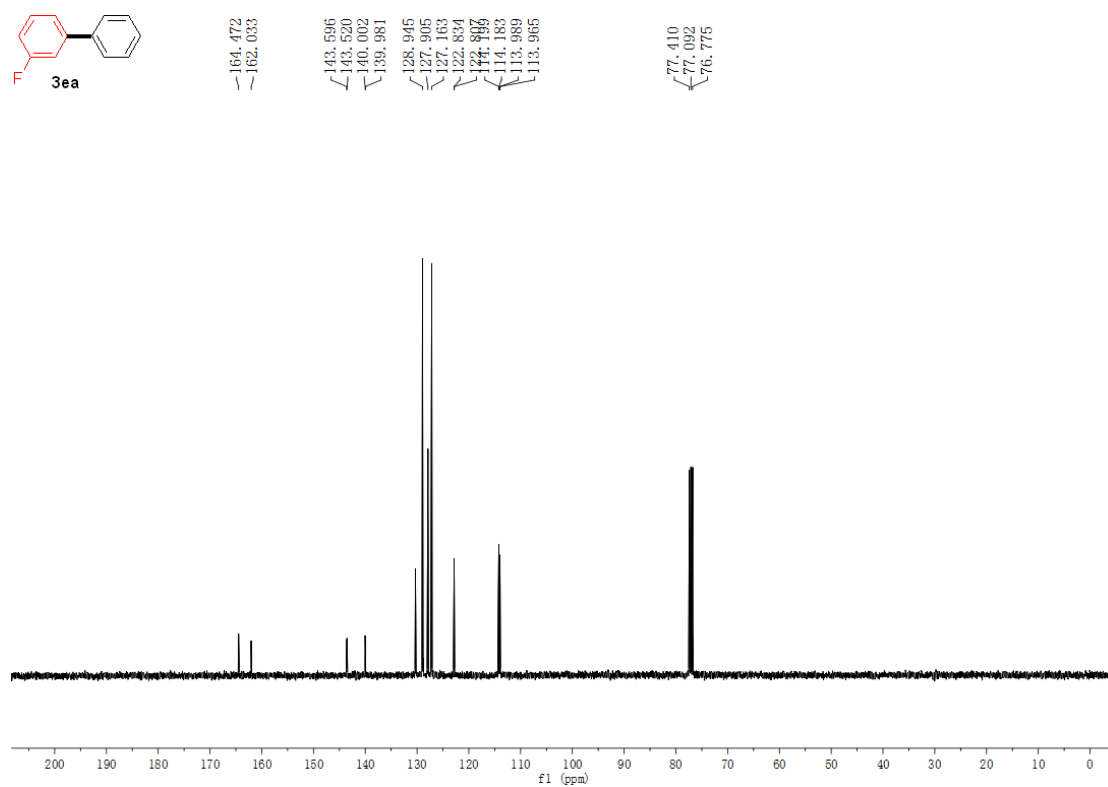
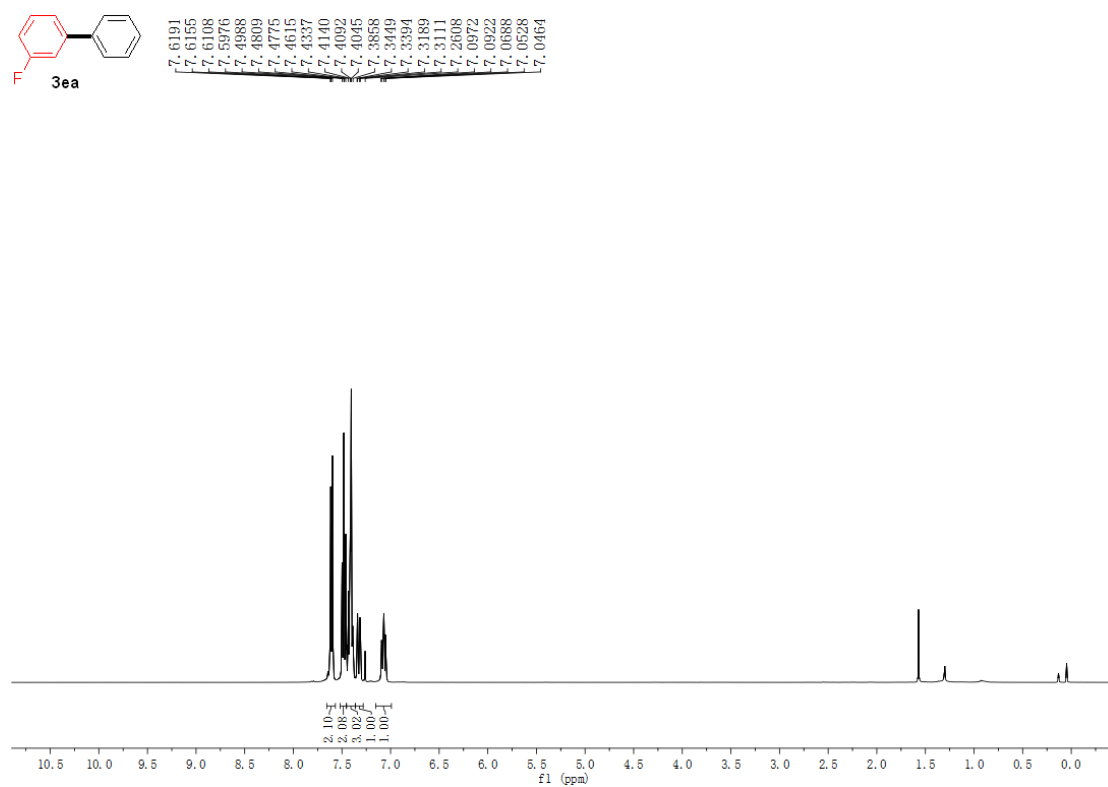
4. Copies of ^1H NMR and ^{13}C NMR spectra of the products

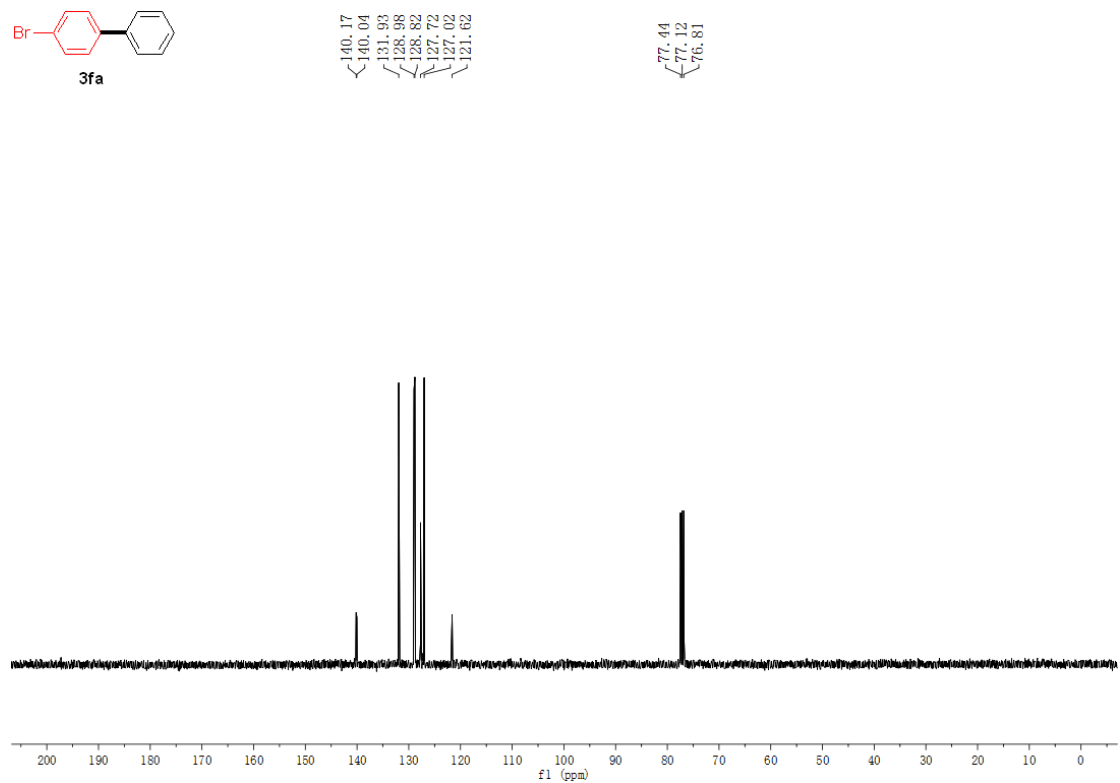
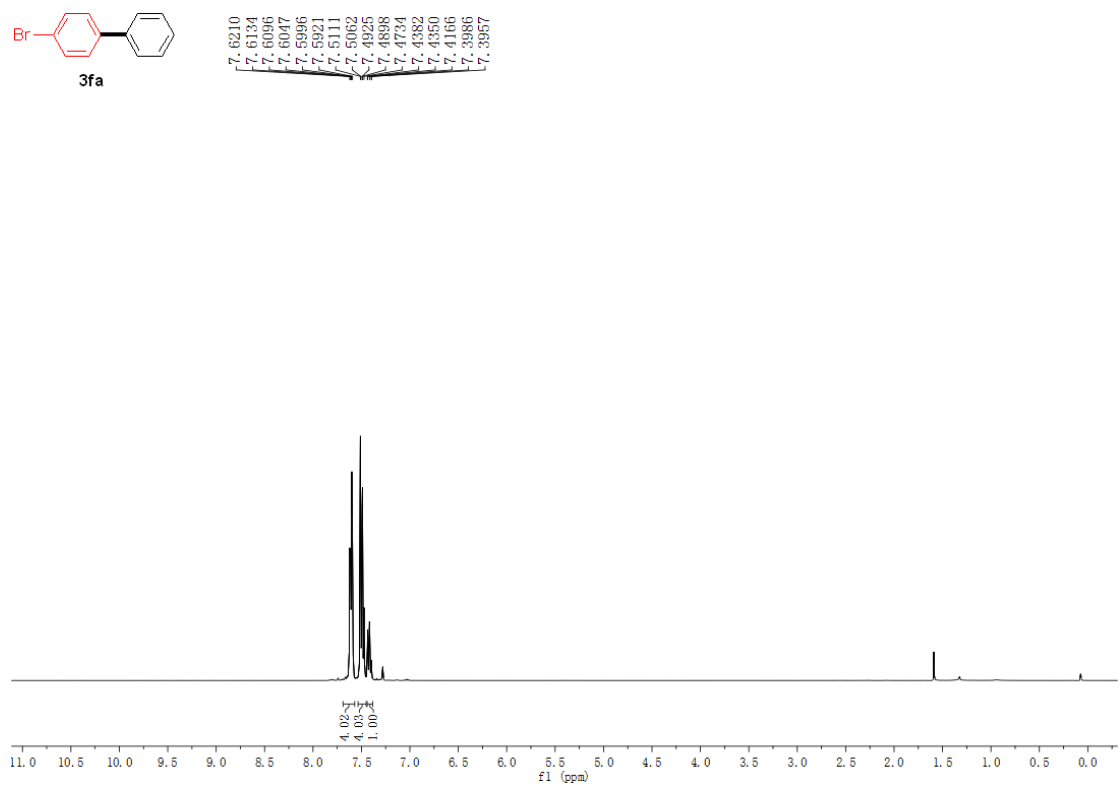


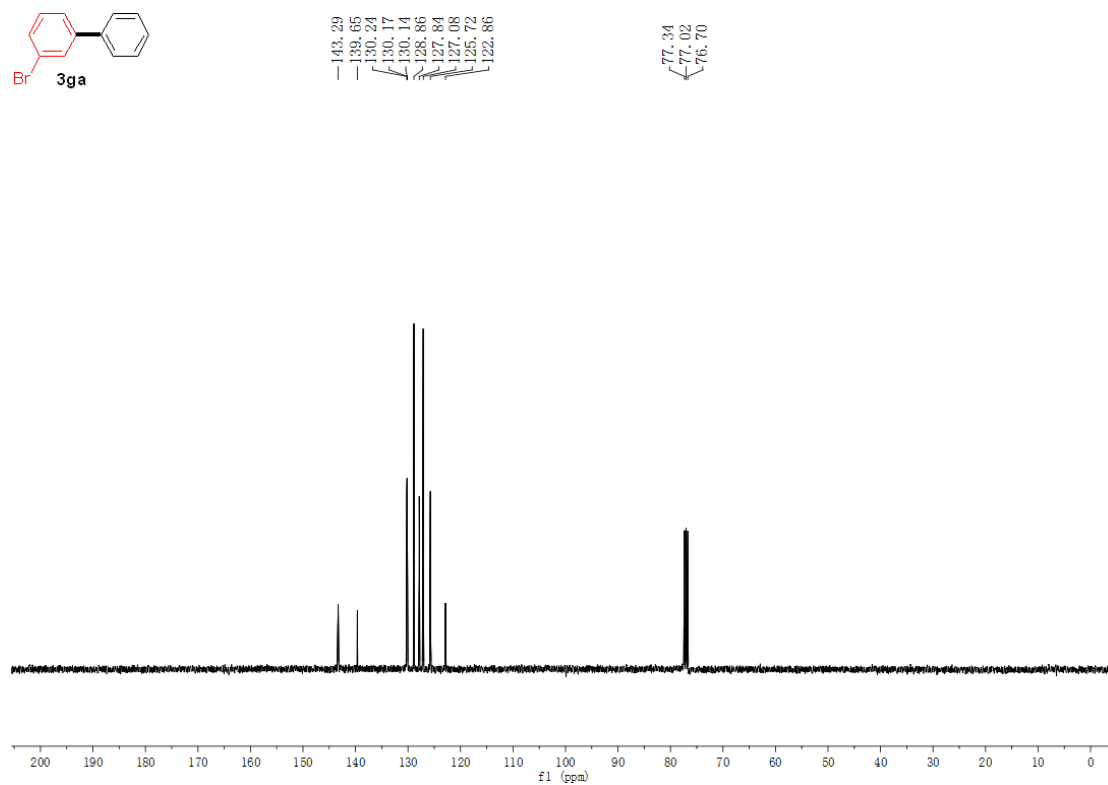
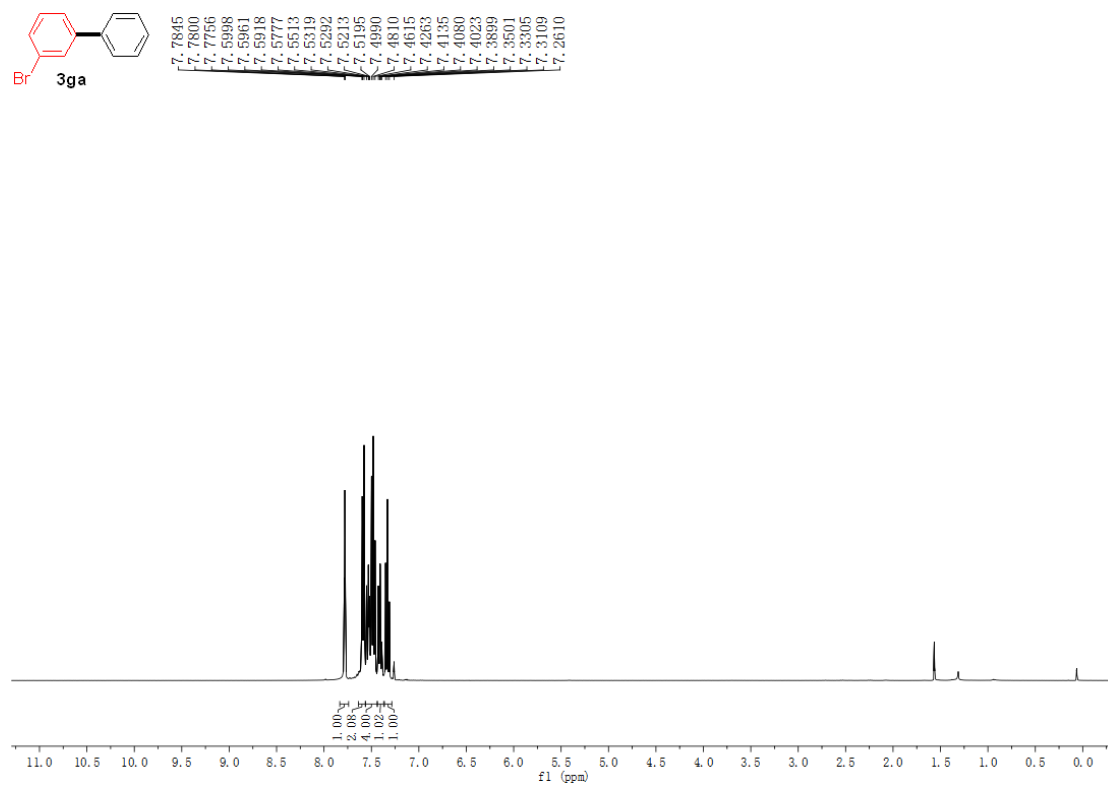


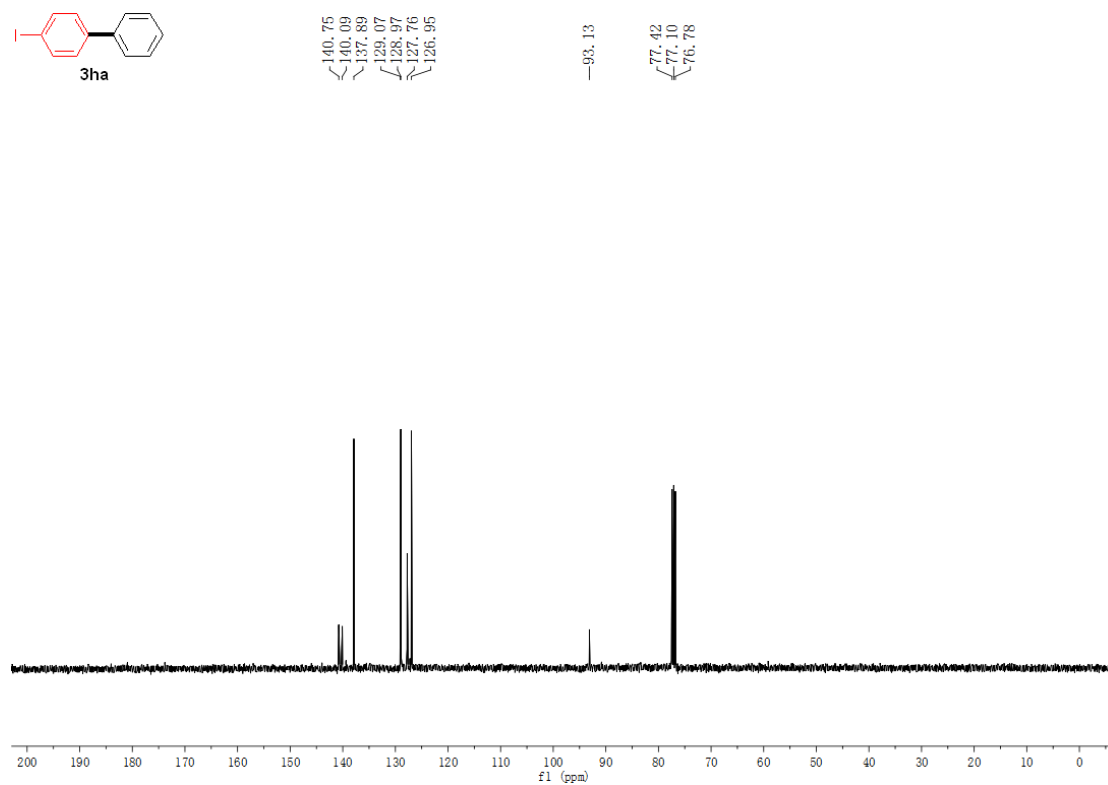
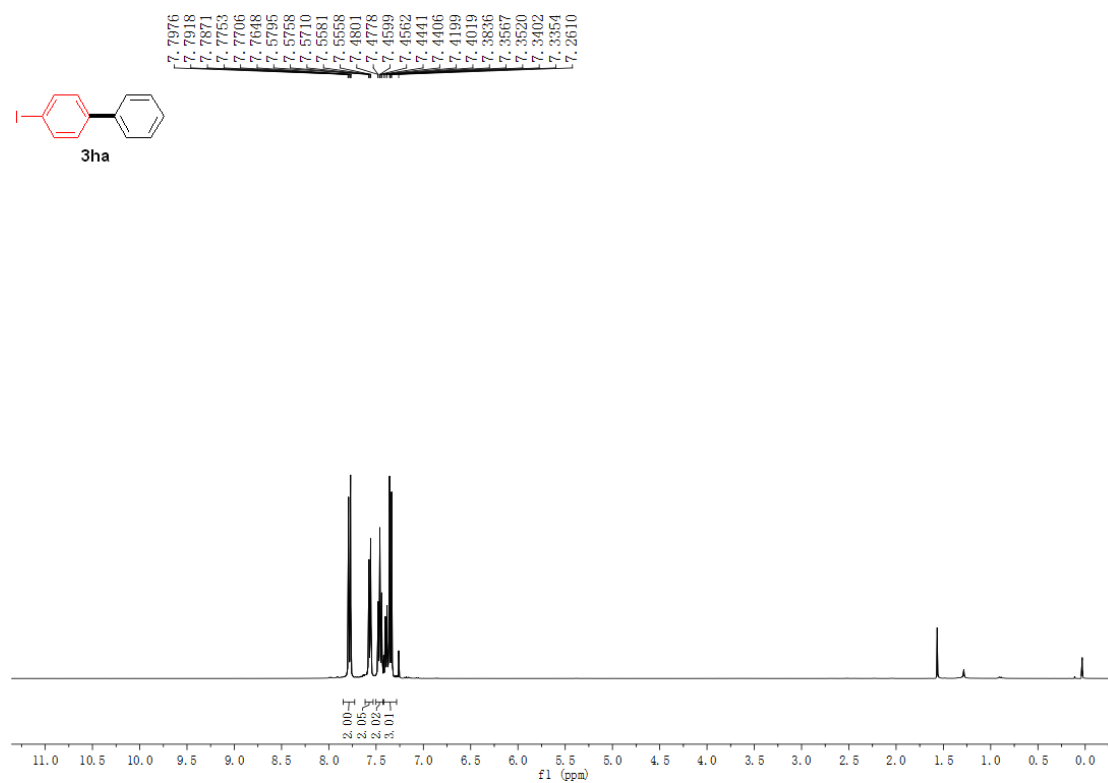


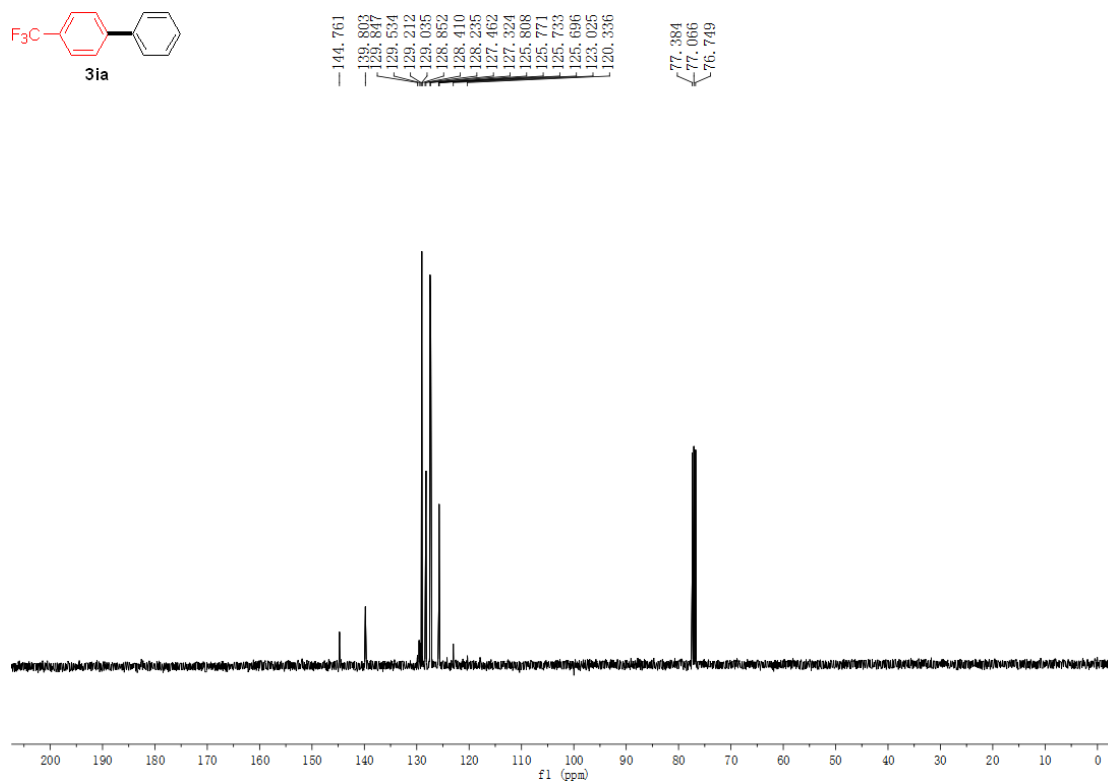
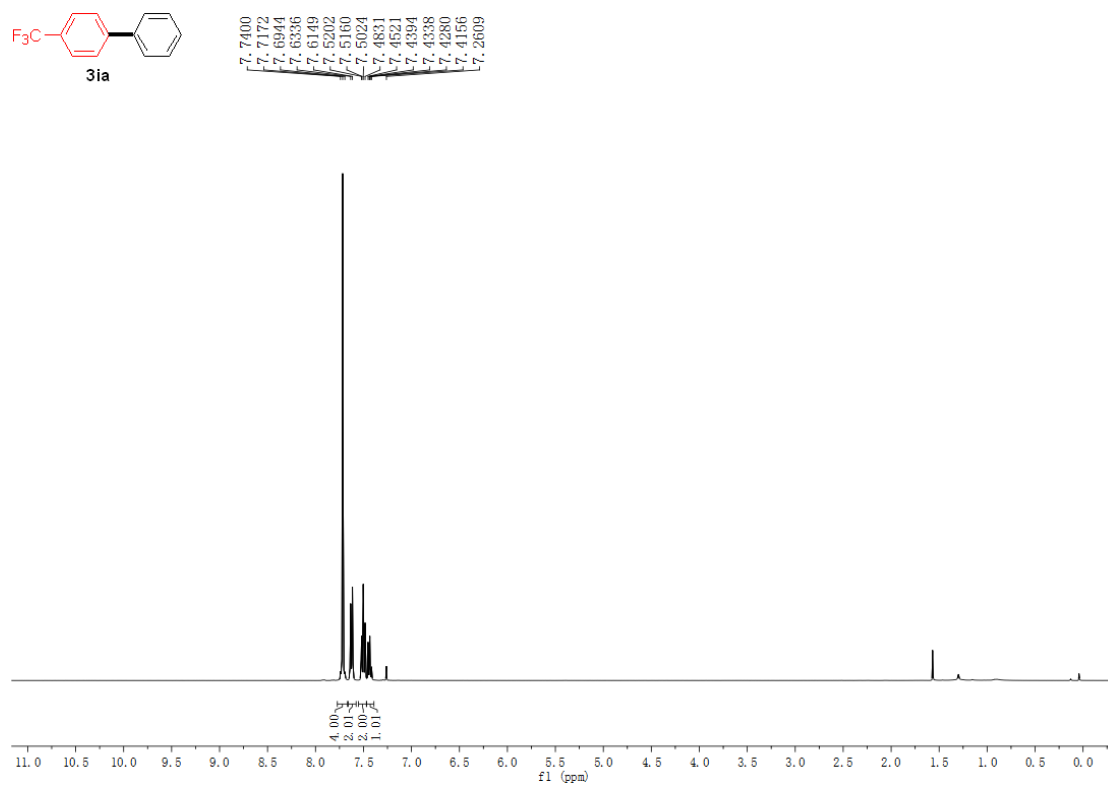


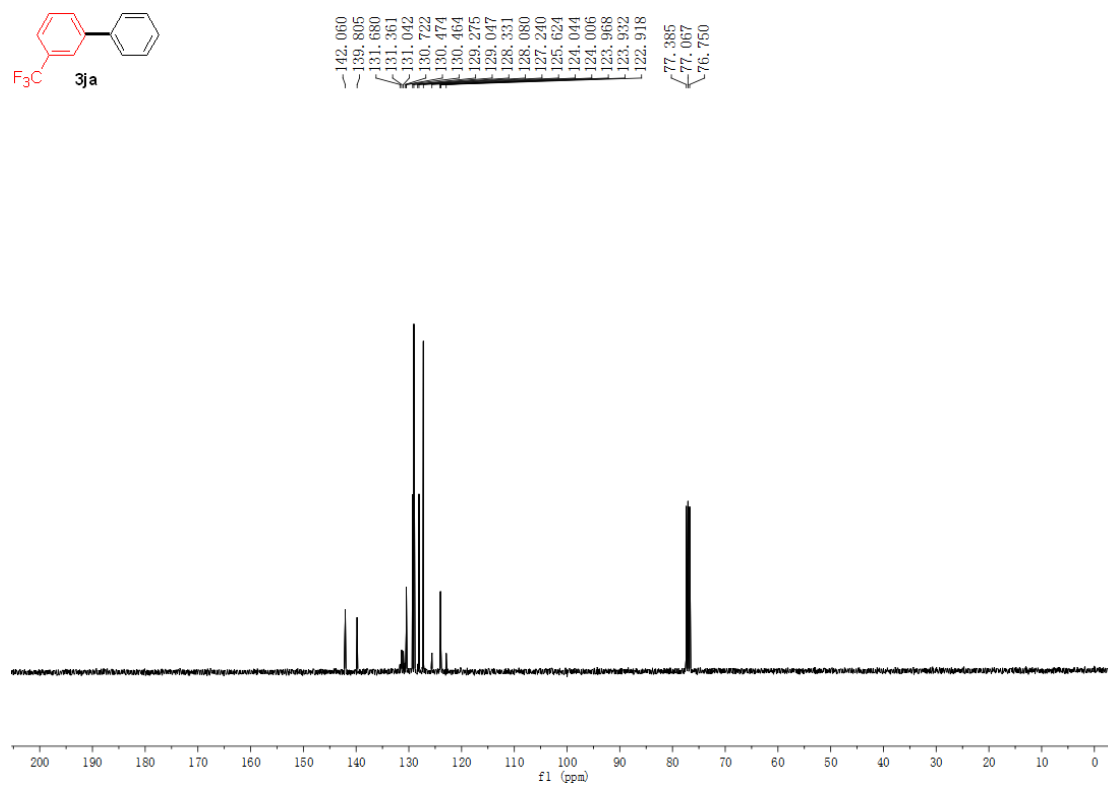
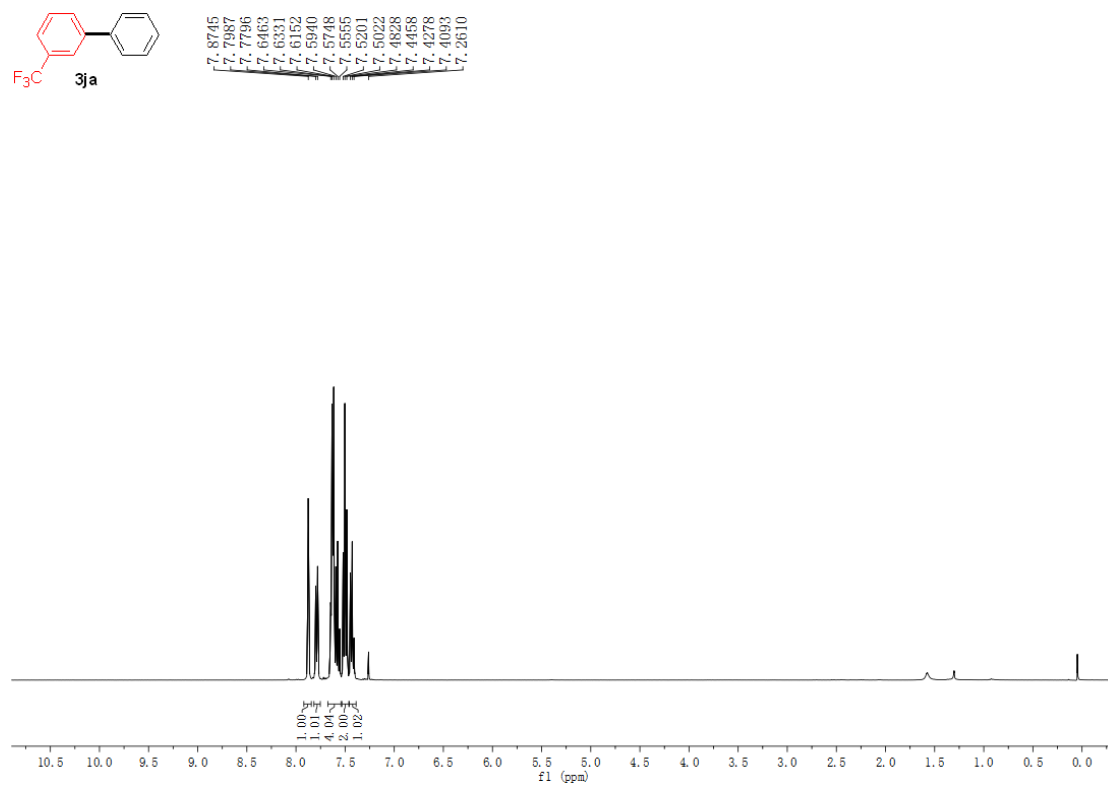


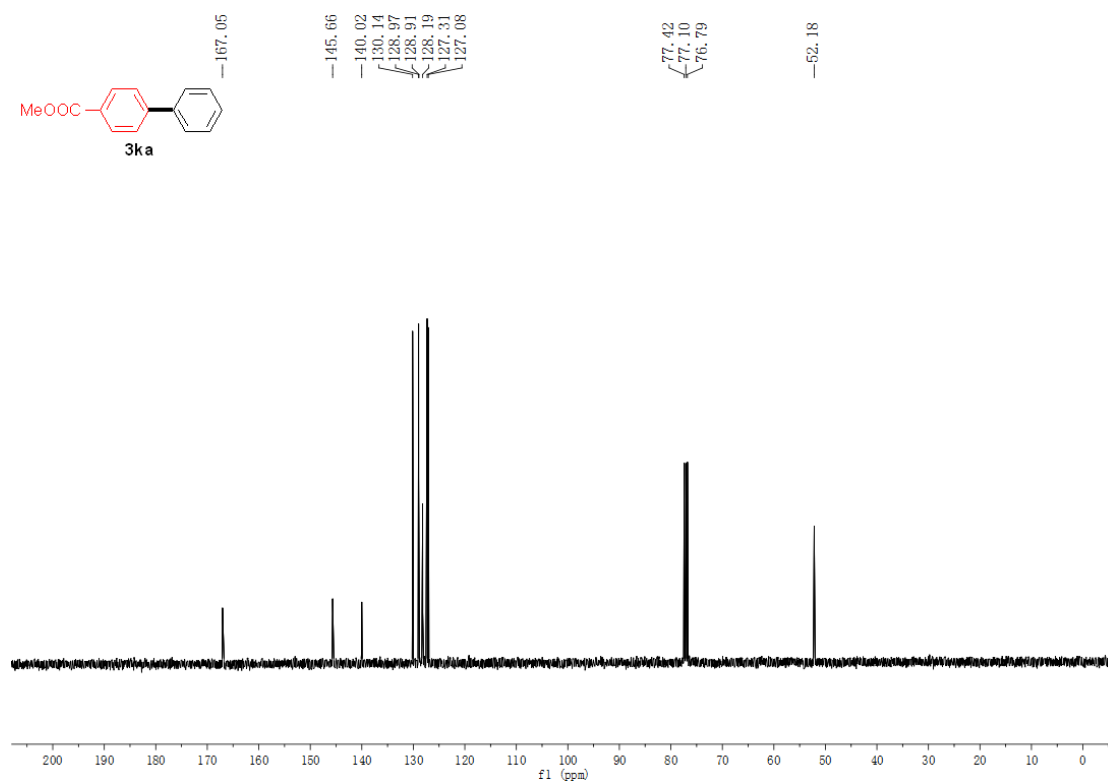
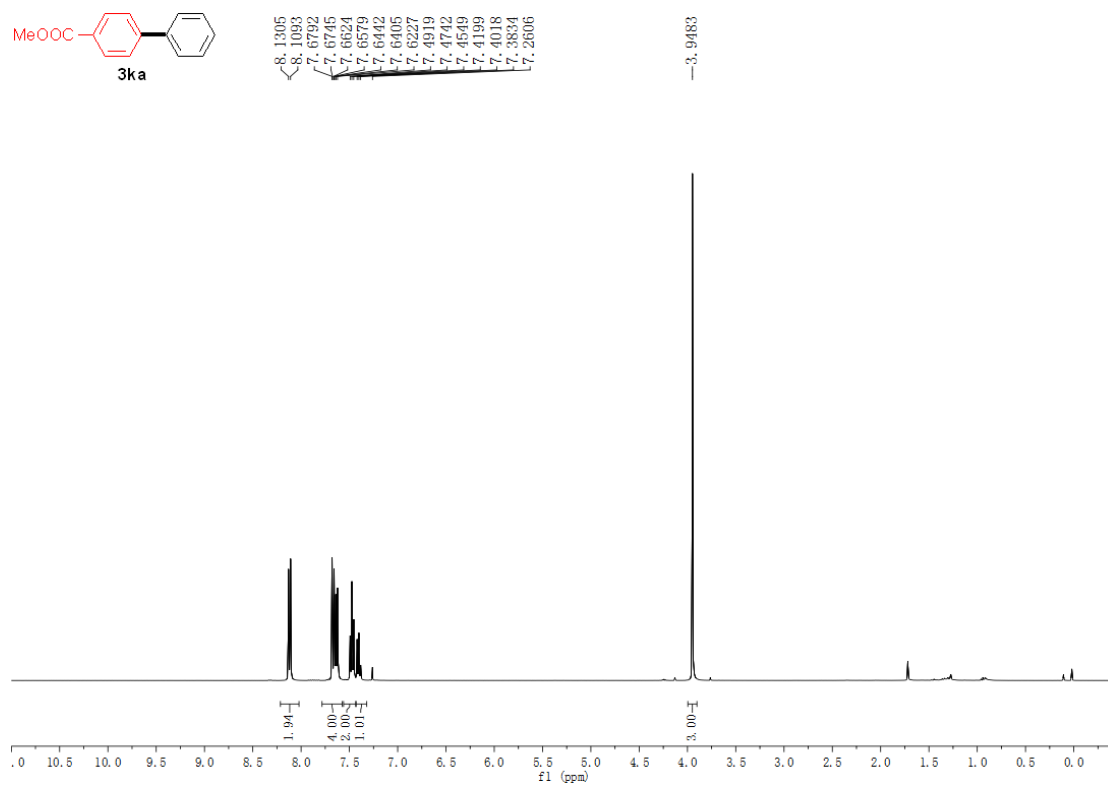


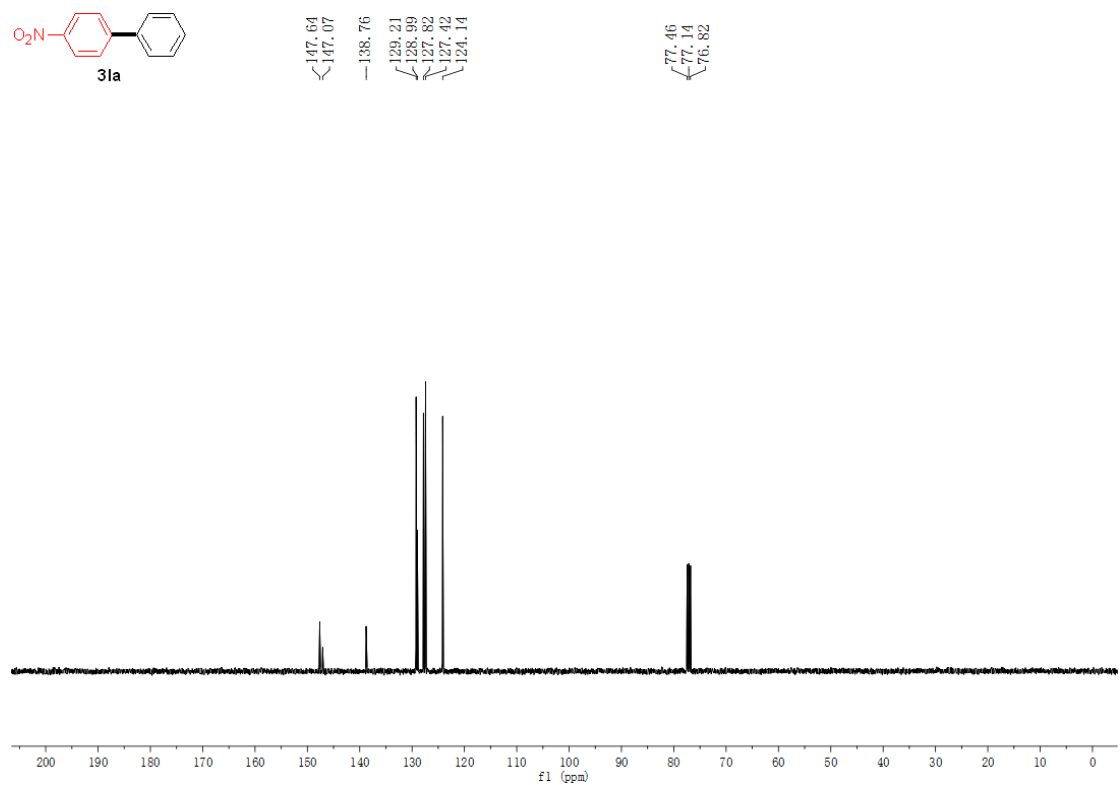
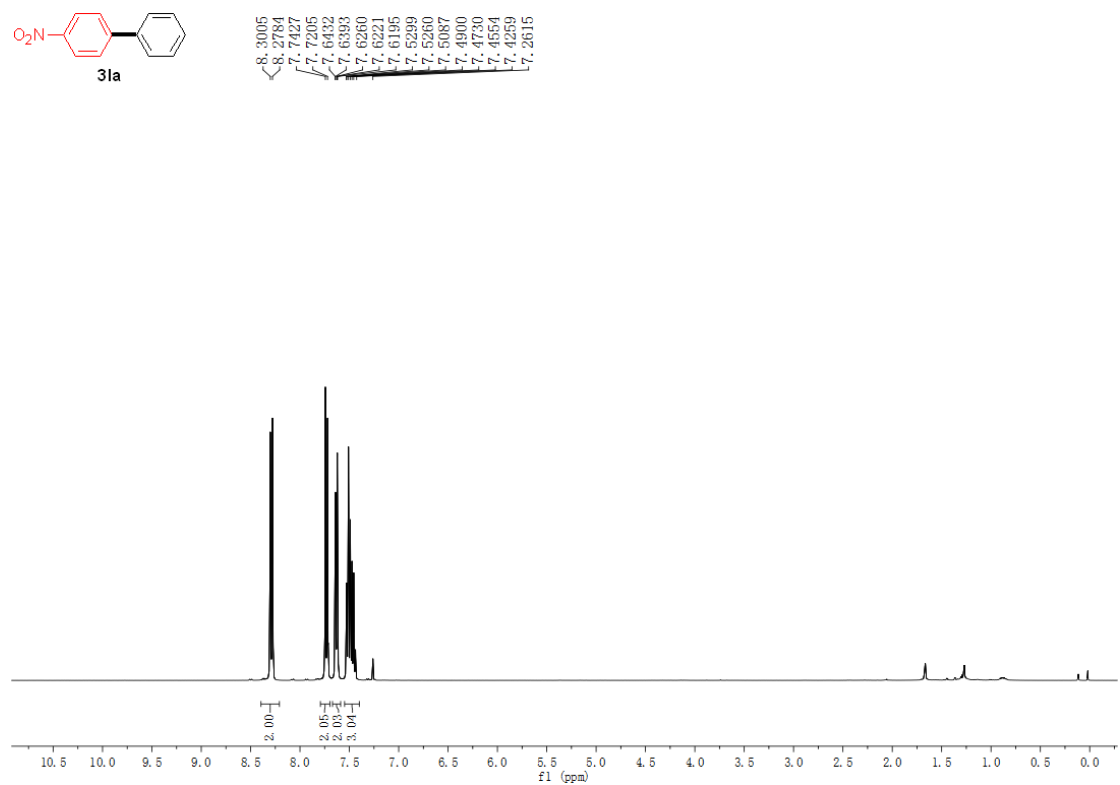


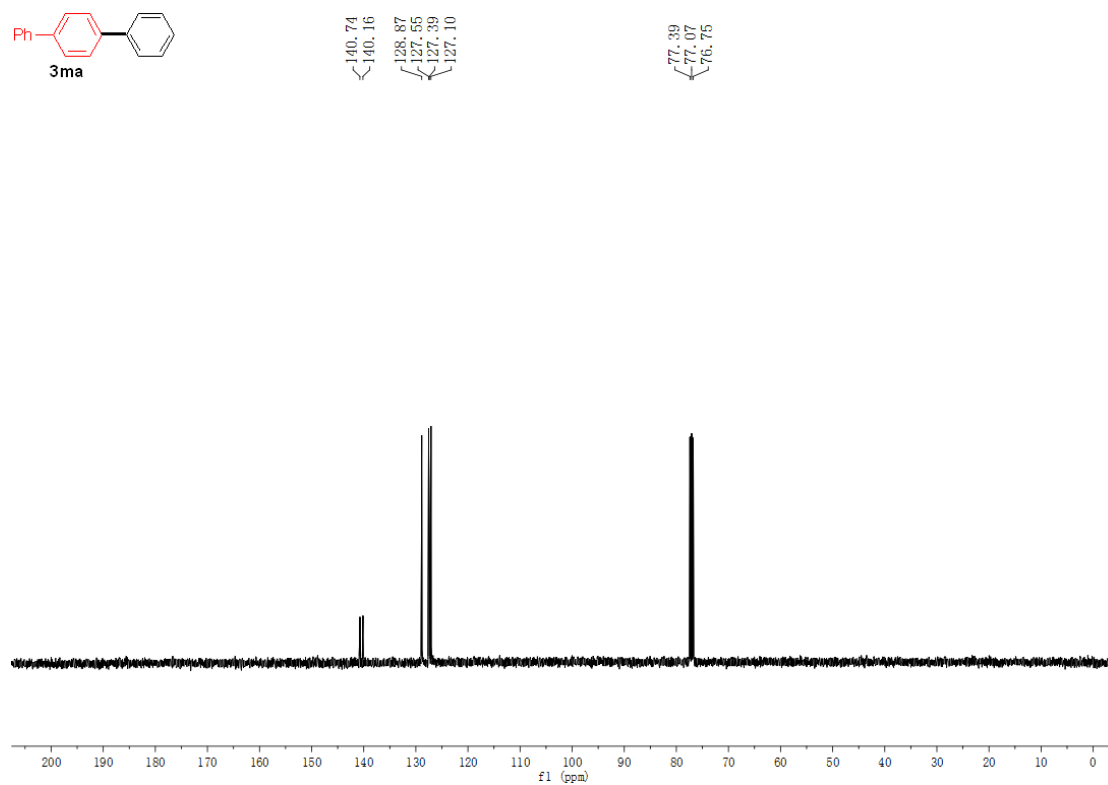
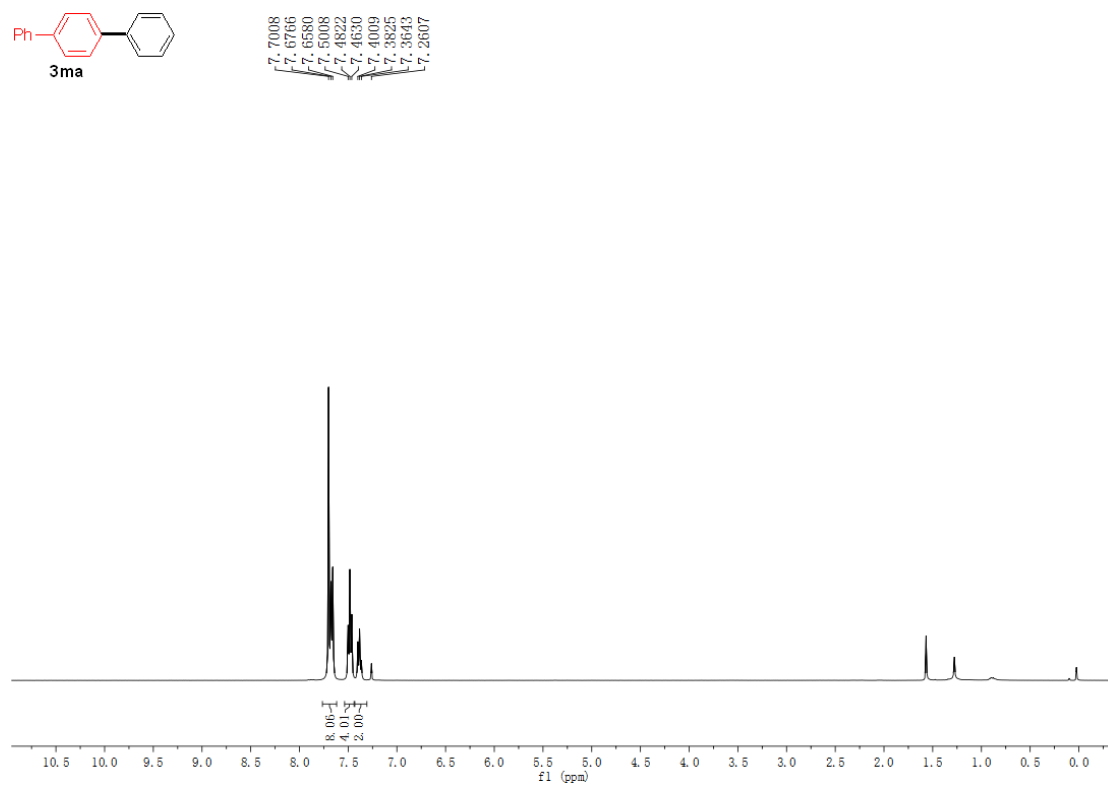


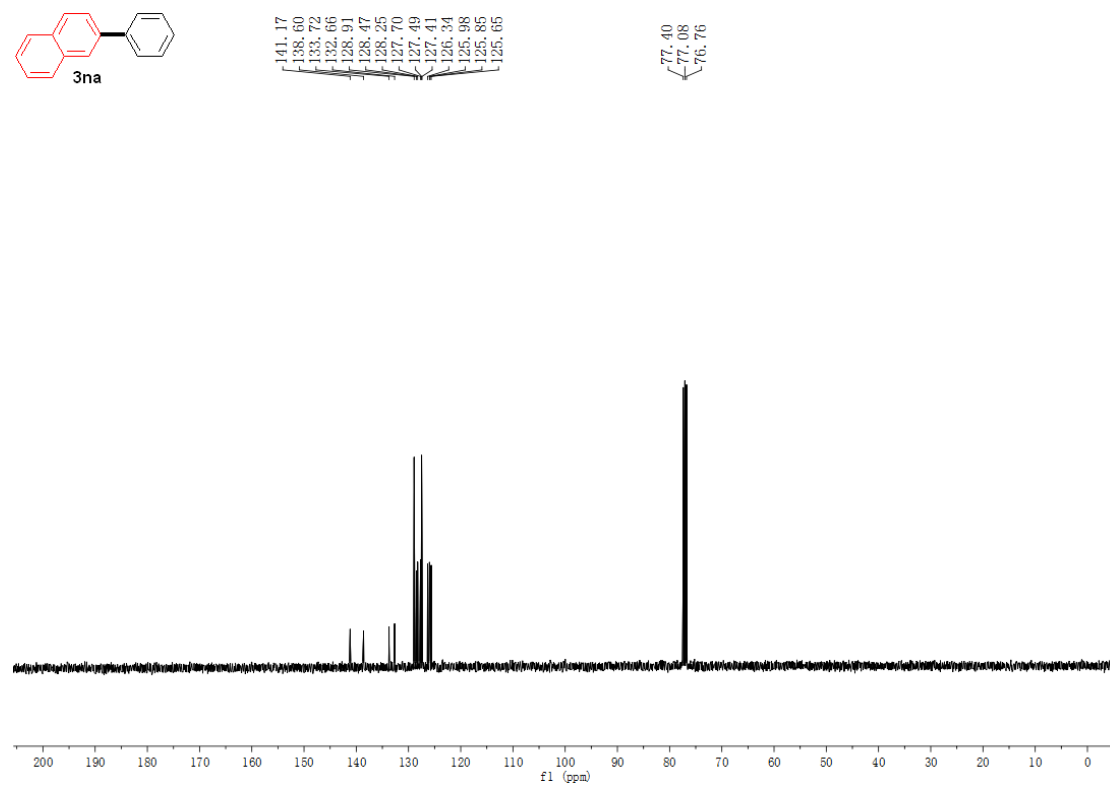
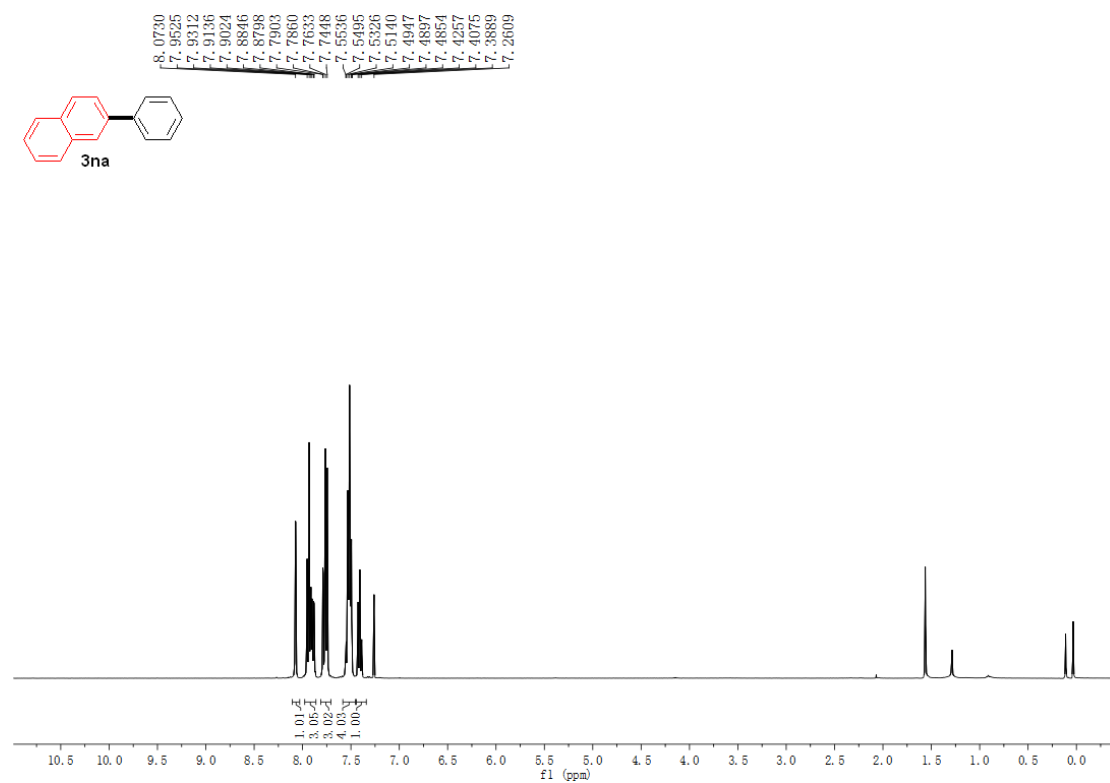


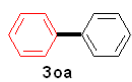




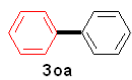
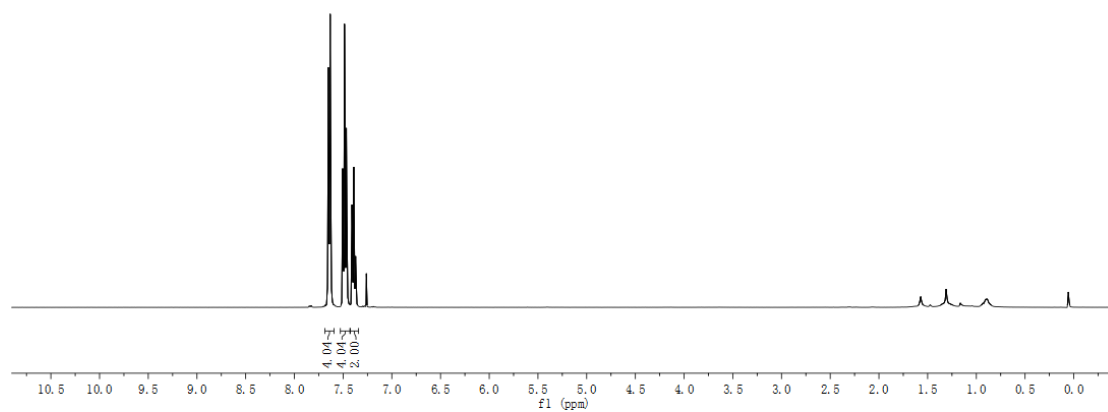






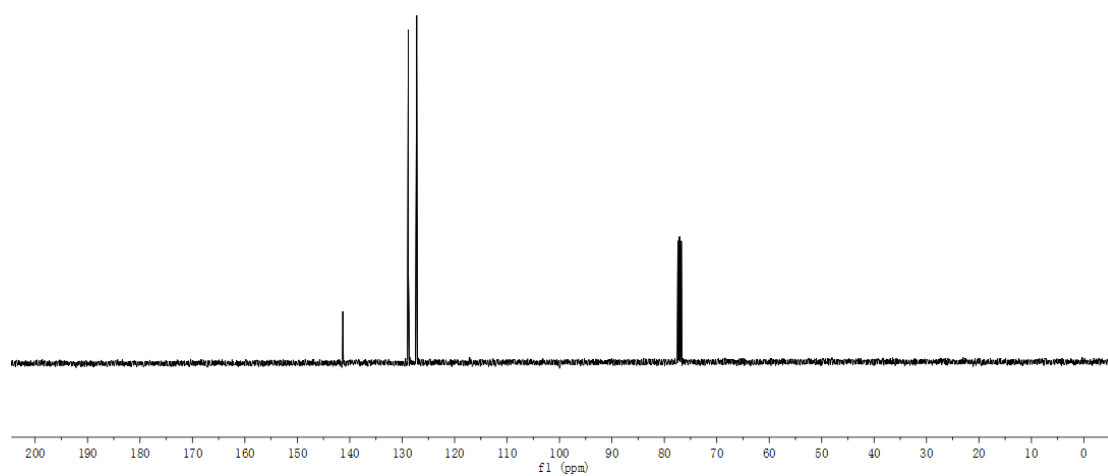


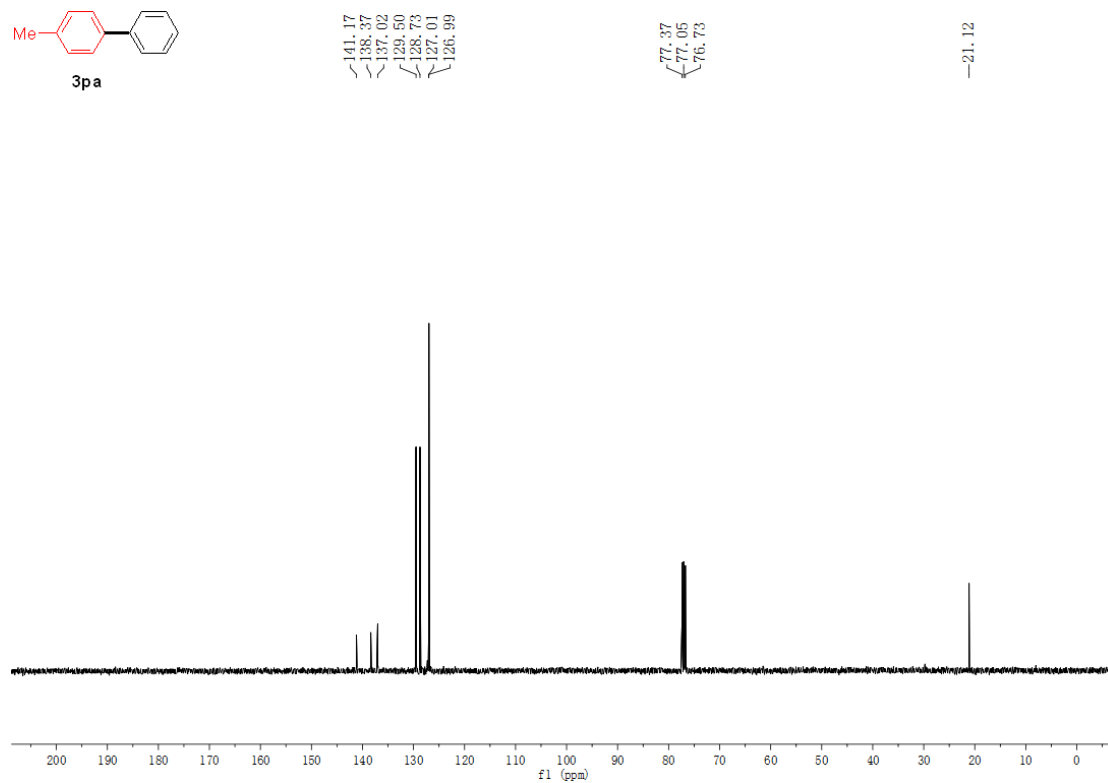
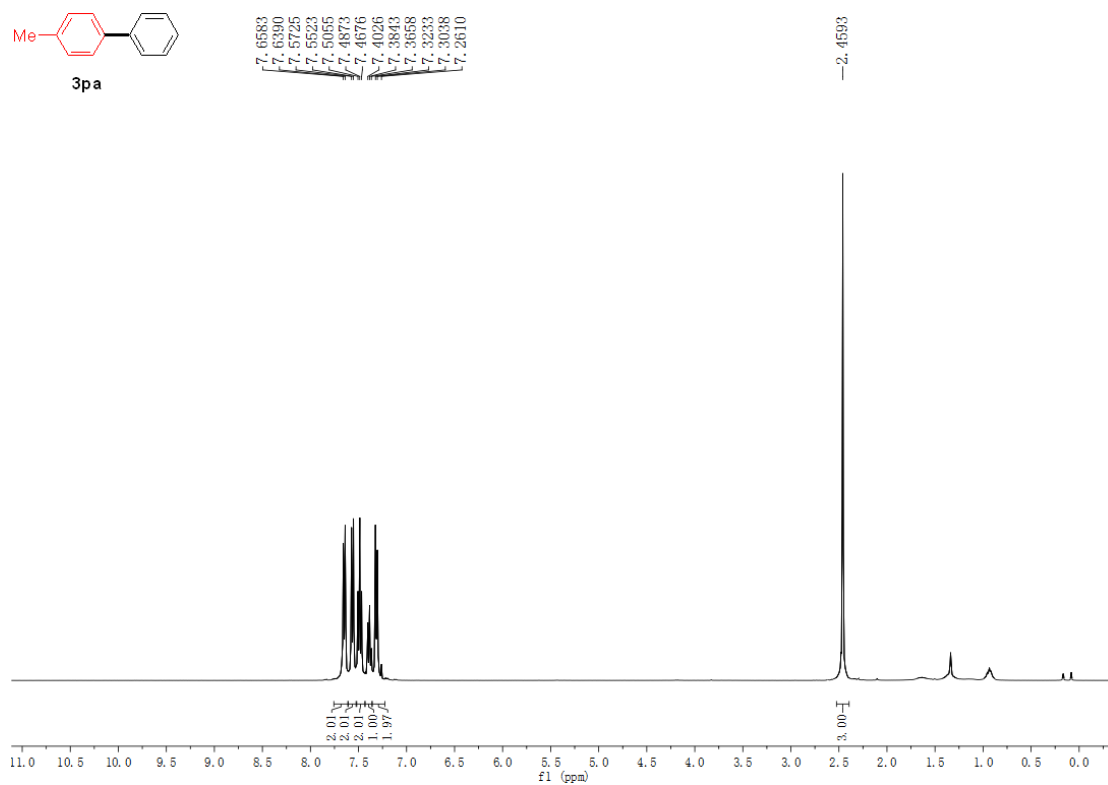
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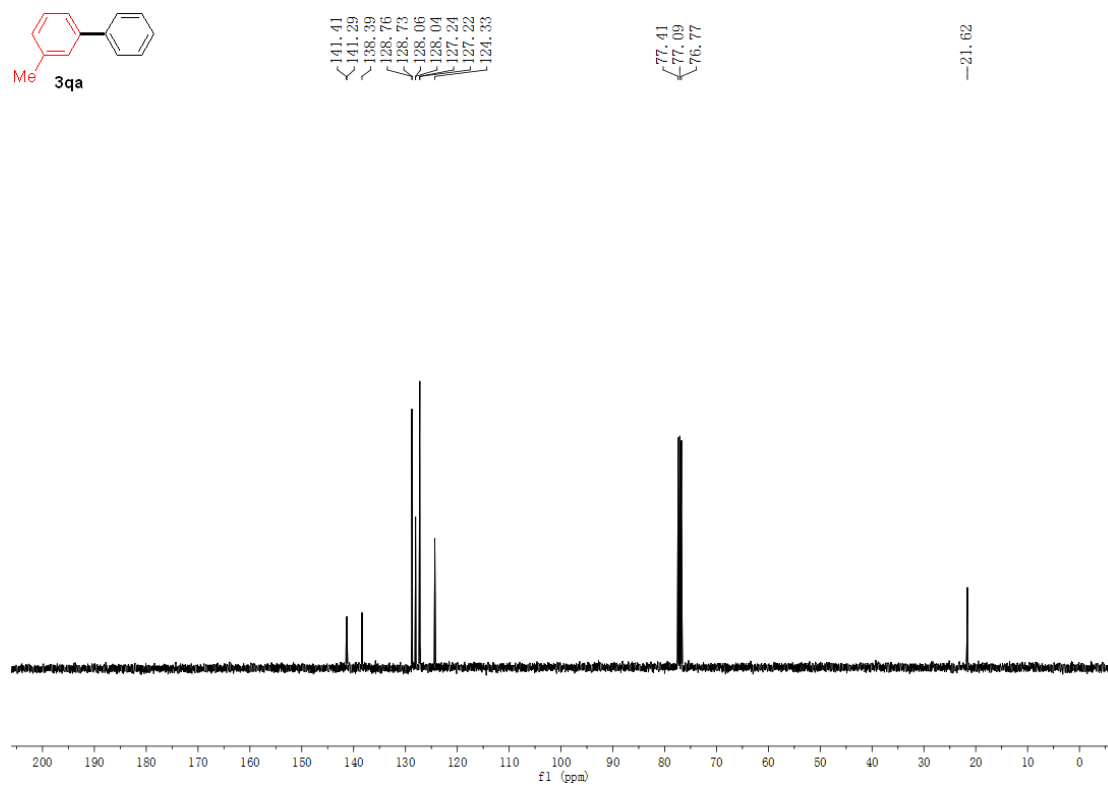
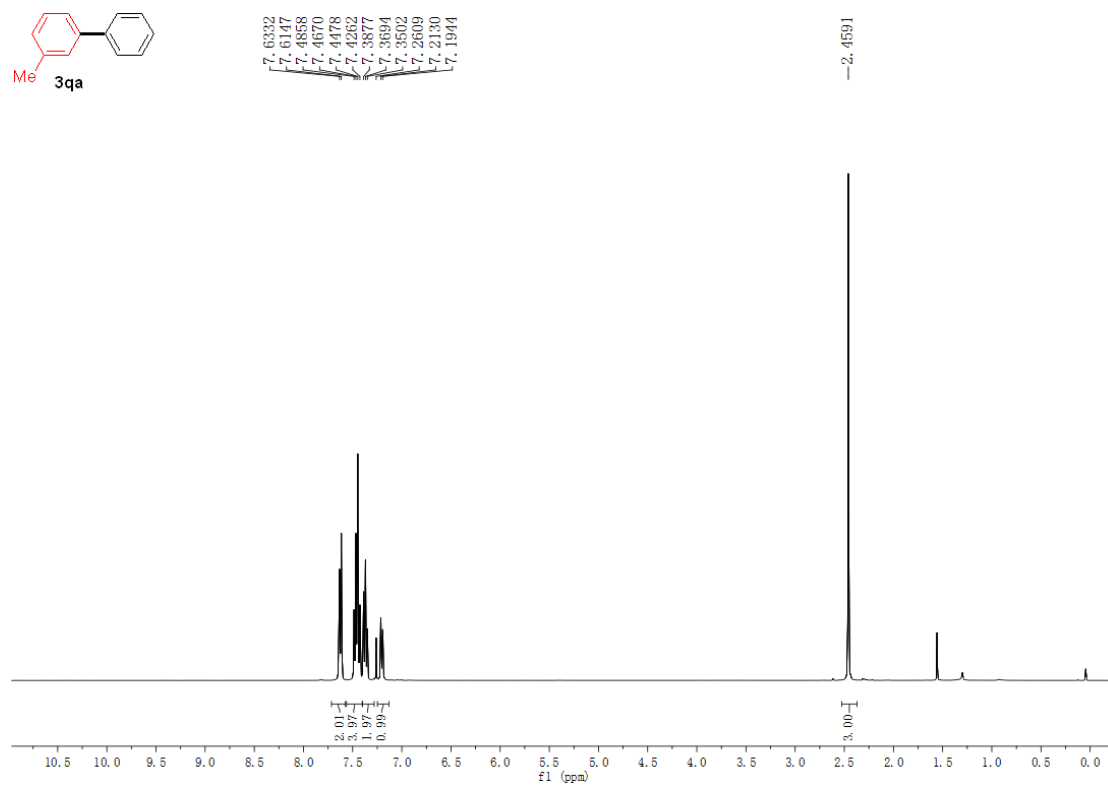


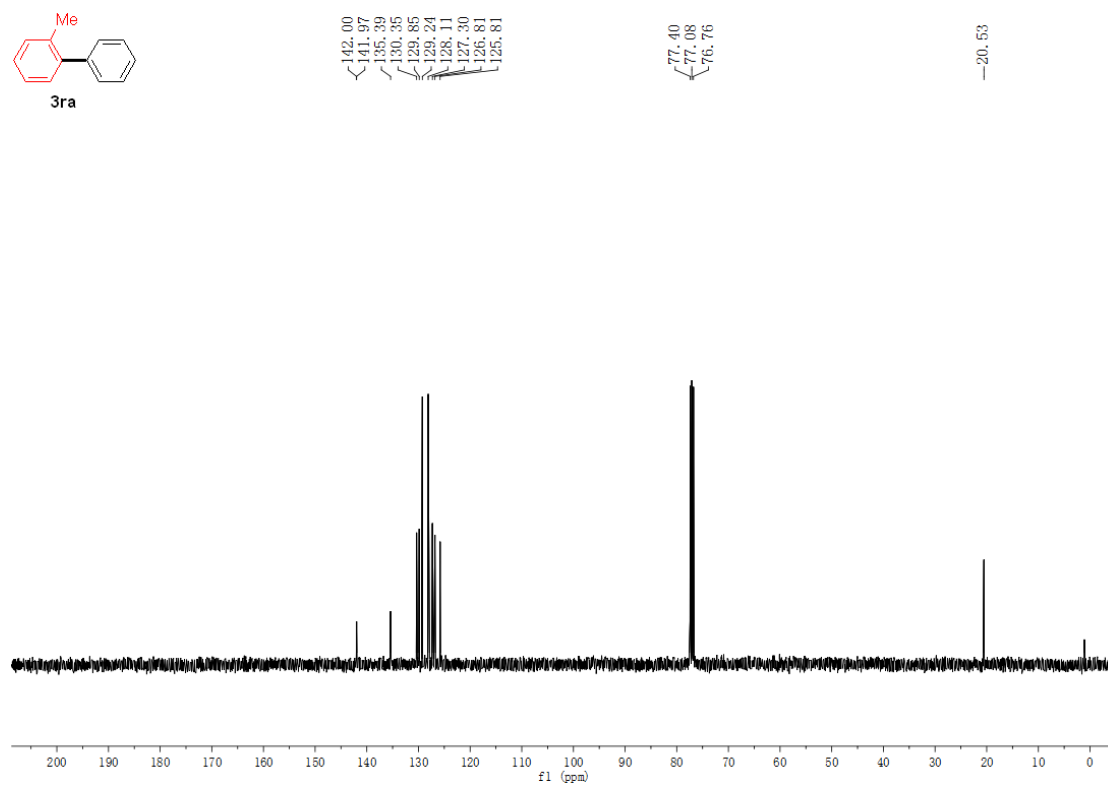
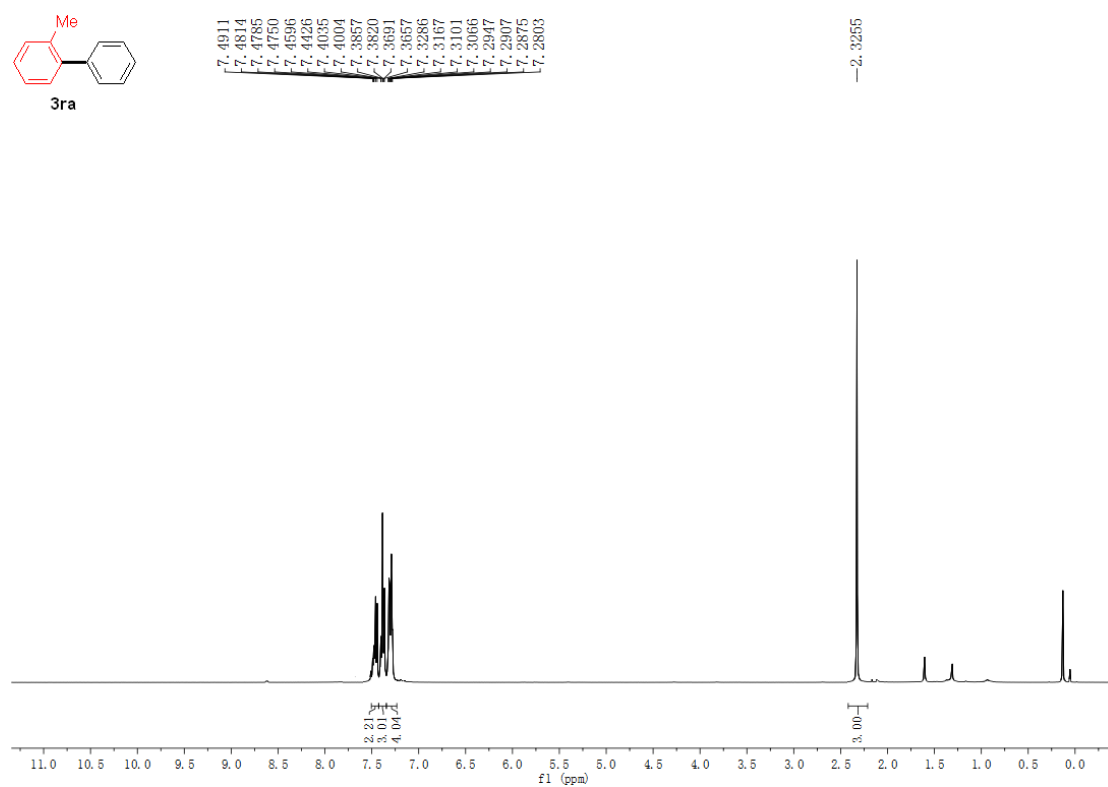
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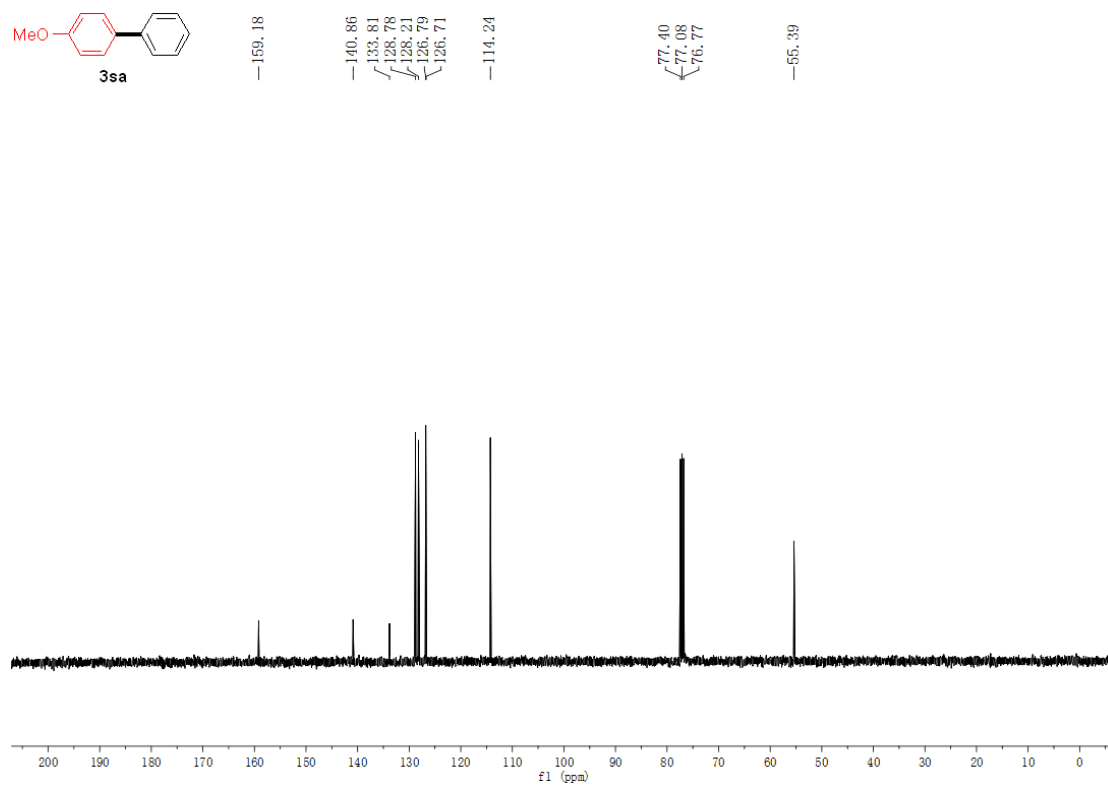
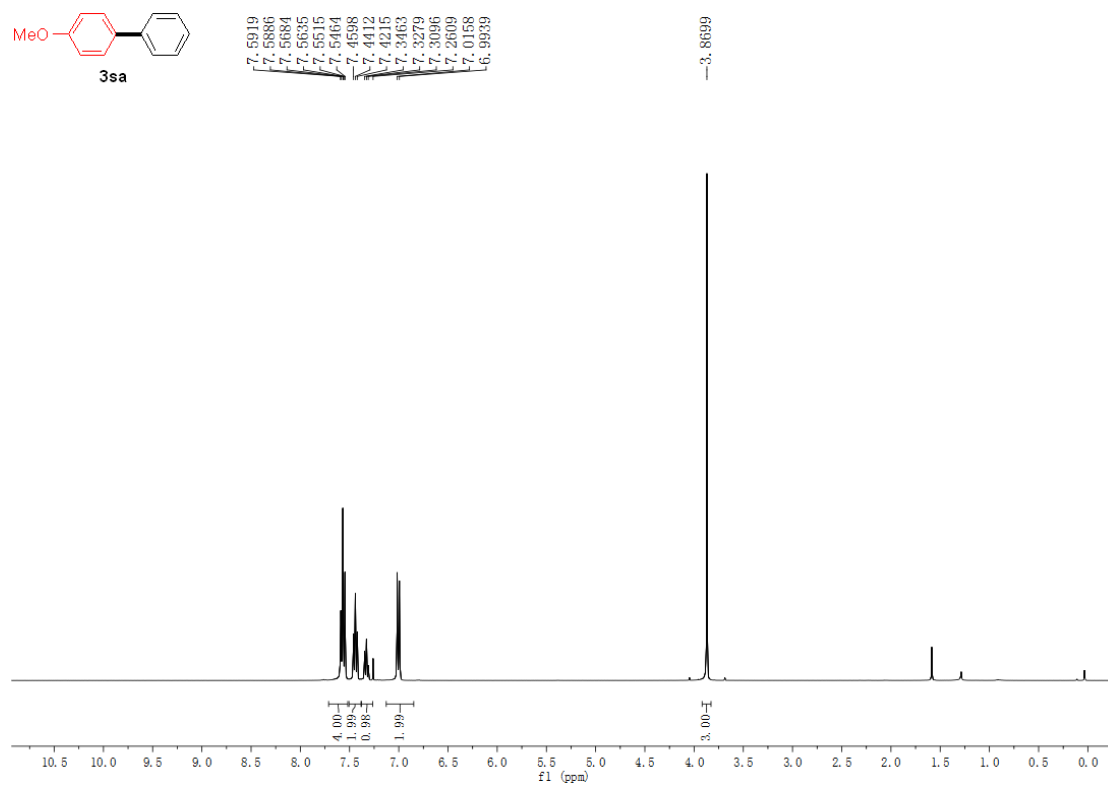
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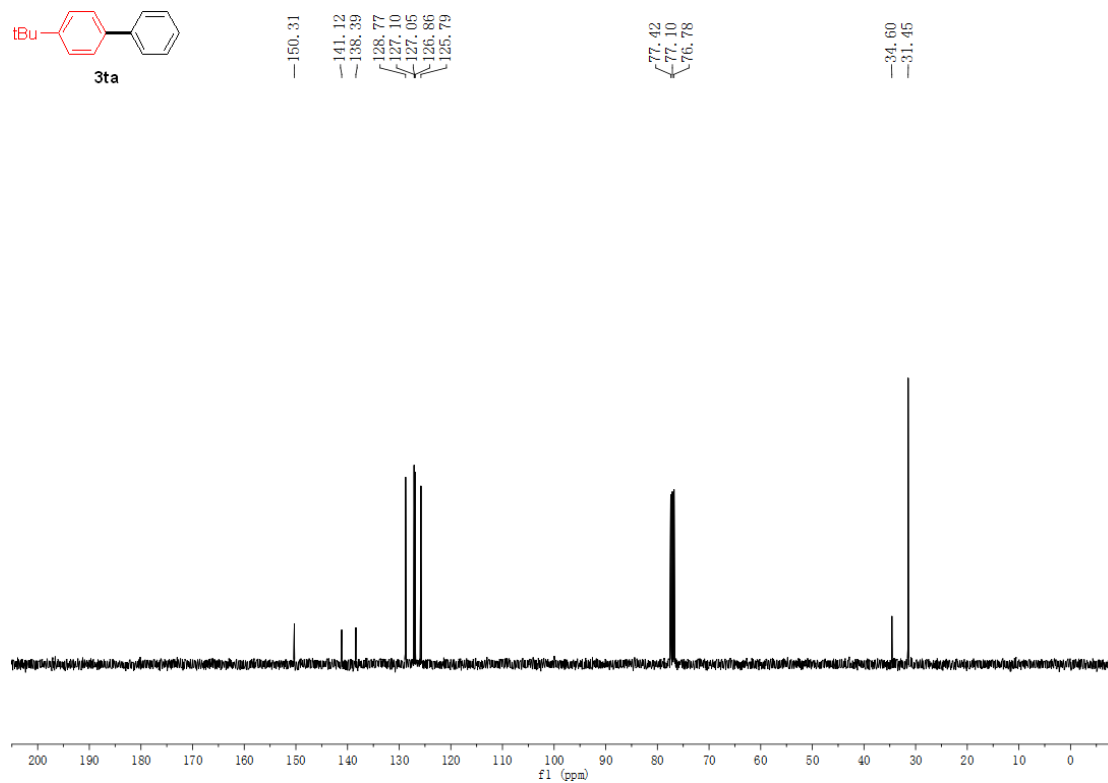
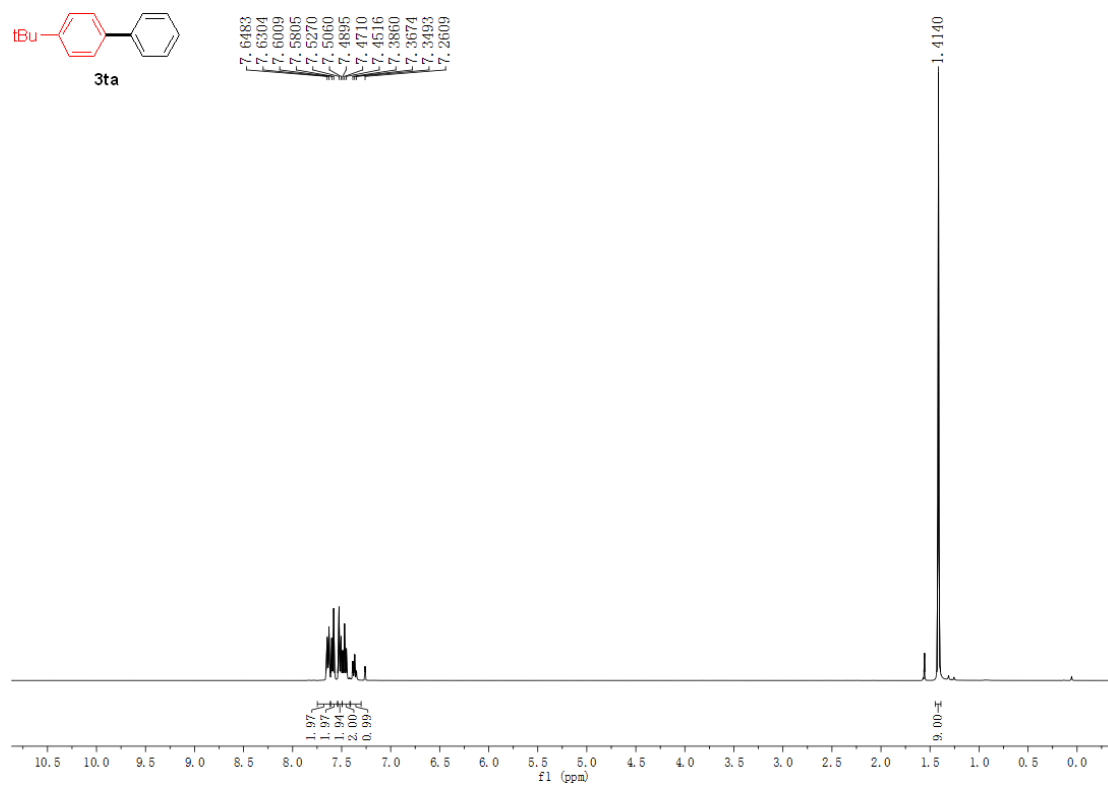


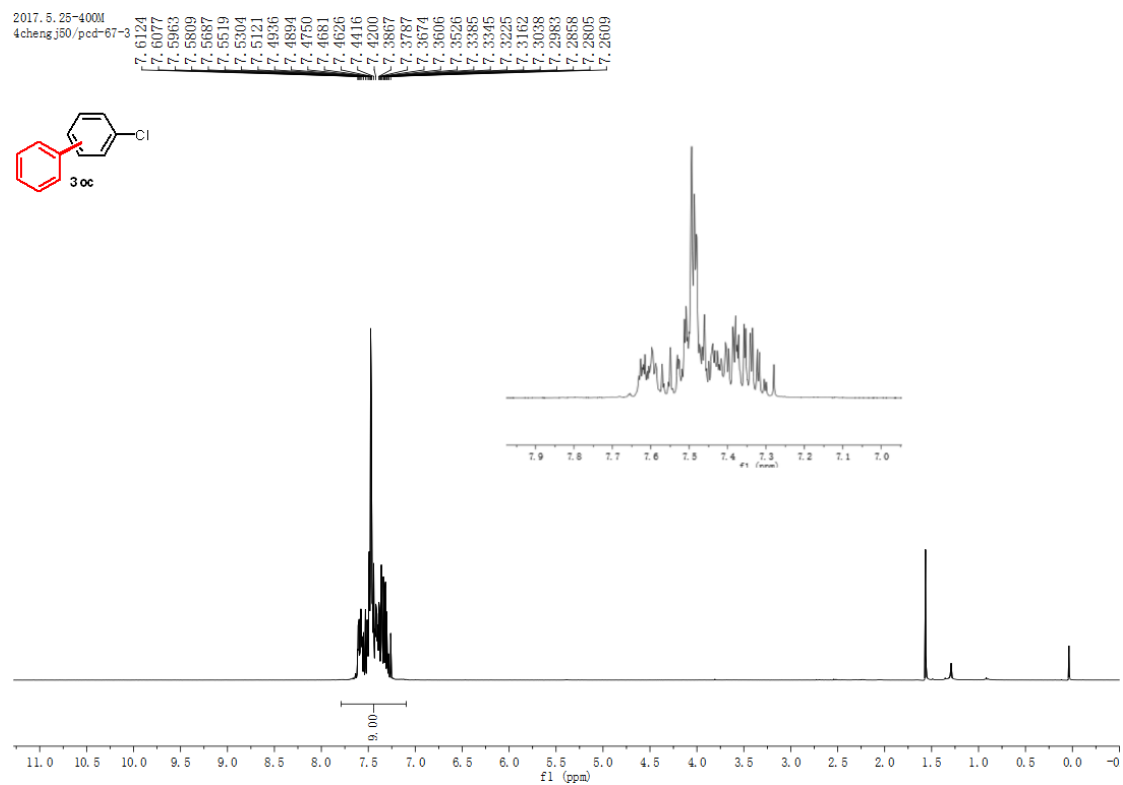
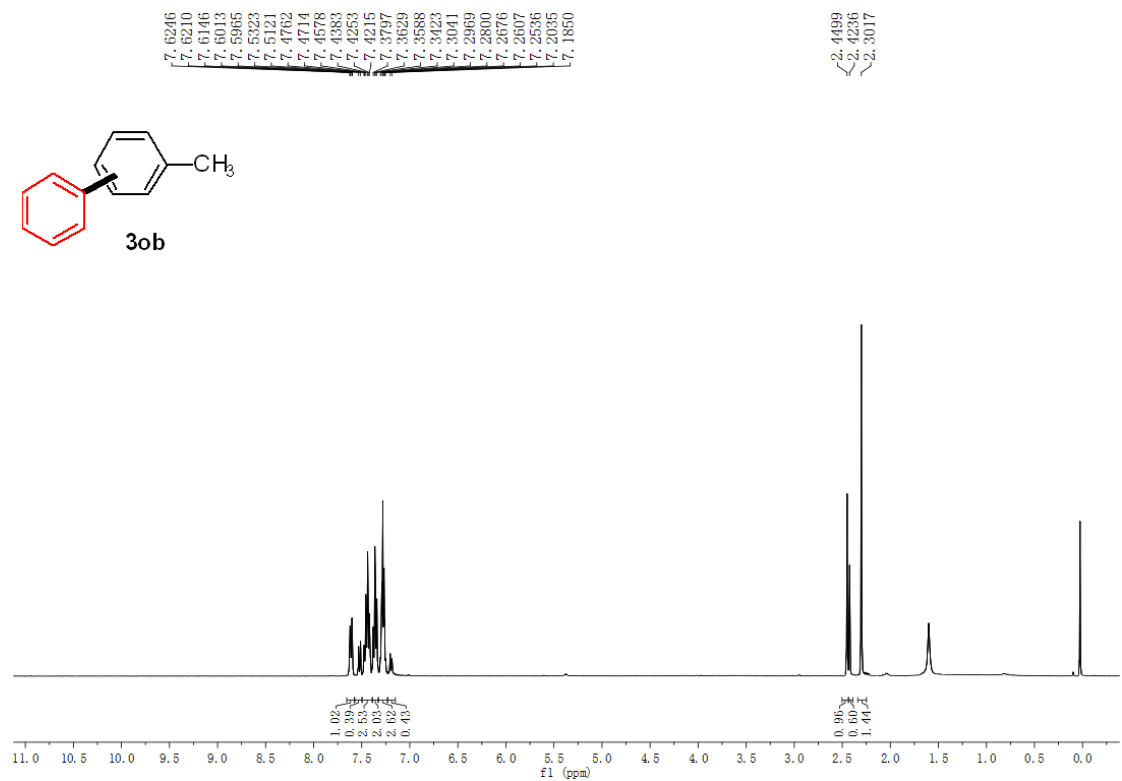












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