

Supporting Information

***Ortho*-amino group functionalized 2,2'-bipyridine based Ru(II) complex catalysed alkylation of secondary alcohols, nitriles and amines using alcohols**

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Text S1: X-ray crystallographic studies: Single-crystal X-ray data of all the complexes were collected at 100 K by using a Bruker SMART APEX II CCD diffractometer and Bruker D8 Quest single crystal diffractometer with graphite monochromated Mo $\text{K}\alpha$ radiation ($\lambda = 0.71073 \text{ \AA}$). The frames were indexed, integrated and scaled using SMART and SAINT software package¹ and the data were corrected for absorption using the SADABS program.² The structures were solved and refined using WINGX and SHELX programs.³ The crystallographic figures have been generated using Diamond 3 software 10 (30% probability thermal ellipsoids).⁴ The CCDC number of complex **1a**, **1b** and **1c** are CCDC 1568230, CCDC 1568231 and CCDC 1568232 respectively.

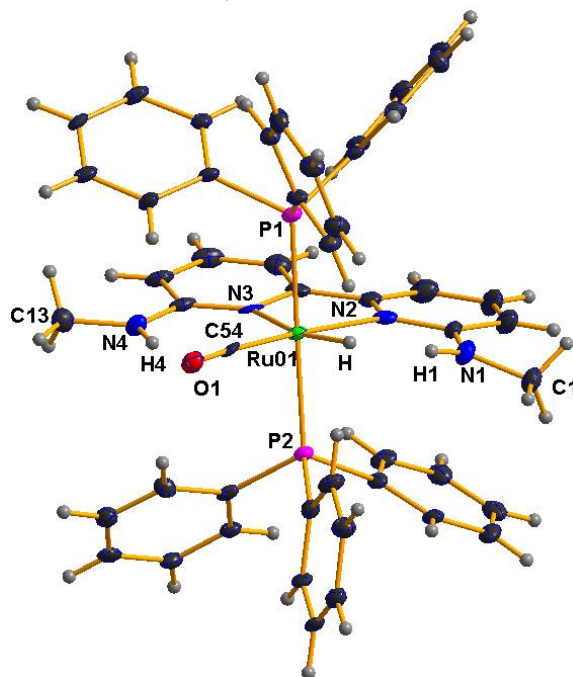


Figure S1: Solid state structure of complex **1a** (30% thermal ellipsoids; counter chloride anion and solvent molecules are omitted for clarity).

Table S1. Crystallographic data and refinement parameters for complex **1a**.

Identification code	Complex1a
Empirical formula	C ₅₁ H ₅₁ N ₄ O ₂ Cl ₅ P ₂ Ru
Formula weight	1092.21
Temperature/K	100
Crystal system	monoclinic
Space group	P2 ₁ /c
a/Å	12.074(3)
b/Å	22.964(6)
c/Å	17.711(5)
α /°	90
β /°	93.931(5)
γ /°	90
Volume/Å ³	4899(2)

Z	4
$\rho_{\text{calc}}/\text{cm}^3$	1.481
μ/mm^{-1}	0.703
F(000)	2240.0
Crystal size/ mm^3	$0.02 \times 0.02 \times 0.02$
Radiation	MoK α ($\lambda = 0.71073$)
2 Θ range for data collection/ $^\circ$	2.908 to 51
Index ranges	$-13 \leq h \leq 14$, $-27 \leq k \leq 27$, $-19 \leq l \leq 21$
Reflections collected	25925
Independent reflections	9075 [$R_{\text{int}} = 0.1006$, $R_{\text{sigma}} = 0.1286$]
Data/restraints/parameters	9075/0/595
Goodness-of-fit on F^2	1.137
Final R indexes [$I \geq 2\sigma(I)$]	$R_1 = 0.0865$, $wR_2 = 0.1957$
Final R indexes [all data]	$R_1 = 0.1545$, $wR_2 = 0.2339$
Largest diff. peak/hole / $e \text{ \AA}^{-3}$	1.95/-1.60

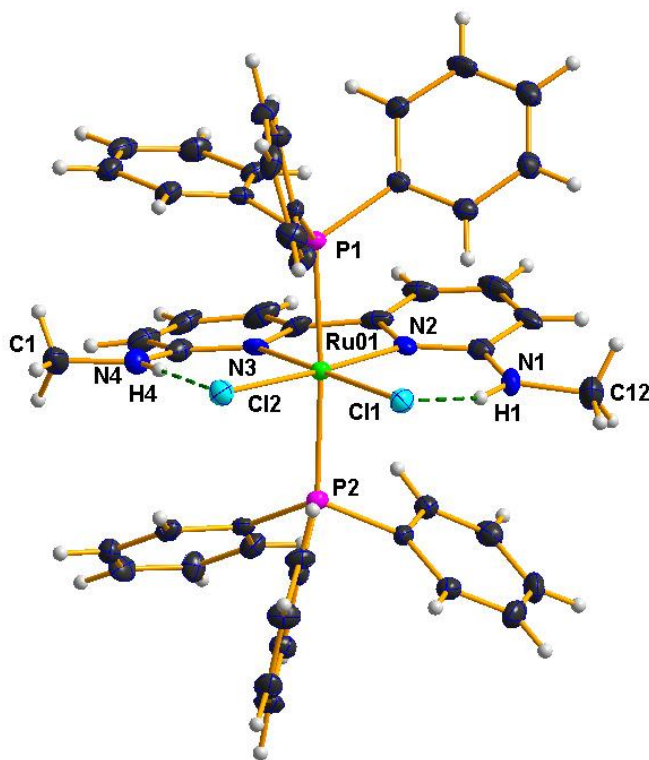


Figure S2: Solid state structure of complex **1b** (30% thermal ellipsoids).

Table S2. Crystallographic data and refinement parameters for complex **1b**.

Identification code	Complex1b
Empirical formula	$\text{C}_{48}\text{H}_{44}\text{N}_4\text{RuCl}_2\text{P}_2$
Formula weight	910.78

Temperature/K	100.0
Crystal system	monoclinic
Space group	P2 ₁ /c
a/Å	9.679(3)
b/Å	19.168(6)
c/Å	21.719(7)
$\alpha/^\circ$	90
$\beta/^\circ$	91.489(6)
$\gamma/^\circ$	90
Volume/Å ³	4028(2)
Z	4
$\rho_{\text{calc}}/\text{g/cm}^3$	1.502
μ/mm^{-1}	0.643
F(000)	1872.0
Crystal size/mm ³	0.02 × 0.02 × 0.02
Radiation	MoK α (λ = 0.71073)
2 θ range for data collection/ $^\circ$	2.834 to 50.224
Index ranges	-9 ≤ h ≤ 11, -21 ≤ k ≤ 22, -25 ≤ l ≤ 24
Reflections collected	21149
Independent reflections	7149 [R_{int} = 0.0955, R_{sigma} = 0.1141]
Data/restraints/parameters	7149/0/516
Goodness-of-fit on F ²	0.952
Final R indexes [$I \geq 2\sigma(I)$]	R_1 = 0.0606, wR_2 = 0.1423
Final R indexes [all data]	R_1 = 0.1188, wR_2 = 0.1855
Largest diff. peak/hole / e Å ⁻³	1.03/-1.09

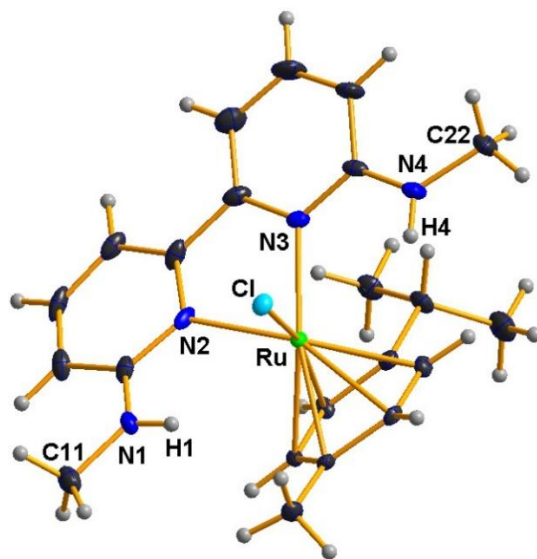
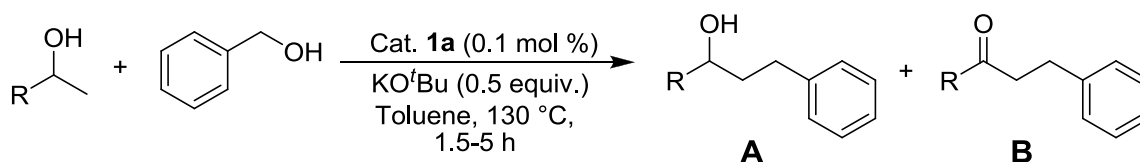
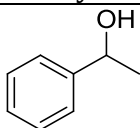
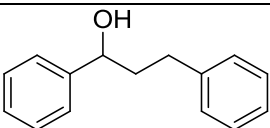
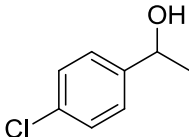
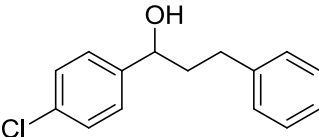
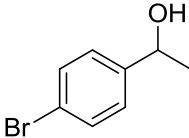
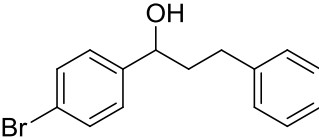
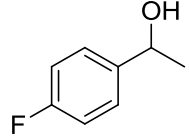
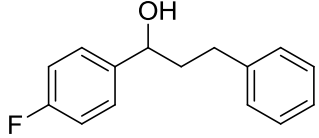
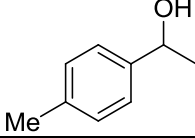
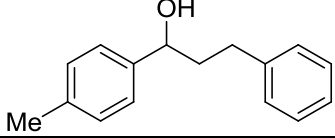
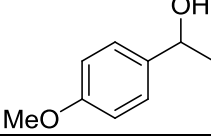
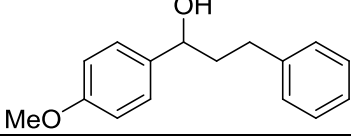
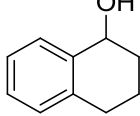
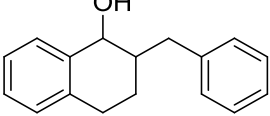
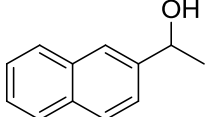
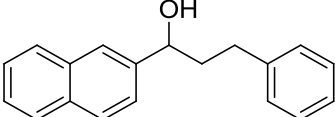
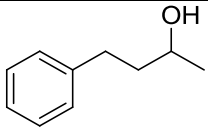
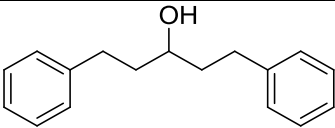
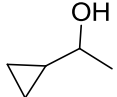
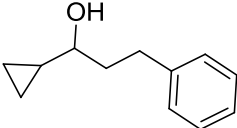
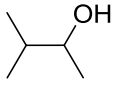
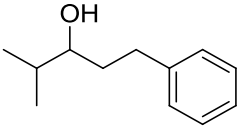


Figure S3: Solid state structure of complex **1c** (30% thermal ellipsoids; counter PF₆ anion is omitted for clarity).

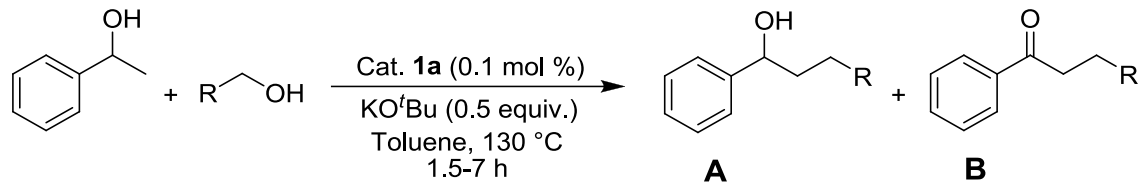
Table S3. Crystallographic data and refinement parameters for complex **1c**.

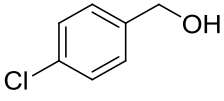
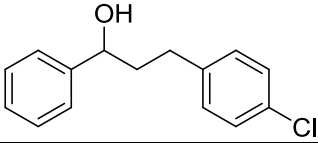
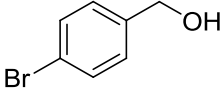
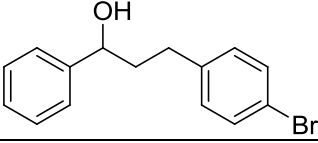
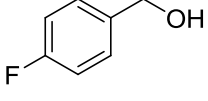
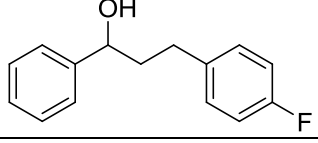
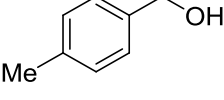
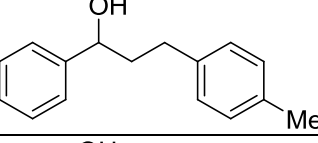
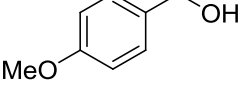
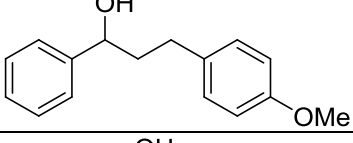
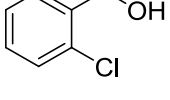
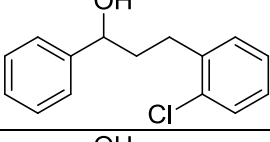
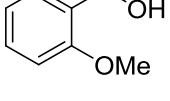
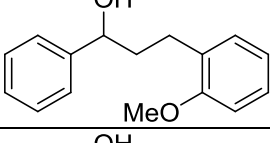
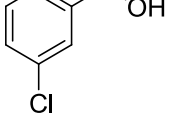
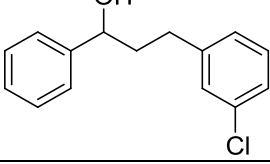
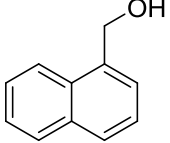
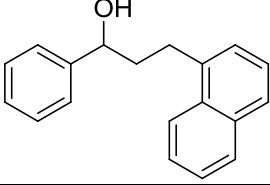
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Formula weight	629.97
Temperature/K	100.0
Crystal system	orthorhombic
Space group	Pna2 ₁
a/Å	24.447(6)
b/Å	12.950(3)
c/Å	7.9000(19)
α/°	90
β/°	90
γ/°	90
Volume/Å ³	2501.0(10)
Z	4
ρ _{calc} /cm ³	1.673
μ/mm ⁻¹	0.861
F(000)	1272.0
Crystal size/mm ³	0.02 × 0.02 × 0.02
Radiation	MoKα (λ = 0.71073)
2θ range for data collection/°	8.308 to 50.048
Index ranges	-28 ≤ h ≤ 29, -15 ≤ k ≤ 10, -9 ≤ l ≤ 9
Reflections collected	12684
Independent reflections	4256 [R _{int} = 0.0446, R _{sigma} = 0.0481]
Data/restraints/parameters	4256/1/321
Goodness-of-fit on F ²	1.041
Final R indexes [I ≥ 2σ (I)]	R ₁ = 0.0357, wR ₂ = 0.0819
Final R indexes [all data]	R ₁ = 0.0411, wR ₂ = 0.0865
Largest diff. peak/hole / e Å ⁻³	0.88/-0.35
Flack parameter	-0.01(3)

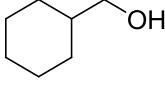
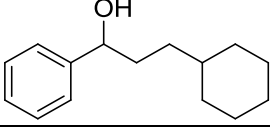
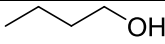
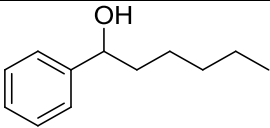
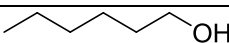
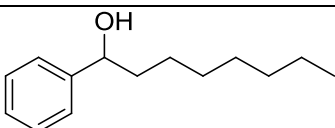
Table S4: β-Alkylation of different secondary alcohols with benzyl alcohol.^a

Entry	Secondary alcohol	Product	Conv. (%) ^b	A/B ratio ^b
1			100	92:8
2			100	88:12
3			99	91:9
4			93	93:7
5			100	87:13
6			100	81:19
7			80	85:15
8 ^c			95	93:7
9			54	99:1
10 ^{d,e}			100	99:1
11 ^{d,e}			97	93:7

^a Reaction condition: Cat. **1a** (0.1 mol %), secondary alcohol (1.1 mmol), benzyl alcohol (1.1 mmol) and KO^tBu (0.55 mmol) in 2 mL toluene at 130 °C for 1.5 h; closed argon condition in Schlenk tube. ^b Determined by ¹H NMR using 1,3,5-trimethoxybenzene as internal standard. ^c 2 h heating. ^d 5 h heating. ^e 2.2 mmol secondary alcohol and 1.1 mmol benzyl alcohol were used.

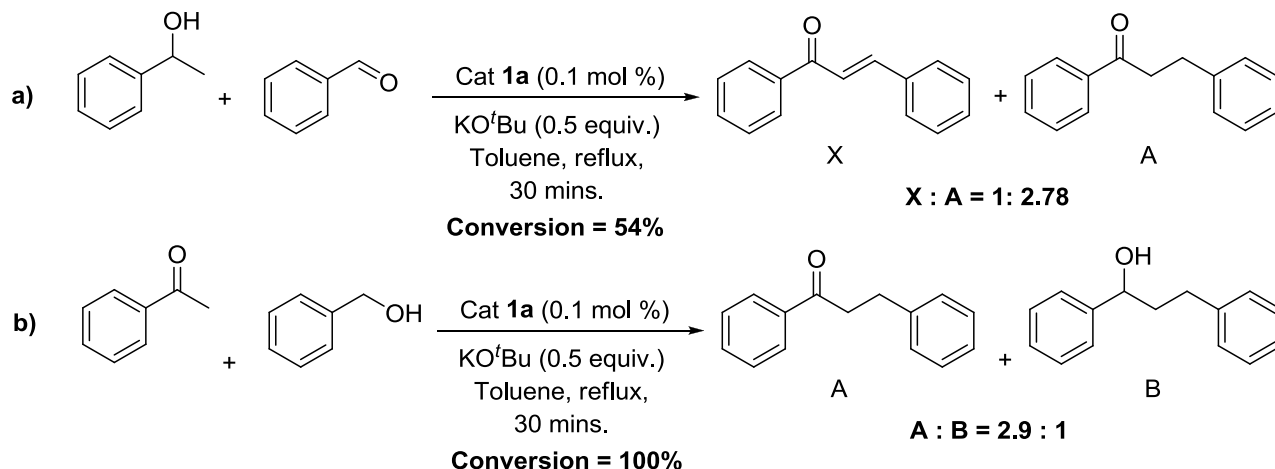
Table S5: β -Alkylation of 1-phenylethanol with different primary alcohols.^a

Entry	Primary alcohol	Product	Conv. (%) ^b	A/B ratio ^b
1			97	91:9
2			98	90:10
3			100	89:11
4			100	90:10
5			100	88:12
6			99	84:16
7			96	90:10
8			97	92:8
9 ^c			100	79:21

10 ^d			100	94:6
11 ^c			90	98:2
12 ^c			83	92:8

^a Reaction condition: Cat. **1a** (0.1 mol %), 1-phenylethanol (1.1 mmol), primary alcohol (1.1 mmol) and KO^tBu (0.55 mmol) in 2 mL toluene at 130 °C for 1.5 h; closed argon condition in Schlenk tube. ^b Determined by ¹H NMR using 1,3,5-trimethoxybenzene as internal standard. ^c 5 h heating. ^d 7 h heating.

Text S2: Procedure for the control experiments of β-alkylation secondary alcohol: Under argon condition, a mixture of cat. **1a** (0.1 mol %), KO^tBu (0.55 mmol), 1-phenylethanol (1.1 mmol) and benzaldehyde (1.1 mmol) was added with 2 mL toluene and refluxed at 130 °C (oil



bath temperature) for 30 min (reaction a). After it was cooled to room temperature, the crude reaction mixture was analysed by GC check the conversion of 1-phenylethanol and further evaporating the solvent, the resulting mixture was submitted for ¹H NMR to calculate the product selectivity.

In the similar way, reaction b also was performed with cat. **1a** (0.1 mol %), KO^tBu (0.55 mmol), acetophenone (1.1 mmol), and benzyl alcohol (1.1 mmol) in 2 mL toluene at 130 °C (oil bath temperature) for 30 min under closed argon condition.

Text S3: Procedure for time dependence product distribution of β-alkylation of secondary alcohol: To check the conversion and product selectivity of β-alkylation of secondary alcohol at different time interval, six identical reactions were performed following standard reaction condition in six Schlenk tubes using 1-phenylethanol and benzyl alcohol as model substrates only varying the reaction time (15 min, 30 min, 45 min, 60 min, 75 min and 90 min). After the reaction,

the conversion and product selectivity were determined by ^1H NMR and the data was plotted in % Mol vs. time (min) (figure S4).

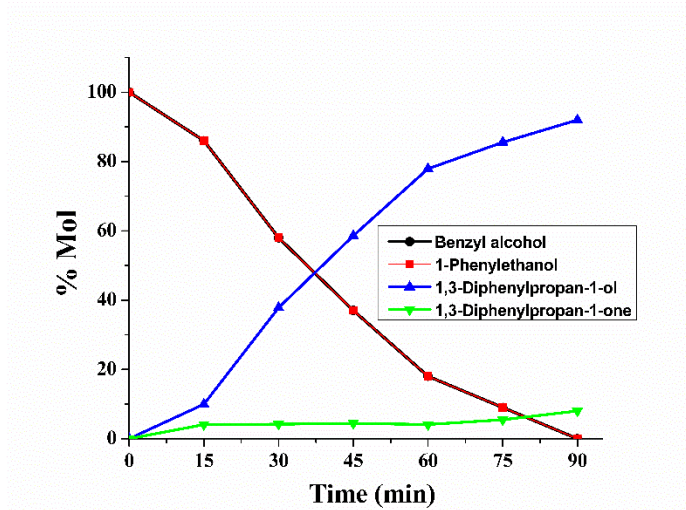
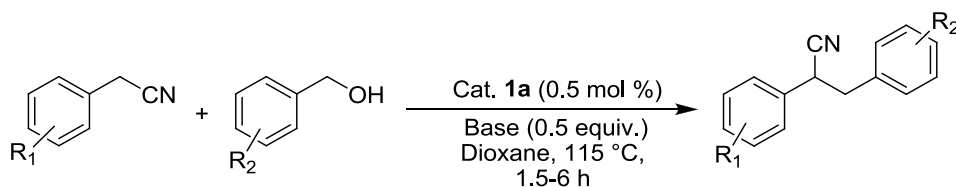


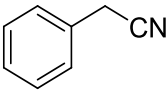
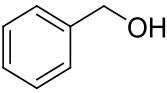
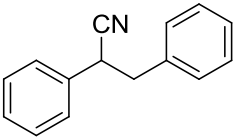
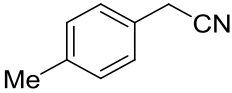
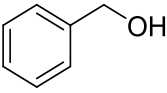
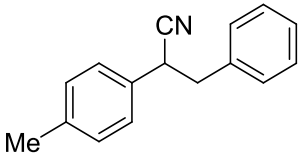
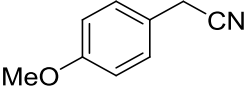
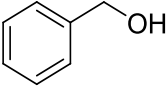
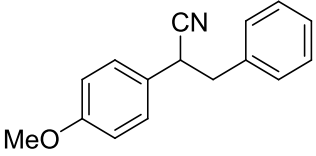
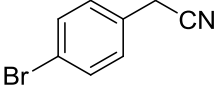
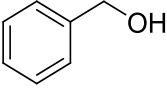
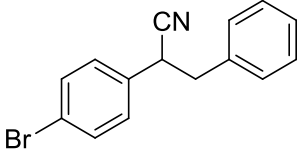
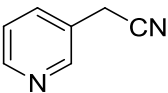
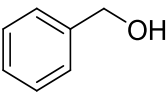
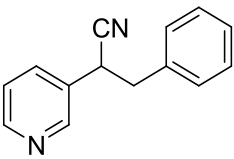
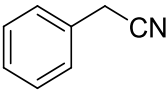
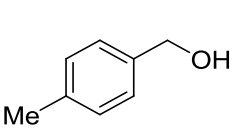
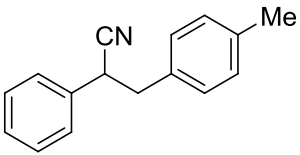
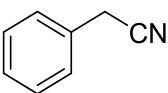
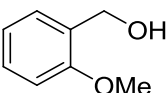
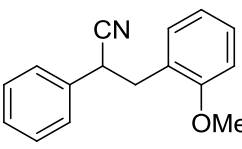
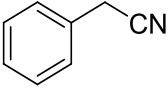
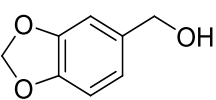
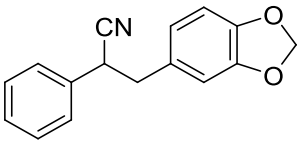
Figure S4. Time dependence product distribution of β -alkylation of 1-phenylethanol with benzyl alcohol using cat. **1a**.

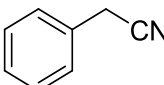
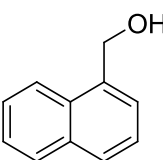
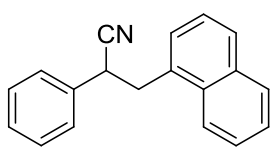
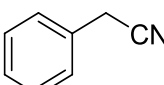
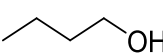
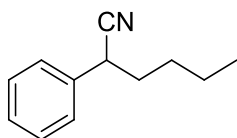
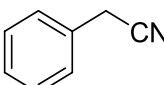
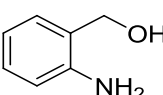
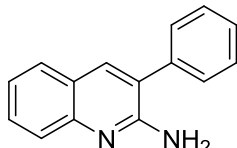
Text S4: TON Calculation in β -alkylation of secondary alcohols: 32 μL solution of cat. **1a** (4.4×10^{-4} mol % cat. **1a**) was taken from stock solution (1.5 mg cat. **1a** in 1.5 mL acetonitrile) and added in a Schlenk flask. After evaporating acetonitrile under reduced pressure, 1-phenylethanol (8.05 mmol), benzyl alcohol (8.05 mmol), KO^tBu (4.025 mmol) and 15 mL toluene were taken into the flask, equipped with a magnetic stir bar. Then the flask was heated at 130 $^\circ\text{C}$ (oil bath temperature) for 30 hour. Based on the GC analysis conversion of 1-phenylethanol was 43.5%.

Text S5: Hg^0 poisoning experiment: To investigate the homogeneous nature of the catalyst in reaction condition, Hg^0 poisoning test was performed. Following the general procedure for β -alkylation of secondary alcohols, two identical reactions were performed in parallel using 1-phenylethanol and benzyl alcohol as substrates where one acted as the control reaction. Under argon condition, a mixture of cat. **1a** (0.1 mol %), KO^tBu (0.55 mmol), 1-phenylethanol (1.1 mmol) and benzyl alcohol (1.1 mmol) was added in two different Schlenk tube with 2 mL toluene and refluxed at 130 $^\circ\text{C}$ (oil bath temperature) for 10 min. After 10 min, the two reaction mixtures were cooled down to room temperature under argon flow and a drop of Hg^0 was added in one tube, re-sealed and refluxed again at 130 $^\circ\text{C}$ (oil bath temperature) for another 80 min (the control Schlenk tube was also treated identically, without adding of Hg^0). After the reaction, the conversion of 1-phenylethanol was monitored by GC. The conversion of 1-phenylethanol without and with Hg^0 were 100% and 96% respectively.

Table S6: Substrate scope of α -alkylation of arylacetonitriles with primary alcohols.^a

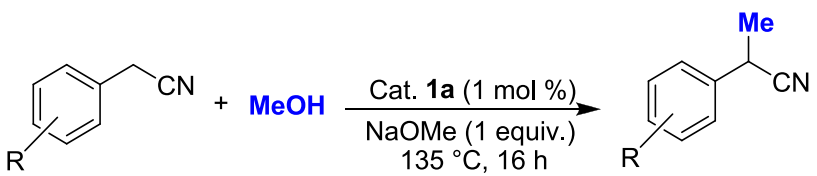


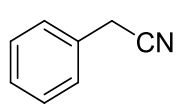
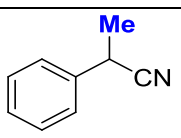
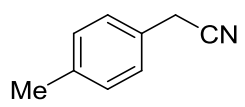
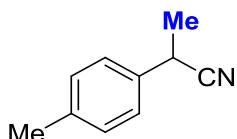
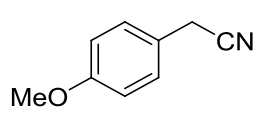
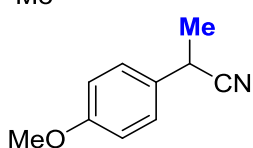
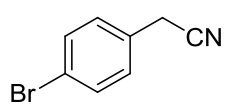
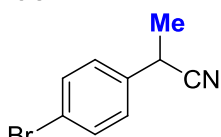
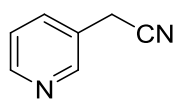
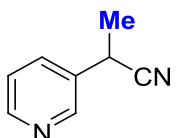
Entry	Nitrile	Alcohol	Product	Time (h)	Yield (%) ^b
1				2	99
2				1.5	>99
3				2	>99
4				1.5	98
5 ^c				3	98
6				3	99
7				3	99
8				2	98

9				2	98
10				5	97
11 ^{c,d,e}				6	88

^a Reaction conditions: Cat. **1a** (0.5 mol %), arylacetonitrile (0.5 mmol), alcohol (2.5 mmol) and KOH (0.25 mmol) refluxed in 2 mL dioxane at 115 °C in necessary time; closed argon condition in Schlenk tube. ^b Determined by GC using mesitylene as an internal standard. ^c 1 mol % cat. **1a**. ^d Heated at 130 °C. ^e 1 equiv. KOH.

Table S7: Substrate scope for the α -methylation of arylacetonitriles using methanol.^a

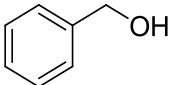
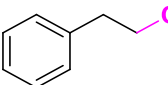
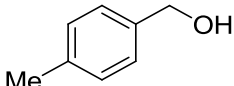
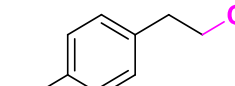
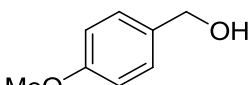
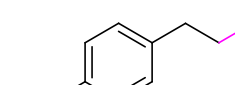
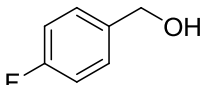
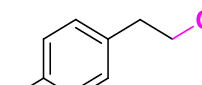
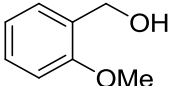
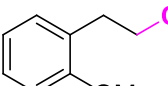
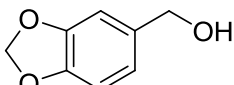
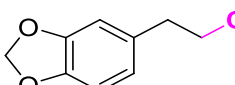
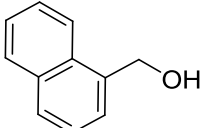
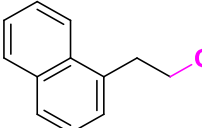
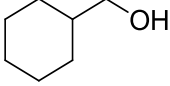
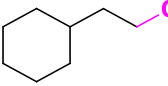
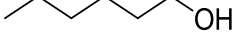
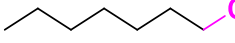


Entry	Nitrile	Product	Yield (%) ^b
1			92
2			88
3			76
4			68
5			81

^a Reaction conditions: Cat. **1a** (1 mol %), arylacetonitrile (0.6 mmol) and NaOMe (0.6 mmol) in MeOH (1.0 mL) at 135 °C for 16 h; closed argon condition in pressure tube. ^b Determined by GC using mesitylene as an internal standard.

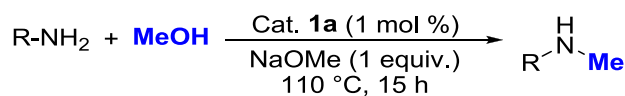
Table S8: Monoalkylation of acetonitrile using different alcohols.^a

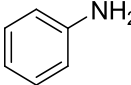
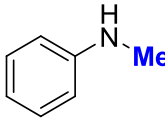
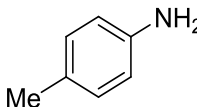
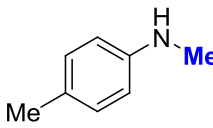
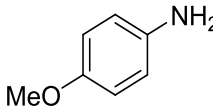
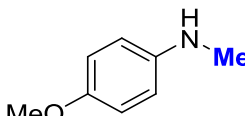
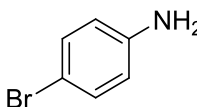
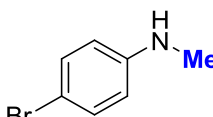
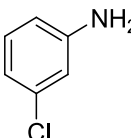
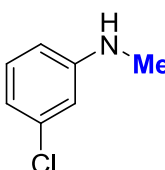
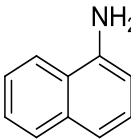
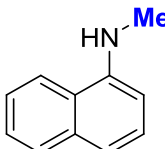
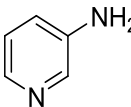
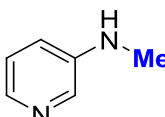
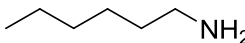
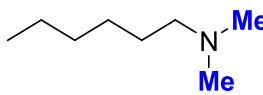
$$\text{R-OH} + \text{CH}_3\text{CN} \xrightarrow[\text{Toluene, 120 } ^\circ\text{C, 24 h}]{\text{Cat. 1a (5 mol \%), NaOH (2 equiv.)}} \text{R-CH}_2\text{CN}$$

Entry	Substrate	Product	Yield (%) ^b
1			94
2			81
3			85
4			77
5			69
6			87
7			83
8			72
9			64

^a Reaction conditions: Cat. **1a** (5 mol %), alcohol (0.5 mmol), NaOH (1.0 mmol) and CH₃CN (62.5 mmol) heated in 1 mL toluene at 120 °C for 24 h; closed argon condition in Schlenk tube. ^b Determined by GC using mesitylene as an internal standard.

Table S9: N-methylation of amines using methanol.^a



Entry	Substrate	Product	Yield (%) ^b
1			86 ^c 99
2			99
3			98
4			98
5			100
6 ^d			80
7			95
8 ^d			60

^aReaction conditions: Cat. **1a** (1 mol %), amine (0.8 mmol), NaOMe (0.8 mmol) in methanol (1.0 mL) refluxed at 110 °C for 15 h; closed argon condition in pressure tube. ^bDetermined by GC using mesitylene as an internal standard. ^c 12 h. ^d 24 h.

Text S6: NMR Characterization Data of Isolated Products:

β-Alkylated alcohols

Secondary alcohol variation products: 1,3-diphenylpropan-1-ol (2a)⁵: Colourless oil (203 mg, 87% isolated yield); ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 7.36-7.34 (m, 4H), 7.31-7.25 (m, 3H), 7.21-7.17 (m, 3H), 4.68 (dd, *J*_{H,H} = 8.0, 5.6 Hz, 1H), 2.79-2.63 (m, 2H), 2.15-2.04 (m, 2H), 1.91 (bs, 1H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 144.66, 141.88, 128.63, 128.55, 128.50, 127.75, 126.04, 125.98, 73.98, 40.56, 32.16.

1-(4-Chlorophenyl)-3-phenylpropan-1-ol (2b)⁵: Colourless oil (228 mg, 84% isolated yield); ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 7.33-7.25 (m, 6H), 7.21-7.17 (m, 3H), 4.65 (dd, *J*_{H,H} = 7.6, 5.2 Hz, 1H), 2.77-2.62 (m, 2H), 2.14-1.94 (m, 2H), 1.85 (bs, 1H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 143.13, 141.60, 133.35, 128.75, 128.57, 128.53, 127.42, 126.09, 73.26, 40.60, 32.03.

1-(4-Bromophenyl)-3-phenylpropan-1-ol (2c)⁶: Colourless oil (272 mg, 85% isolated yield); ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 7.48-7.46 (m, 2H), 7.31-7.28 (m, 2H), 7.22-7.17 (m, 5H), 4.62 (dd, *J*_{H,H} = 8.0, 5.6 Hz, 1H), 2.76-2.61 (m, 2H), 2.20 (bs, 1H), 2.13-1.93 (m, 2H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): 143.58, 141.53, 131.63, 128.53, 128.49, 127.75, 126.05, 121.39, 73.19, 40.49, 31.95.

1-(4-Fluorophenyl)-3-phenylpropan-1-ol (2d)⁵: Light yellow oil (203 mg, 80% isolated yield); ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 7.32-7.25 (m, 4H), 7.20-7.17 (m, 3H), 7.05-7.01 (m, 2H), 4.66 (t, *J*_{H,H} = 6.5 Hz, 1H), 2.75-2.62 (m, 2H), 2.14-1.96 (m, 3H). ¹³C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 163.29, 161.34, 141.68, 140.41, 140.39, 128.54, 128.52, 127.70, 127.64, 126.04, 115.49, 115.32, 73.30, 40.65, 32.10.

1-(4-Methylphenyl)-3-phenylpropan-1-ol (2e)⁵: Colourless oil (204 mg, 82% isolated yield); ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 7.30-7.16 (m, 9H), 4.65 (dd, *J*_{H,H} = 7.6, 5.6 Hz, 1H), 2.78-2.62 (m, 2H), 2.35 (s, 3H), 2.18-1.97 (m, 2H), 1.82 (bs, 1H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 141.97, 141.69, 137.45, 129.31, 128.56, 128.49, 126.02, 125.94, 73.85, 40.47, 32.21, 21.24.

1-(4-Methoxyphenyl)-3-phenylpropan-1-ol (2f)⁷: Pale yellow oil (203 mg, 76% isolated yield); ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 7.29-7.16 (m, 7H), 6.90-6.87 (m, 2H), 4.63 (dd, *J*_{H,H} = 7.6, 6.0 Hz, 1H), 3.81 (s, 3H), 2.76-2.60 (m, 2H), 2.18-1.97 (m, 2H), 1.79 (bs, 1H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 159.24, 141.95, 136.81, 128.57, 128.50, 127.34, 125.96, 114.01, 73.63, 55.43, 40.47, 32.26.

2-Benzyl-1,2,3,4-tetrahydronaphthalen-1-ol (2g)⁷: White solid (157 mg, 60% isolated yield); ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 7.52-7.49 (m, 1H), 7.32-7.29 (m, 2H), 7.24-7.19 (m, 5H), 7.10-7.08 (m, 1H), 4.50 (d, *J*_{H,H} = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 3.07 (dd, *J*_{H,H} = 12, 4 Hz, 1H), 2.77-2.74 (m, 2H), 2.51 (dd, *J*_{H,H} = 12, 4 Hz, 1H), 2.10-1.94 (m, 2H), 1.70 (bs, 1H), 1.55-1.45 (m, 1H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 140.48, 138.69, 136.93, 130.50, 129.41, 128.86, 128.49, 127.57, 126.42, 126.15, 73.14, 44.13, 38.49, 27.75, 24.66.

1-(Naphthalen-2-yl)-3-phenylpropan-1-ol (2h)⁷: White solid (237 mg, 82% isolated yield); ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 7.85-7.82 (m, 3H), 7.79 (s, 1H), 7.50-7.46 (m, 3H), 7.30-7.27 (m, 2H), 7.21-7.17 (m, 3H), 4.86 (dd, *J*_{H,H} = 7.6, 5.6 Hz, 1H), 2.82-2.66 (m, 2H), 2.27-2.12 (m, 2H), 1.89 (bs, 1H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 142.00, 141.86, 133.40, 133.14, 128.59, 128.54, 128.52, 128.05, 127.82, 126.31, 126.01, 124.81, 124.17, 74.11, 40.45, 32.18.

1,5-Diphenylpentan-3-ol (2i)⁵: White solid (132 mg, 50% isolated yield); ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 7.30-7.19 (m, 10H), 3.67 (m, 1H), 2.80-2.65 (m, 4H), 1.87-1.75 (m, 4H), 1.54 (s, 1H); ¹³C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 142.17, 128.58, 128.54, 126.00, 71.00, 39.37, 32.20.

1-cyclopropyl-3-phenylpropan-1-ol (2j)⁸: Colourless oil (178 mg, 92% isolated yield); ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 7.32-7.18 (m, 5H), 2.94-2.71 (m, 3H), 2.14 (bs, 1H), 1.98-1.92 (m, 2H),

1.0-0.91 (m, 1H), 0.58-0.47 (m, 2H), 0.32-0.19 (m, 2H); ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3): δ = 142.28, 128.43, 128.38, 125.70, 75.96, 38.75, 32.03, 17.93, 2.70, 2.60.

4-Methyl-1-phenylpentan-3-ol (2k)⁹: Colourless oil (168 mg, 86% isolated yield); ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3): δ = 7.30-7.27 (m, 2H), 7.22-7.16 (m, 3H), 3.40 (sept, $J_{\text{H,H}}$ = 3.6 Hz, 1H), 2.88-2.81 (m, 1H), 2.69-2.61 (m, 1H), 1.84-1.64 (m, 3H), 0.92 (dd, $J_{\text{H,H}}$ = 6.8, 1.2 Hz, 6H); ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3): δ = 142.47, 128.56, 128.51, 125.91, 76.26, 36.08, 33.80, 32.60, 18.90, 17.29.

Primary alcohol variation products: 3-(4-Chlorophenyl)-1-phenylpropan-1-ol (3a)¹⁰: White solid (222 mg, 82% isolated yield); ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3): δ = 7.38-7.22 (m, 7H), 7.13-7.09 (m, 2H) 4.66 (t, $J_{\text{H,H}}$ = 5.9 Hz, 1H), 2.75-2.60 (m, 2H), 2.14-1.94 (m, 2H), 1.83 (d, $J_{\text{H,H}}$ = 2.4 Hz, 1H); ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3): δ = 144.51, 140.33, 131.66, 129.92, 128.70, 128.58, 127.88, 126.00, 73.83, 40.43, 31.50.

3-(4-Bromophenyl)-1-phenylpropan-1-ol (3b)¹¹: Colourless oil (266 mg, 83% isolated yield); ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3): δ = 7.40-7.25 (m, 7H), 7.05 (d, $J_{\text{H,H}}$ = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 4.65 (dd, $J_{\text{H,H}}$ = 8.0, 5.5 Hz, 1H), 2.72-2.59 (m, 2H), 2.13-1.96 (m, 3H); ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3): δ = 144.49, 140.85, 131.52, 130.32, 128.67, 127.85, 125.99, 119.67, 73.78, 40.32, 31.53.

3-(4-Fluorophenyl)-1-phenylpropan-1-ol (3c)¹²: Colourless oil (208 mg, 82% isolated yield); ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3): δ = 7.37-7.26 (m, 5H), 7.15-7.11 (m, 2H), 6.97-6.93 (m, 2H) 4.66 (t, $J_{\text{H,H}}$ = 6.4 Hz, 1H), 2.75-2.60 (m, 2H), 2.14-1.94 (m, 2H), 1.87 (bs, 1H); ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3): δ = 162.58, 160.16, 144.58, 137.48, 129.89, 129.82, 128.67, 127.83, 126.01, 115.31, 115.10, 73.86, 40.68, 31.33.

3-(4-Methylphenyl)-1-phenylpropan-1-ol (3d)¹³: White solid (214 mg, 86% isolated yield); ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3): δ = 7.35-7.33 (m, 4H), 7.31-7.26 (m, 1H), 7.08 (s, 4H), 4.68 (dd, $J_{\text{H,H}}$ = 7.6, 5.2 Hz, 1H), 2.74-2.59 (m, 2H), 2.31 (s, 3H), 2.16-1.96 (m, 2H), 1.75 (bs, 1H); ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3): δ = 144.70, 138.75, 135.39, 129.18, 128.60, 128.42, 127.71, 126.04, 73.98, 40.65, 31.69, 21.11.

3-(4-Methoxyphenyl)-1-phenylpropan-1-ol (3e)¹³: White solid (218 mg, 82% isolated yield); ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3): δ = 7.34-7.25 (m, 5H), 7.10 (d, $J_{\text{H,H}}$ = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 6.82 (d, $J_{\text{H,H}}$ = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 4.66 (dd, $J_{\text{H,H}}$ = 7.6, 5.2 Hz, 1H), 3.77 (s, 3H), 2.71-2.57 (m, 2H), , 2.14-1.94 (m, 2H), 1.76 (bs, 1H); ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3): δ = 157.83, 144.72, 133.95, 129.40, 128.57, 127.66, 126.02, 113.89, 73.88, 55.32, 40.77, 31.20.

3-(2-Chlorophenyl)-1-phenylpropan-1-ol (3f)¹⁴: Colourless dense oil (211 mg, 78% isolated yield); ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3): δ = 7.37-7.11 (m, 9H), 4.72 (dd, $J_{\text{H,H}}$ = 7.8, 5.3 Hz, 1H), 2.93-2.87 (m, 1H), 2.80-2.74 (m, 1H), 2.13-2.02 (m, 2H), 1.94 (bs, 1H); ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3): δ = 144.50, 139.53, 134.06, 130.55, 129.63, 128.6, 127.82, 127.52, 126.92, 126.03, 74.12, 38.84, 30.19.

3-(2-Methoxyphenyl)-1-phenylpropan-1-ol (3g)¹⁵: Pale yellow oil (213 mg, 80% isolated yield); ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3): δ = 7.37-7.32 (m, 4H), 7.28-7.25 (m, 1H), 7.22-7.14 (m, 2H), 6.92-6.85 (m, 2H), 4.63 (dd, $J_{\text{H,H}}$ = 8.4, 4.8 Hz, 1H), 3.83 (s, 3H), 2.78-2.74 (m, 2H), 2.29 (bs, 1H),

2.12-1.95 (m, 2H); ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3): δ = 157.45, 144.73, 130.17, 130.08, 128.45, 127.45, 127.31, 126.00, 120.78, 110.40, 73.63, 55.42, 39.47, 26.53.

3-(3-Chlorophenyl)-1-phenylpropan-1-ol (3h)¹⁶: Colourless dense liquid (222 mg, 82% isolated yield); ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3): δ = 7.38-7.27 (m, 5H), 7.22-7.14 (m, 3H), 7.07-7.05 (m, 1H), 4.67 (dd, $J_{\text{H,H}}$ = 8, 5.6 Hz, 1H), 2.77-2.61 (m, 2H), 2.16-1.95 (m, 2H), 1.83 (bs, 1H); ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3): δ = 144.49, 143.99, 134.25, 129.74, 128.71, 127.90, 126.77, 126.18, 126.00, 73.84, 40.30, 31.85.

3-(Naphthalen-1-yl)-1-phenylpropan-1-ol (3i)⁷: Pale yellow oil (216 mg, 75% isolated yield); ^1H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl_3): δ = 8.00-7.98 (m, 1H), 7.86-7.85 (m, 1H), 7.72 (d, $J_{\text{H,H}}$ = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.51-7.46 (m, 2H), 7.42-7.34 (m, 6H), 7.32-7.28 (m, 1H), 4.81-4.78 (m, 1H), 3.28-3.22 (m, 1H), 3.14-3.08 (m, 1H), 2.30-2.13 (m, 2H), 2.04 (d, $J_{\text{H,H}}$ = 3.5 Hz, 1H); ^{13}C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl_3): δ = 144.65, 138.13, 134.04, 131.97, 128.88, 128.65, 127.80, 126.80, 126.07, 125.91, 125.66, 125.57, 123.90, 74.30, 39.95, 29.23.

3-Cyclohexyl-1-phenylpropan-1-ol (3j)¹⁵: Colourless dense liquid (211 mg, 88% isolated yield); ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3): δ = 7.36-7.29 (m, 4H), 7.28-7.26 (m, 1H), 4.62 (t, $J_{\text{H,H}}$ = 6.8 Hz, 1H), 1.82-1.74 (m, 2H), 1.55 (bs, 1H), 1.36-1.09 (m, 10H), 0.89-0.81 (m, 2H); ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3): δ = 145.09, 128.57, 127.62, 126.05, 75.21, 37.79, 36.61, 33.62, 33.50, 33.42, 26.79, 26.50.

1-Phenylhexan-1-ol (3k)⁵: Colourless oil (160 mg, 82% isolated yield); ^1H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl_3): δ = 7.37-7.33 (m, 4H), 7.30-7.27 (m, 1H), 4.64 (dd, $J_{\text{H,H}}$ = 5.4, 5.4 Hz, 1H), 2.18 (bs, 1H), 1.80-1.68 (m, 2H), 1.46-1.30 (m, 6H), 0.90 (t, $J_{\text{H,H}}$ = 7.0 Hz, 3H); ^{13}C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl_3): δ = 145.08, 128.46, 127.49, 126.00, 74.72, 39.15, 31.82, 25.59, 22.66, 14.11

1-Phenyloctan-1-ol (3l)¹⁶: Colourless oil (163 mg, 72% isolated yield); ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3): δ = 7.36-7.31 (m, 4H), 7.30-7.26 (m, 1H), 4.63 (dd, $J_{\text{H,H}}$ = 7.2, 6.0 Hz, 1H), 2.04 (bs, 1H), 1.78-1.66 (m, 2H), 1.32-1.22 (m, 10H), 0.88 (t, $J_{\text{H,H}}$ = 7.2 Hz, 3H). ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3): δ = 145.10, 128.49, 127.52, 126.01, 74.76, 39.22, 31.92, 29.61, 29.48, 29.32, 25.92, 22.74, 14.17

α -Alkylation of arylacetonitriles: 2,3-Diphenylpropanenitrile (4a)¹⁷: Colourless solid (98 mg, 94% isolated yield); ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3): δ = 7.38-7.35 (m, 8H), 7.15-7.13 (m, 2H), 4.0 (dd, $J_{\text{H,H}}$ = 8.3, 6.5 Hz, 1H), 3.22-3.10 (m, 2H). ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3): δ = 136.36, 135.29, 129.32, 129.12, 128.31, 127.59, 127.49, 120.49, 42.30, 39.91; GC-MS: $[\text{M}^+] = 207.1$

3-Phenyl-2-p-tolylpropanenitrile (4b)¹⁸: Colourless solid (105 mg, 95% isolated yield); ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3): δ = 7.31-7.11 (m, 10H), 3.95 (dd, $J_{\text{H,H}}$ = 8.4, 6.6 Hz, 1H), 3.19-3.07 (m, 2H), 2.34 (s, 3H). ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3): δ = 138.10, 136.50, 132.30, 129.75, 129.29, 128.69, 127.41, 120.63, 42.33, 39.55, 29.79, 21.18; GC-MS: $[\text{M}^+] = 221.1$

2-(4-Methoxyphenyl)-3-phenylpropanenitrile (4c)¹⁸: Colourless solid (111 mg, 94% isolated yield); ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3): δ = 7.29-7.25 (m, 3H), 7.17-7.11 (m, 4H), 6.86 (d, $J_{\text{H,H}}$ = 8.8 Hz, 2H), 3.94 (dd, $J_{\text{H,H}}$ = 8.2, 6.6 Hz, 1H), 3.80 (s, 3H), 3.19-3.06 (m, 2H). ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3): δ = 159.48, 136.47, 129.34, 128.72, 128.69, 127.41, 127.28, 120.74, 114.43, 55.42, 42.36, 39.06; GC-MS: $[\text{M}^+] = 237.1$

2-(4-Bromophenyl)-3-phenylpropanenitrile (4d)¹⁹: Pale Yellow Solid (130 mg, 91% isolated yield); ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 7.48-7.45 (m, 2H), 7.31-7.25 (m, 3H), 7.11-7.08 (m, 4H), 3.96 (dd, *J*_{H,H} = 7.7, 6.9 Hz, 1H), 3.20-3.07 (m, 2H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 135.82, 134.19, 132.23, 129.23, 128.79, 127.63, 122.40, 119.95, 42.04, 39.31, 29.79; GC-MS: [*M*⁺] = 285.0

3-Phenyl-2-(pyridin-3-yl)propanenitrile (4e)¹⁷: Colourless solid (94 mg, 90% isolated yield); ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 8.58 (d, *J*_{H,H} = 2.7 Hz, 1H), 8.46 (s, 1H), 7.58 (d, *J*_{H,H} = 6.4 Hz, 1H), 7.31-7.25 (m, 2H), 7.10 (m, 2H), 4.05 (t, *J*_{H,H} = 5.8 Hz, 1H), 3.25-3.12 (m, 2H). ¹³C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 149.65, 148.83, 135.37, 131.17, 129.33, 128.90, 127.82, 123.84, 119.46, 41.89, 37.35, 29.78; GC-MS: [*M*⁺] = 208.1

2-Phenyl-3-p-tolylpropanenitrile (4f)²⁰: Colourless liquid (104 mg, 94% isolated yield); ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 7.38-7.32 (m, 3H), 7.28-7.25 (m, 2H), 7.10 (d, *J*_{H,H} = 7.9 Hz, 2H), 7.03 (d, *J*_{H,H} = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 3.97 (dd, *J*_{H,H} = 8.3, 7.7 Hz, 1H), 3.17-3.06 (m, 2H), 2.32 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 137.10, 135.42, 133.32, 129.40, 129.17, 129.09, 128.25, 127.58, 120.56, 41.93, 40.06, 21.20; GC-MS: [*M*⁺] = 221.1

3-(2-Methoxyphenyl)-2-phenylpropanenitrile (4g)²¹: Colourless liquid (107 mg, 90% isolated yield); ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 7.37-7.23 (m, 6H), 7.07 (dd, *J*_{H,H} = 7.7, 1.7 Hz, 1H), 6.89-6.85 (m, 2H), 4.16 (dd, *J*_{H,H} = 9.0, 6.4 Hz, 1H), 3.84 (s, 3H), 3.21-3.09 (m, 2H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 157.49, 136.12, 131.26, 128.97, 128.93, 128.04, 127.45, 124.99, 120.92, 120.69, 110.37, 55.37, 37.86, 37.73; GC-MS: [*M*⁺] = 237.1

3-(Benzo[d][1,3]dioxol-5-yl)-2-phenylpropanenitrile (4h)²²: Colourless liquid (114 mg, 91% isolated yield); ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 7.38-7.24 (m, 5H), 6.71 (d, *J*_{H,H} = 7.9 Hz, 1H), 6.58 (m, 2H), 5.93 (s, 2H), 3.94 (dd, *J*_{H,H} = 8.2, 6.6 Hz, 1H), 3.12-3.01 (m, 2H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 147.82, 146.96, 135.19, 130.01, 129.13, 128.32, 127.55, 122.58, 120.42, 109.56, 108.45, 101.15, 42.06, 40.15; GC-MS: [*M*⁺] = 250.8

3-(Naphthalen-1-yl)-2-phenylpropanenitrile (4i)²³: White solid (118 mg, 92% isolated yield); ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 7.94-7.88 (m, 2H), 7.79 (d, *J*_{H,H} = 8.2 Hz, 1H), 7.57-7.49 (m, 2H), 7.41-7.29 (m, 7H), 4.16 (dd, *J*_{H,H} = 8.6, 6.7 Hz, 1H), 3.67-3.57 (m, 2H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): 135.69, 134.04, 132.28, 131.36, 129.35, 129.22, 128.42, 128.39, 128.22, 127.44, 126.64, 125.88, 125.57, 122.67, 120.56, 39.70, 38.91, 29.79; GC-MS: [*M*⁺] = 257.1

2-Phenylhexanenitrile (4j)²²: Colourless liquid (78 mg, 90% isolated yield); ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 7.39-7.28 (m, 5H), 3.76 (dd, *J*_{H,H} = 8.5, 6.4 Hz, 1H), 1.97-1.87 (m, 2H), 1.54-1.31 (m, 4H), 0.91 (t, *J*_{H,H} = 7.3 Hz, 3H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): 136.10, 129.03, 127.97, 127.23, 120.93, 37.38, 35.62, 29.12, 22.08, 13.75; GC-MS: [*M*⁺] = 173.1

3-Phenylquinolin-2-amine (4k)²⁴: Off-white solid (90 mg, 82% isolated yield); ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 7.78 (s, 1H), 7.69 (d, *J*_{H,H} = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 7.64 (dd, *J*_{H,H} = 8.0, 1.2 Hz, 1H), 7.58-7.54 (m, 1H), 7.53-7.48 (m, 4H), 7.43 (tt, *J*_{H,H} = 7.0, 1.7 Hz, 1H), 7.28-7.25 (m, 1H), 5.01 (bs, 2H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): 155.26, 147.21, 137.66, 137.35, 129.76, 125.25, 129.00, 128.33, 127.60, 125.67, 125.12, 124.30, 122.89; ESI-MS: *m/z* 221.1077 ([*M*+H]⁺, predicted: 221.1079).

α -Methylation of aryl acetonitrile: 2-Phenylpropanenitrile (5a)²²: Colourless liquid (69 mg, 88% isolated yield); ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 7.40-7.30 (m, 5H), 3.89 (q, $J_{\text{H,H}}$ = 7.2 Hz, 1H), 1.64 (d, $J_{\text{H,H}}$ = 7.2 Hz, 3H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 137.20, 129.28, 128.18, 126.83, 121.71, 31.39, 21.61; GC-MS: [M^+] = 131.1

2-*P*-tolylpropanenitrile (5b)²²: Colourless liquid (72 mg, 83% isolated yield); ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 7.26-7.18 (m, 4H), 3.86 (q, $J_{\text{H,H}}$ = 7.0 Hz, 1H), 2.35 (s, 3H), 1.62 (d, $J_{\text{H,H}}$ = 7.2 Hz, 3H); ¹³C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 137.96, 134.19, 129.89, 126.69, 121.90, 30.98, 21.62, 21.16; GC-MS: [M^+] = 145.1

2-(4-Methoxyphenyl)propanenitrile (5c)²²: Colourless liquid (70 mg, 72% isolated yield); ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 7.26 (d, $J_{\text{H,H}}$ = 9.0 Hz, 2H), 6.90 (d, $J_{\text{H,H}}$ = 9.0 Hz, 2H), 3.85 (q, $J_{\text{H,H}}$ = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 3.80 (s, 3H), 1.60 (d, $J_{\text{H,H}}$ = 7.5 Hz, 3H); ¹³C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 159.37, 129.17, 127.94, 121.99, 114.56, 55.45, 30.55, 21.63; GC-MS: [M^+] = 161.1

2-(4-Bromophenyl)propanenitrile (5d)²²: Colourless liquid (81 mg, 64% isolated yield); ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 7.51 (d, $J_{\text{H,H}}$ = 8.5 Hz, 2H), 7.26-7.22 (m, 2H), 3.86 (q, $J_{\text{H,H}}$ = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 1.62 (d, $J_{\text{H,H}}$ = 7.5 Hz, 3H); ¹³C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 136.17, 132.43, 128.55, 122.23, 121.15, 30.93, 21.45; GC-MS: [M^+] = 209.0

2-(Pyridin-3-yl)propanenitrile (5e)²⁵: Colourless liquid (60 mg, 76% isolated yield); ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 8.60-8.59 (m, 1H), 7.74 (dt, $J_{\text{H,H}}$ = 8.0, 1.5 Hz, 1H), 7.35 (q, $J_{\text{H,H}}$ = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 3.95 (q, $J_{\text{H,H}}$ = 7.0 Hz, 1H), 1.67 (d, $J_{\text{H,H}}$ = 7.5 Hz, 3H); ¹³C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 149.69, 148.34, 134.43, 133.00, 124.06, 120.65, 29.15, 21.37; GC-MS: [M^+] = 132.0

Monoalkylation of acetonitrile: 3-Phenylpropanenitrile (6a)²⁶: Yellow oil (59 mg, 90% isolated yield); ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 7.36-7.22 (m, 5H), 2.95 (t, $J_{\text{H,H}}$ = 7.44 Hz, 2H), 2.60 (t, $J_{\text{H,H}}$ = 7.44 Hz, 2H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 138.18, 128.97, 128.39, 127.33, 119.30, 31.64, 19.45. GC-MS: [M^+] = 131.1

3-*P*-tolylpropanenitrile (6b)²⁶: Colourless oil (55 mg, 76% isolated yield); ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 7.15-7.09 (m, 4H), 2.91 (t, $J_{\text{H,H}}$ = 7.44 Hz, 2H), 2.58 (t, $J_{\text{H,H}}$ = 7.44 Hz, 2H), 2.32 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 141.44, 136.96, 135.08, 129.61, 128.21, 119.32, 31.26, 21.14, 19.60. GC-MS: [M^+] = 145.0

3-(4-Methoxyphenyl)propanenitrile (6c)²⁶: Yellow oil (64 mg, 80% isolated yield); ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 7.14 (d, $J_{\text{H,H}}$ = 8.60 Hz, 2H), 6.86 (d, $J_{\text{H,H}}$ = 8.64 Hz, 2H), 3.78 (s, 3H), 2.89 (t, $J_{\text{H,H}}$ = 7.40 Hz, 2H), 2.57 (t, $J_{\text{H,H}}$ = 7.44 Hz, 2H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 158.82, 130.20, 129.41, 119.34, 114.32, 55.37, 30.85, 19.80. GC-MS: [M^+] = 161.1

3-(4-Fluorophenyl)propanenitrile (6d)²⁶: Colourless oil (52 mg, 70% isolated yield); ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 7.21-7.17 (m, 2H), 7.04-7.00 (m, 2H), 2.92 (t, $J_{\text{H,H}}$ = 7.36 Hz, 2H), 2.59 (t, $J_{\text{H,H}}$ = 7.48 Hz, 2H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 163.33, 160.88, 133.78, 129.99, 129.91, 119.00, 115.96, 115.75, 30.87, 19.68. GC-MS: [M^+] = 149.0

3-(2-Methoxyphenyl)propanenitrile (6e)²⁶: Yellow oil (51 mg, 64% isolated yield); ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 7.27-7.22 (m, 1H), 7.16 (dd, $J_{\text{H,H}}$ = 7.34, 1.36 Hz, 1H), 6.93-6.85 (m, 2H),

3.83 (s, 3H), 2.95 (t, $J_{\text{H,H}} = 7.44$ Hz, 2H), 2.61 (t, $J_{\text{H,H}} = 7.44$ Hz, 2H). ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3): $\delta = 157.35, 130.29, 128.72, 126.38, 120.74, 119.77, 110.41, 56.26, 27.14, 17.54$. GC-MS: $[\text{M}^+] = 161.0$

3-(Benzo[d][1,3]dioxol-5-yl)propanenitrile (6f)²⁷: Colourless oil (72 mg, 82% isolated yield); ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3): $\delta = 6.77\text{--}6.66$ (m, 3H), 5.94 (s, 2H), 2.86 (t, $J_{\text{H,H}} = 7.32$ Hz, 2H), 2.56 (t, $J_{\text{H,H}} = 7.40$ Hz, 2H). ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3): $\delta = 148.01, 146.81, 131.80, 121.46, 119.16, 108.71, 108.63, 101.16, 31.41, 19.81$. GC-MS: $[\text{M}^+] = 175.2$

3-(Naphthalen-1-yl)propanenitrile (6g)²⁸: Yellow oil (71 mg, 78% isolated yield); ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3): $\delta = 7.93\text{--}7.87$ (m, 2H), 7.79 (d, $J_{\text{H,H}} = 7.96$ Hz, 1H), 7.58–7.49 (m, 2H), 7.45–7.38 (m, 2H), 3.44 (t, $J_{\text{H,H}} = 7.64$ Hz, 2H), 2.76 (t, $J_{\text{H,H}} = 7.68$ Hz, 2H). ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3): $\delta = 134.03, 133.93, 129.28, 128.24, 126.66, 125.99, 125.70, 122.68, 119.97, 28.93, 18.60$. GC-MS: $[\text{M}^+] = 136.1$

3-Cyclohexylpropanenitrile (6h)²⁹: Yellow oil (45 mg, 66% isolated yield); ^1H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl_3): $\delta = 2.33$ (t, $J_{\text{H,H}} = 7.40$ Hz, 2H), 1.72–1.64 (m, 5H), 1.56–1.52 (m, 2H), 1.39–1.34 (m, 1H), 1.28–1.13 (m, 3H), 0.93–0.87 (m, 2H). ^{13}C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl_3): $\delta = 120.14, 36.69, 32.66, 32.61, 26.40, 26.04, 14.74$. GC-MS: $[\text{M}^+] = 136.1$

Octanenitrile (6i)³⁰: Yellow oil (37 mg, 60% isolated yield); ^1H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl_3): $\delta = 2.32$ (t, $J_{\text{H,H}} = 7.20$ Hz, 2H), 1.64 (q, $J_{\text{H,H}} = 7.44$ Hz, 1H), 1.46–1.39 (m, 2H), 1.34–1.24 (m, 8H), 0.87 (t, $J_{\text{H,H}} = 7.0$ Hz, 3H). ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3): $\delta = 119.97, 31.56, 29.73, 28.70, 28.51, 25.44, 22.60, 17.21, 14.11$. GC-MS: $[\text{M}^+] = 124.1$

N-methylation of amines: N-methylaniline (7a): Yellow oil (81 mg, 95% isolated yield); ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3): $\delta = 7.20$ (t, $J_{\text{H,H}} = 7.4$ Hz, 2H), 6.72 (t, $J_{\text{H,H}} = 7.3$ Hz, 1H), 6.62 (t, $J_{\text{H,H}} = 7.6$ Hz, 2H), 3.46 (bs, 1H), 2.84 (s, 3H). ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3): $\delta = 149.37, 129.32, 117.40, 112.56, 30.87$. GC-MS: $[\text{M}^+] = 107.0$

N,4-dimethylaniline (7b)³¹: Yellow oil (91 mg, 94% isolated yield); ^1H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl_3): $\delta = 6.96$ (d, $J_{\text{H,H}} = 8.25$ Hz, 2H), 6.52 (d, $J_{\text{H,H}} = 8.4$ Hz, 2H), 2.92 (bs, 1H), 2.76 (s, 3H), 2.20 (s, 3H). ^{13}C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl_3): $\delta = 147.16, 129.68, 126.73, 112.88, 31.14, 20.30$. GC-MS: $[\text{M}^+] = 121.0$

4-Methoxy-N-methylaniline (7c)³¹: Yellow oil (103 mg, 94% isolated yield); ^1H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl_3): $\delta = 6.79$ (d, $J_{\text{H,H}} = 8.9$ Hz, 2H), 6.59 (d, $J_{\text{H,H}} = 8.9$ Hz, 2H), 3.75 (s, 3H), 2.81 (s, 3H). ^{13}C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl_3): $\delta = 152.36, 143.70, 115.09, 113.91, 56.02, 31.85$. GC-MS: $[\text{M}^+] = 137.0$

4-Bromo-N-methylaniline (7d)³²: Yellow oil (137 mg, 92% isolated yield); ^1H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl_3): $\delta = 7.26\text{--}7.24$ (m, 2H), 6.48–6.46 (m, 2H), 3.72 (bs, 1H), 2.80 (s, 3H). ^{13}C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl_3): $\delta = 148.41, 131.99, 114.06, 108.92, 30.83$. GC-MS: $[\text{M}^+] = 184.9$

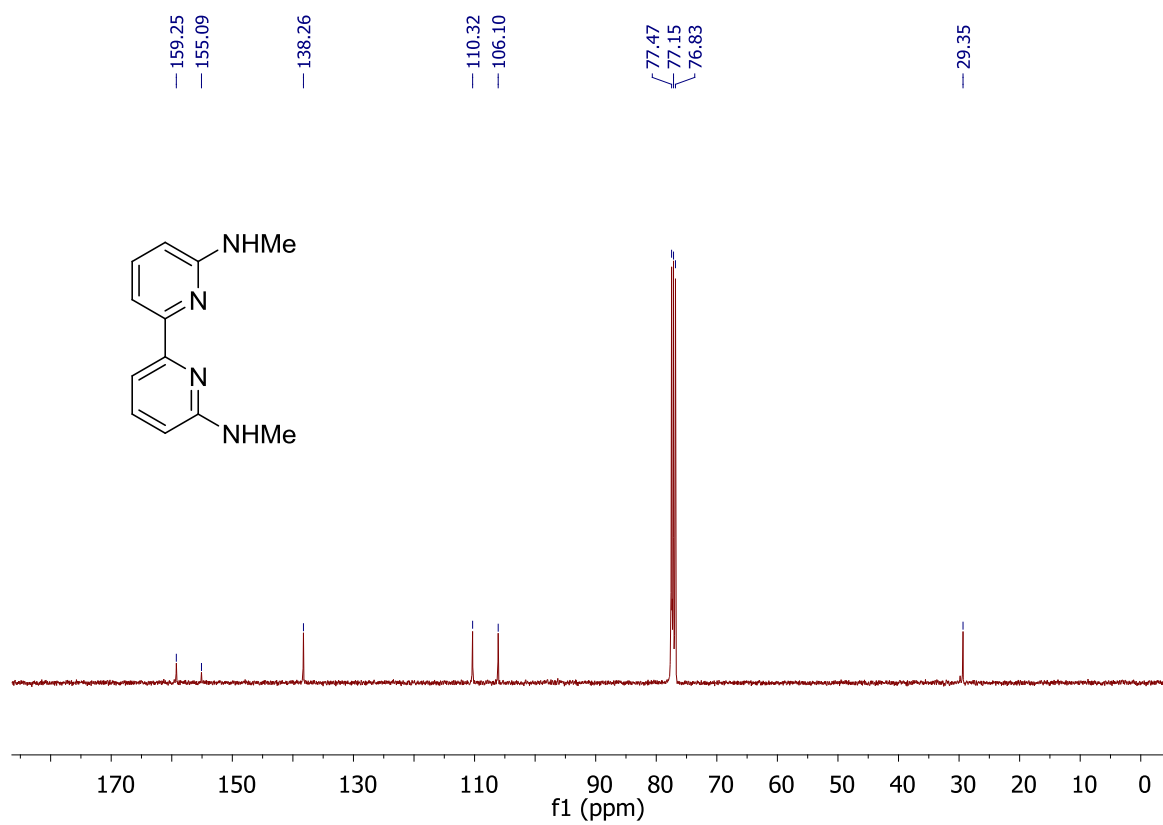
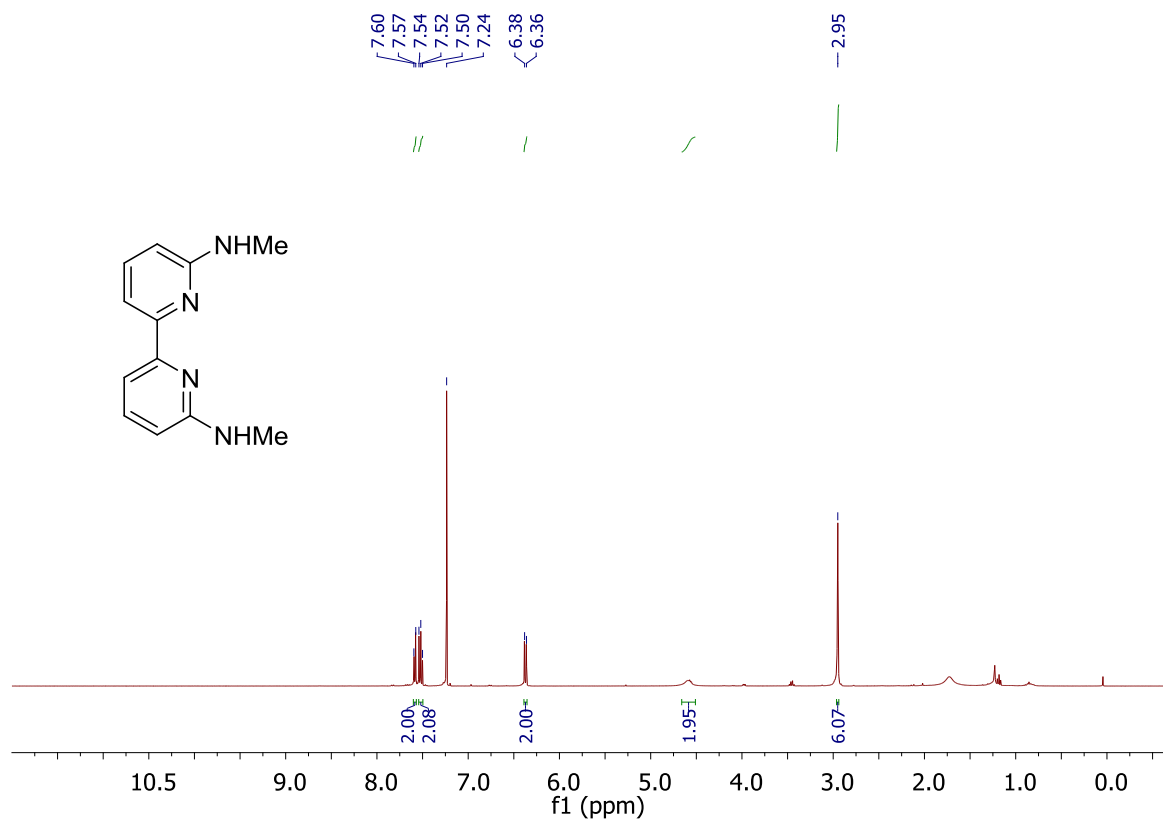
3-Chloro-N-methylaniline (7e)³³: Yellow oil (105 mg, 93% isolated yield); ^1H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl_3): $\delta = 7.01$ (t, $J_{\text{H,H}} = 7.9$ Hz, 1H), 6.59 (d, $J_{\text{H,H}} = 8.0$ Hz, 1H), 6.51 (t, $J_{\text{H,H}} = 1.9$ Hz, 1H),

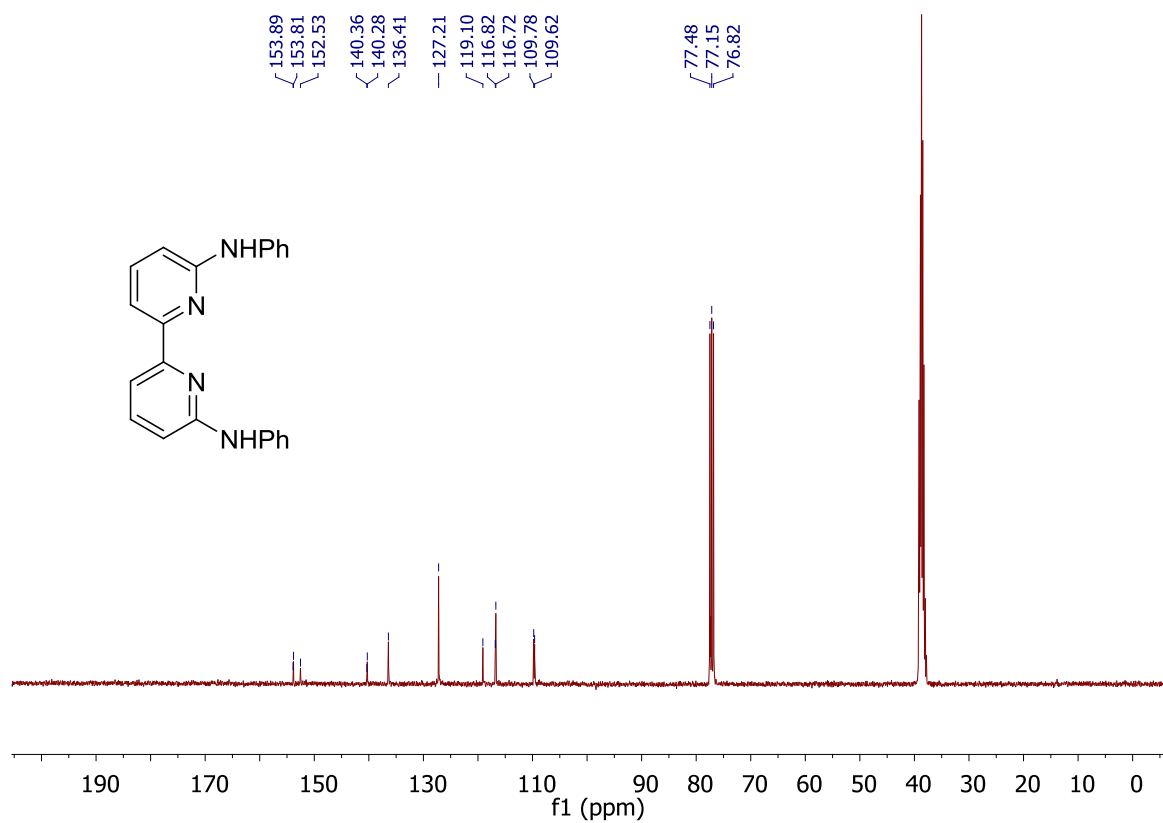
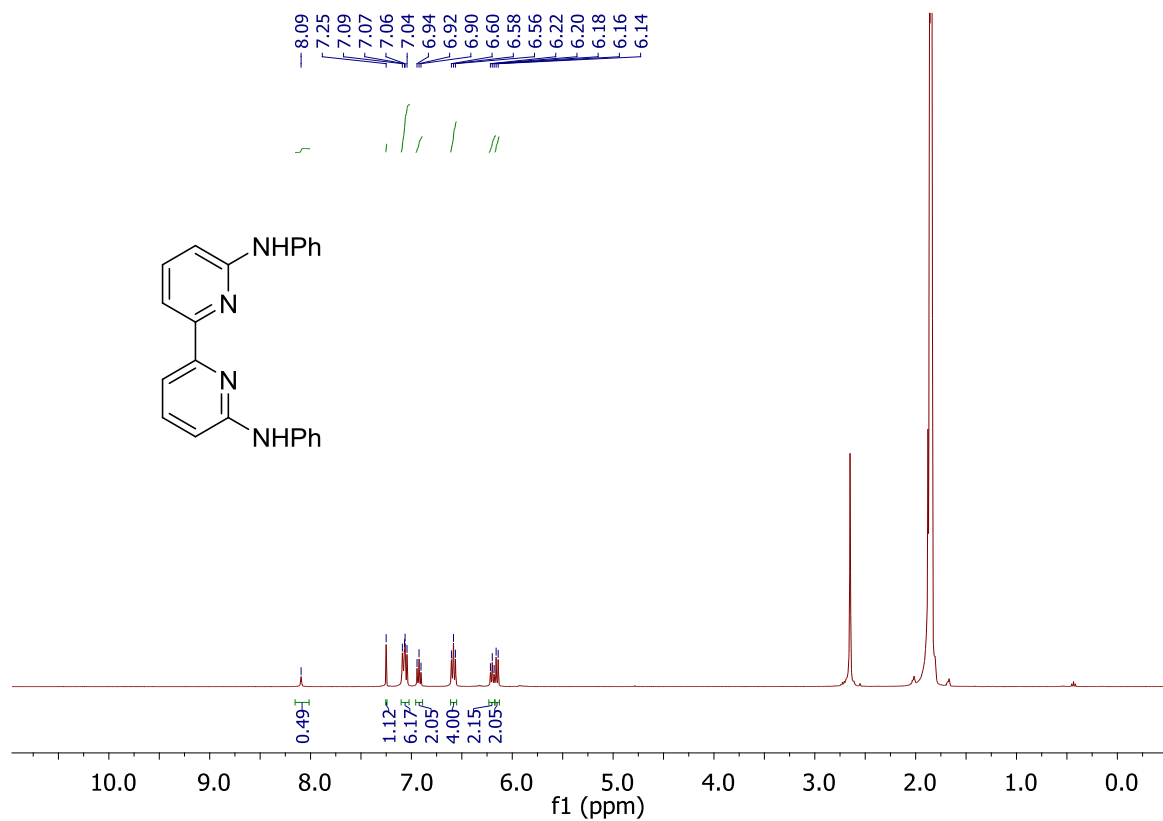
6.42 (dd, $J_{\text{H,H}} = 8.0, 1.8$ Hz, 1H), 2.73 (s, 3H). ^{13}C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl_3): $\delta = 150.55, 134.94, 130.08, 116.92, 111.94, 110.87, 30.34$. GC-MS: $[\text{M}^+] = 141.0$

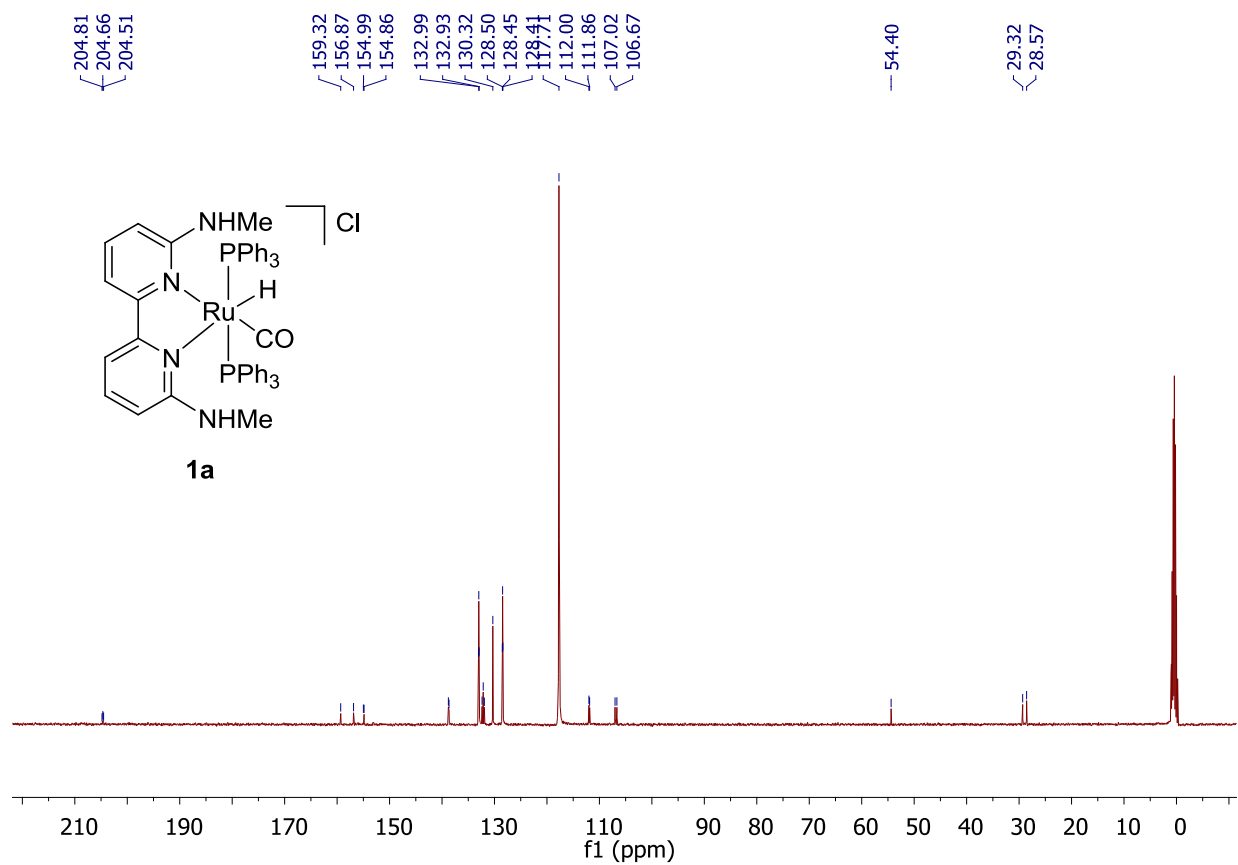
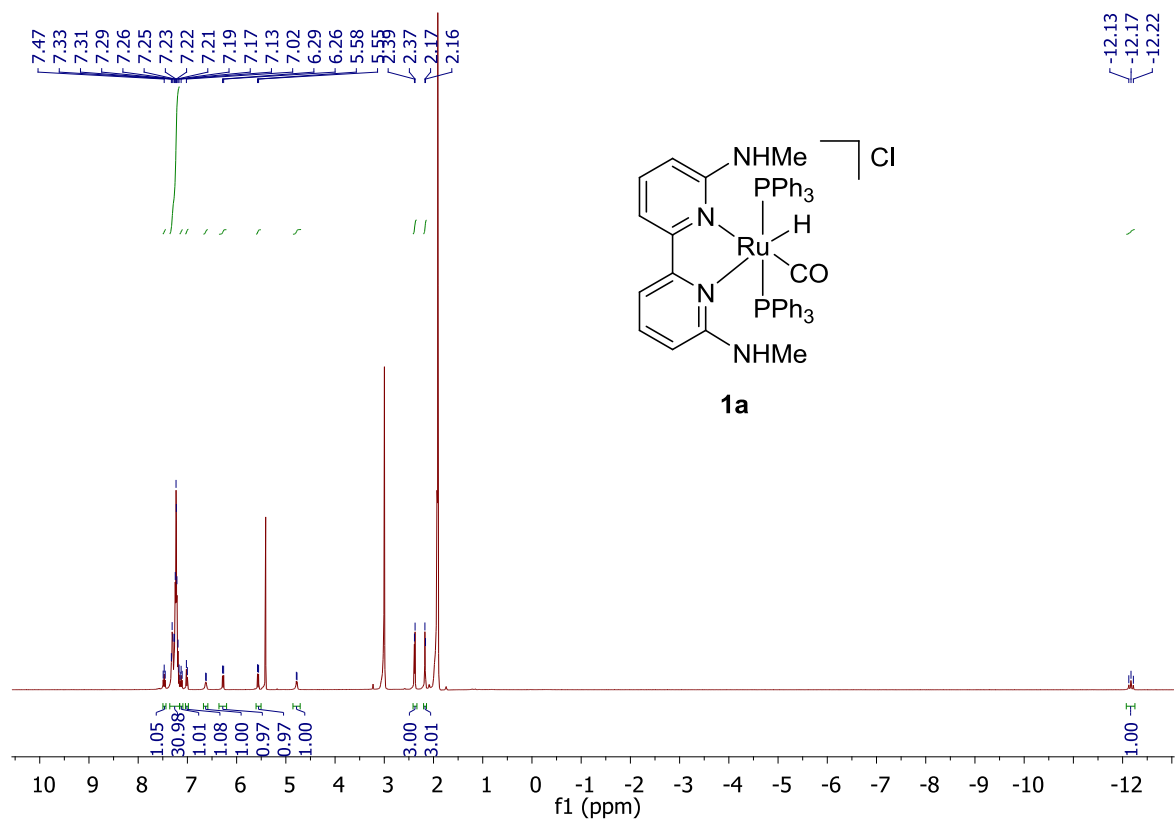
N-methylnaphthalen-1-amine (7f)³⁴: Colourless oil (91 mg, 72% isolated yield); ^1H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl_3): $\delta = 7.83$ (d, $J_{\text{H,H}} = 8.1$ Hz, 1H), 7.79 (d, $J_{\text{H,H}} = 8.2$ Hz, 1H), 7.50-7.40 (m, 3H), 7.29 (d, $J_{\text{H,H}} = 8.0$ Hz, 1H), 6.63 (d, $J_{\text{H,H}} = 7.5$ Hz, 1H), 4.38 (bs, 1H), 3.03 (s, 3H). ^{13}C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl_3): $\delta = 144.61, 134.34, 128.75, 126.78, 125.81, 124.78, 123.57, 119.91, 117.43, 103.92, 31.12$. GC-MS: $[\text{M}^+] = 157.0$

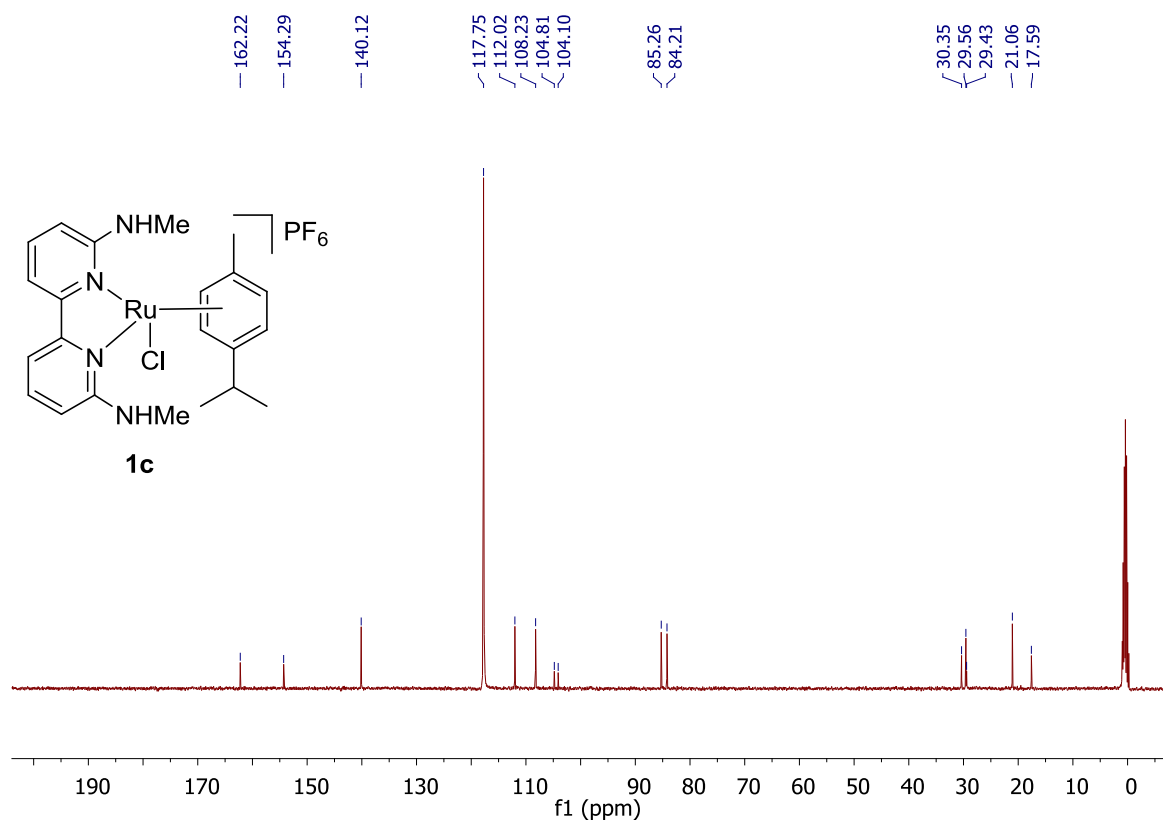
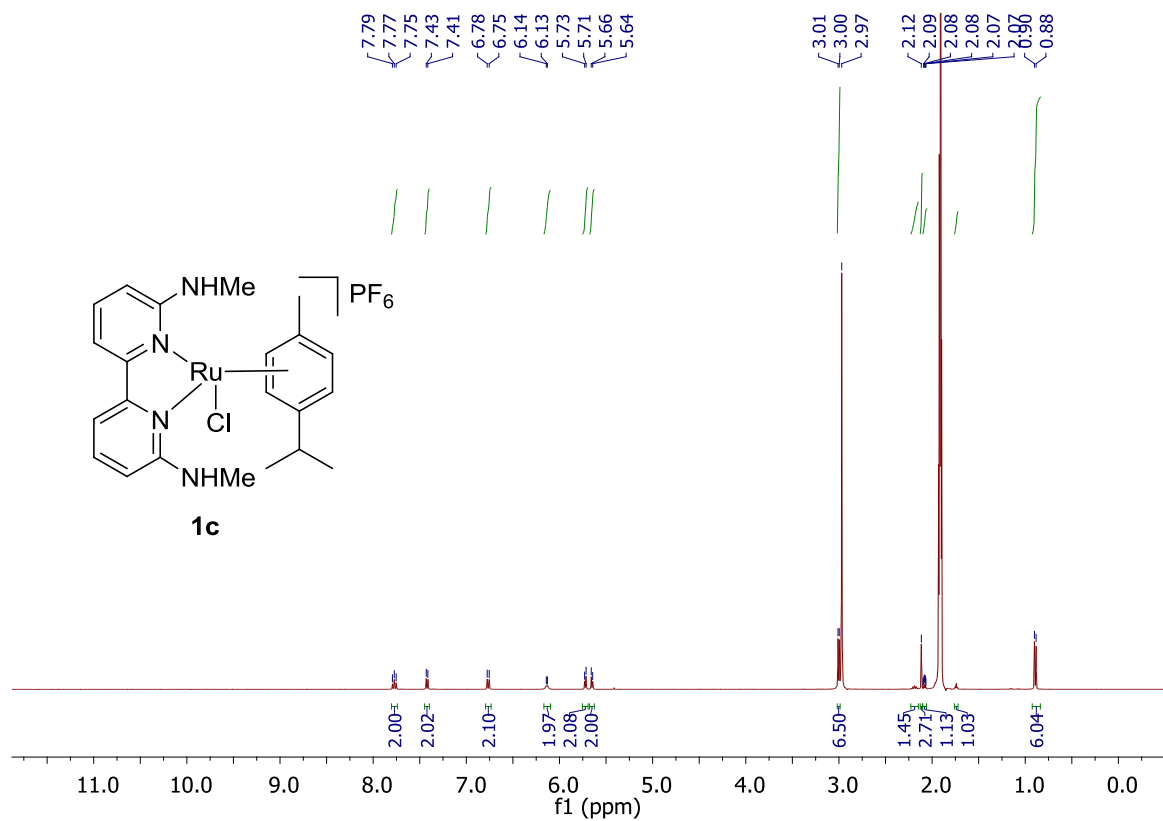
N-methylpyridin-3-amine (7g)³⁵: Pale yellow oil (78 mg, 90% isolated yield); ^1H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl_3): $\delta = 7.96$ (d, $J_{\text{H,H}} = 2.8$ Hz, 1H), 7.89 (dd, $J_{\text{H,H}} = 4.6, 1.0$ Hz, 1H), 7.07 (q, $J_{\text{H,H}} = 4.5$ Hz, 1H), 6.85 (dq, $J_{\text{H,H}} = 8.0, 1.0$ Hz, 1H), 2.81 (s, 3H). ^{13}C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl_3): $\delta = 145.35, 138.33, 135.49, 123.90, 118.35, 30.30$. GC-MS: $[\text{M}^+] = 108.0$

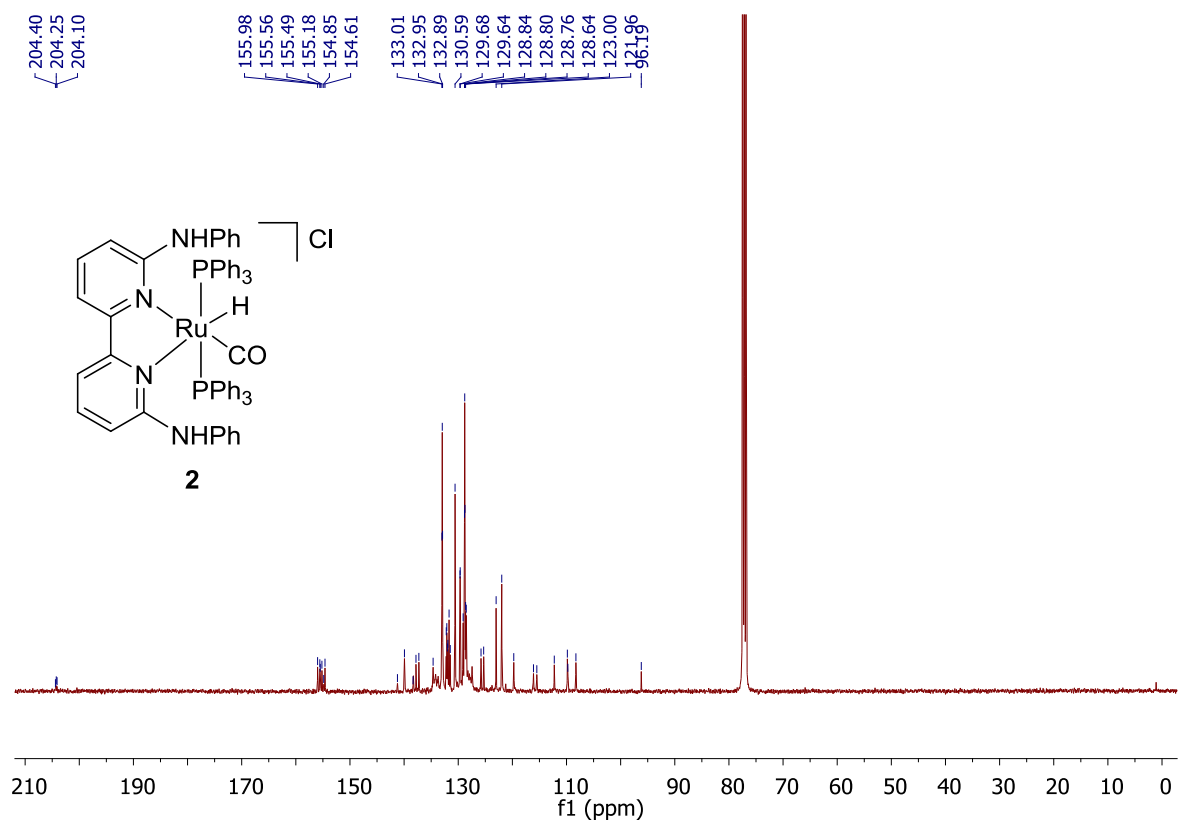
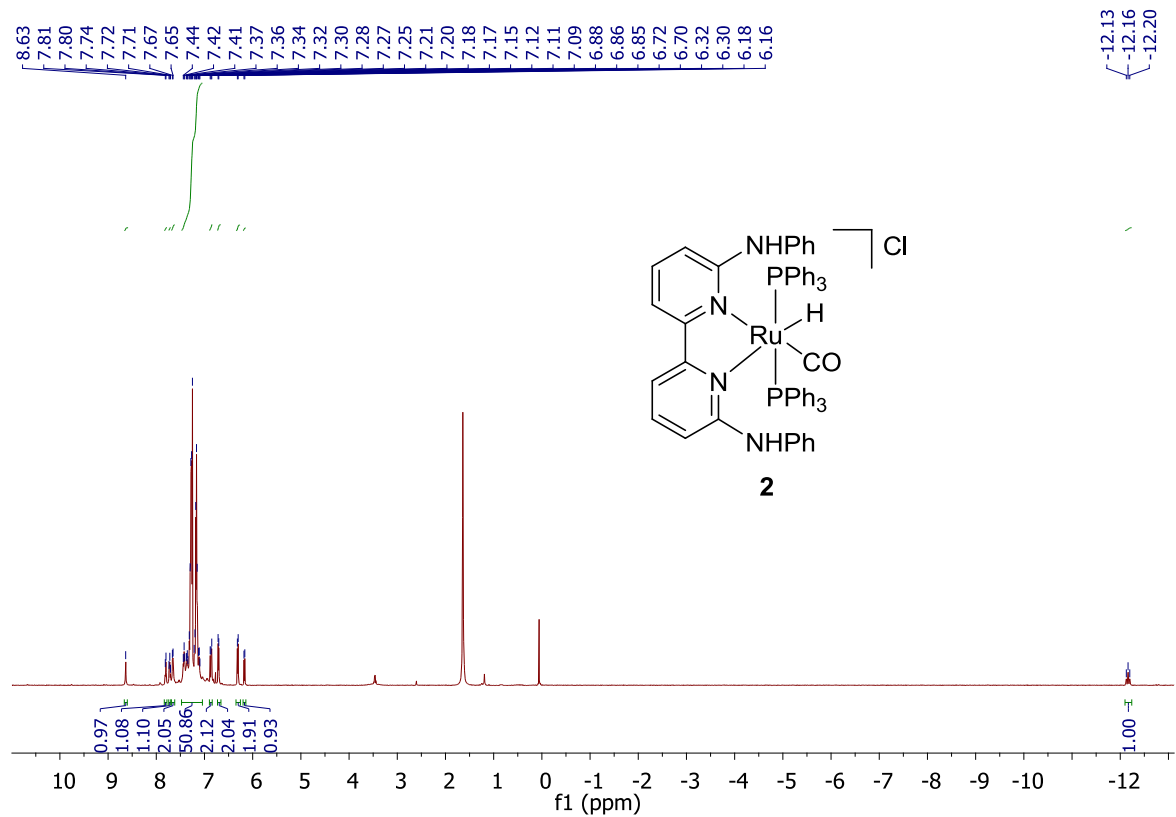
N,N-dimethylhexan-1-amine (7h)³⁶: Pale yellow oil (57 mg, 55% isolated yield); ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3): $\delta = 2.21$ -2.17 (m, 8H), 1.44-1.40 (m, 2H), 1.27-1.23 (m, 6H), 0.85 (t, $J_{\text{H,H}} = 6.7$ Hz, 3H). ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3): $\delta = 60.10, 45.62, 31.97, 27.87, 27.32, 22.74, 14.17$. GC-MS: $[\text{M}^+] = 129.1$



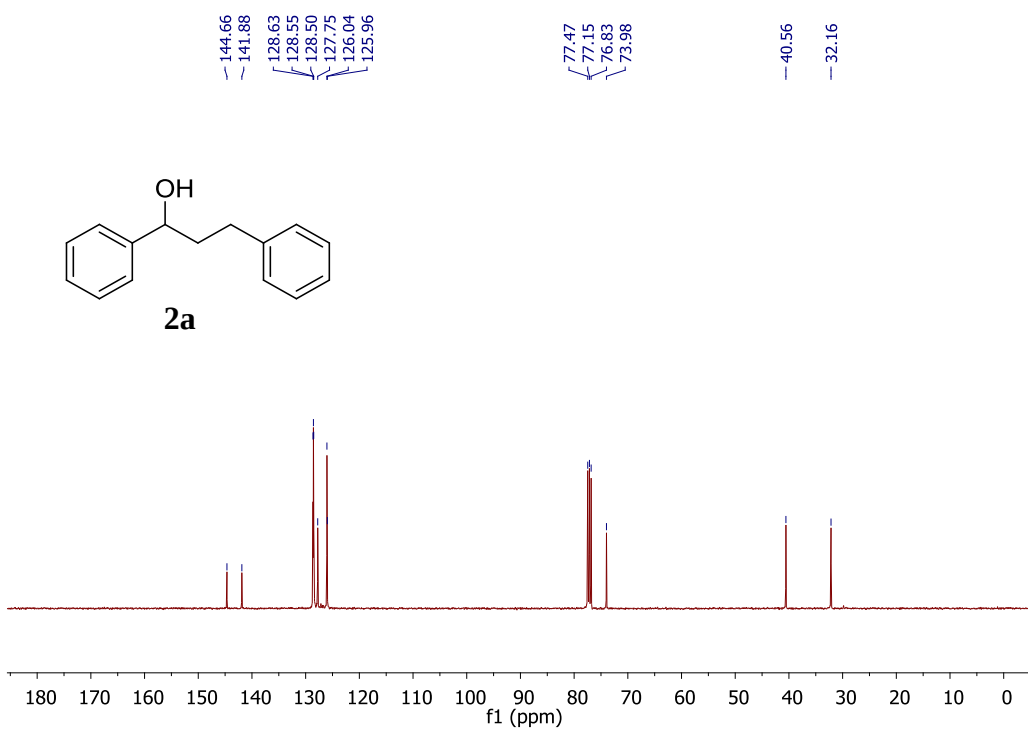
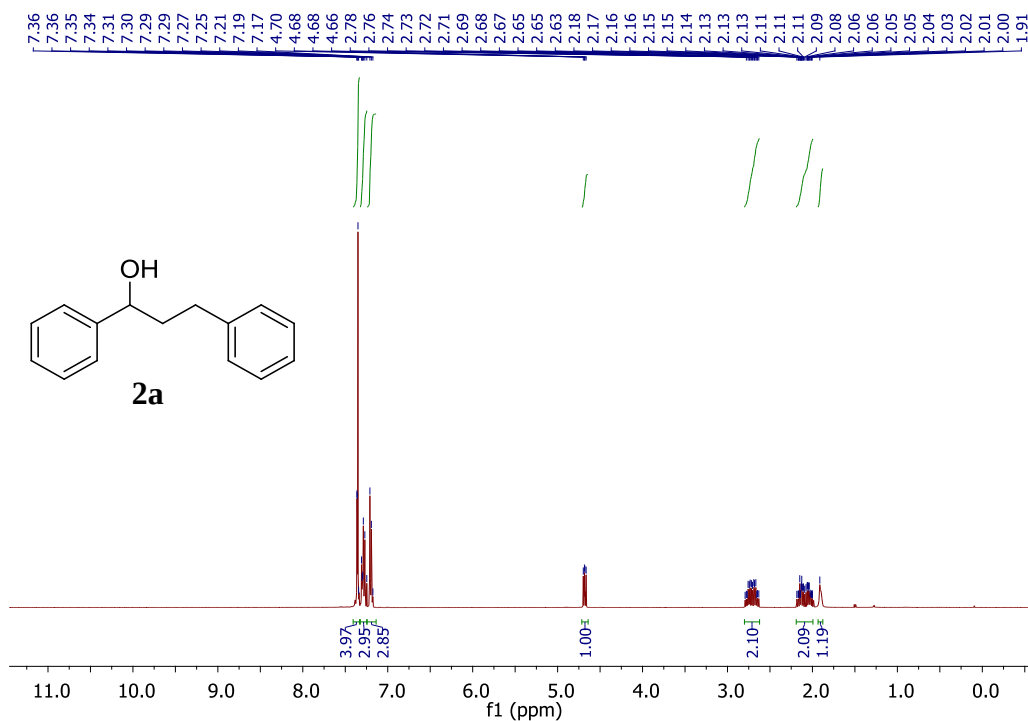


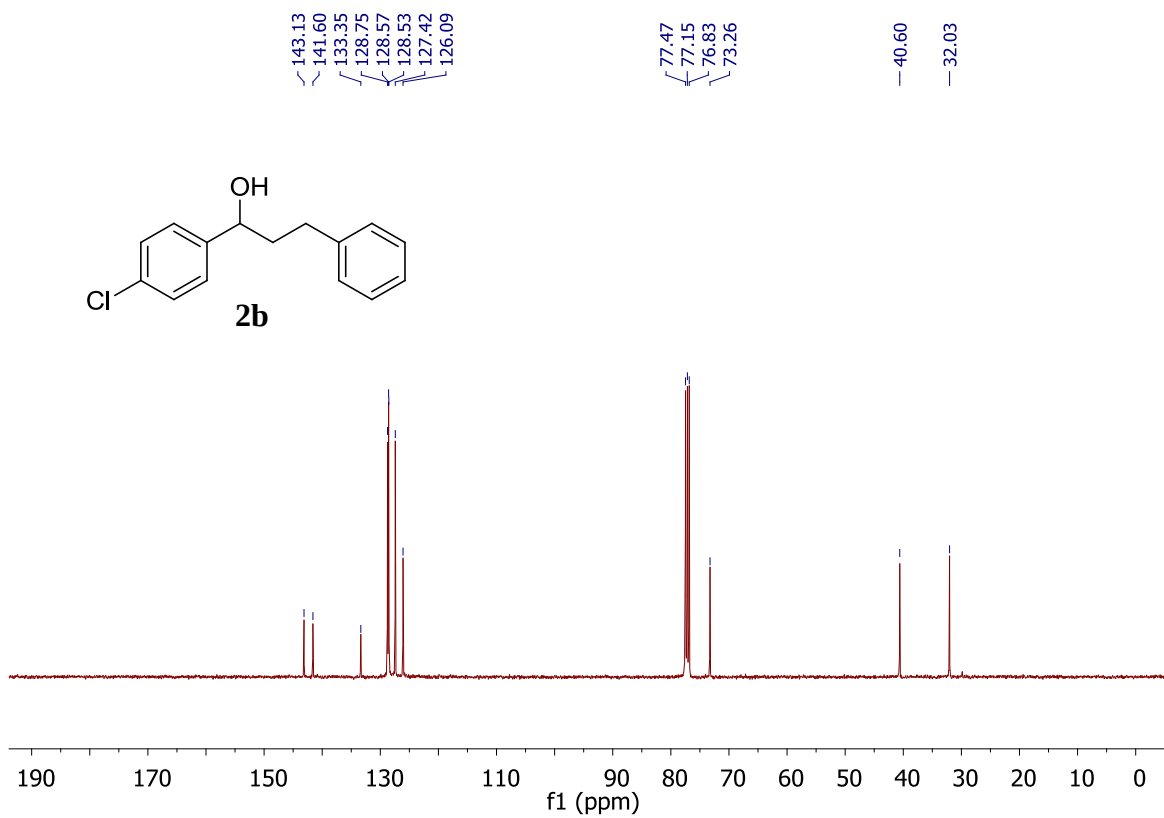
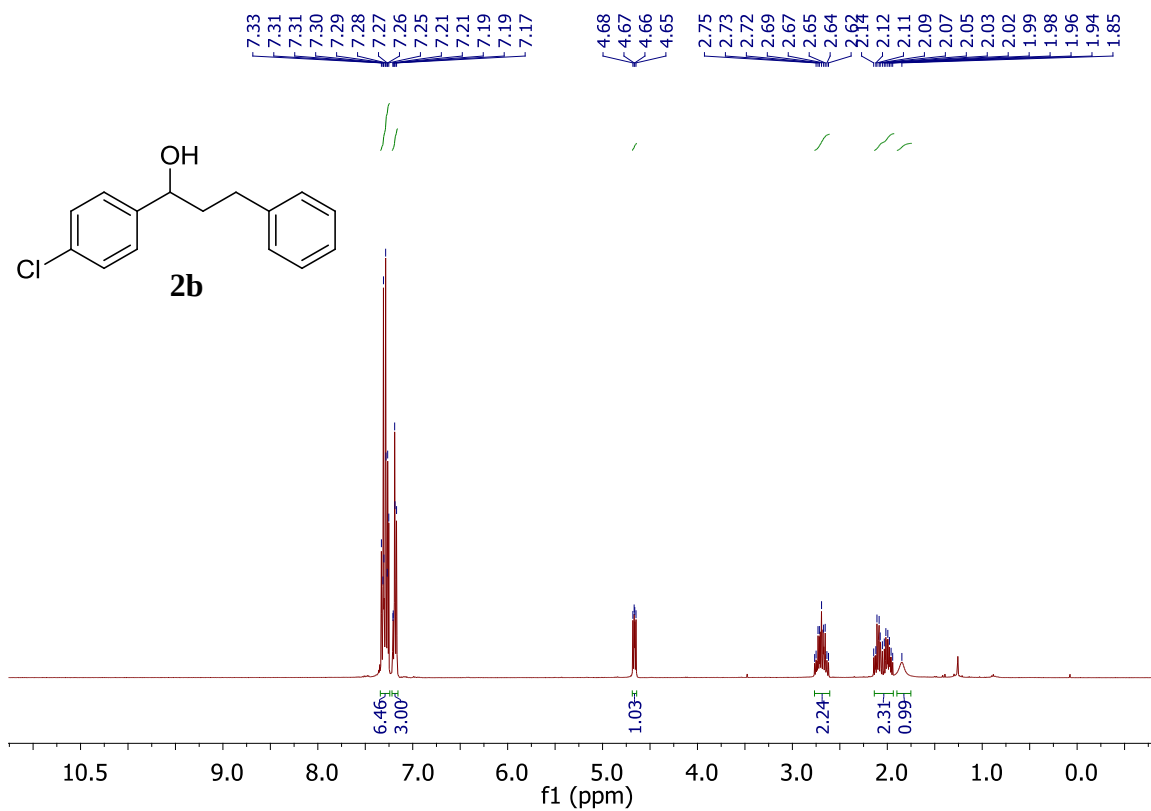


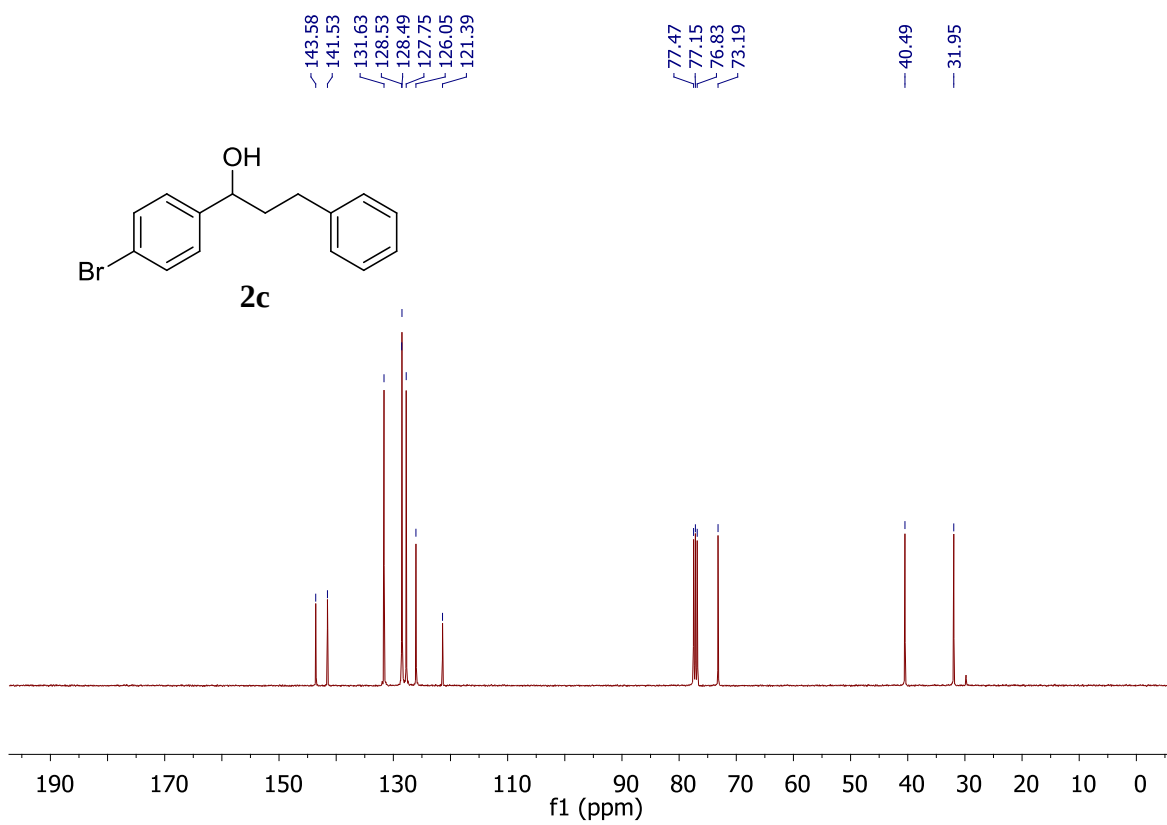
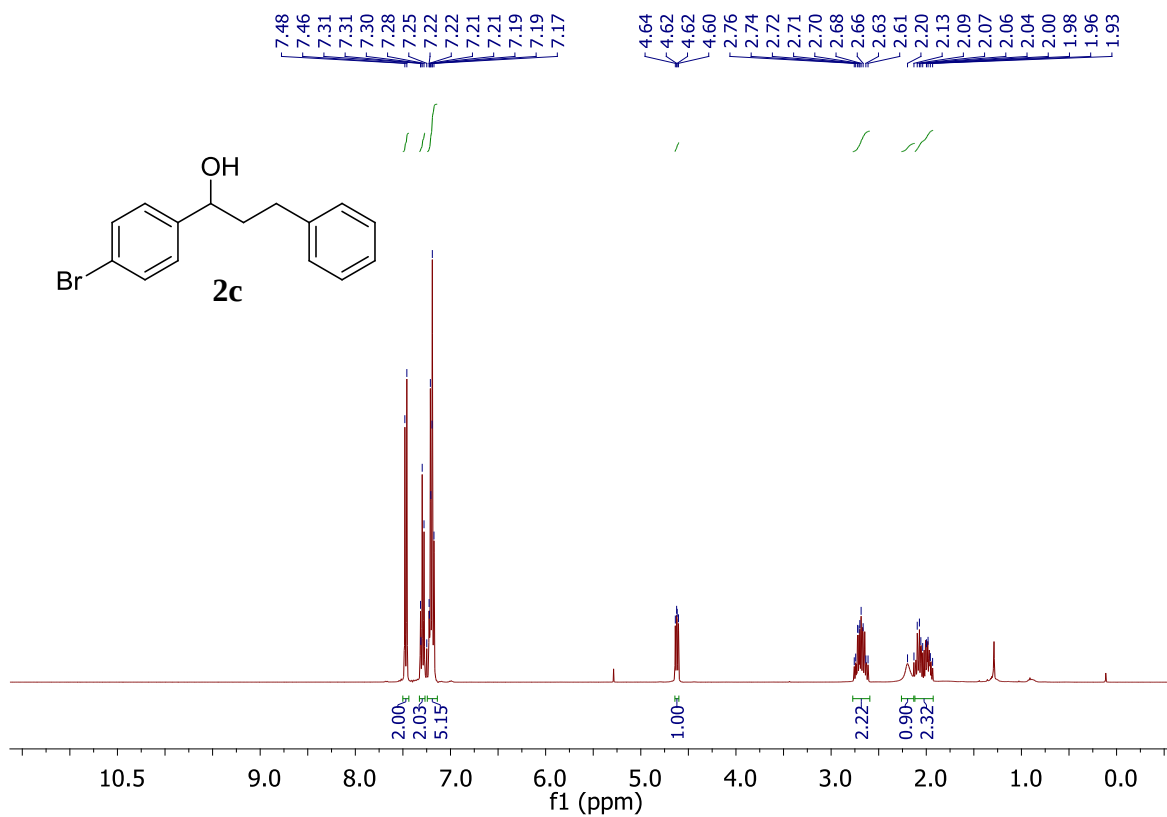


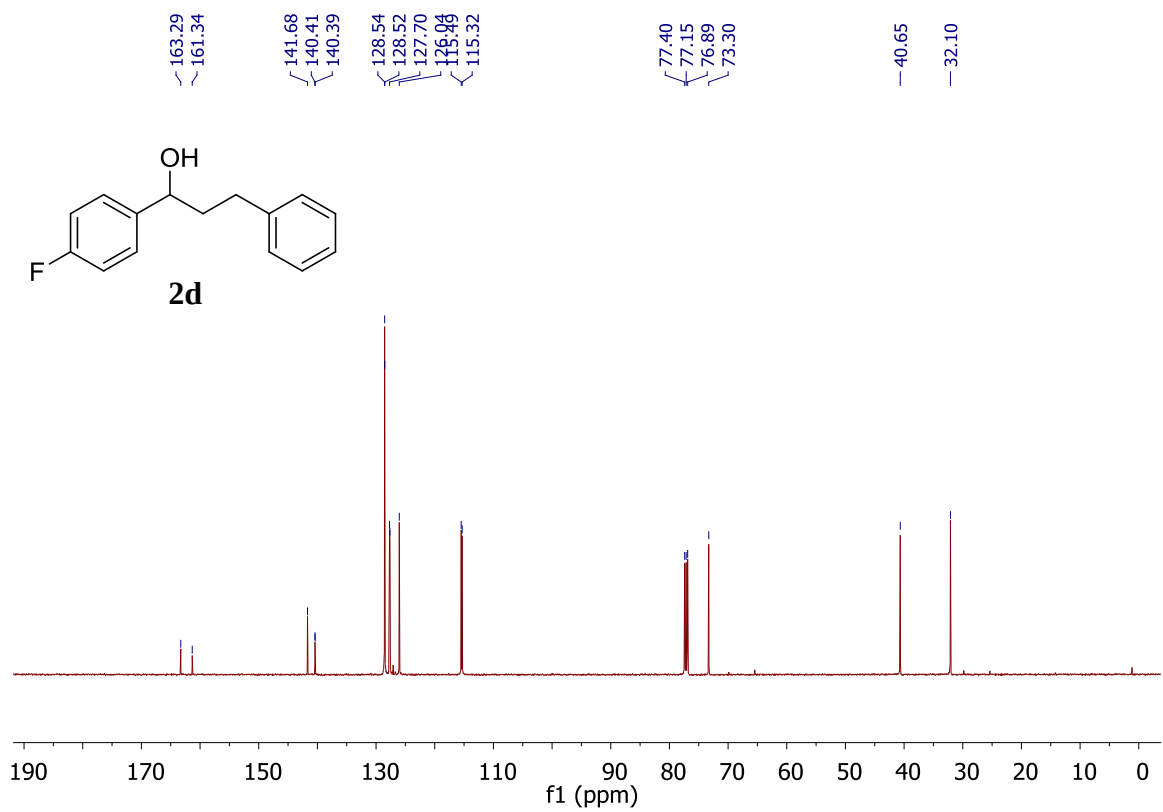
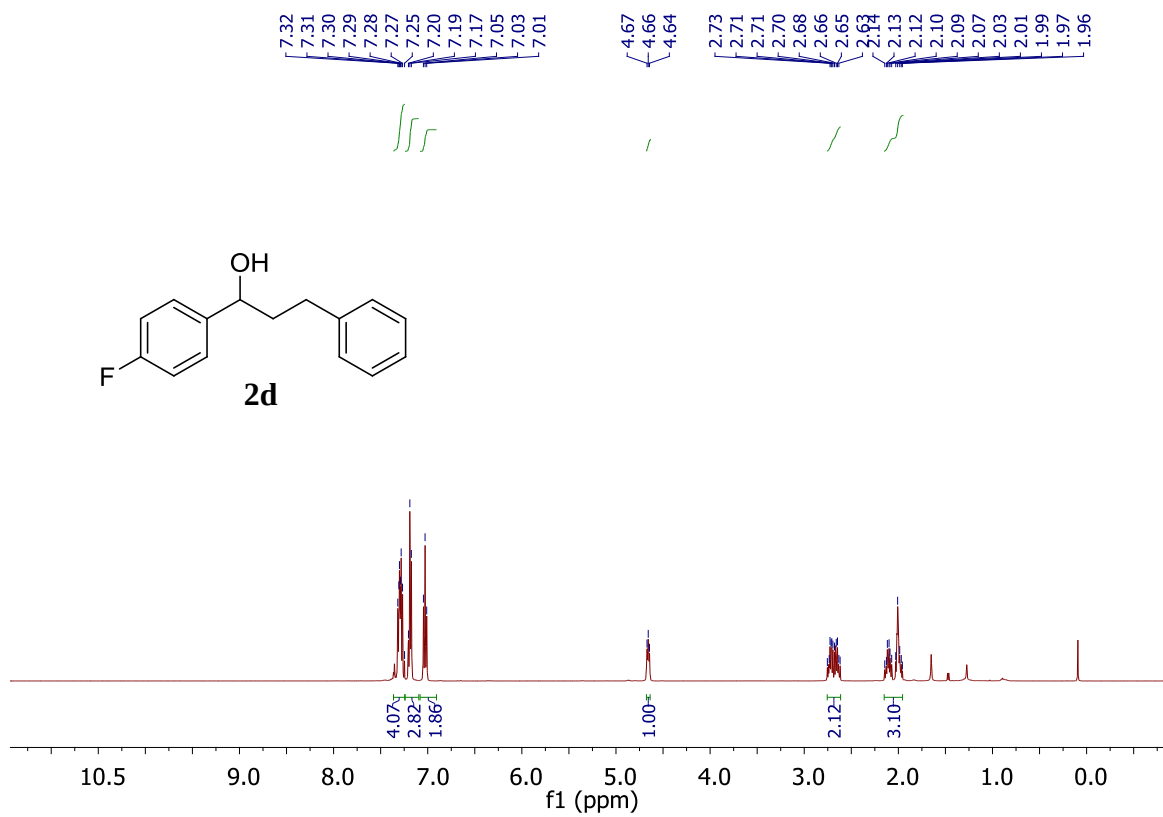


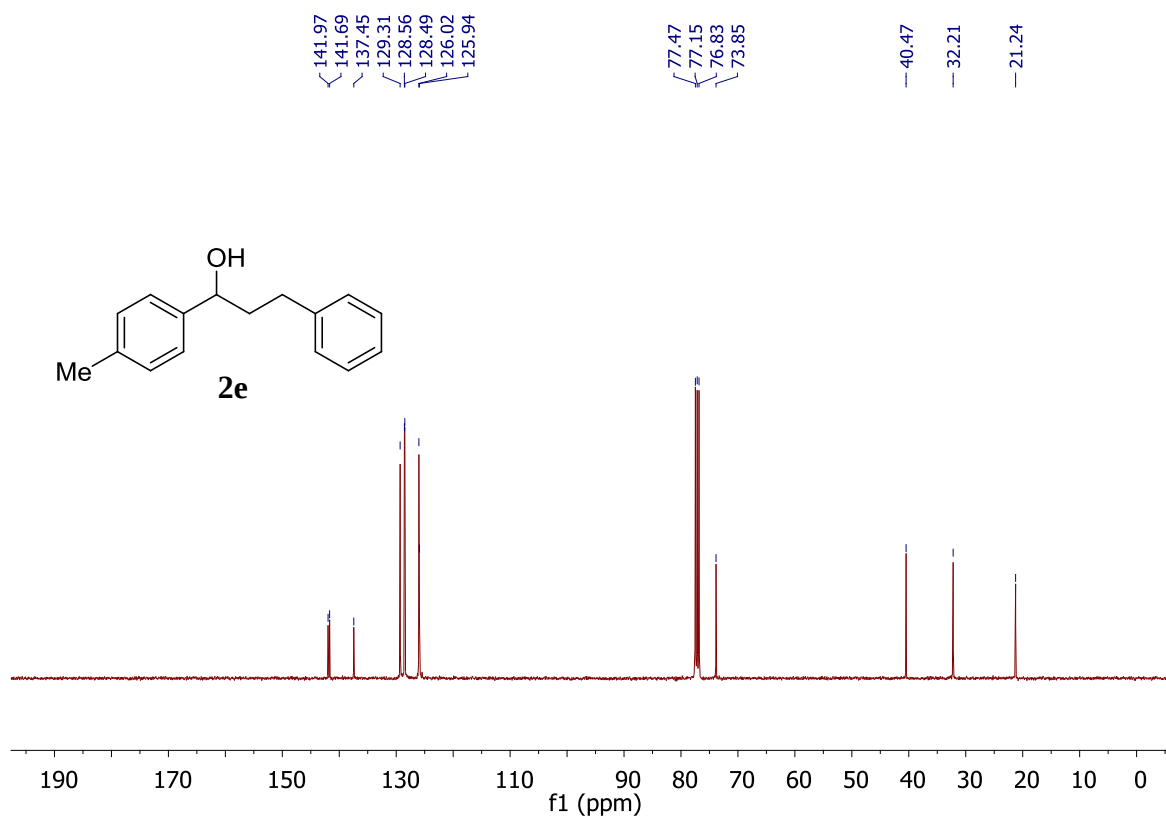
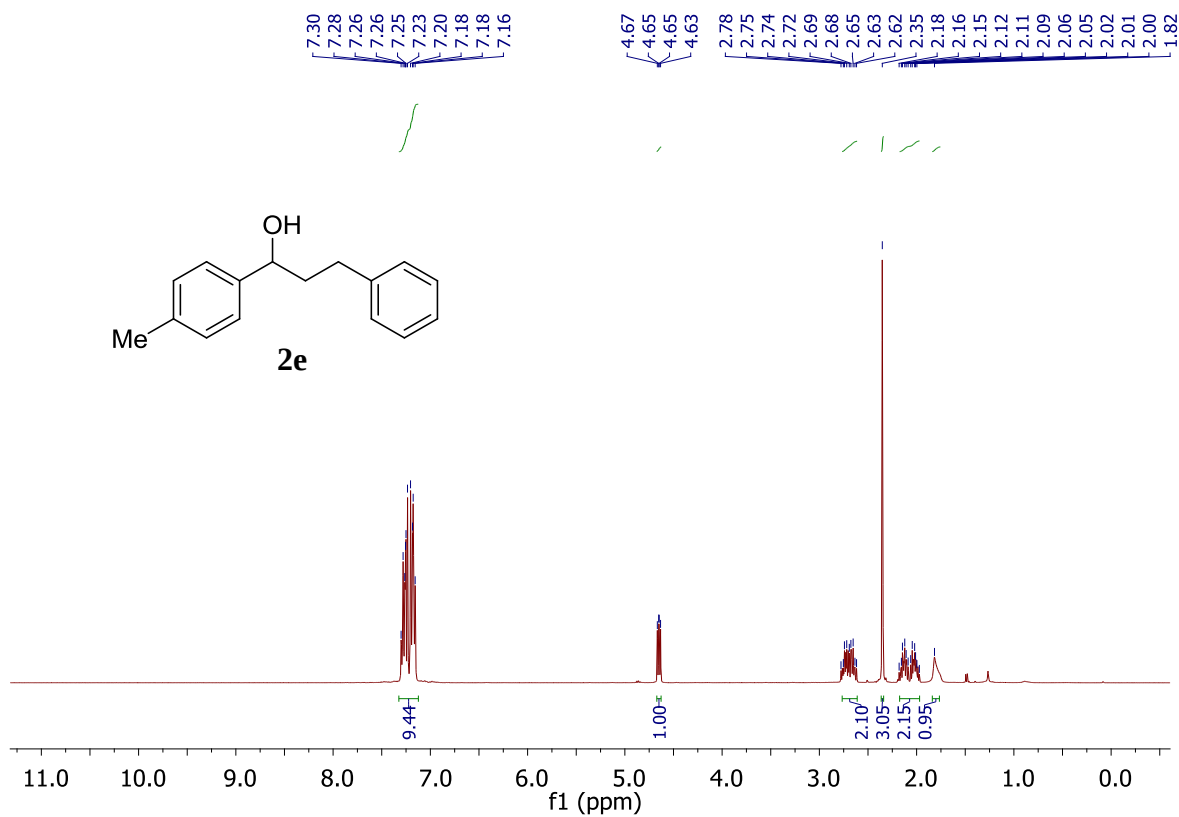
^1H and ^{13}C NMR Spectra of isolated products: ^1H and ^{13}C NMR of all the isolated compounds are given below.

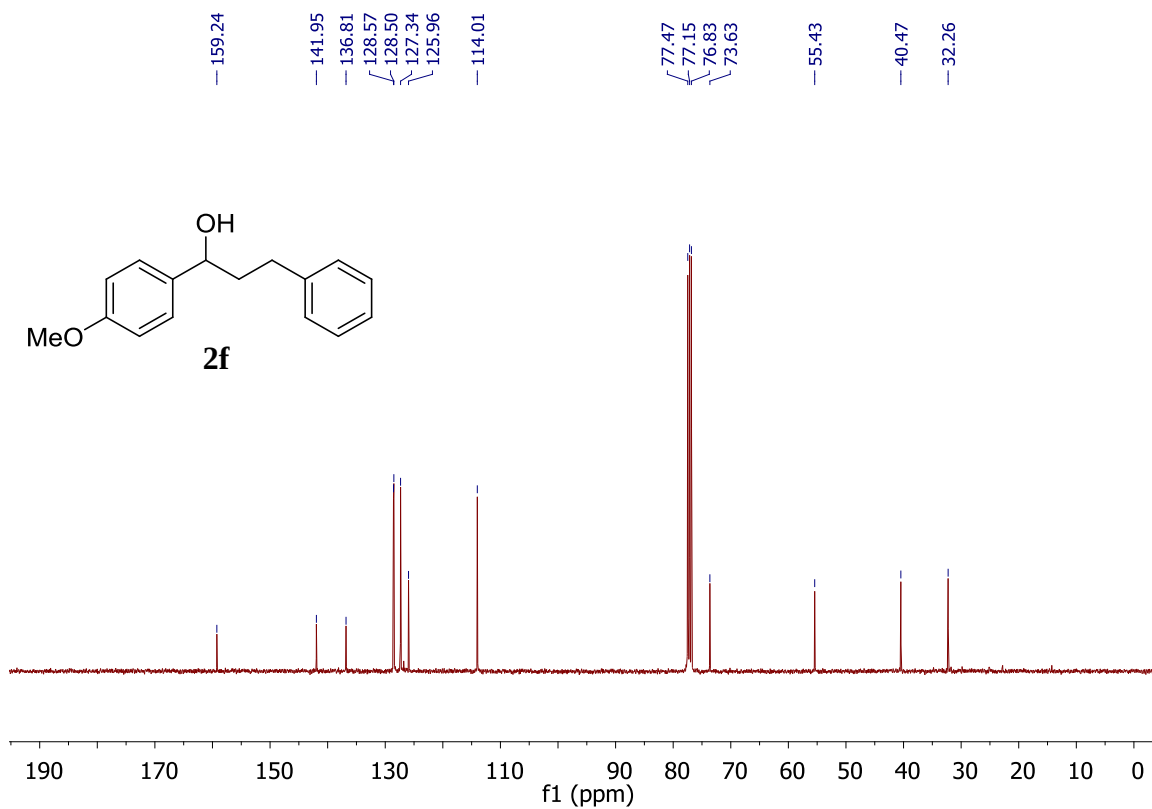
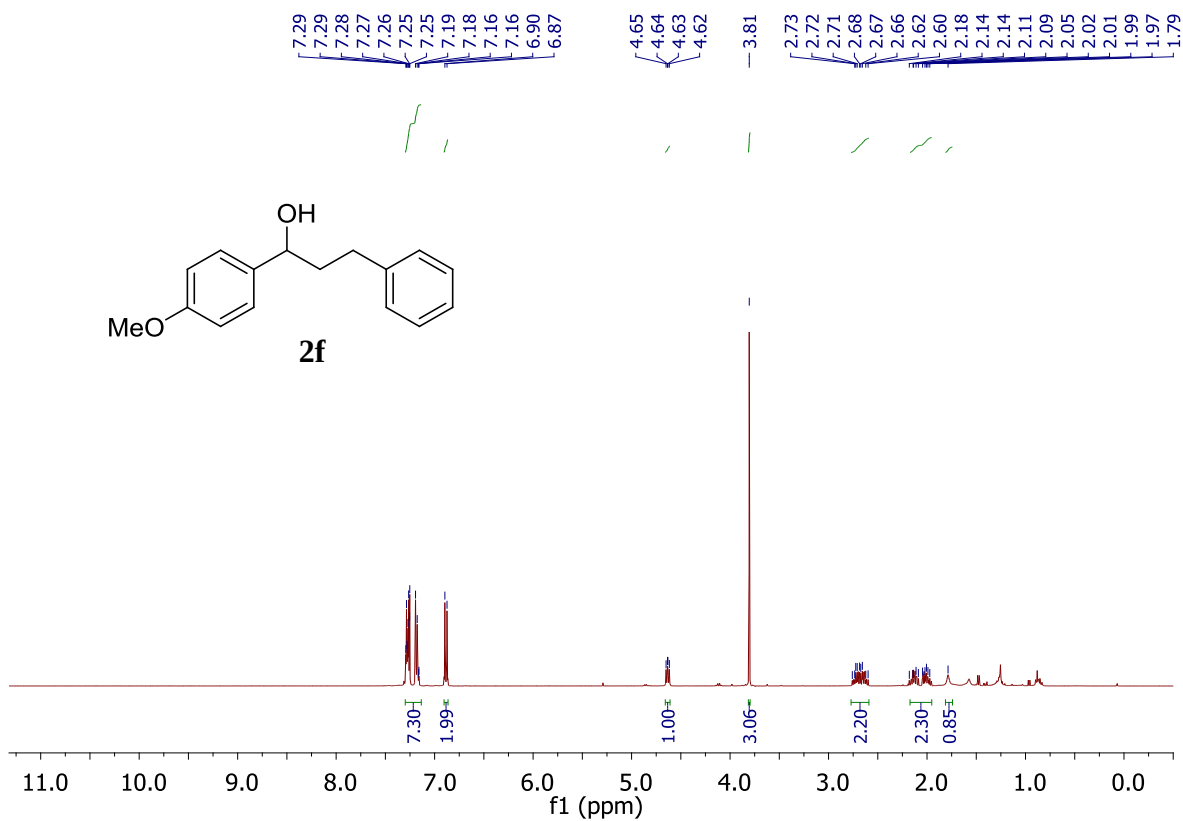


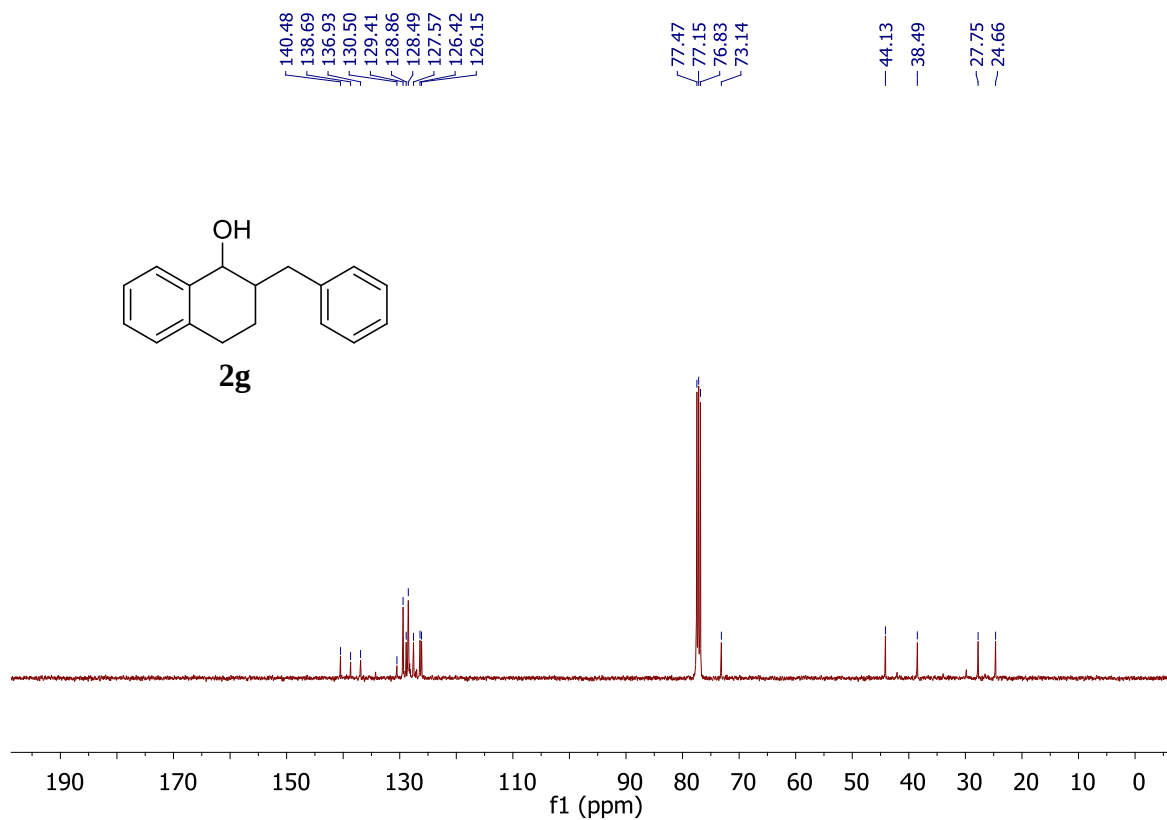
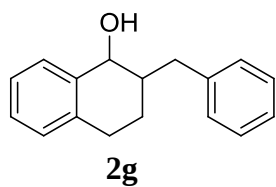
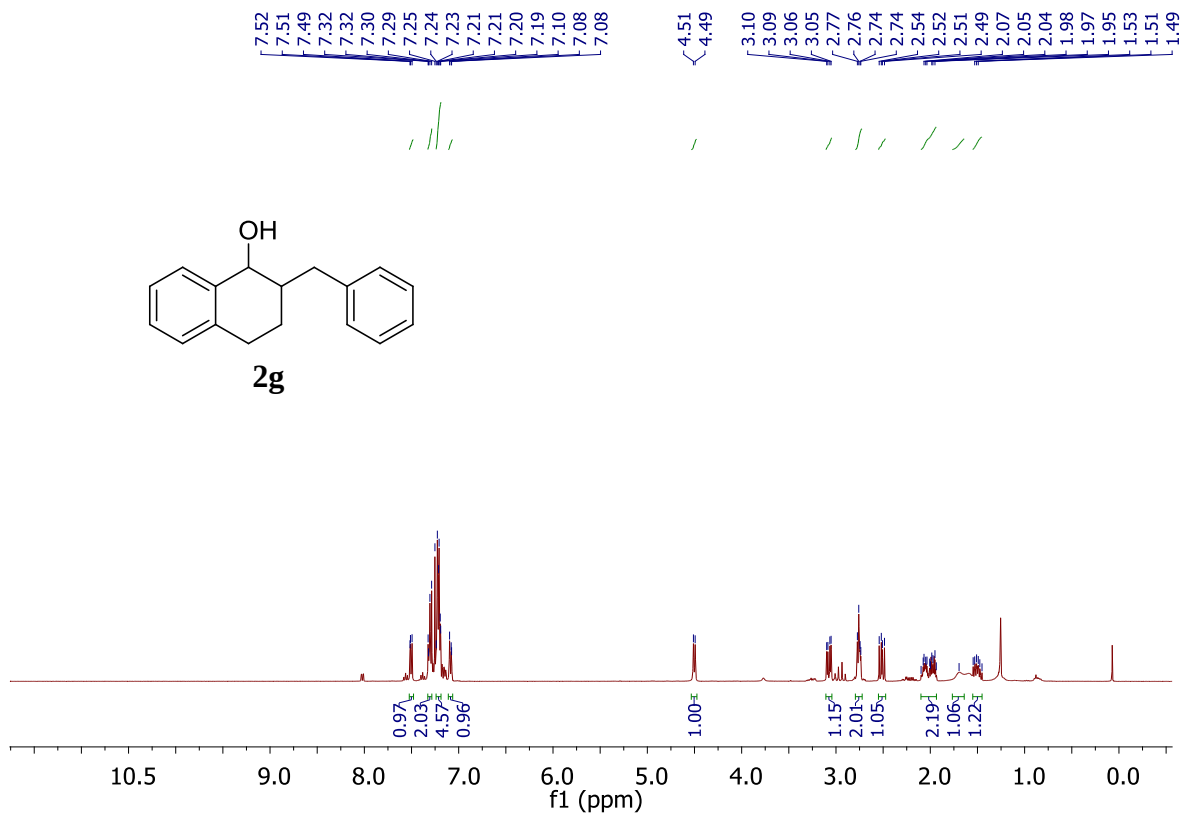
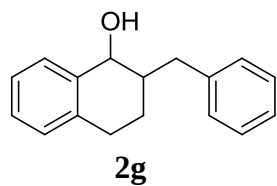


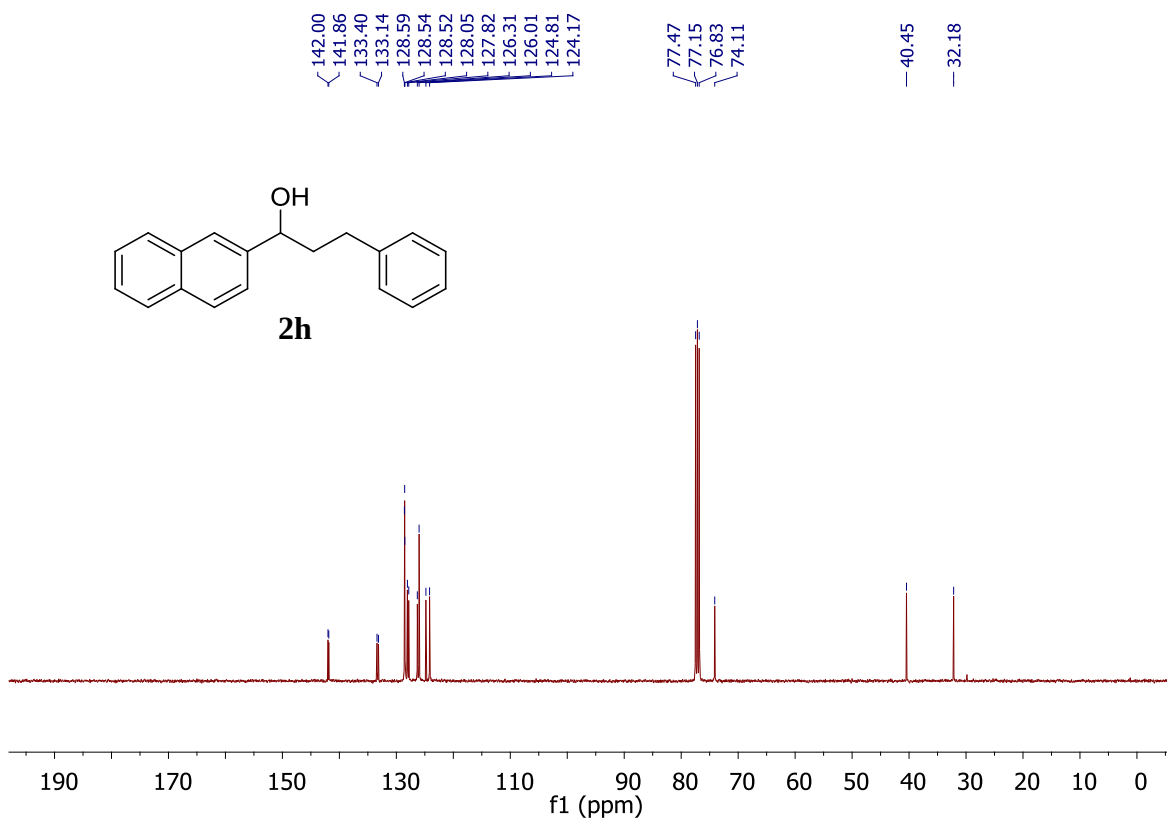
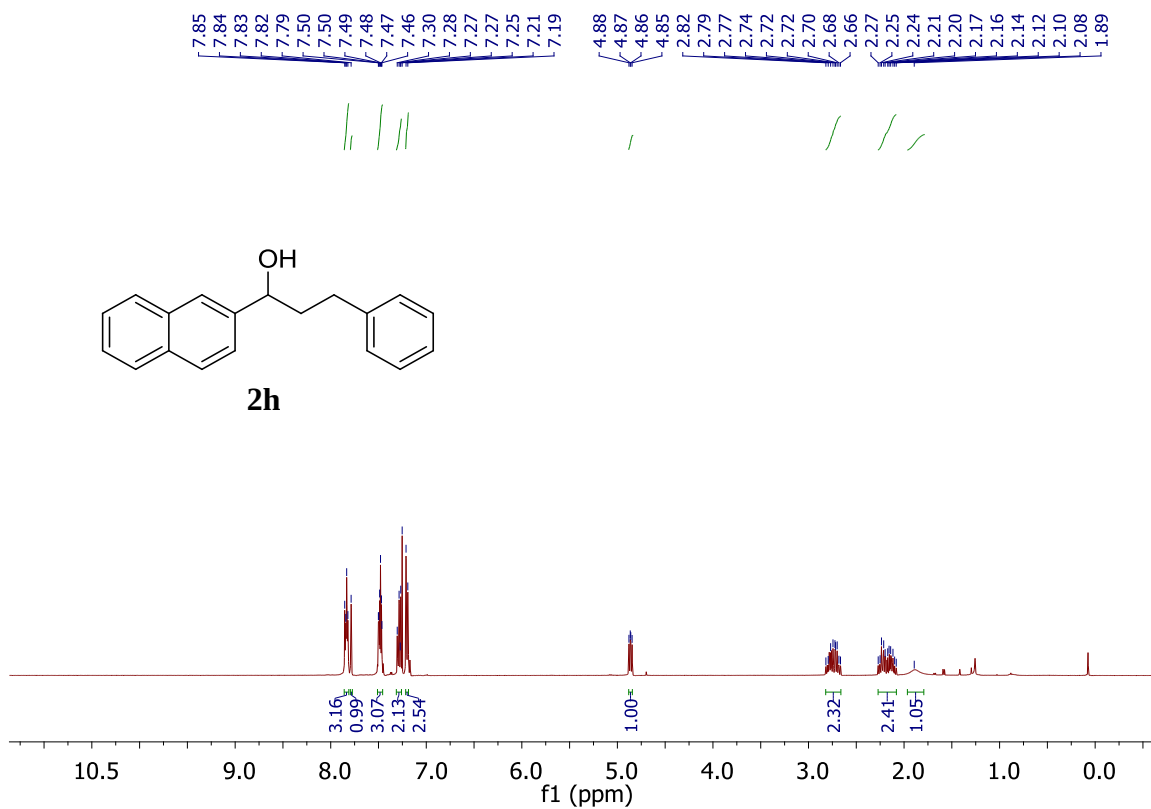


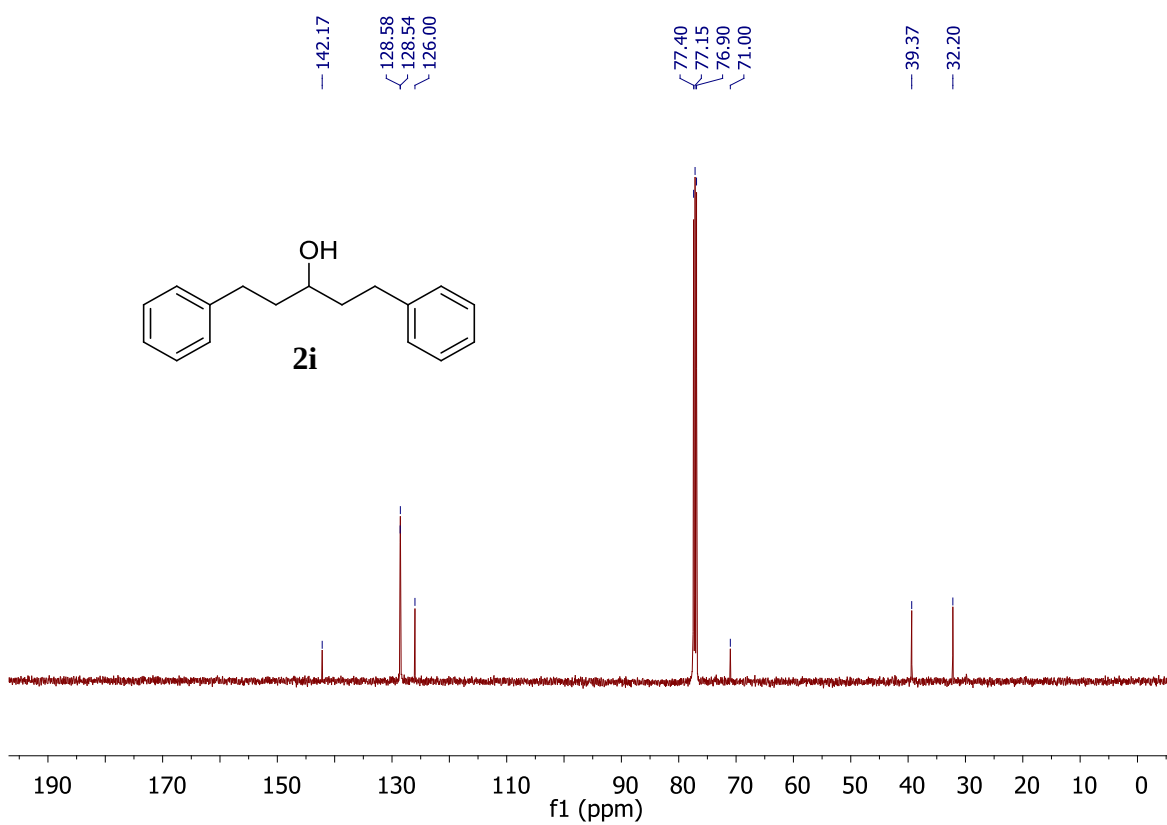
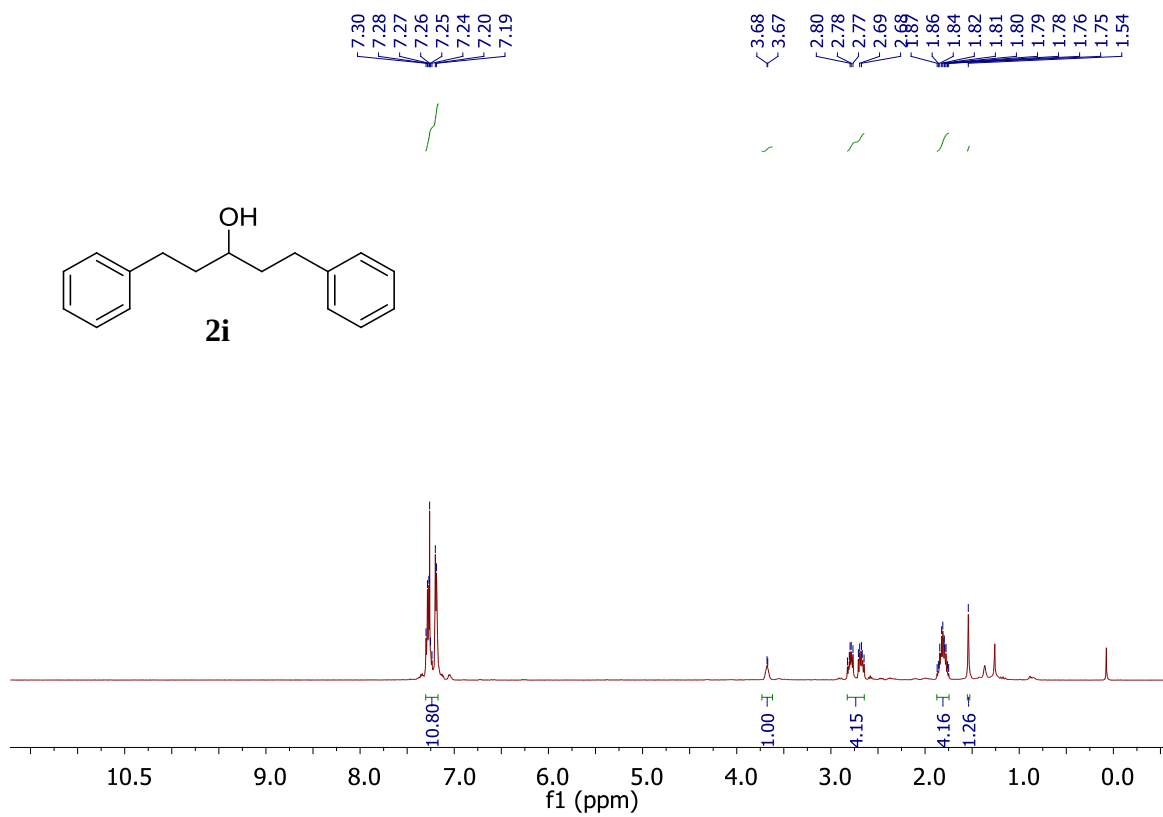


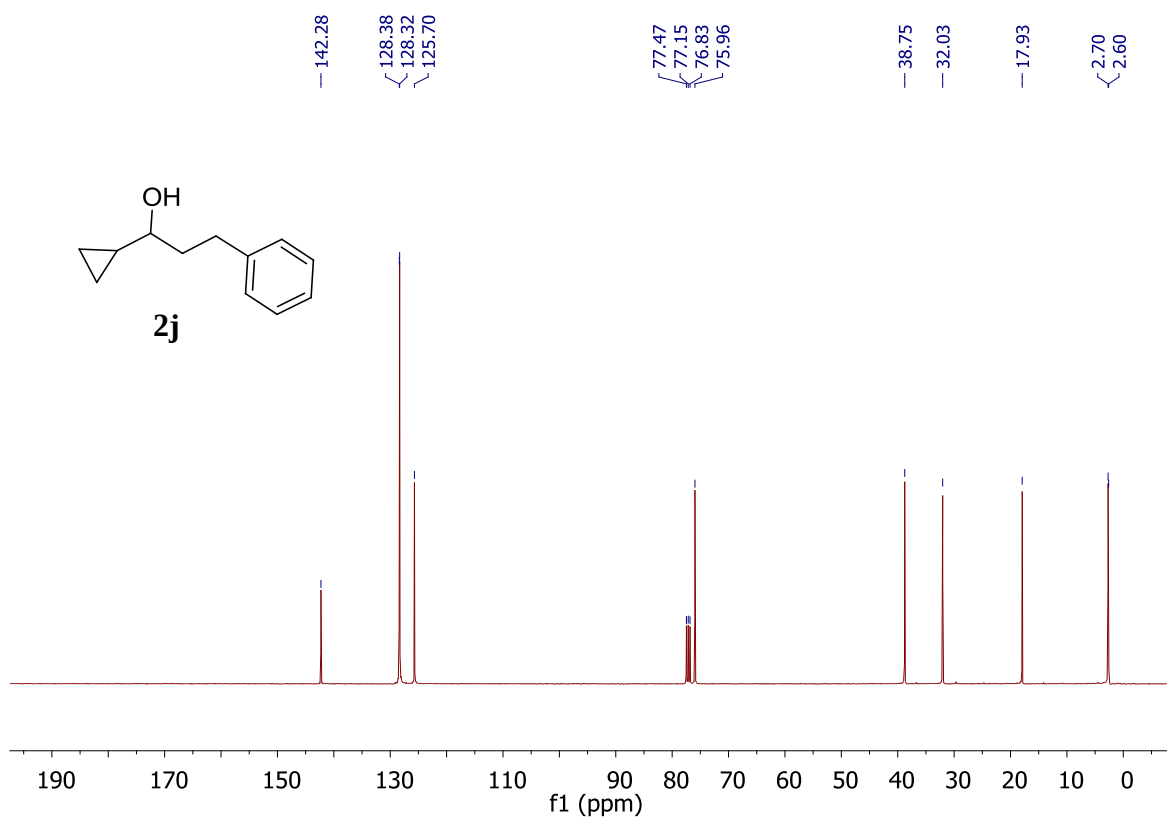
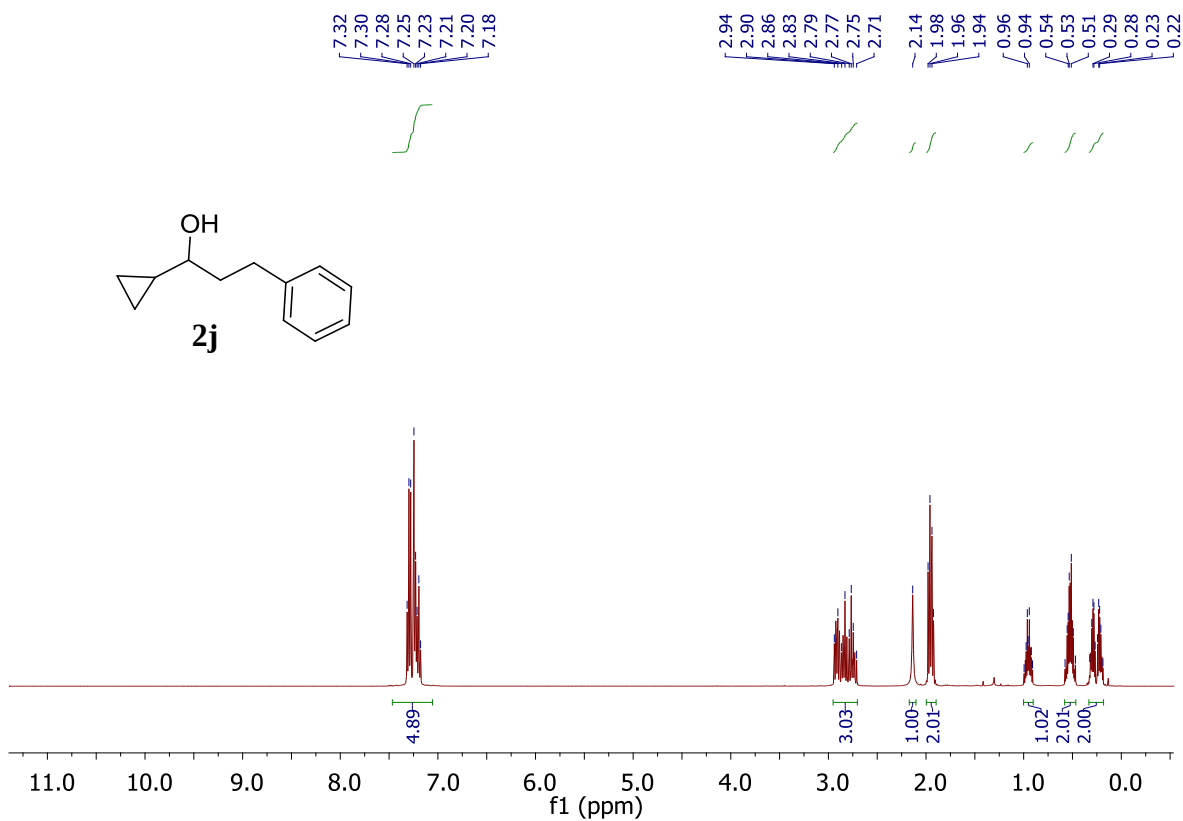


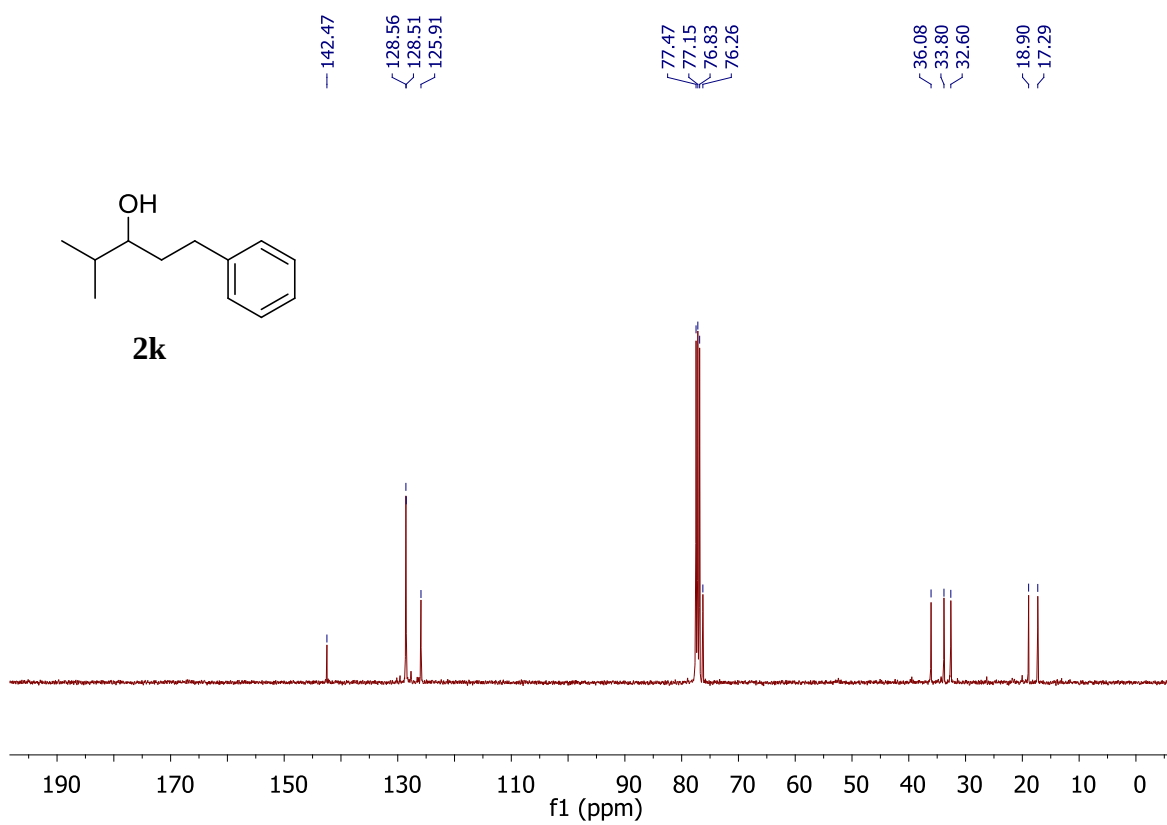
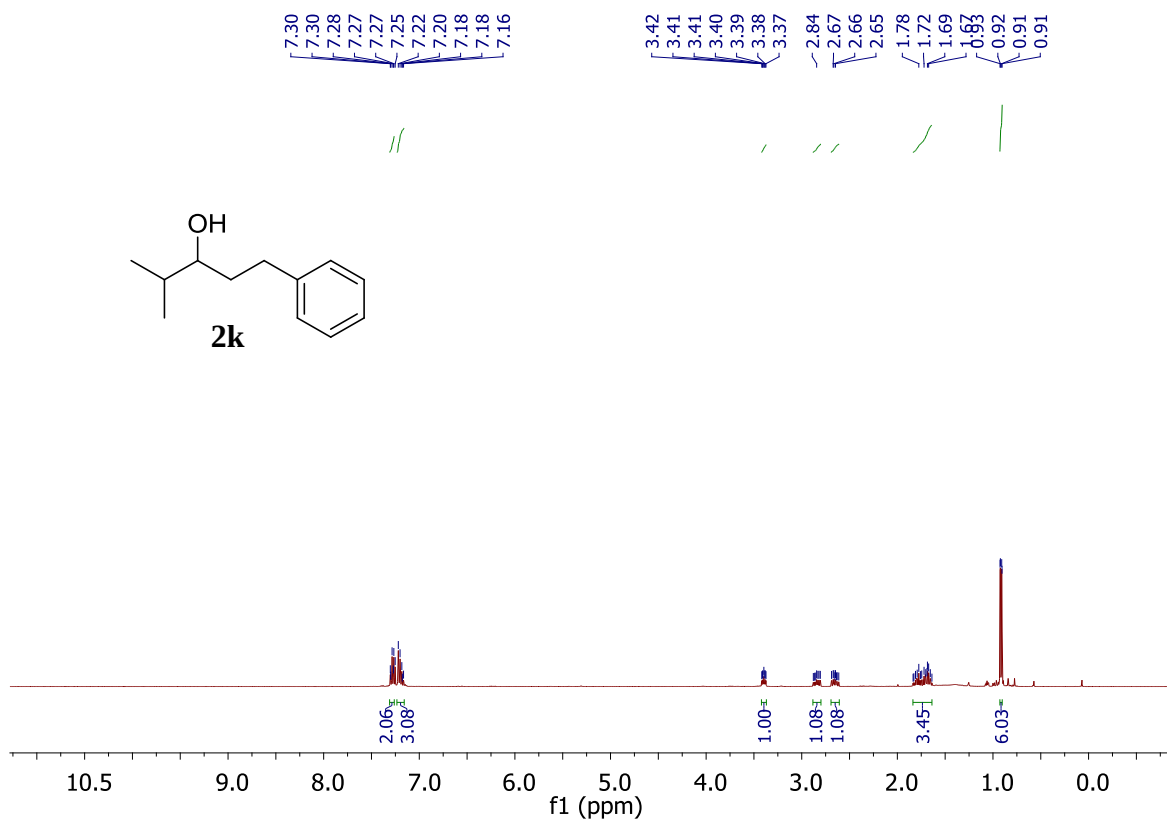


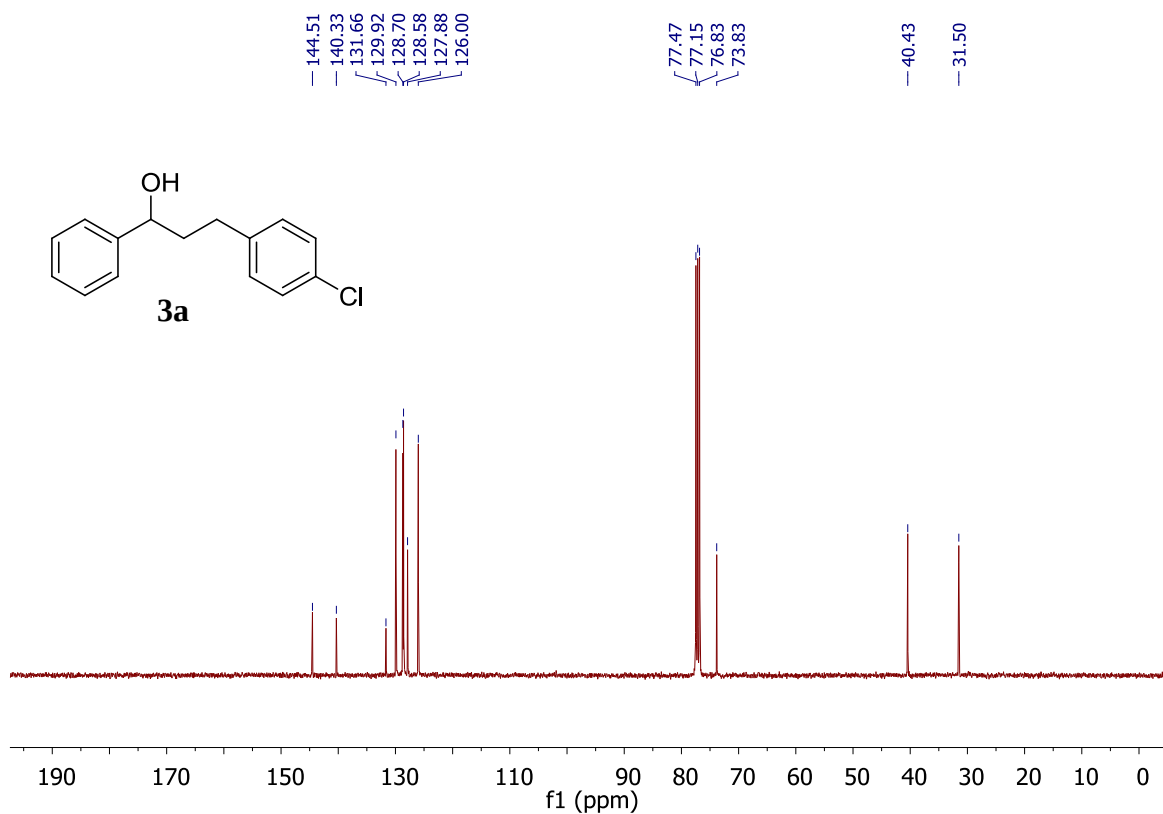
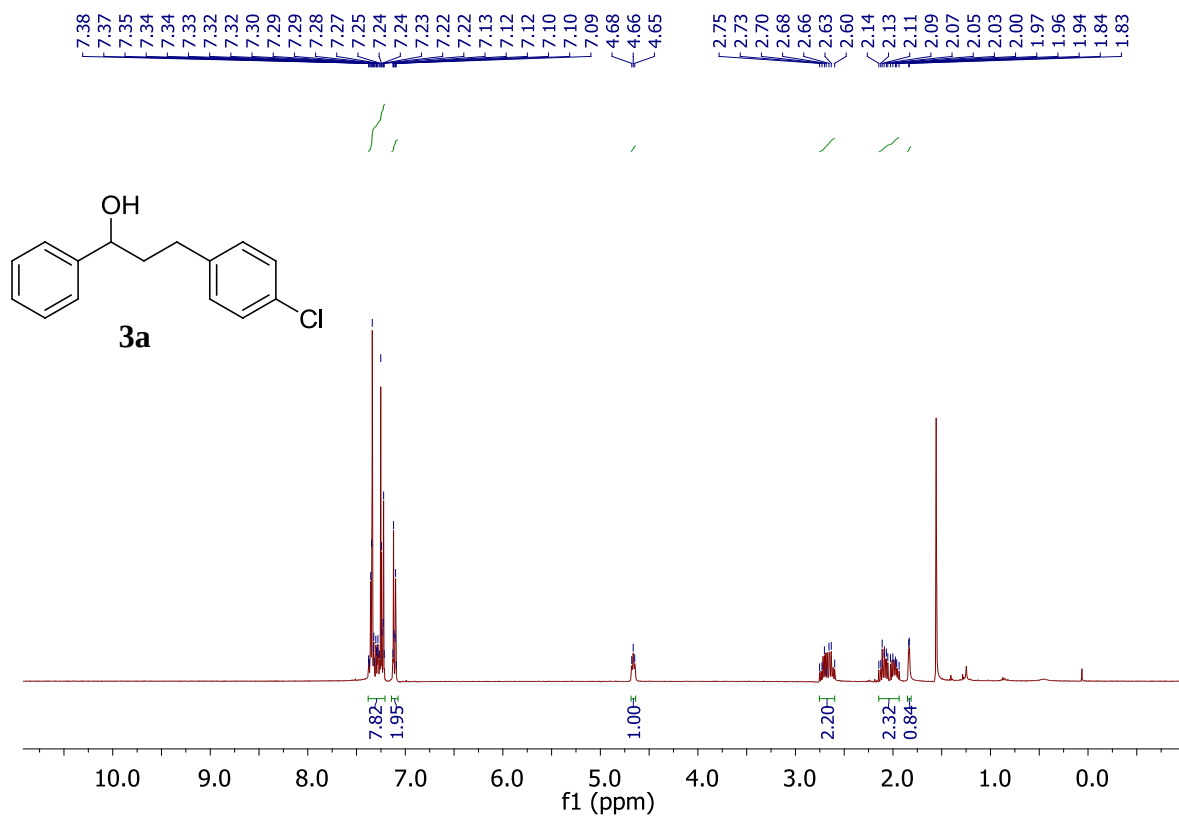


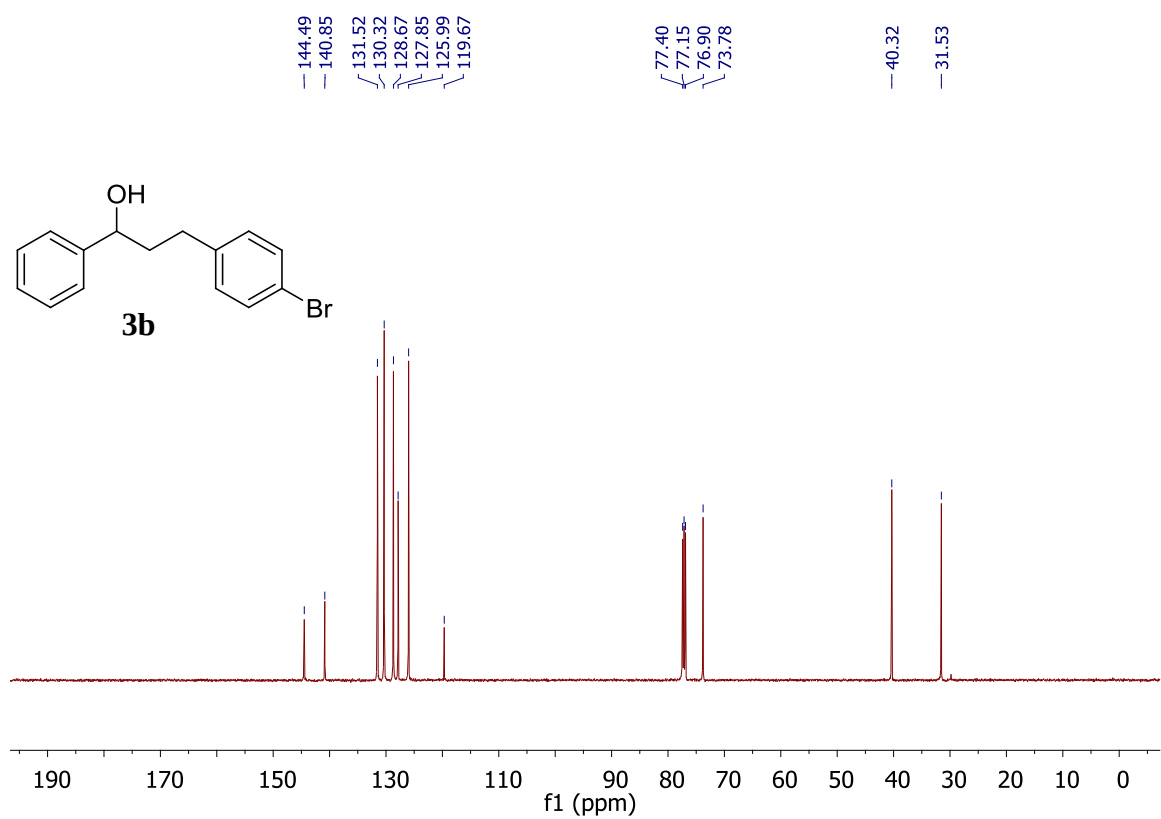
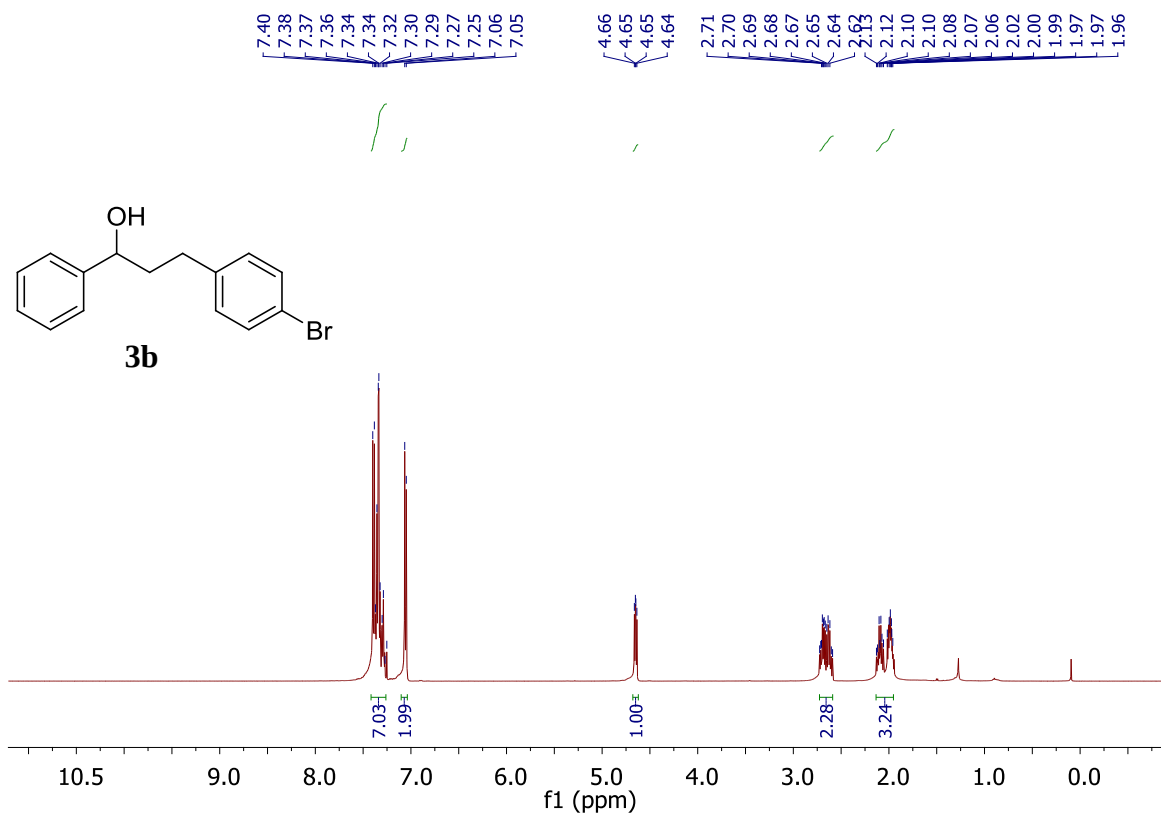


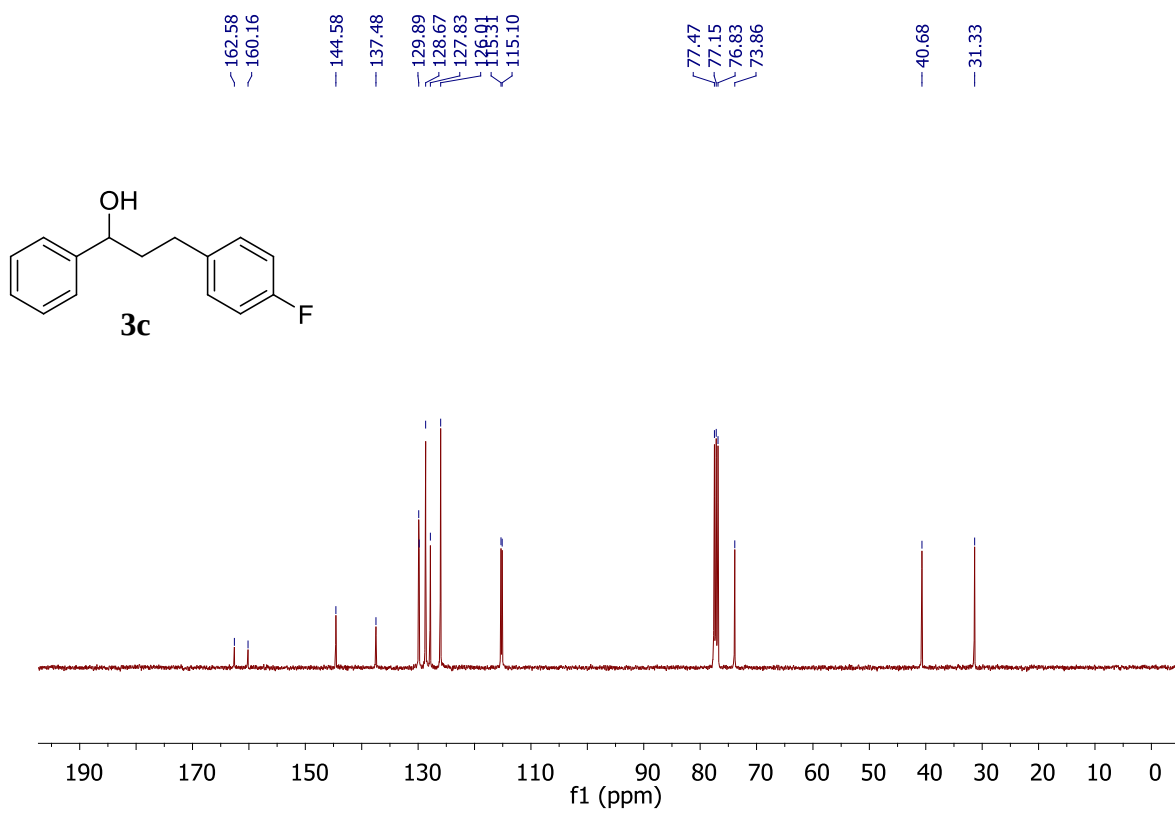
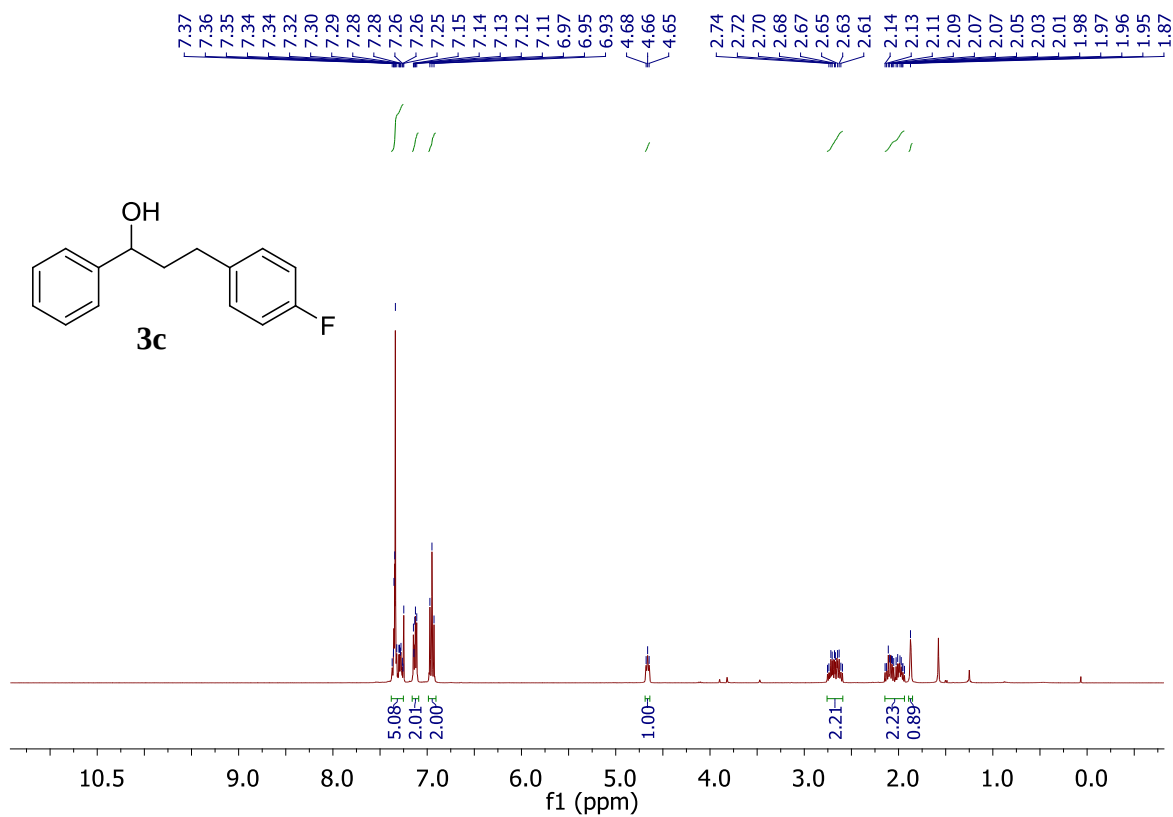


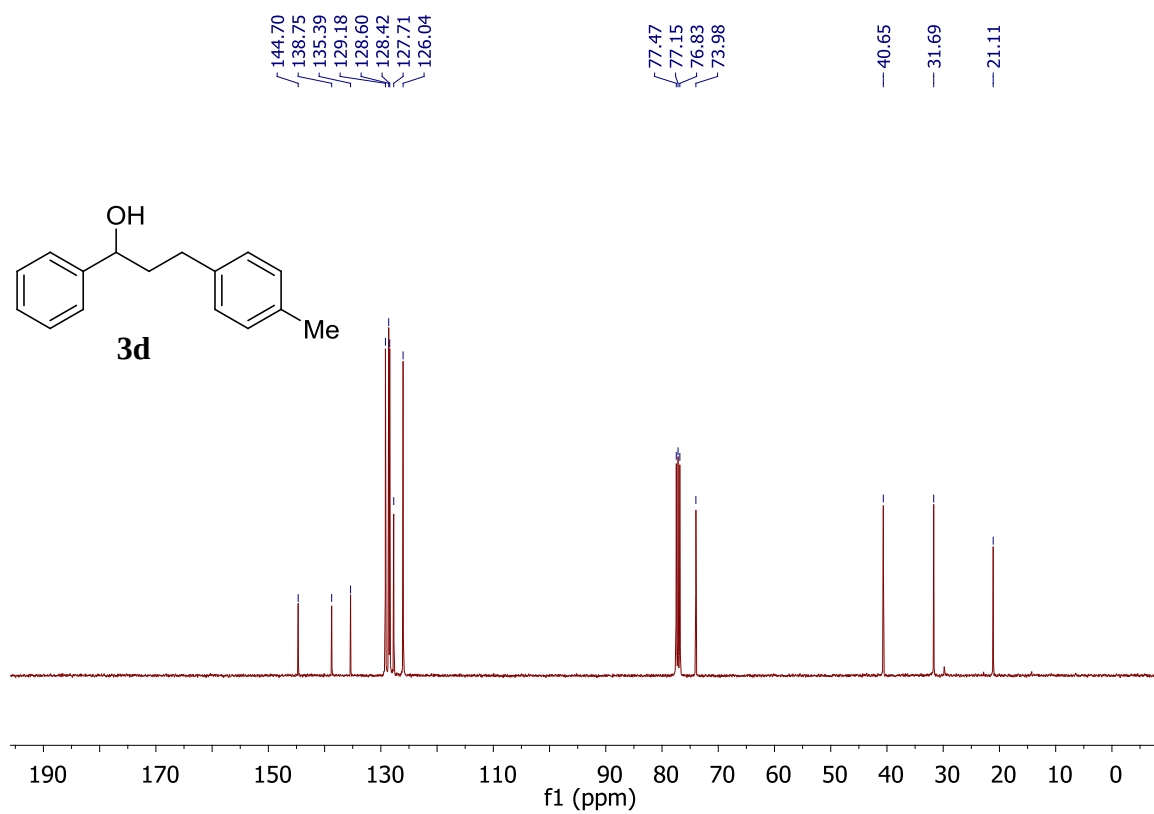
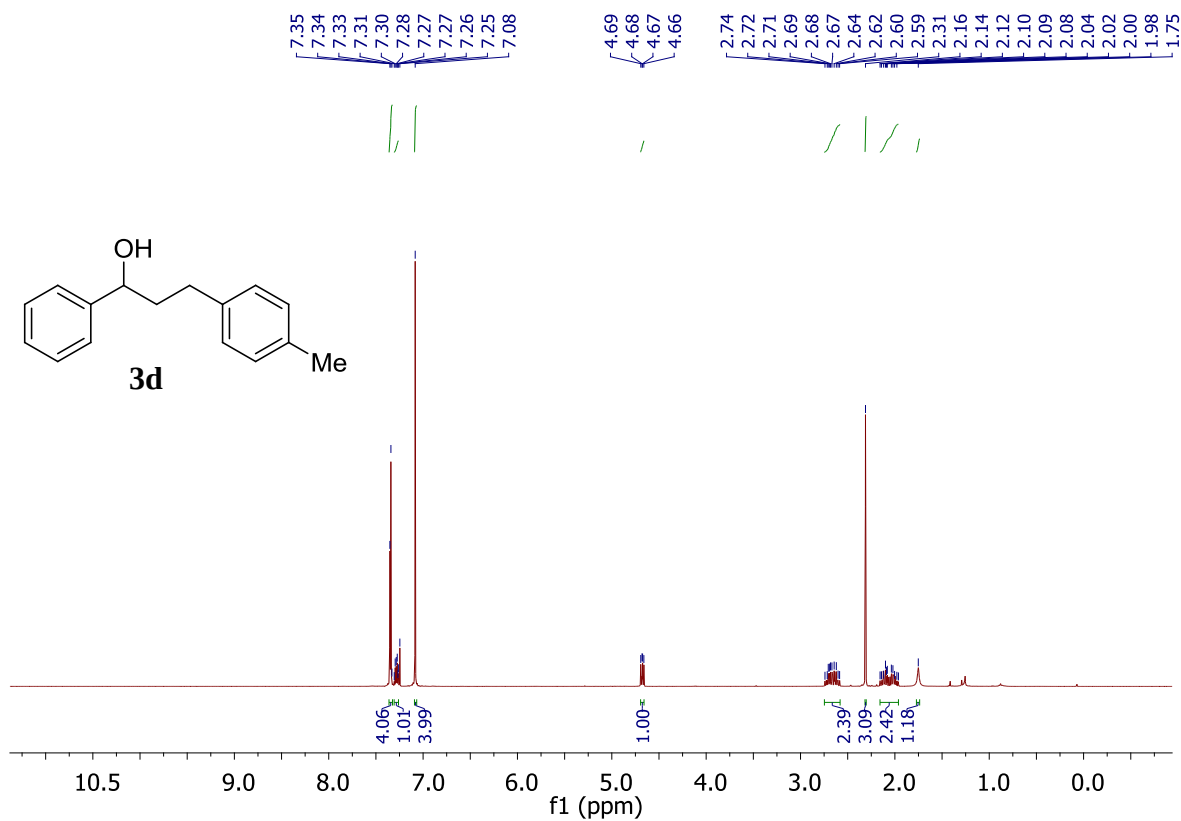


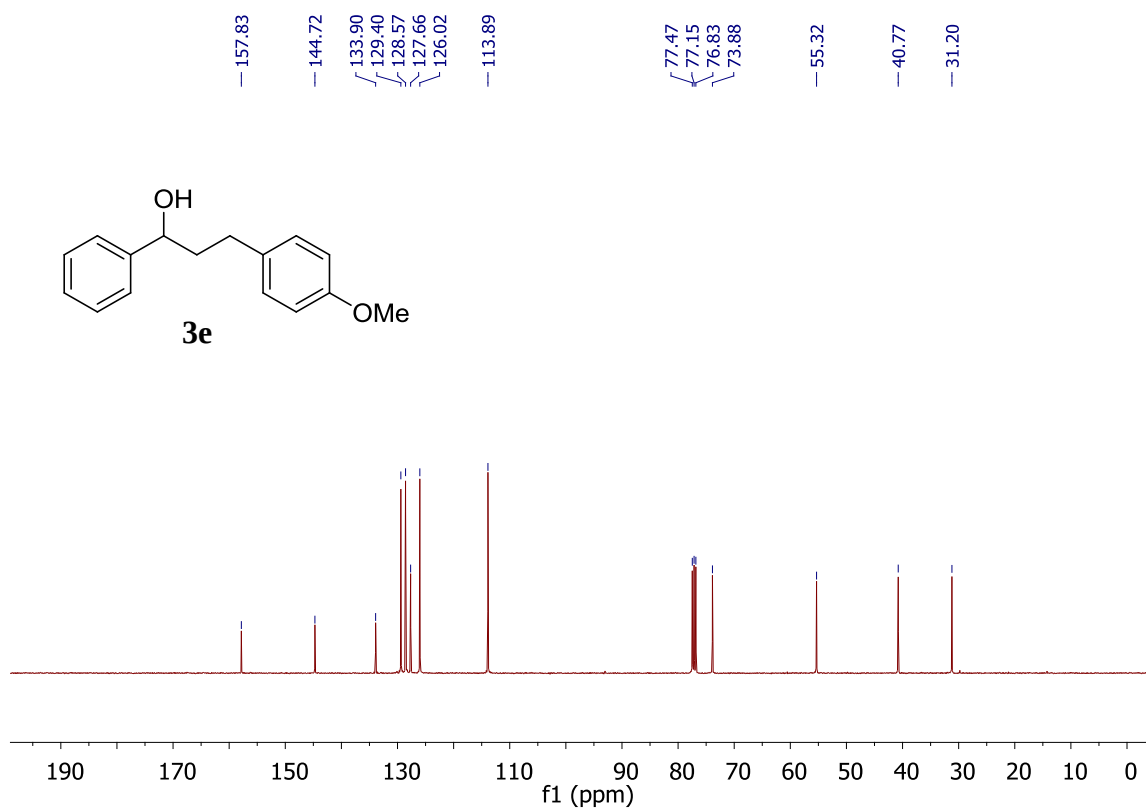
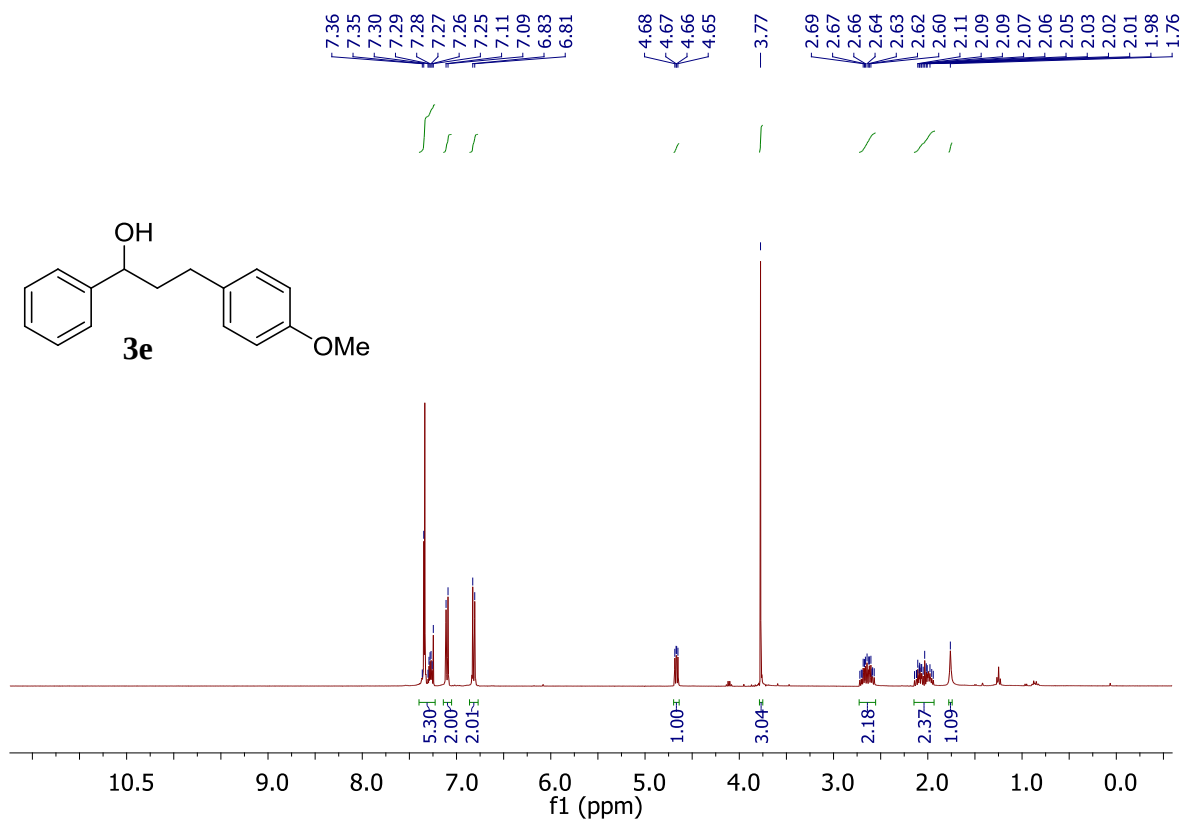


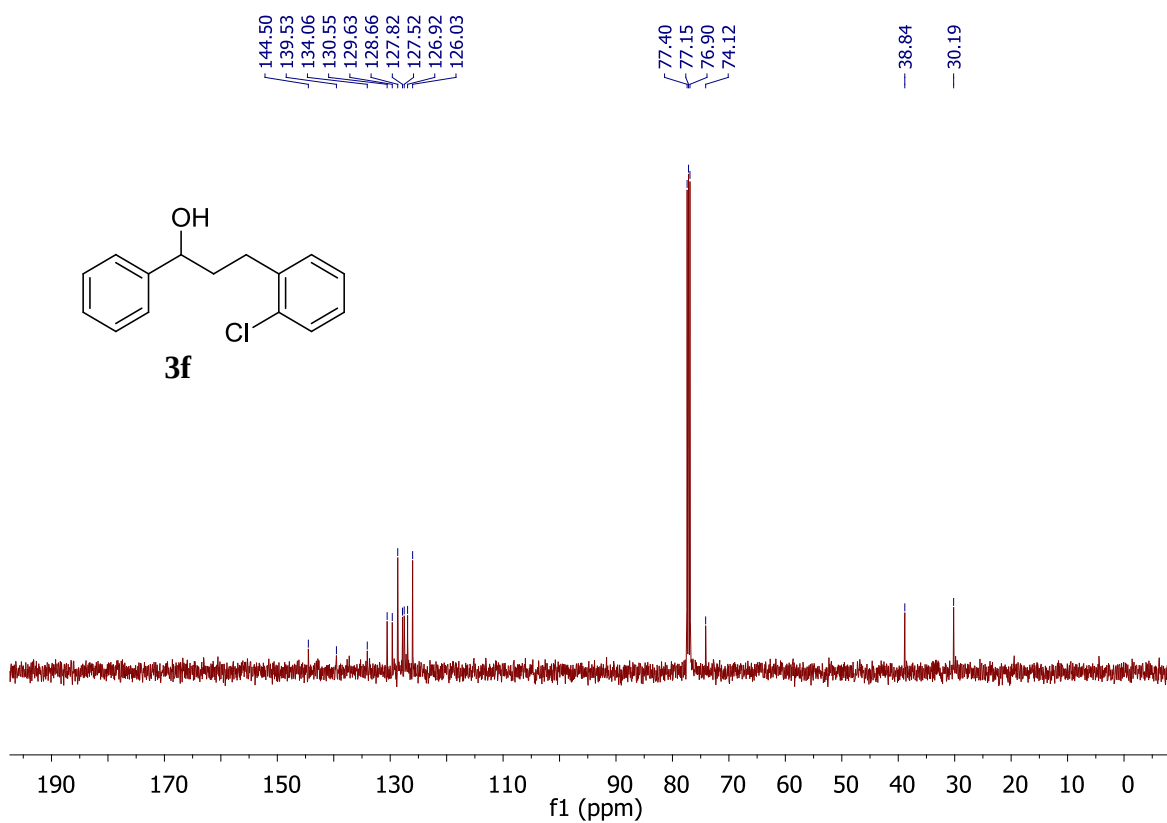
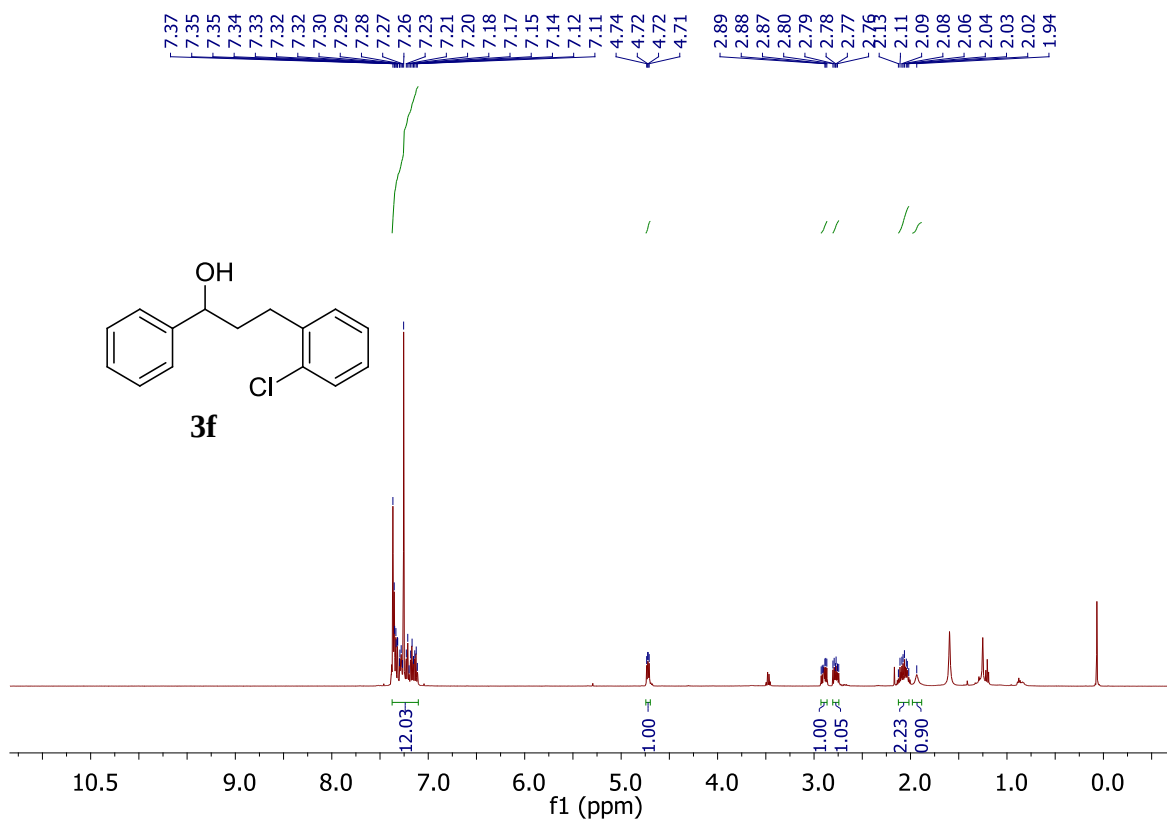


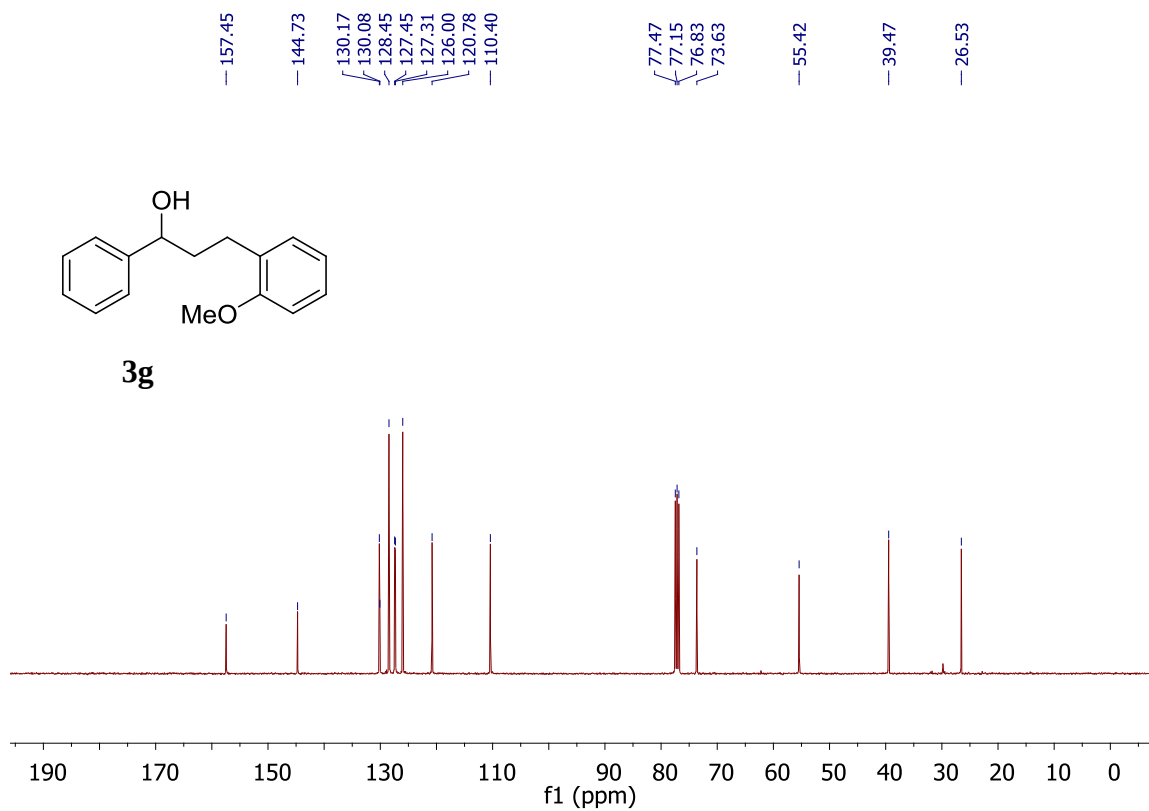
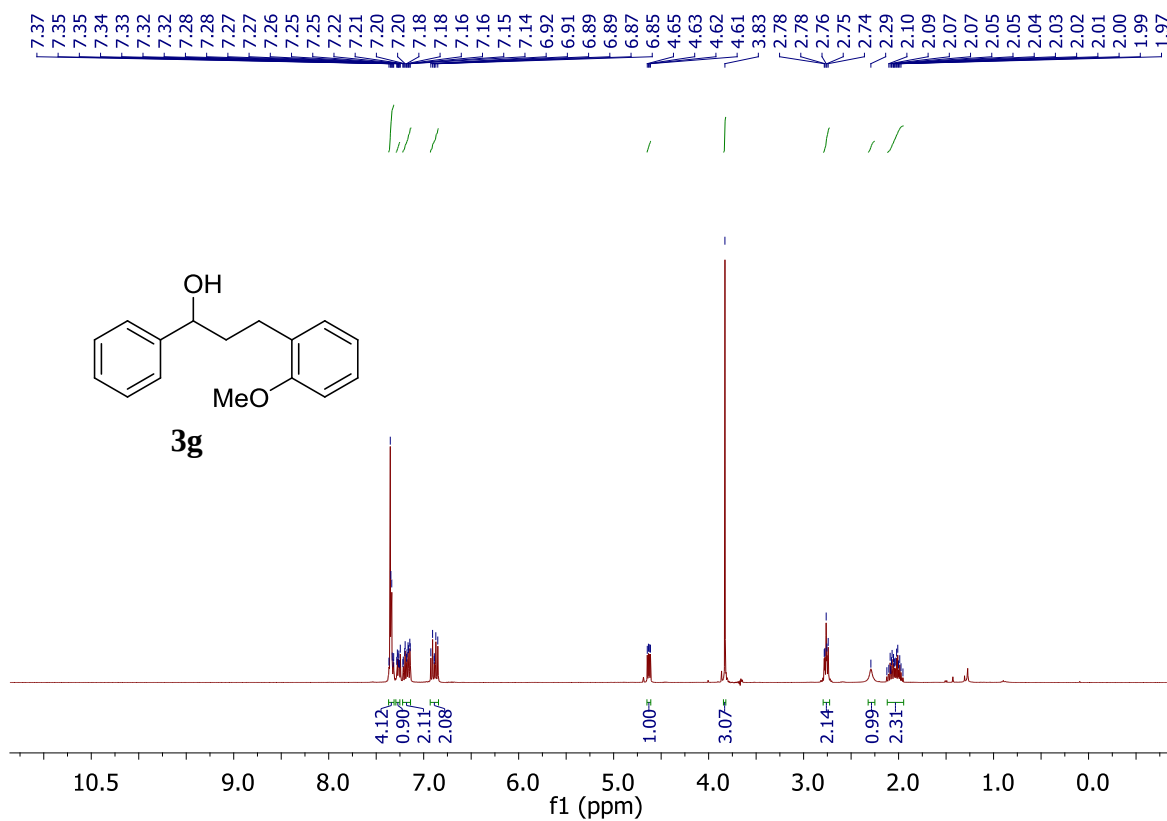


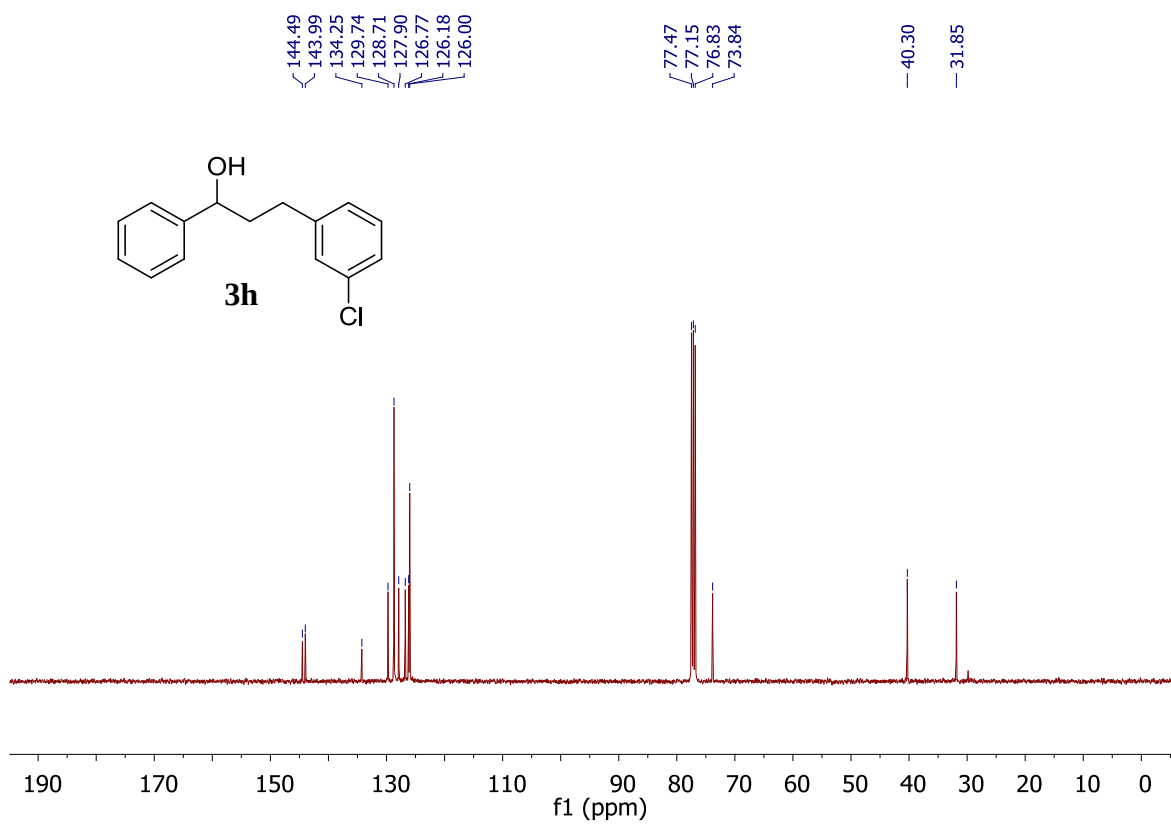
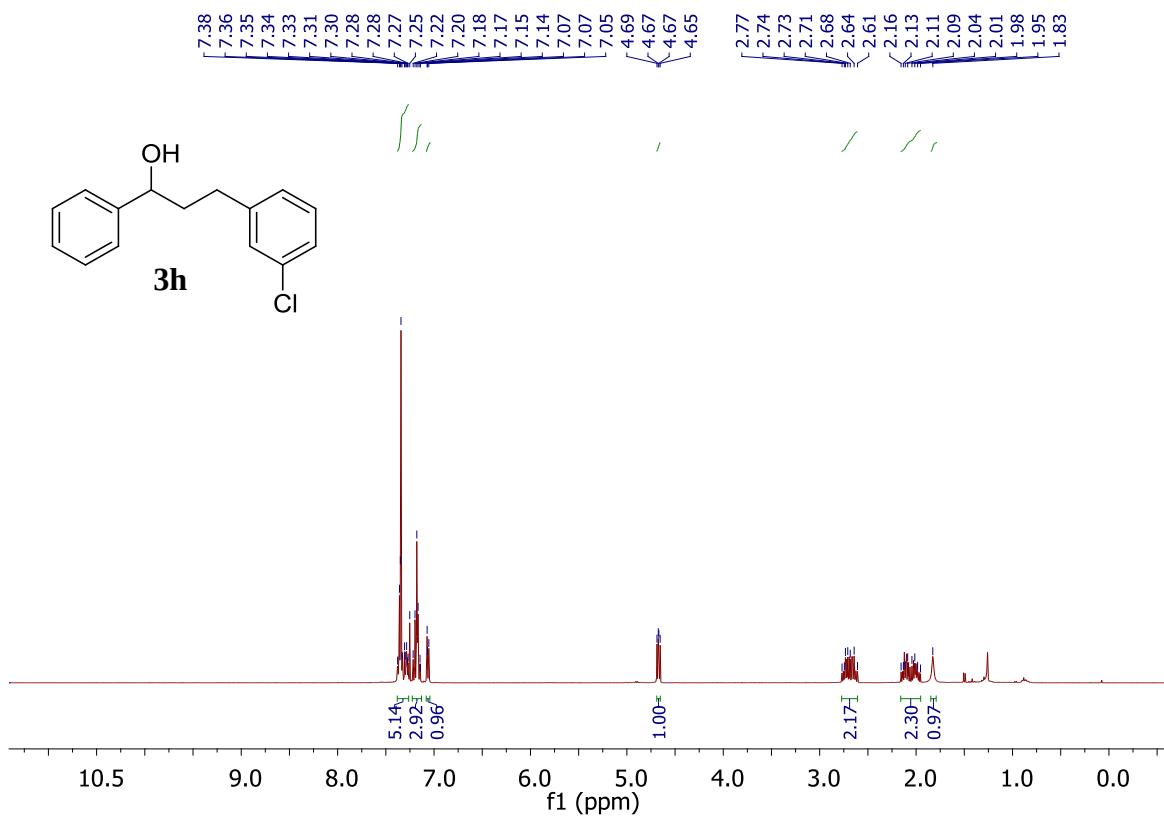


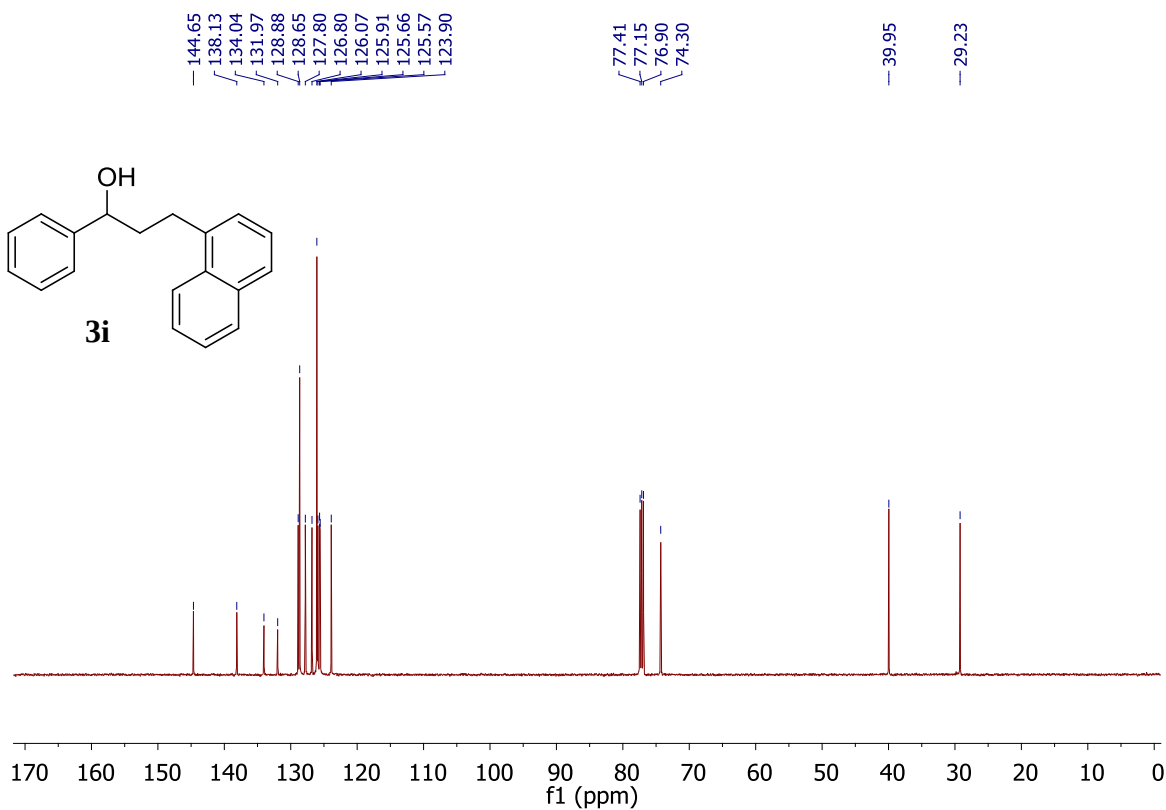
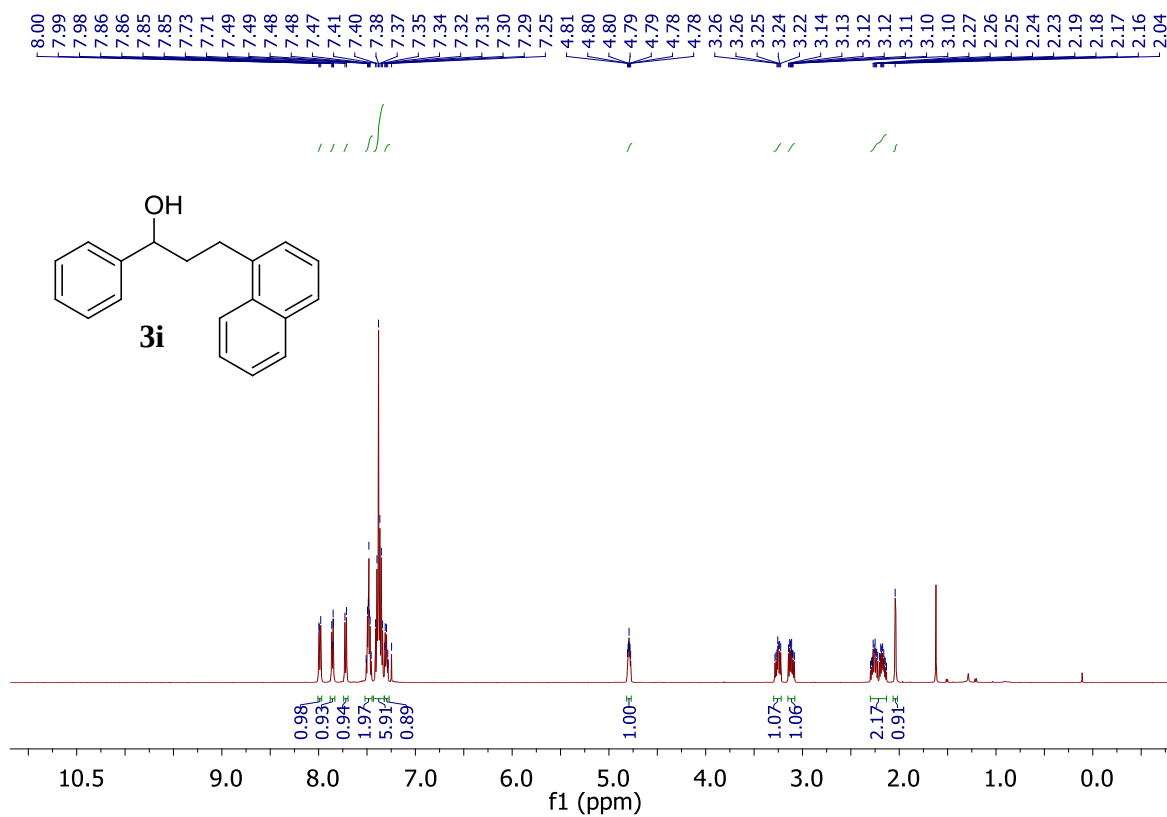


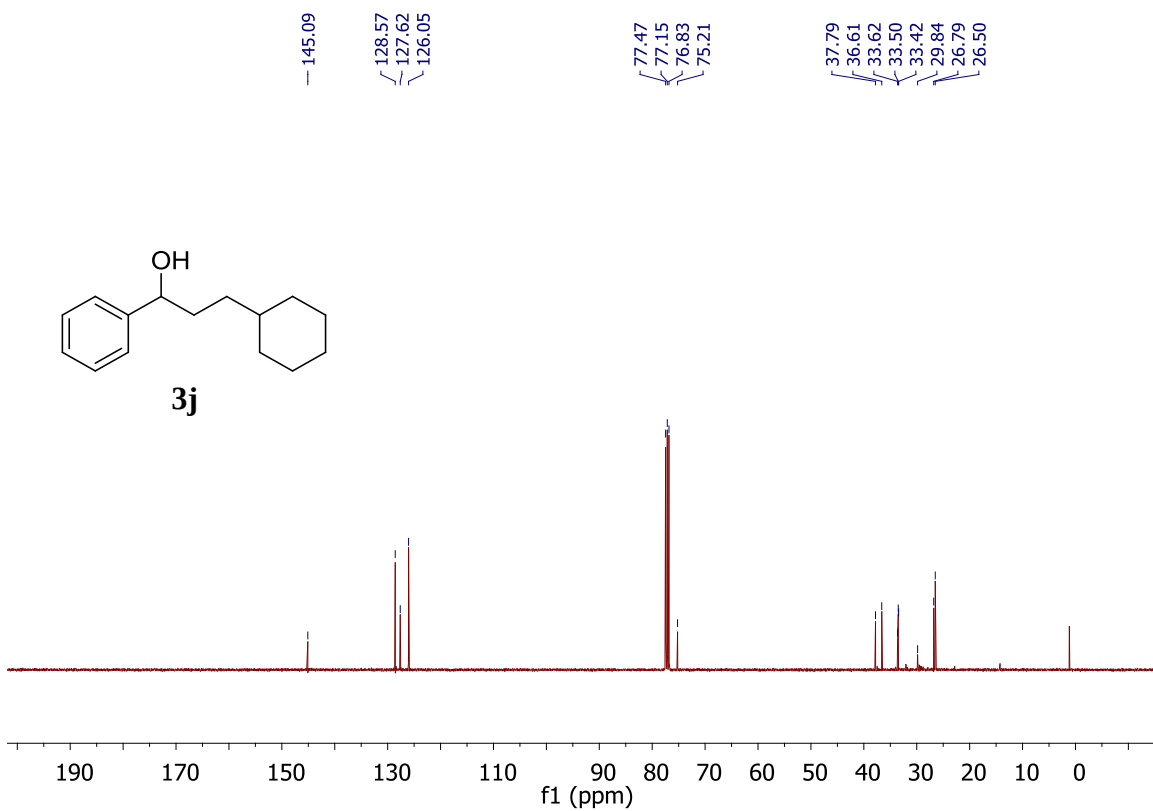
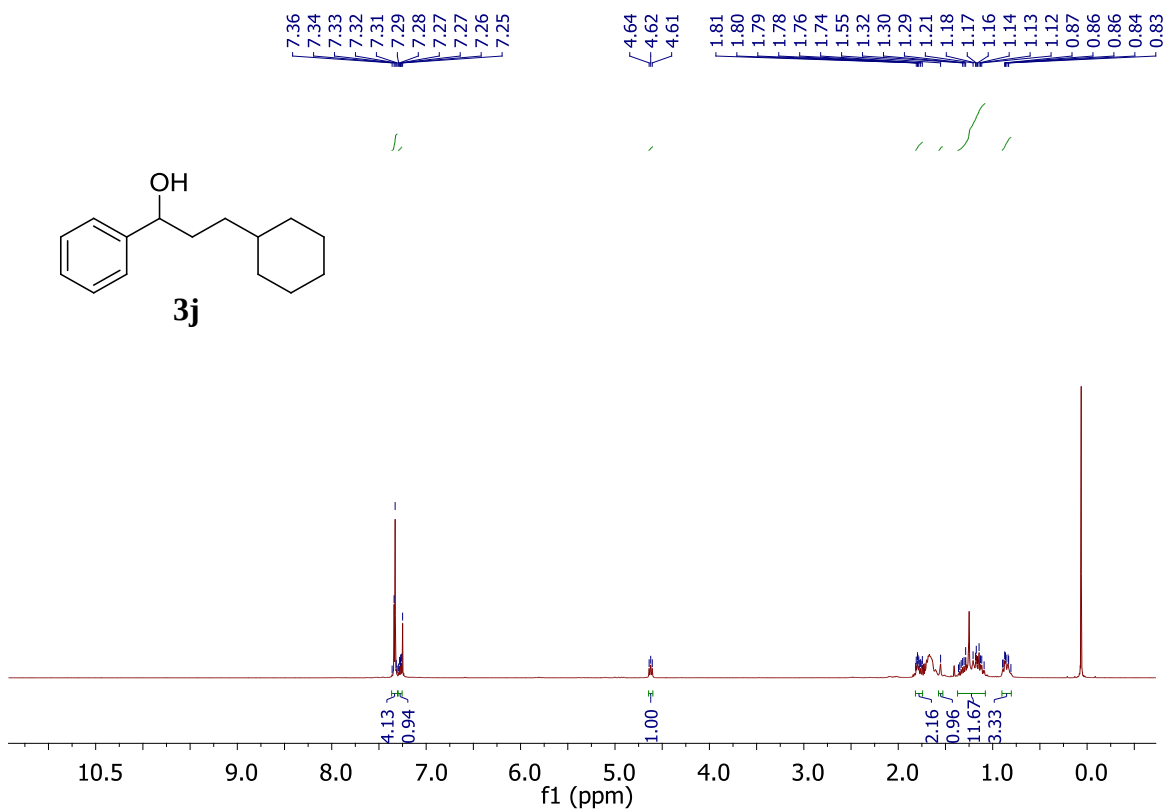


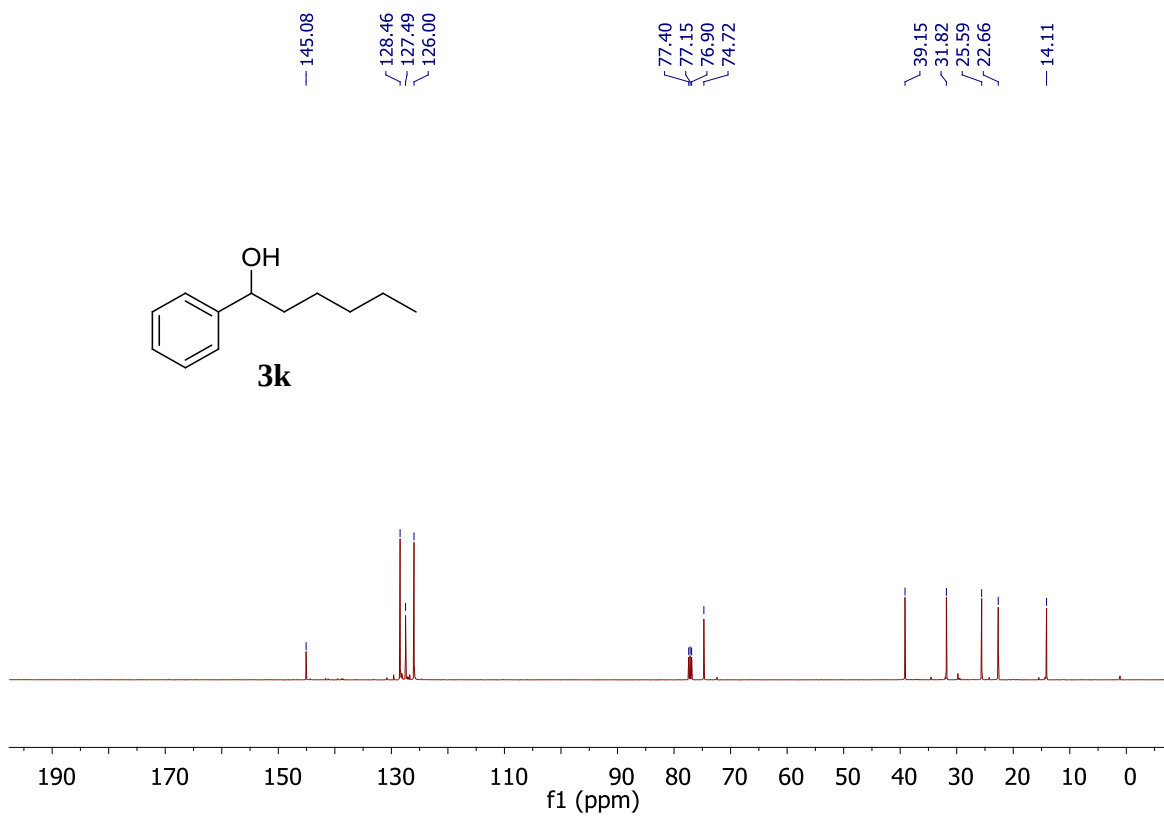
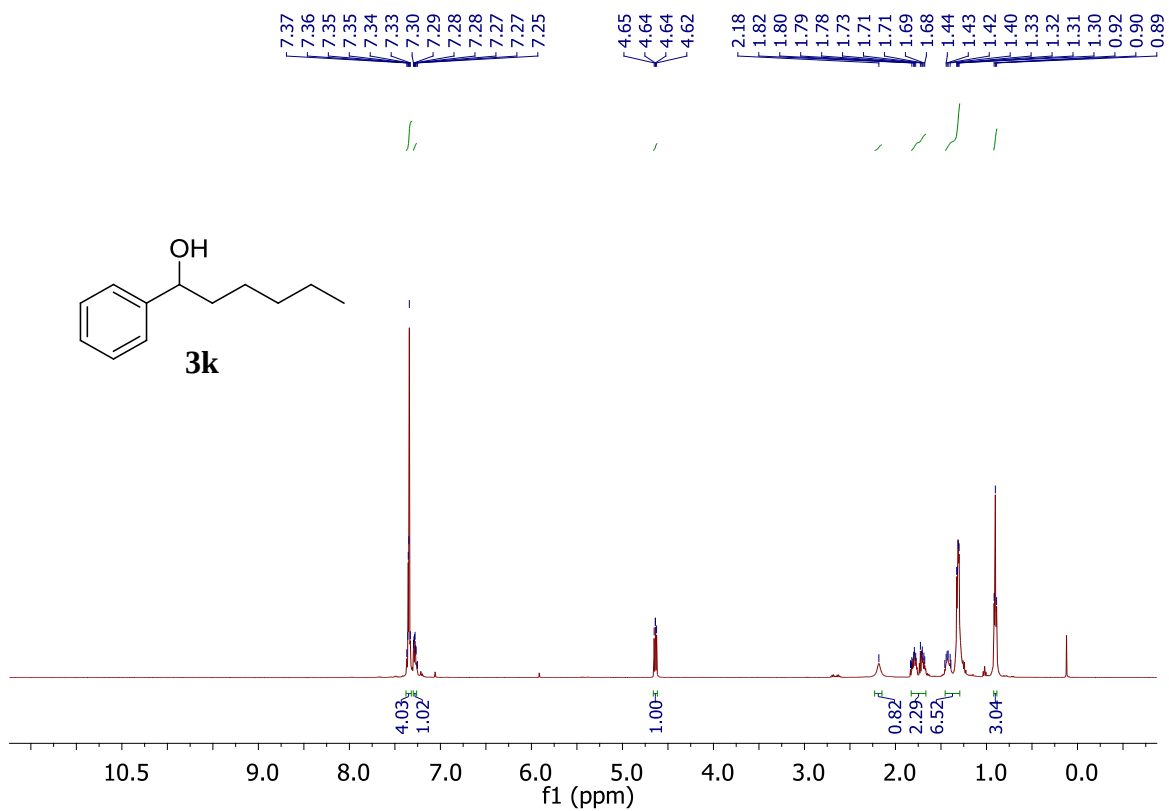


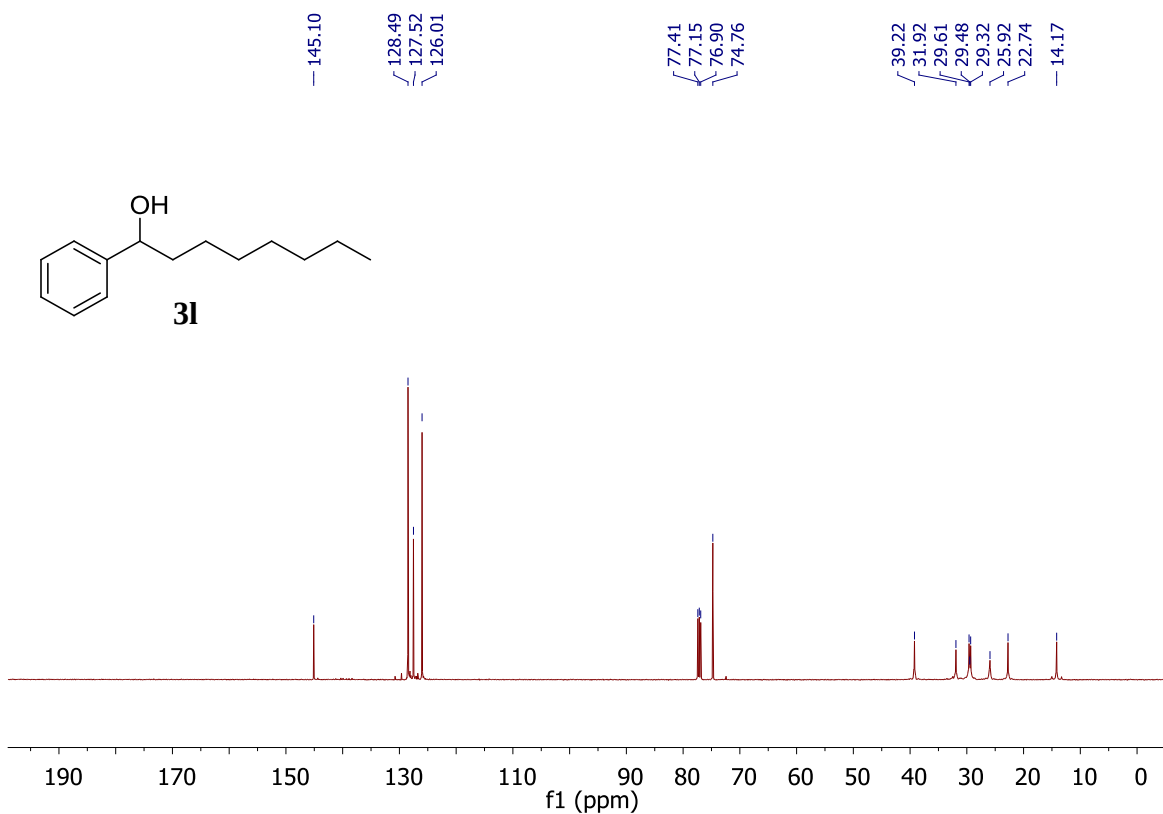
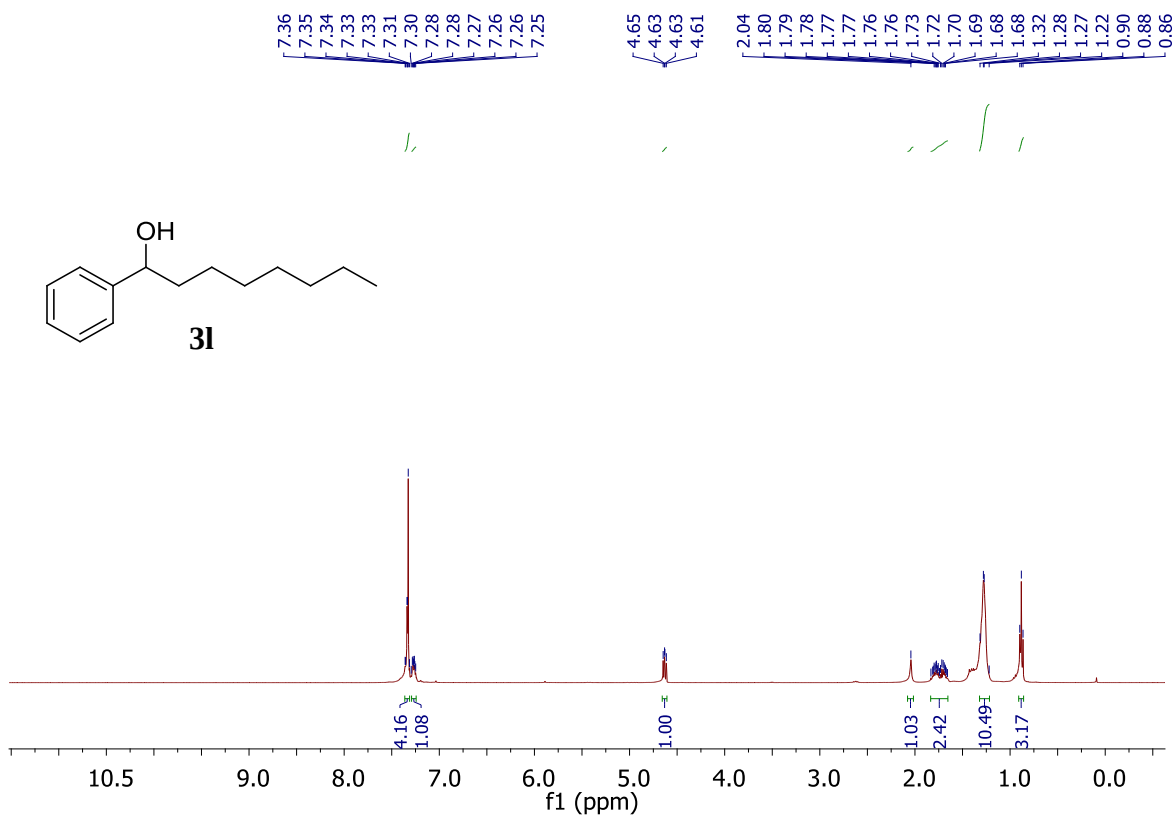


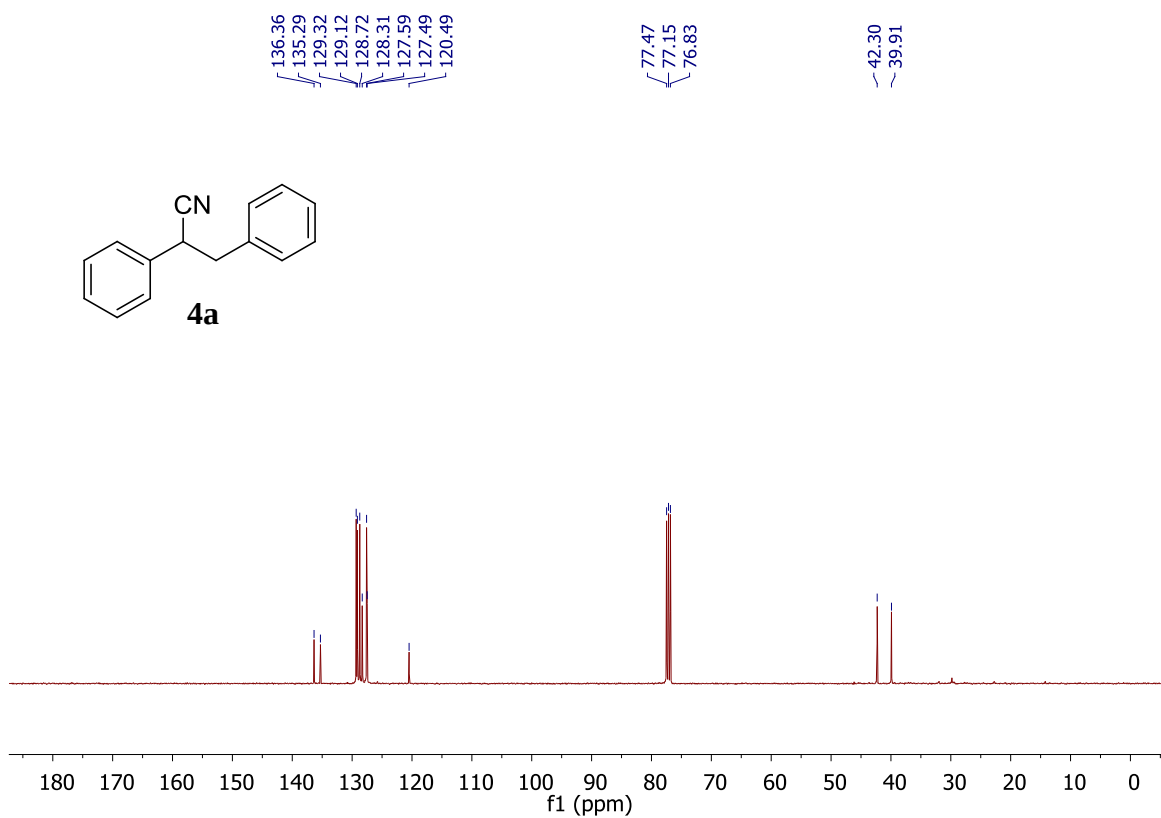
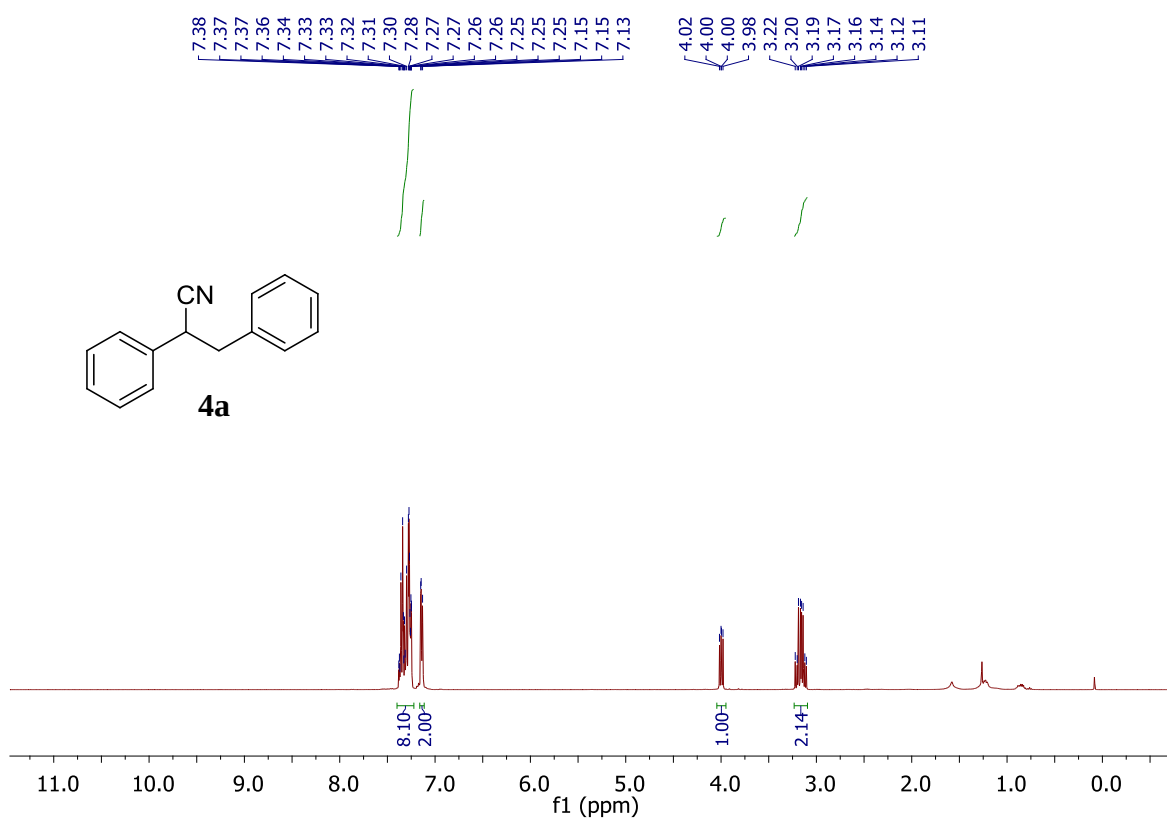


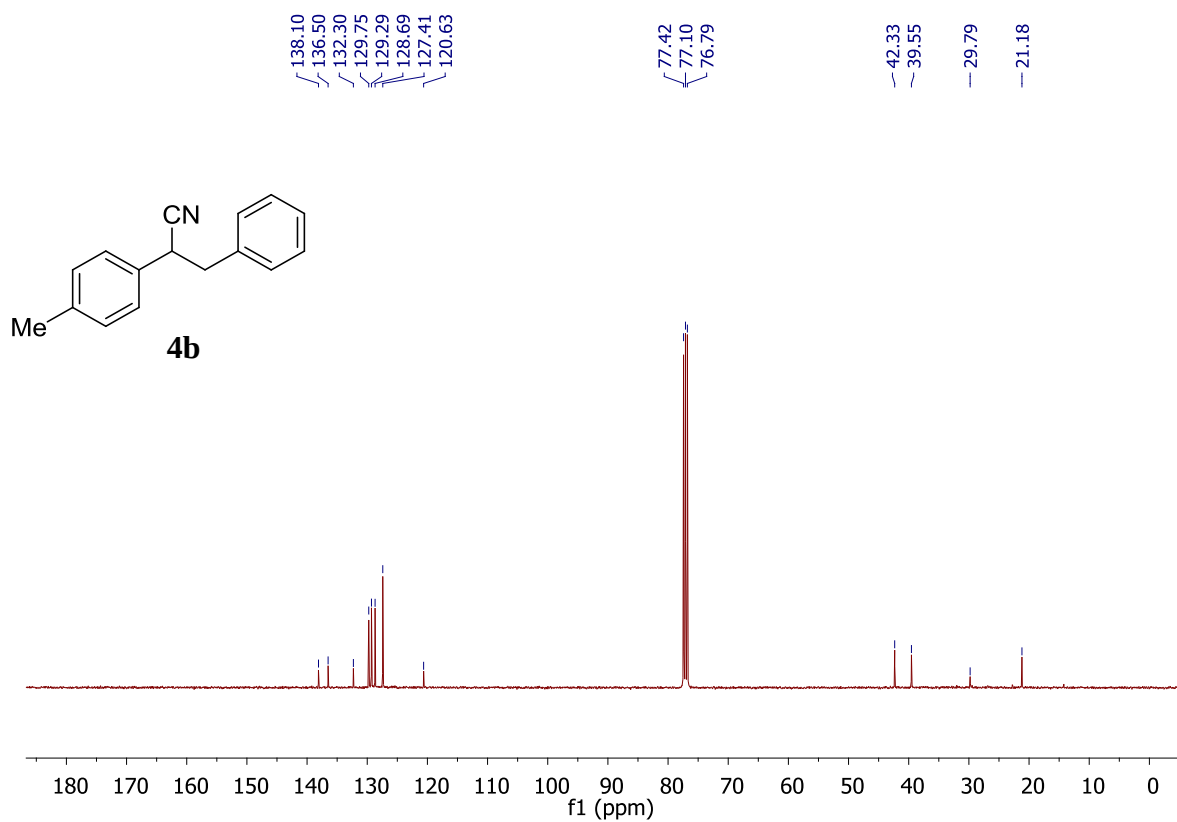
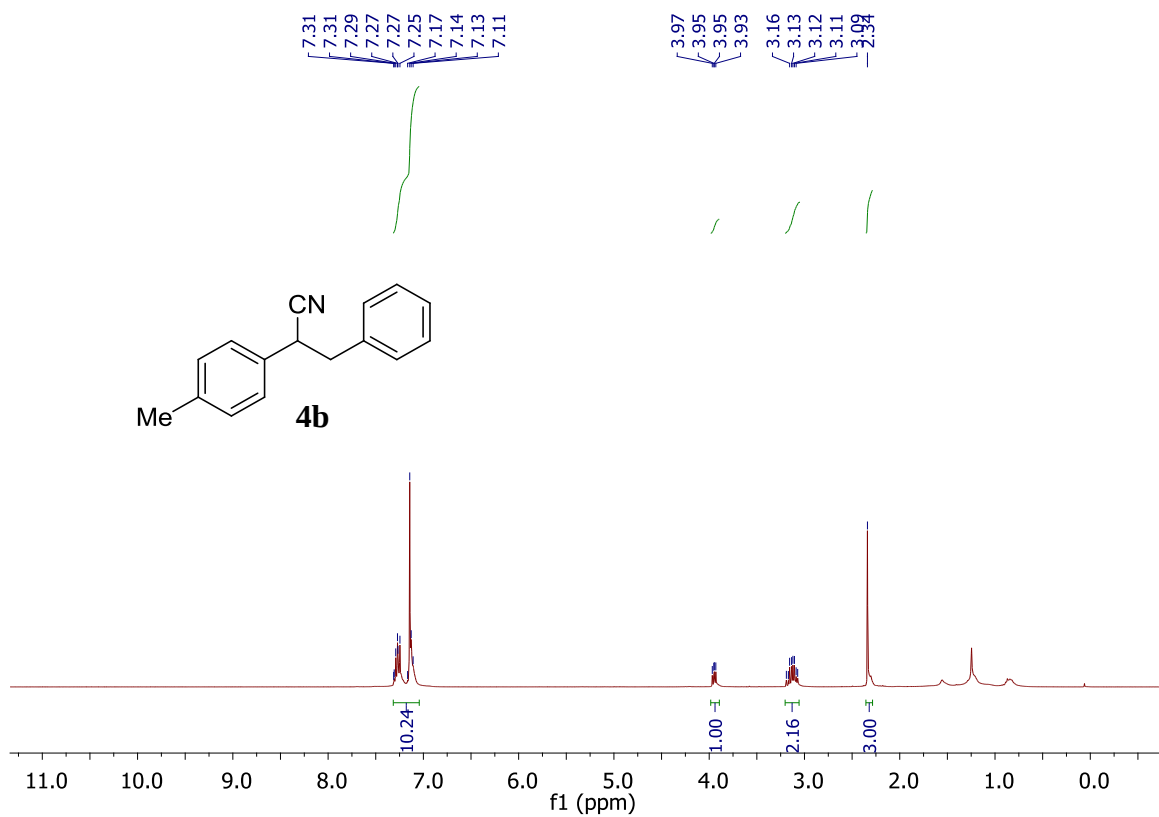


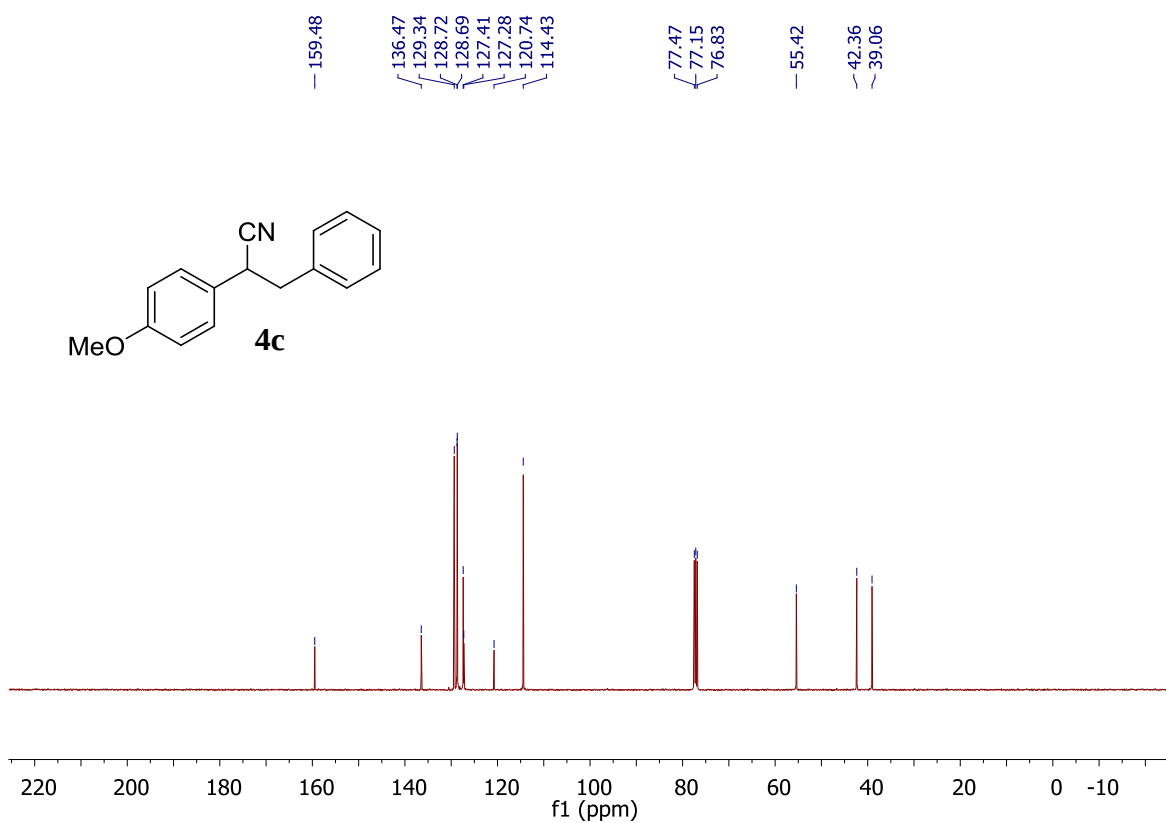
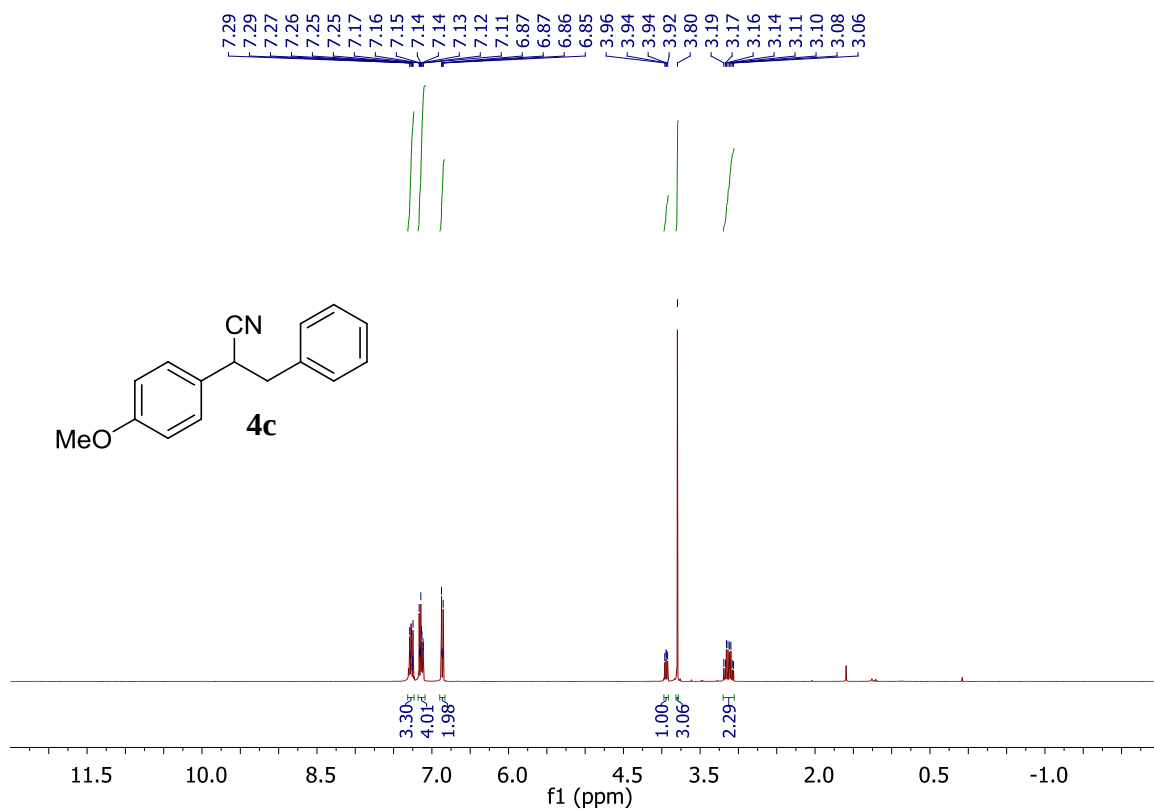


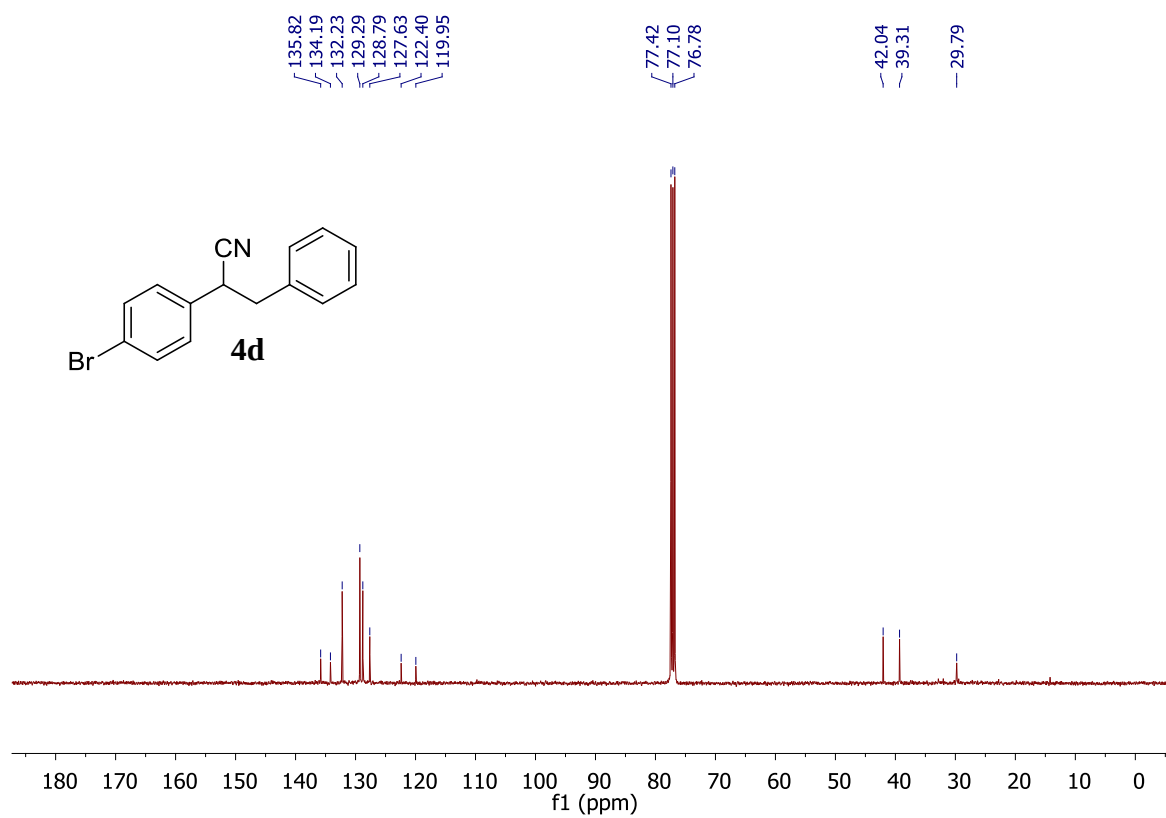
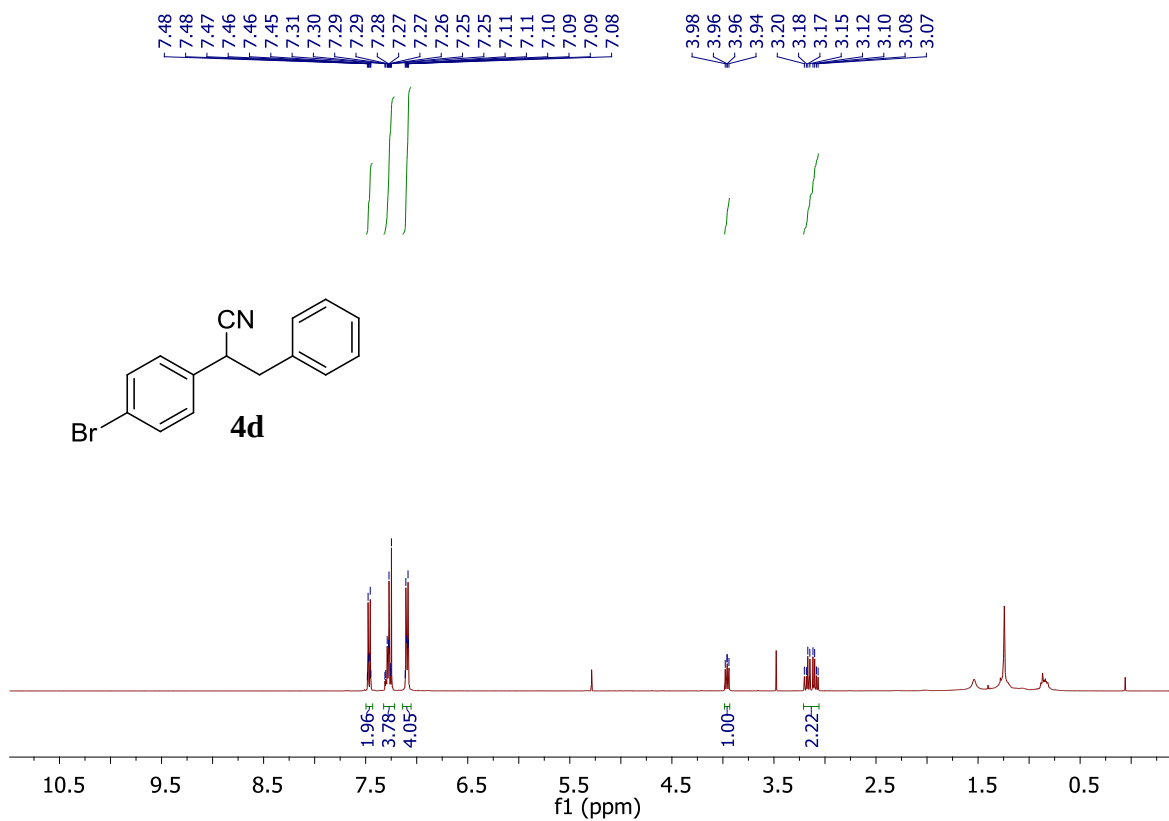


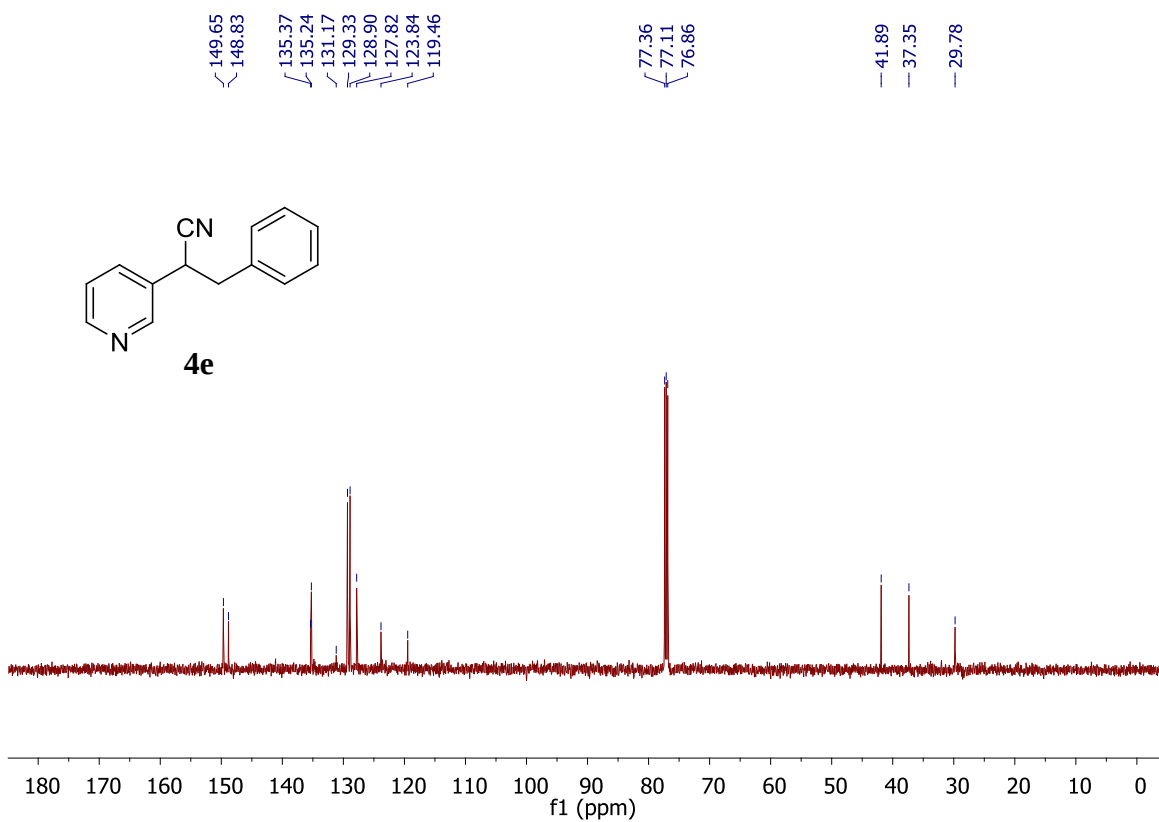
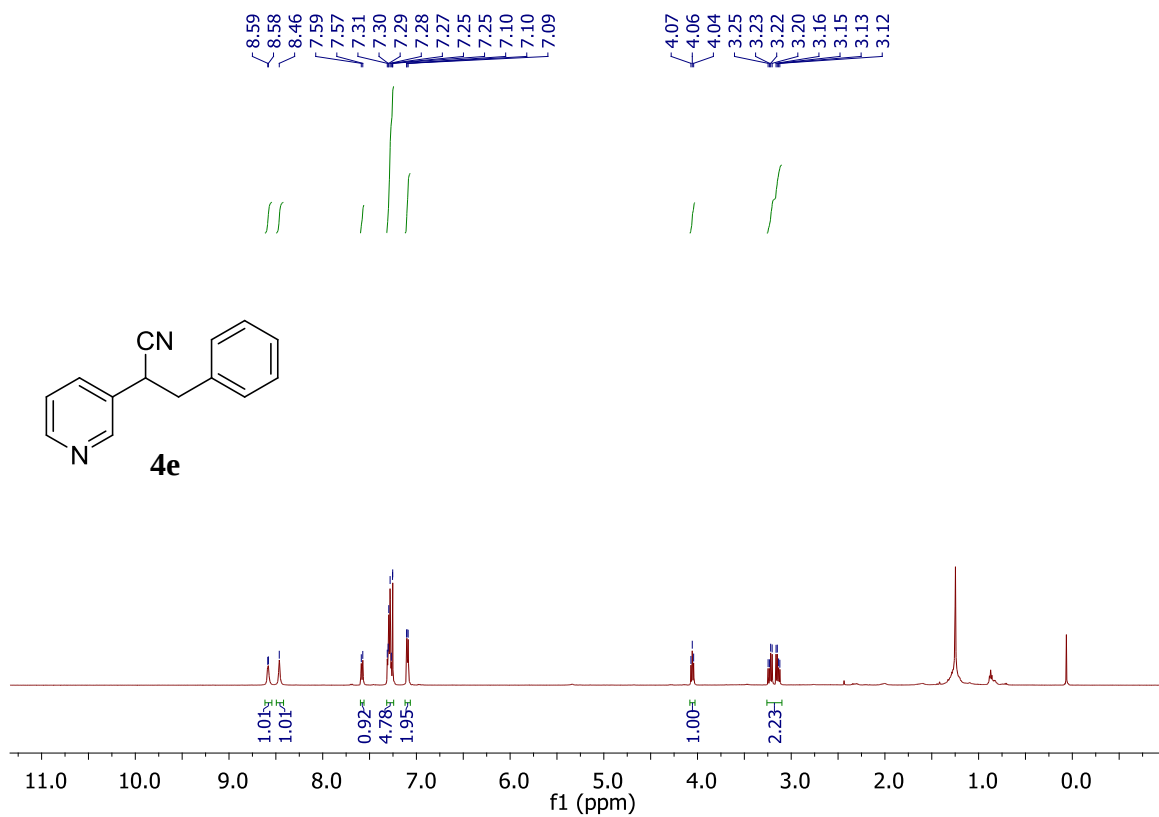


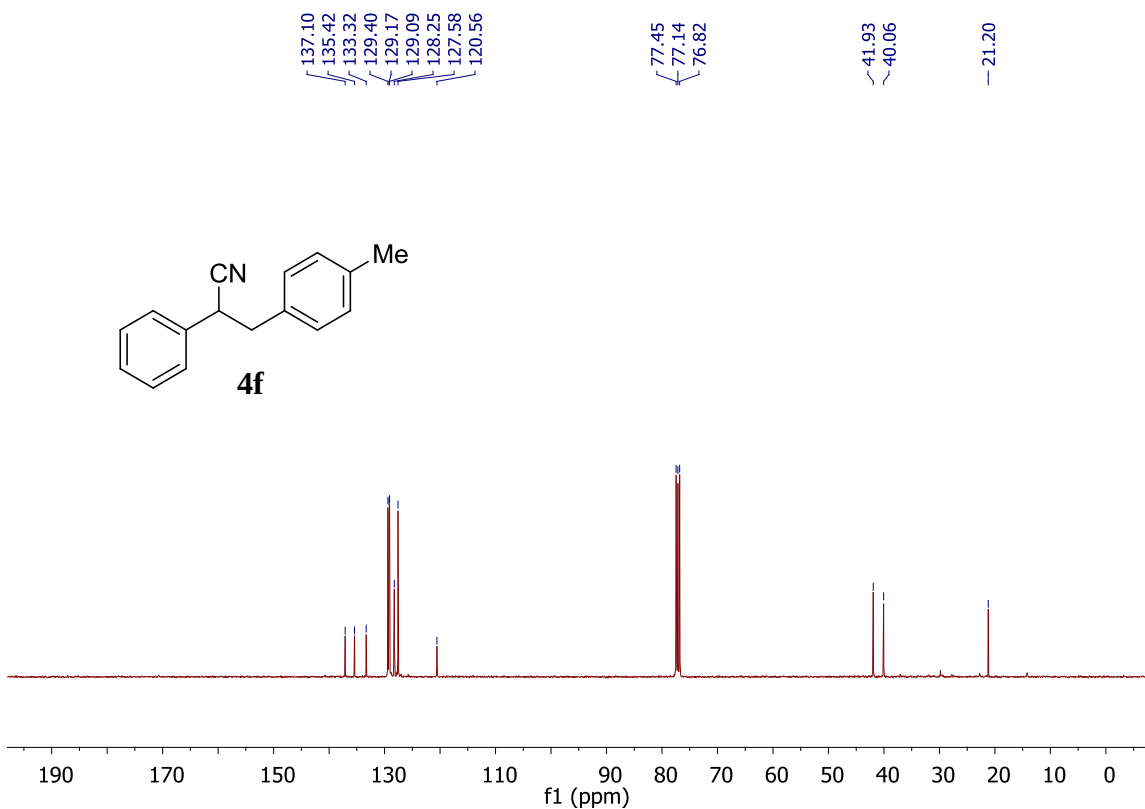
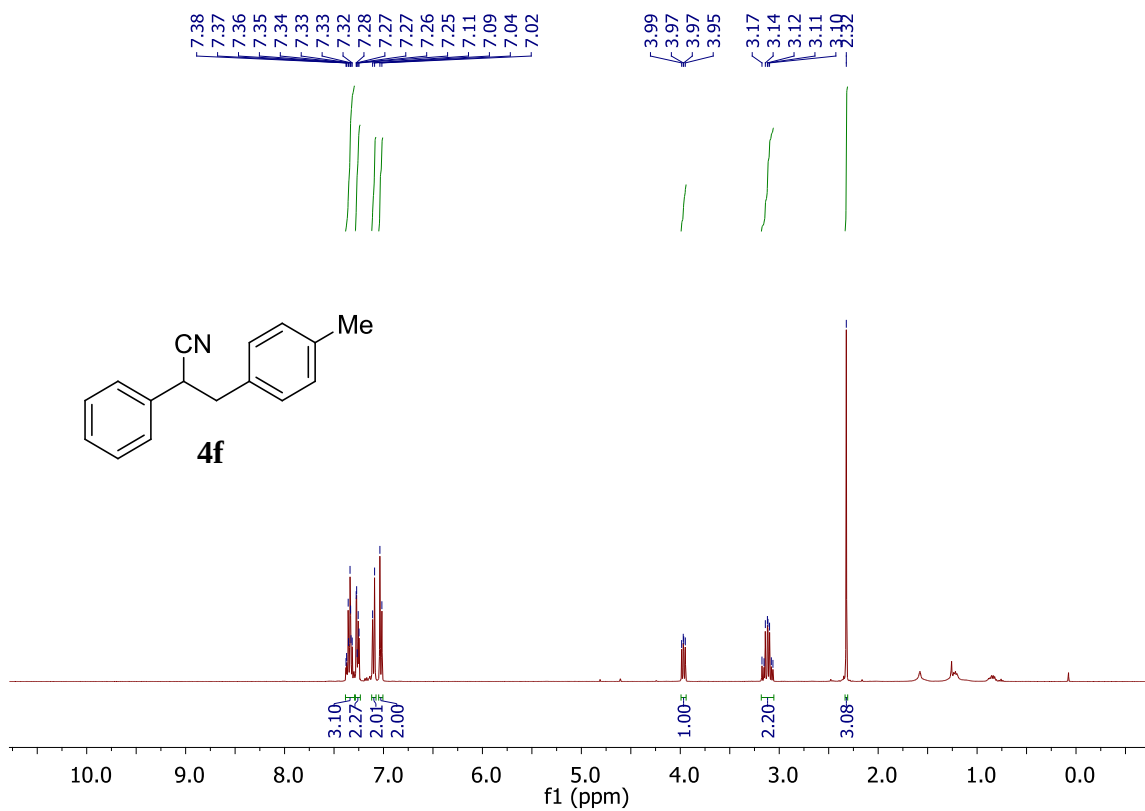


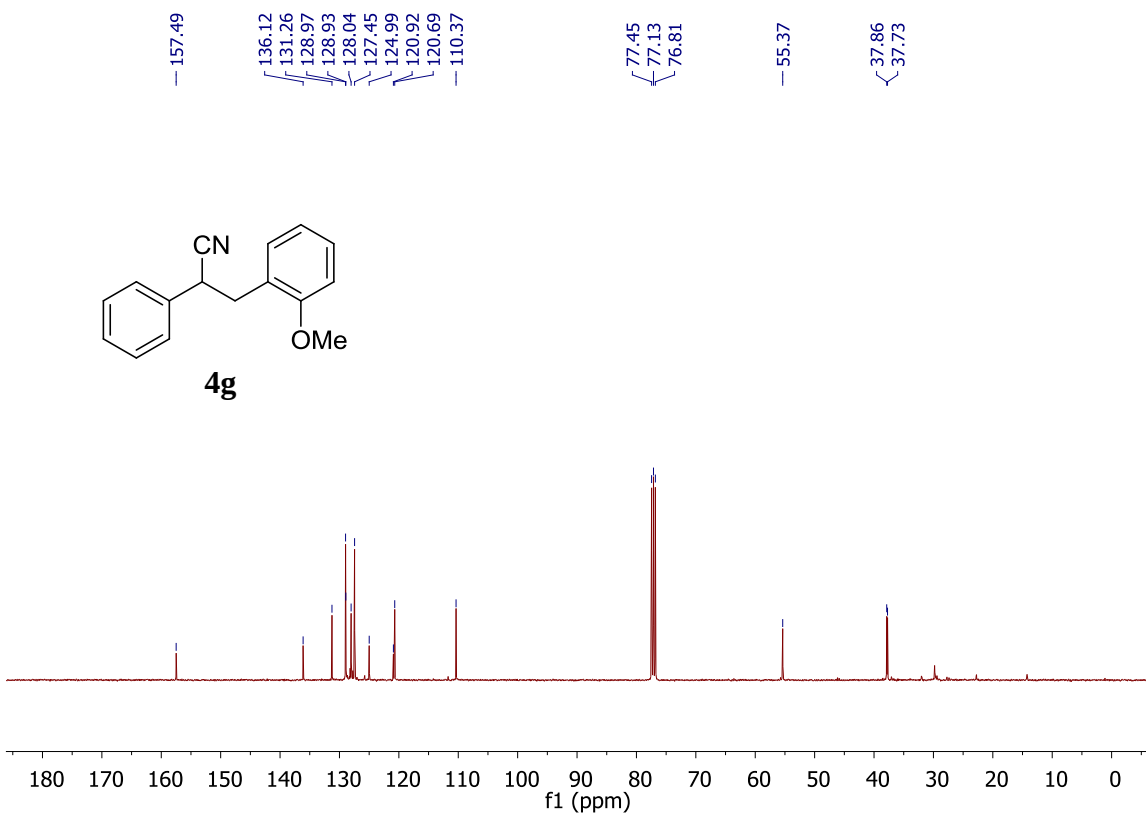
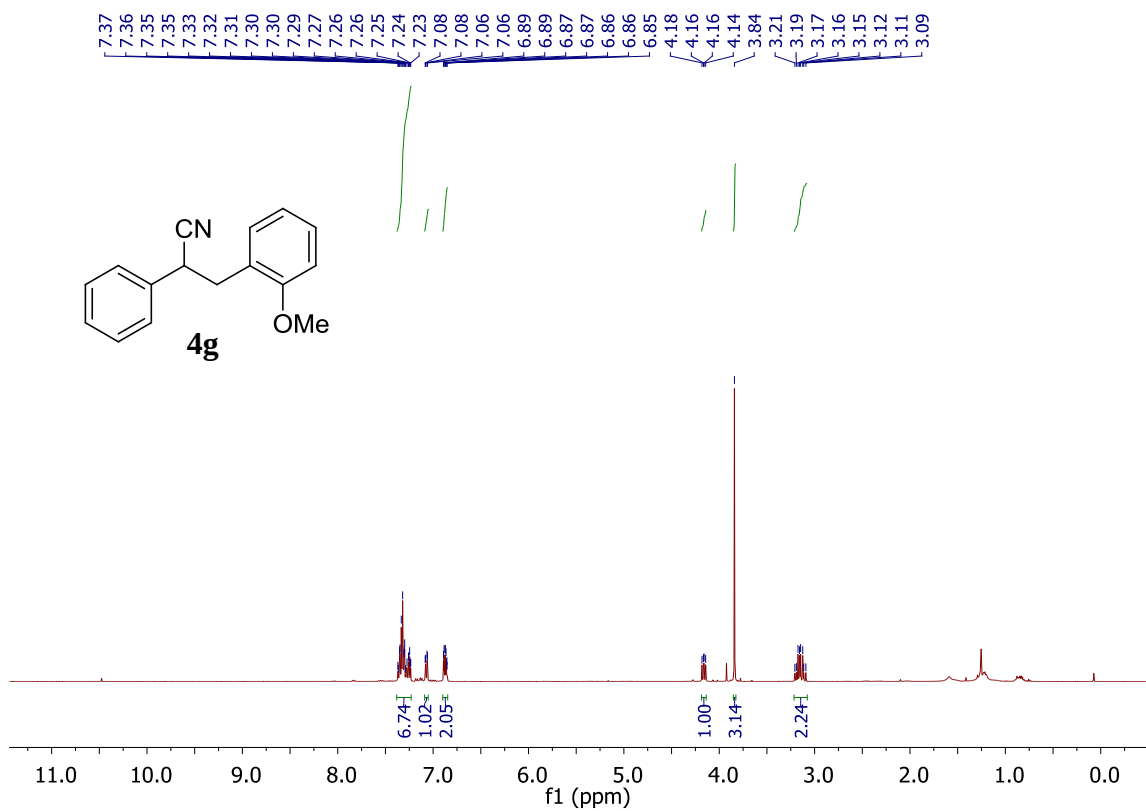


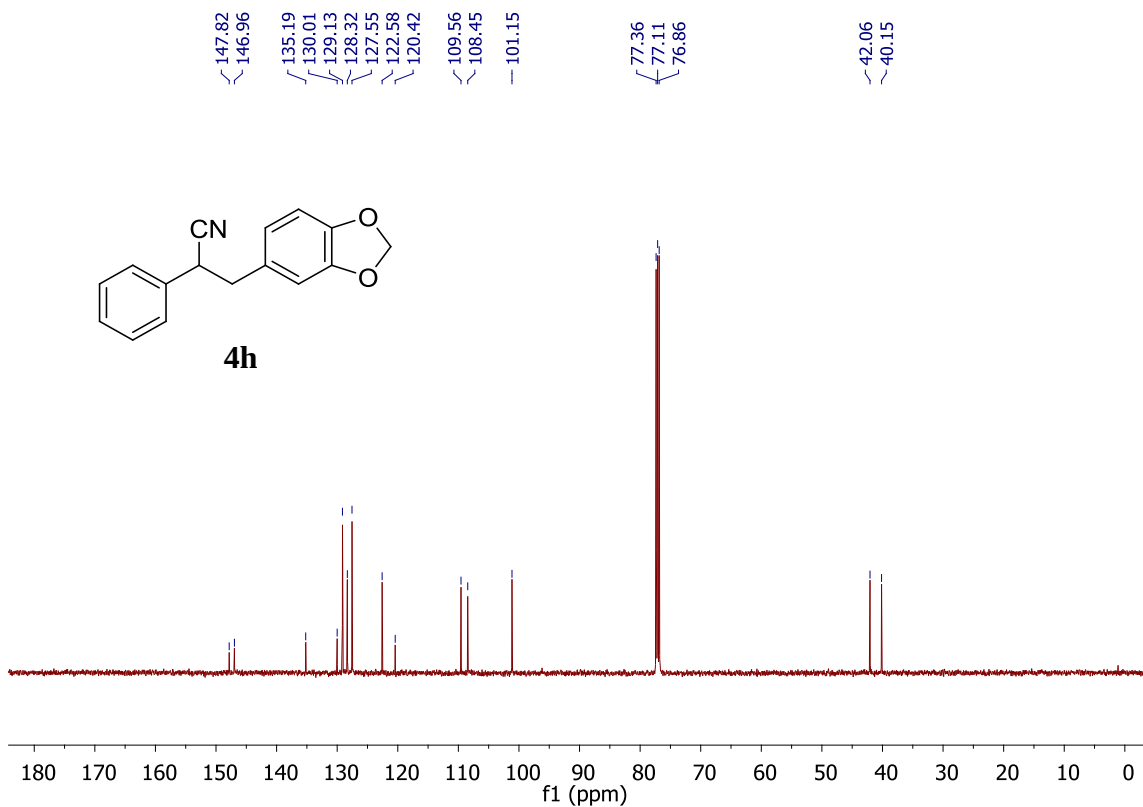
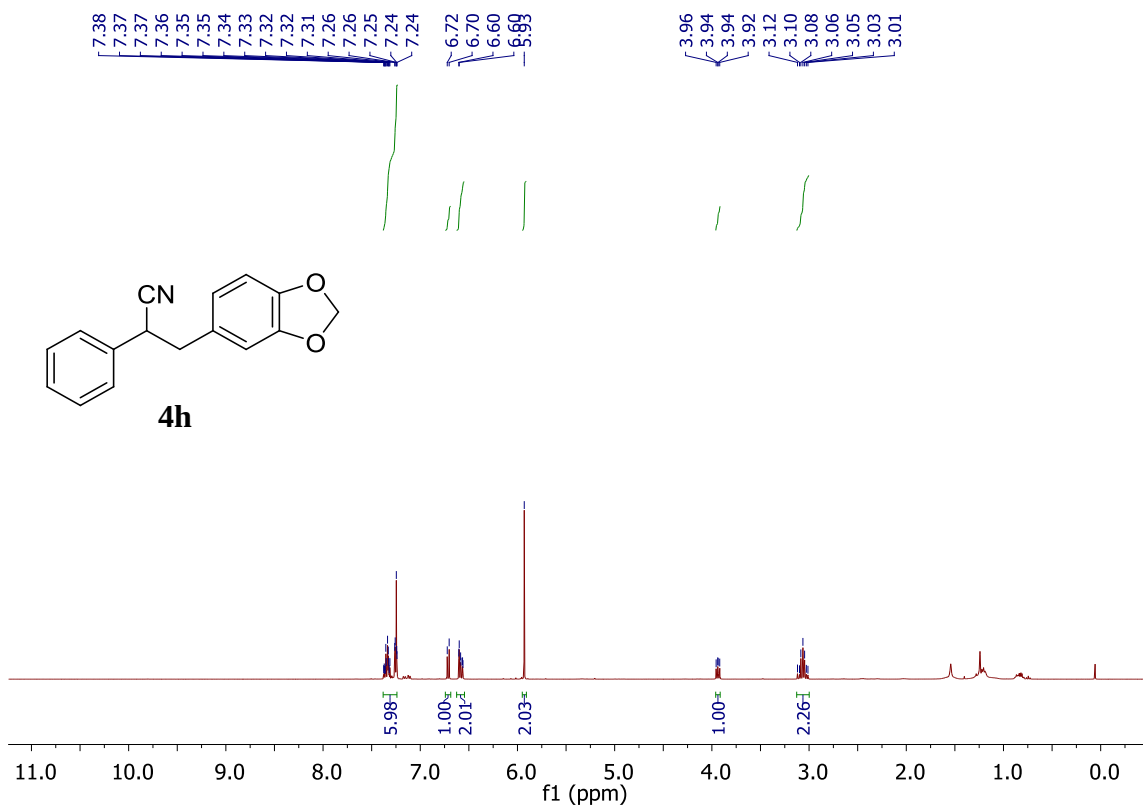


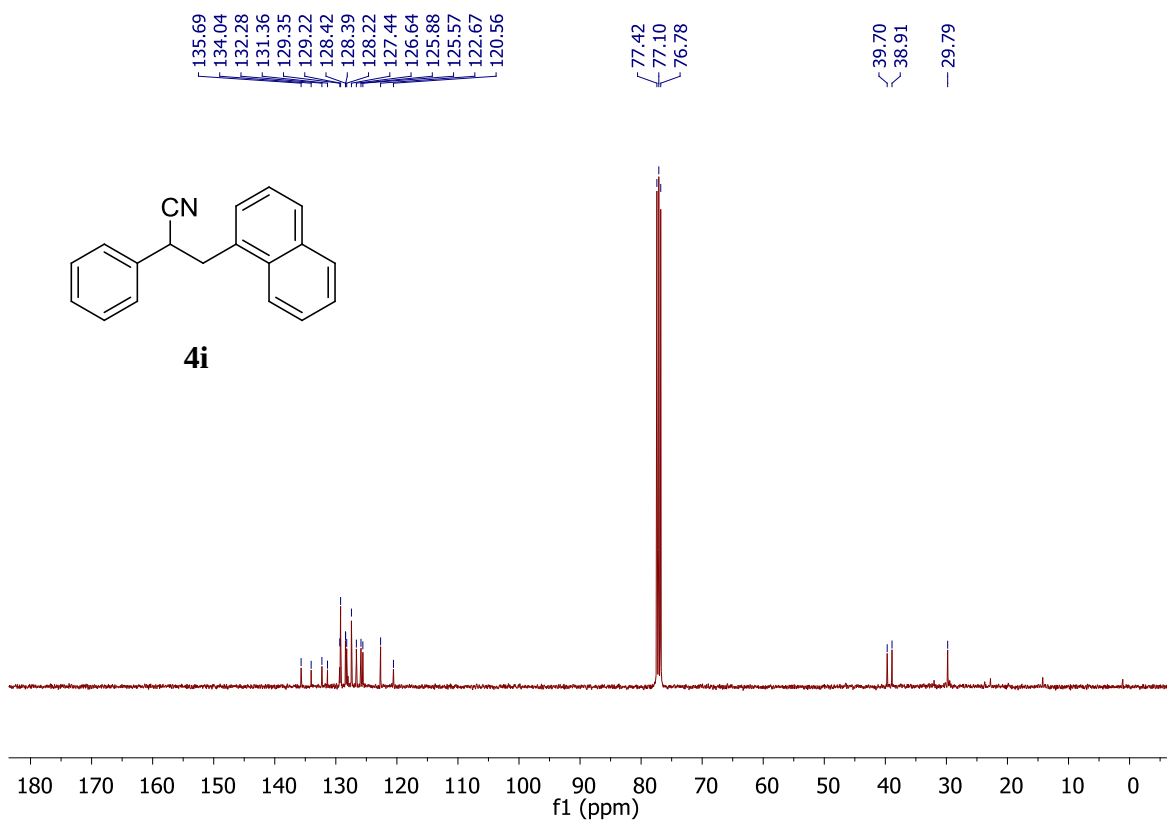
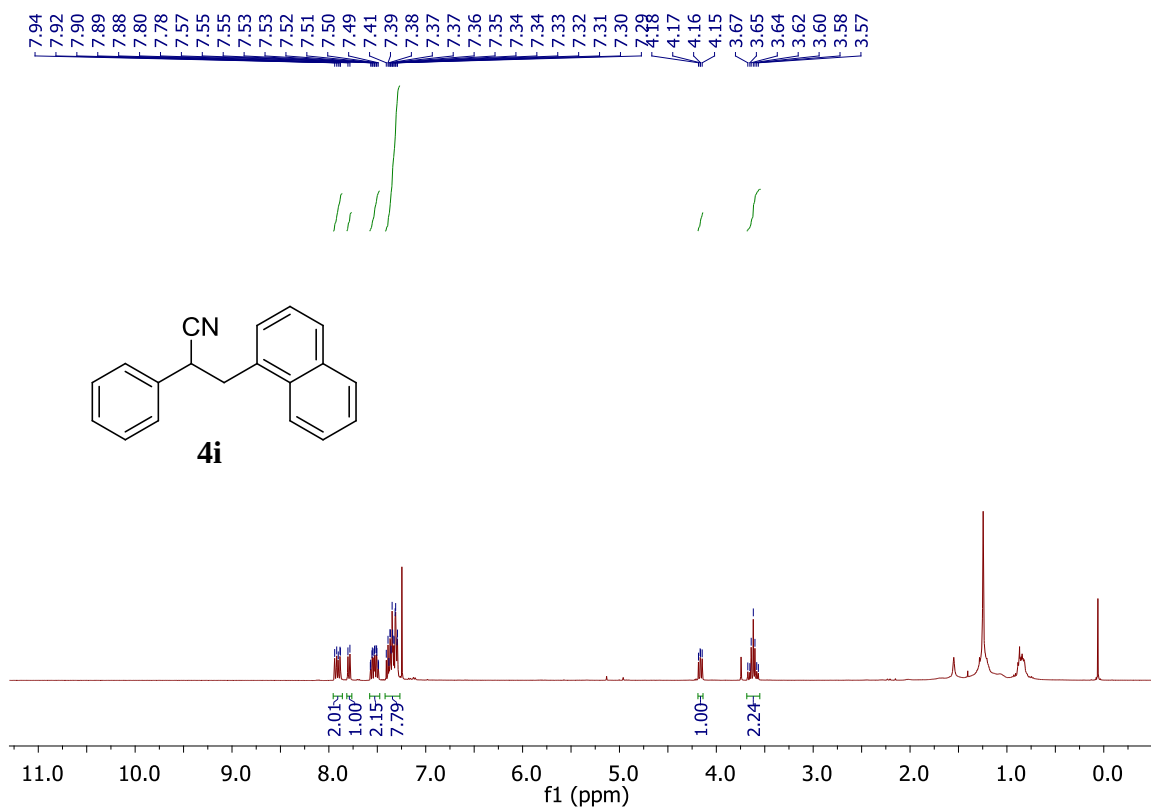


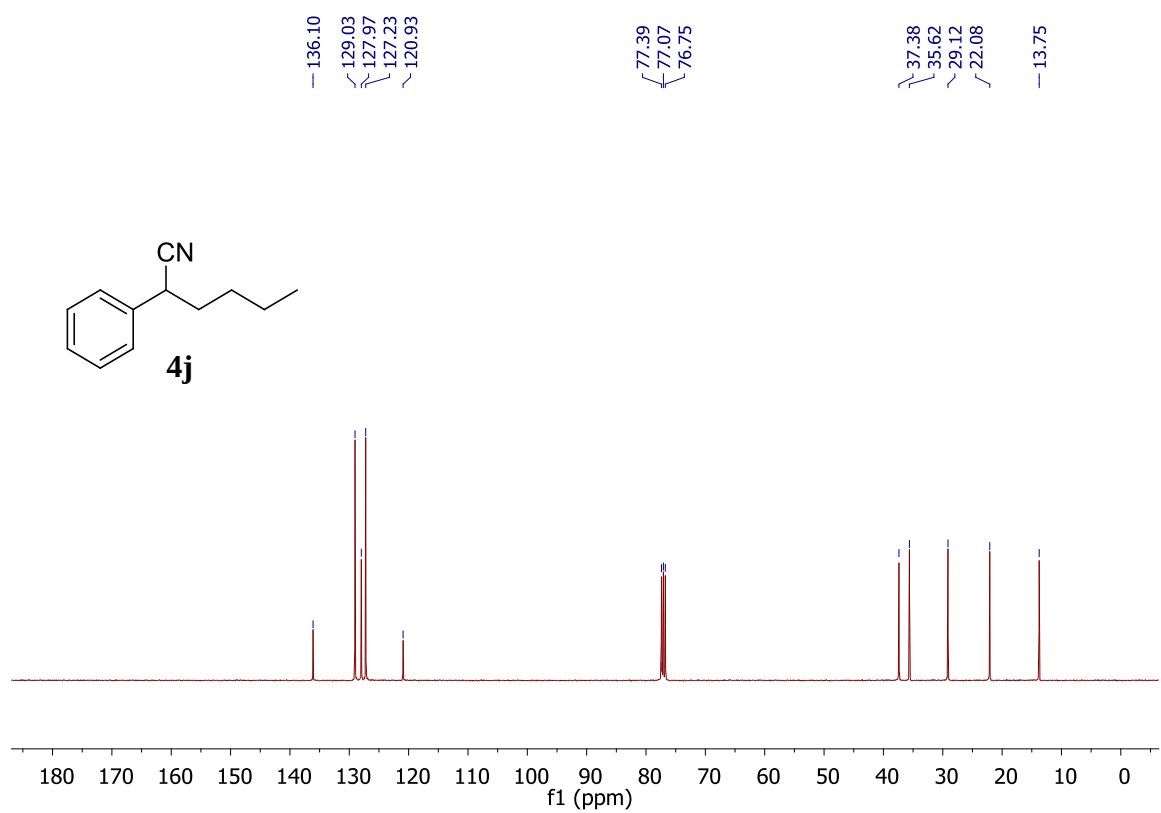
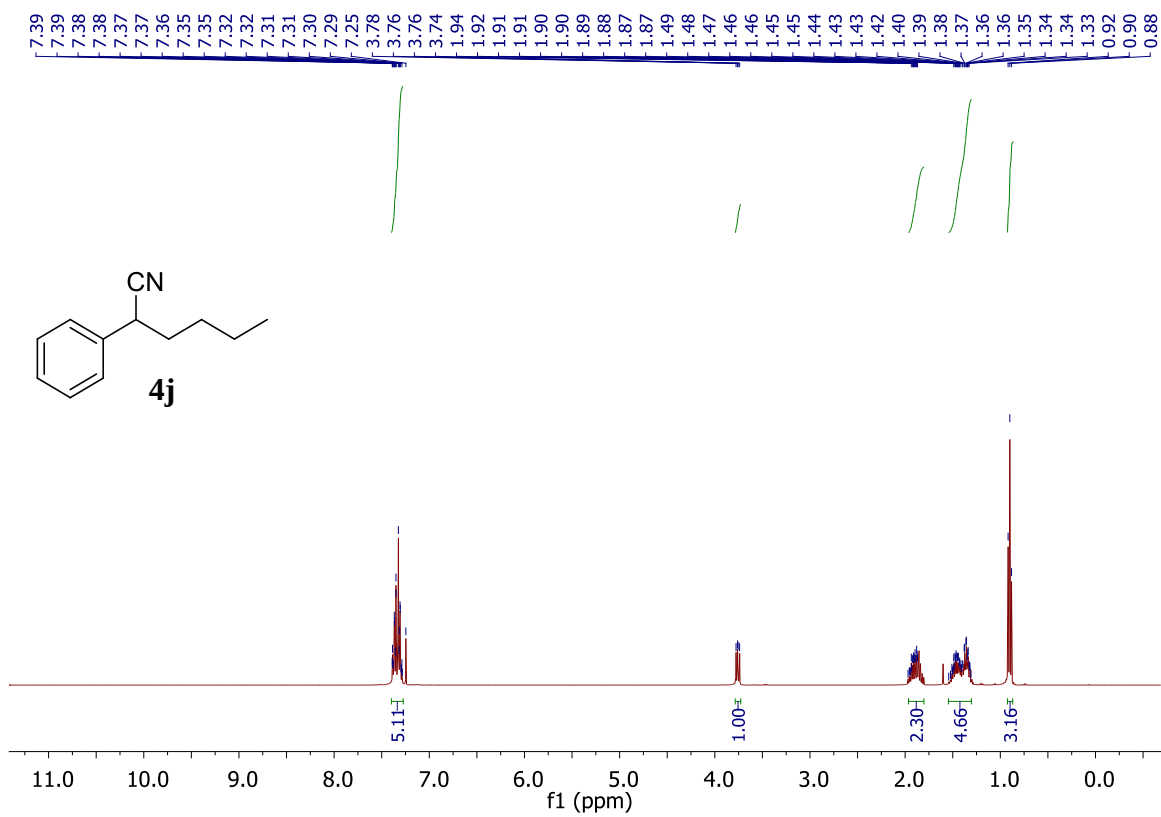


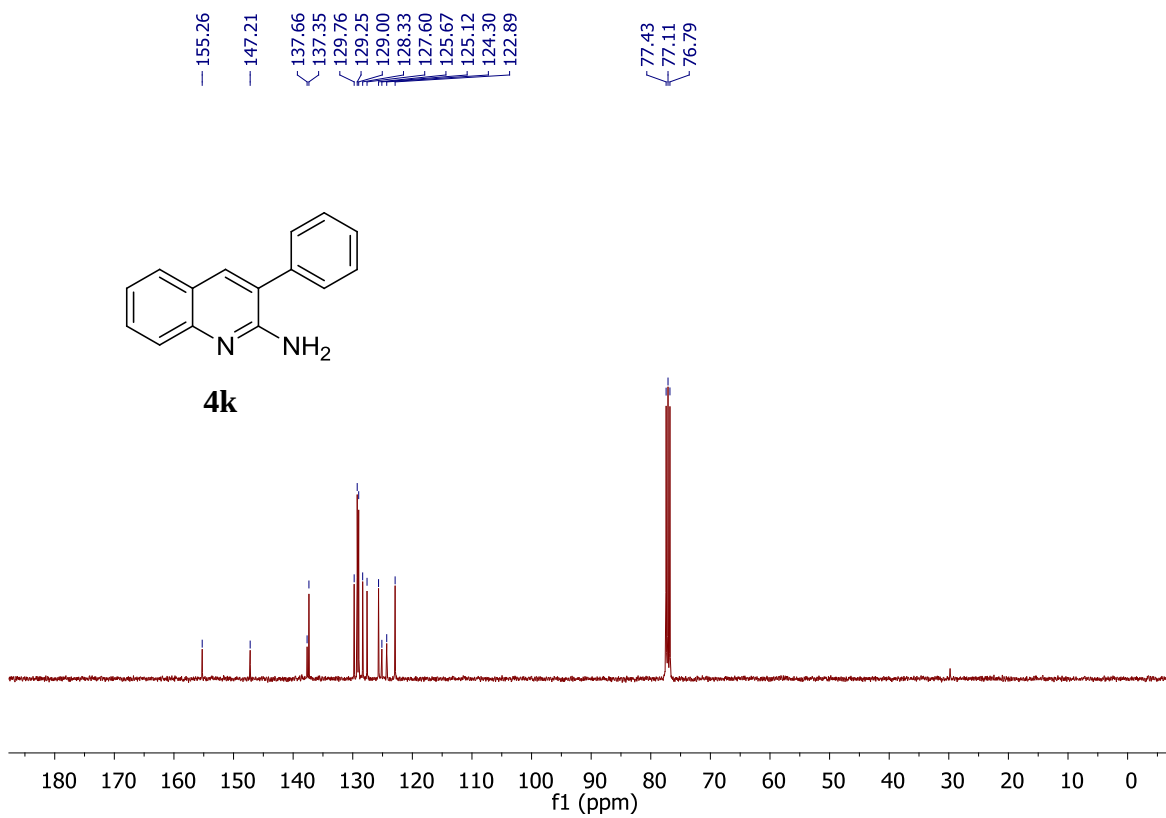
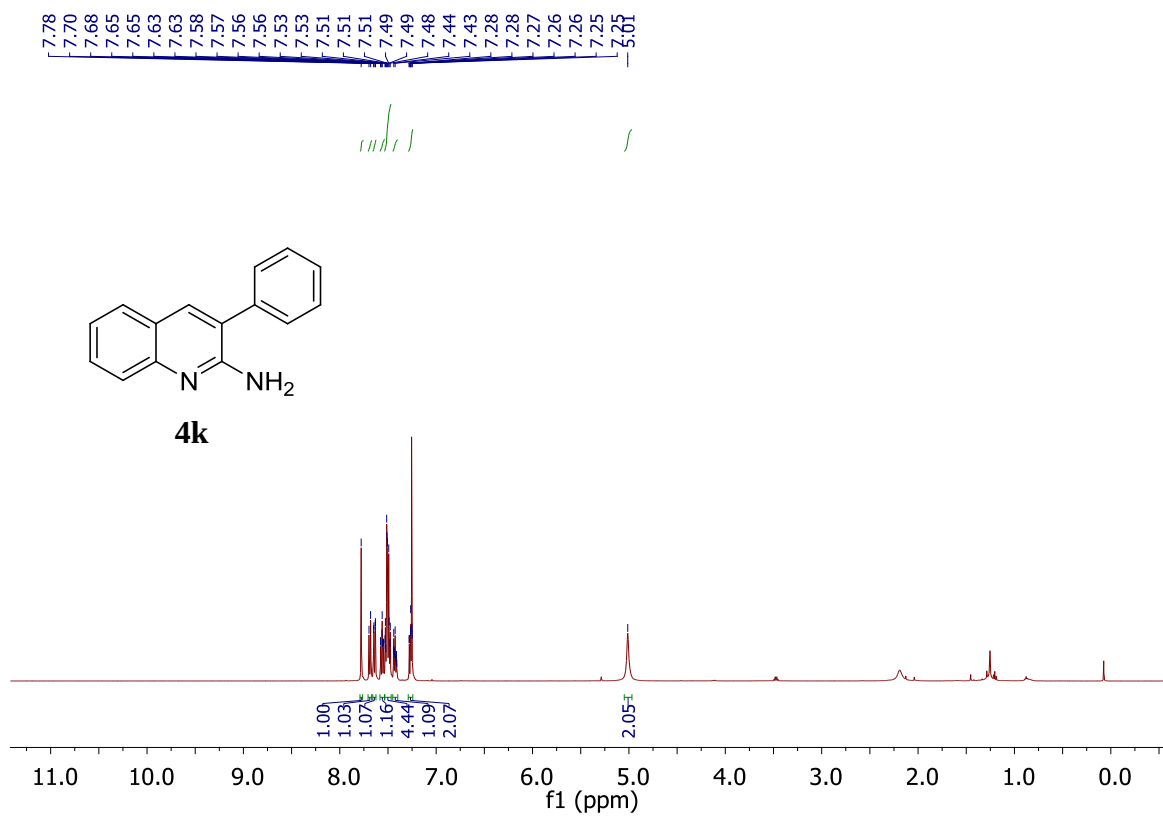


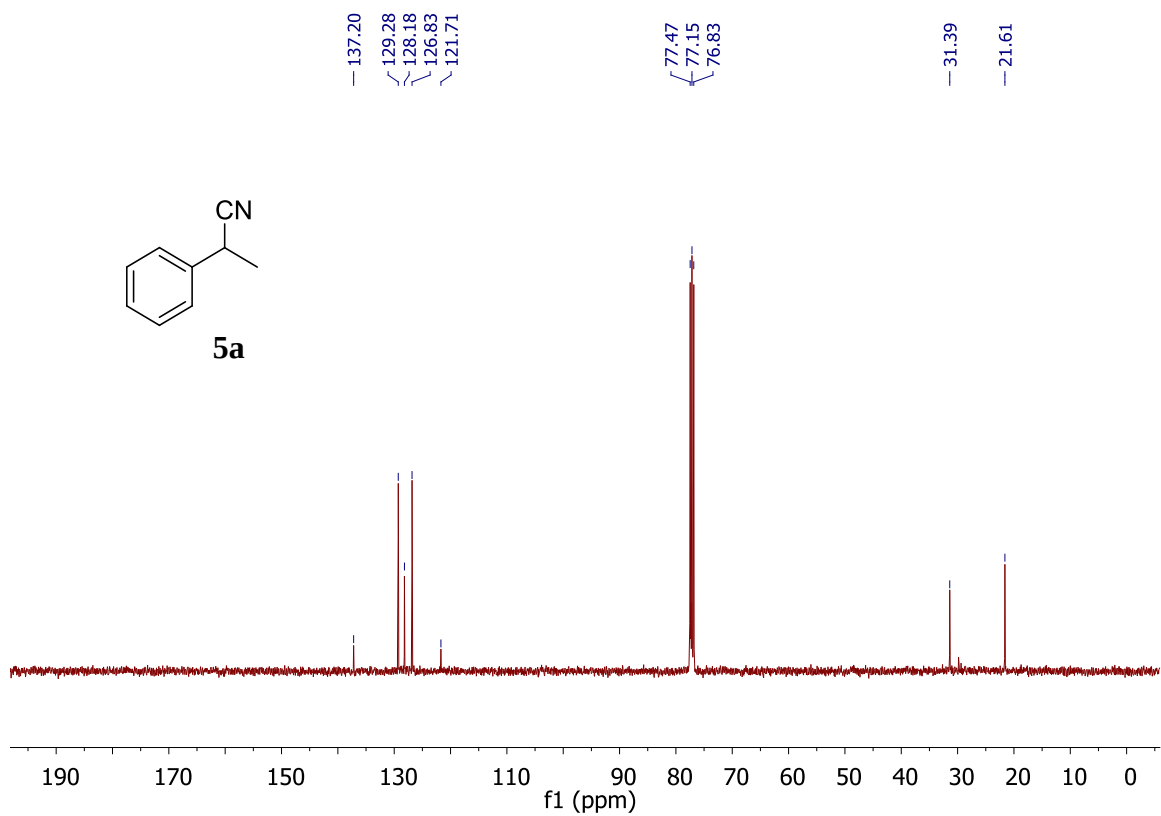
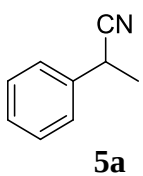
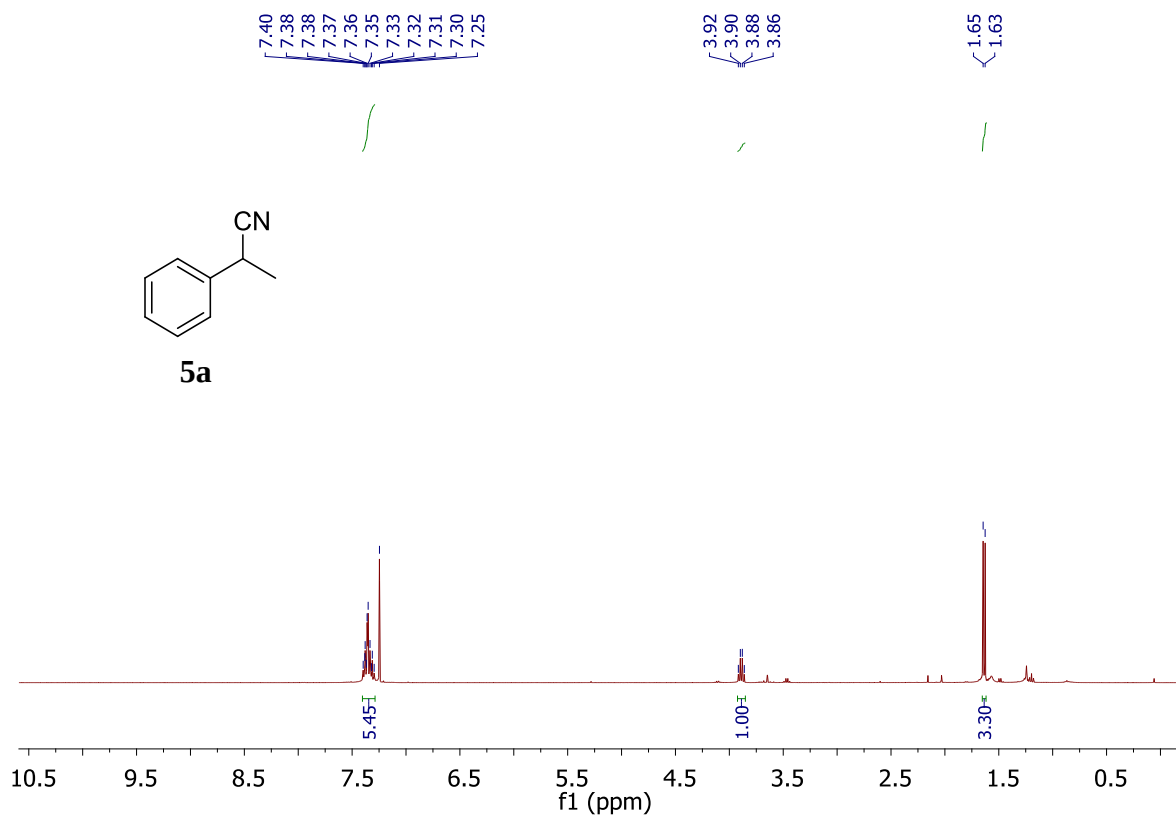
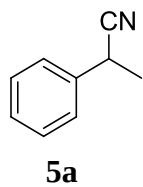


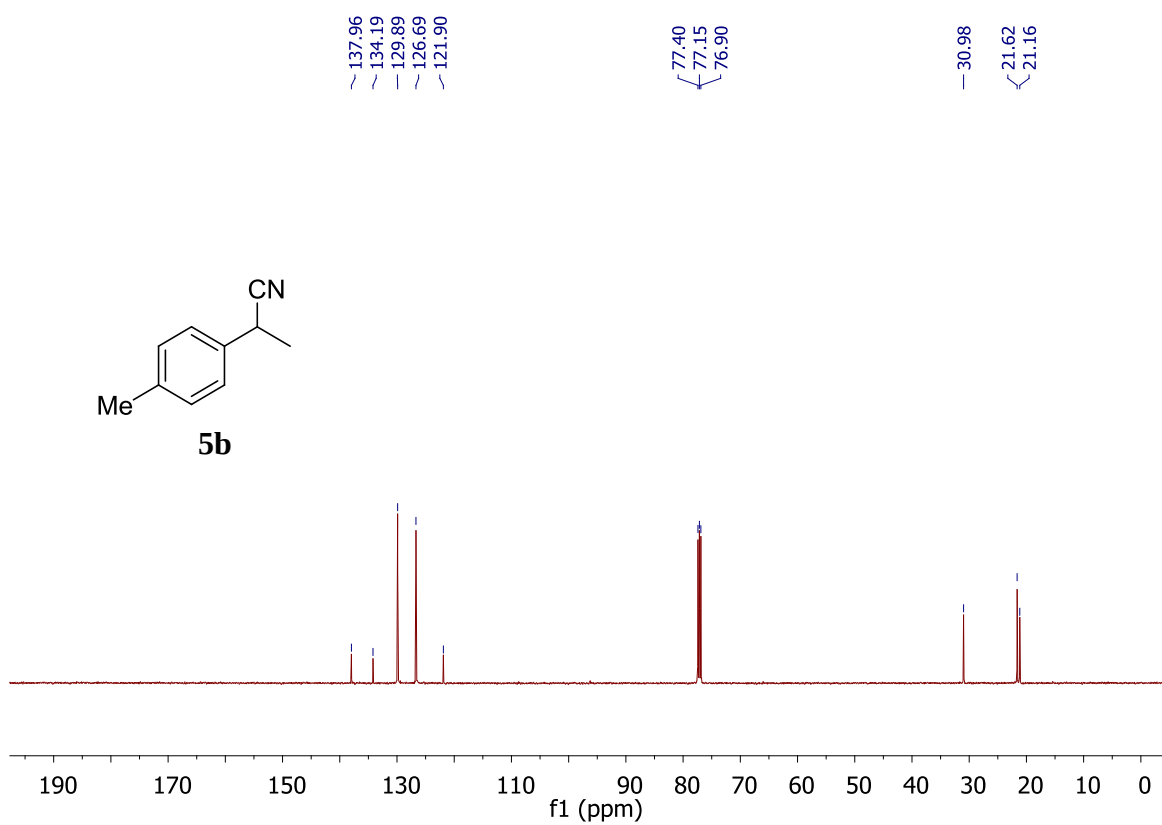
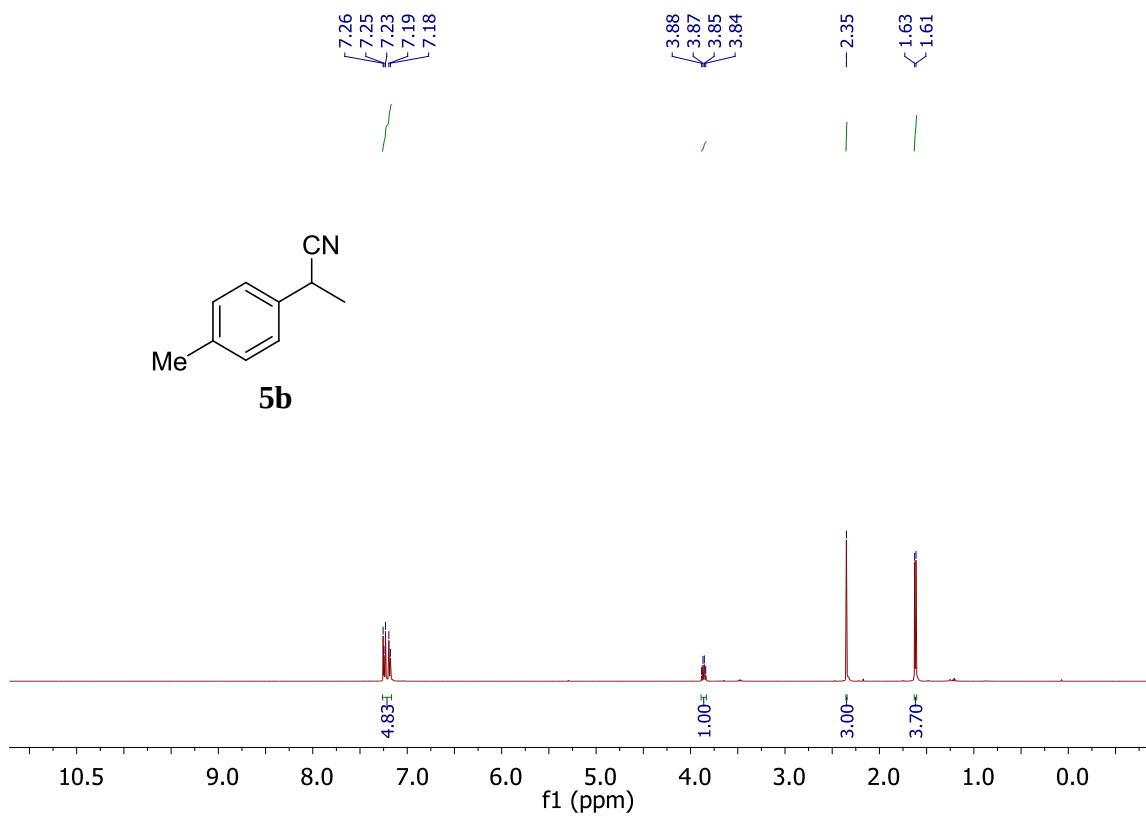


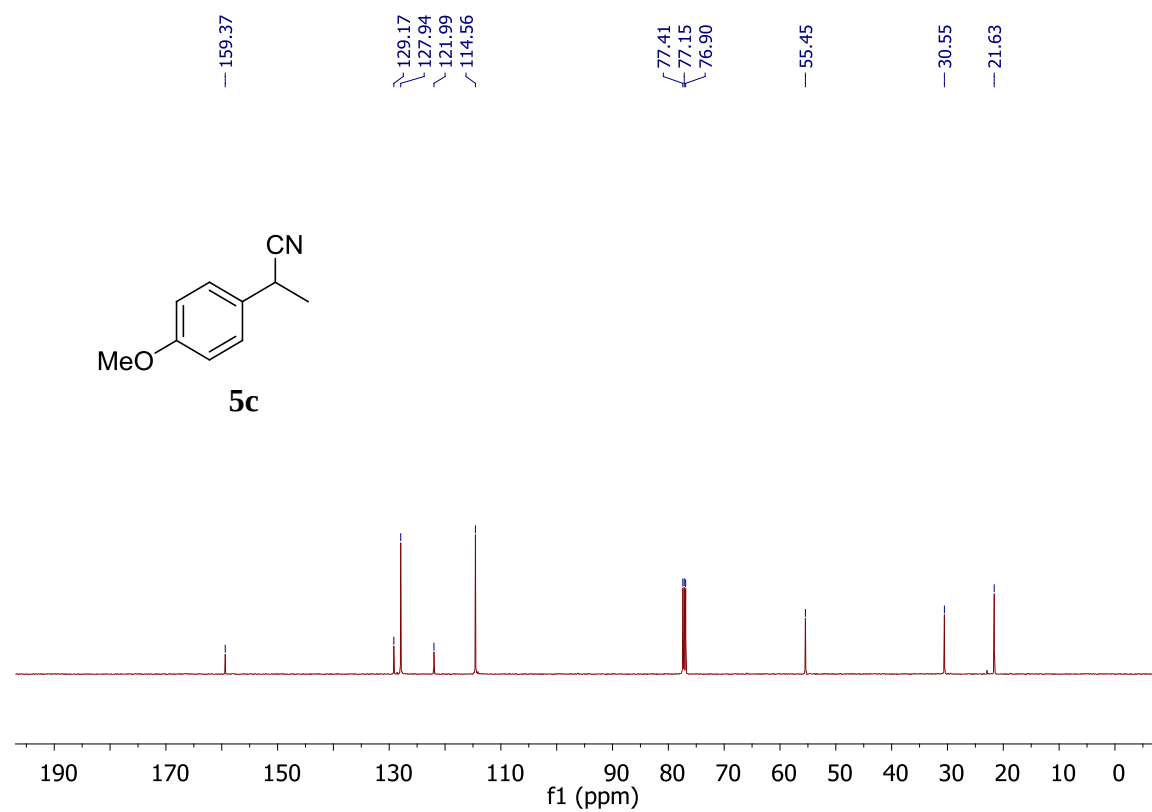
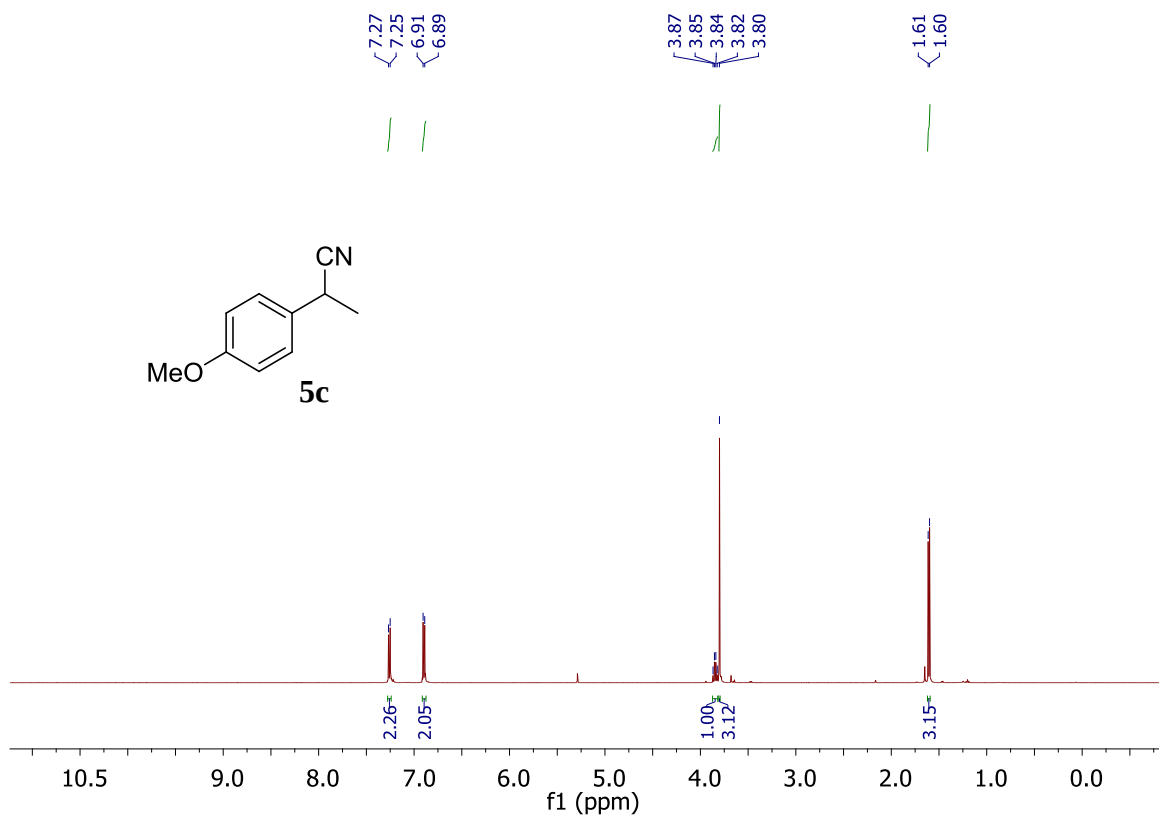


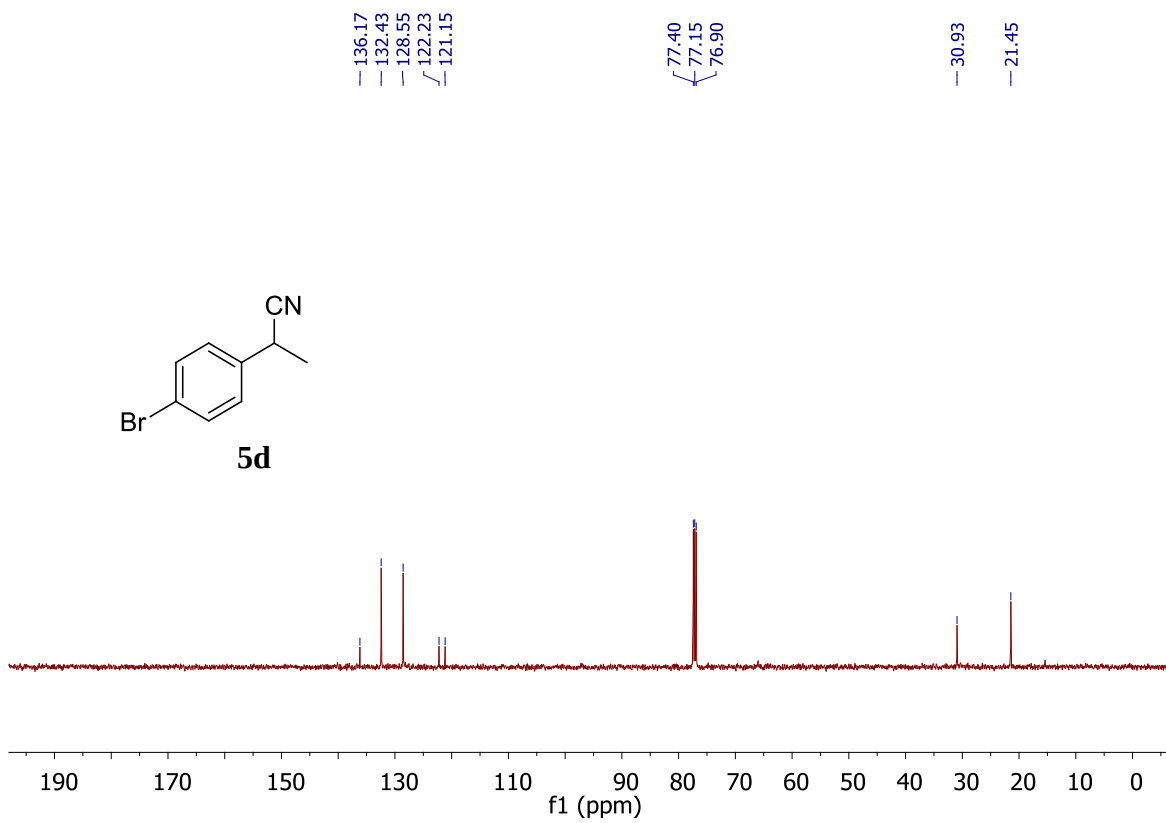
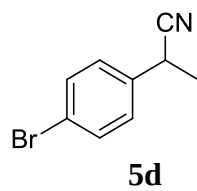
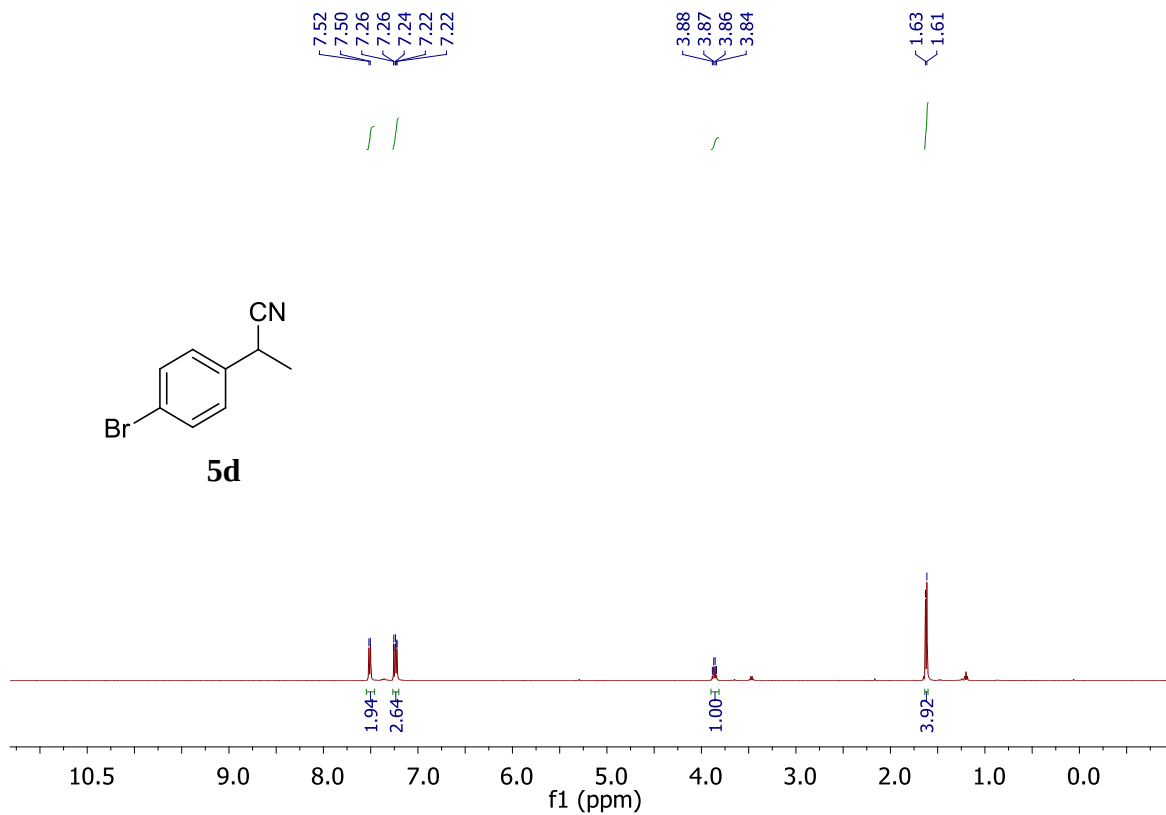
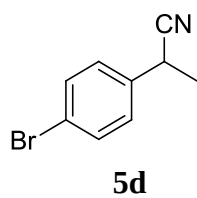


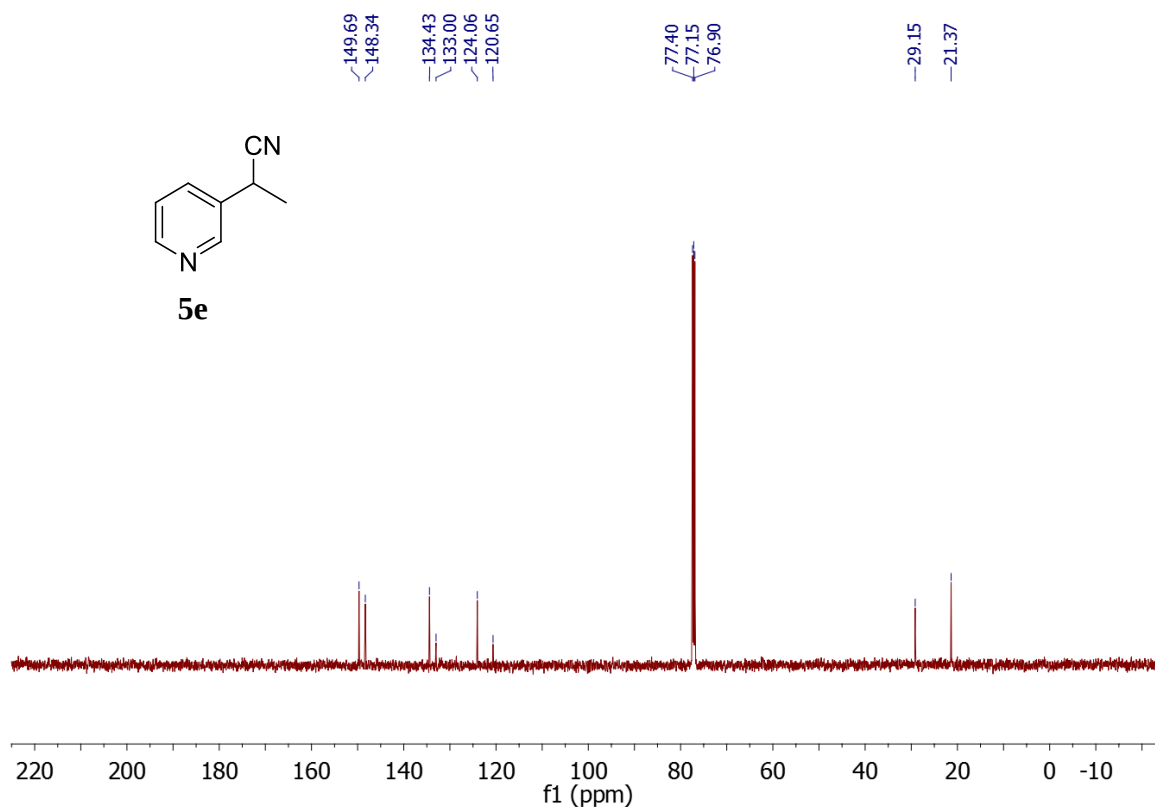
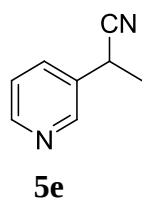
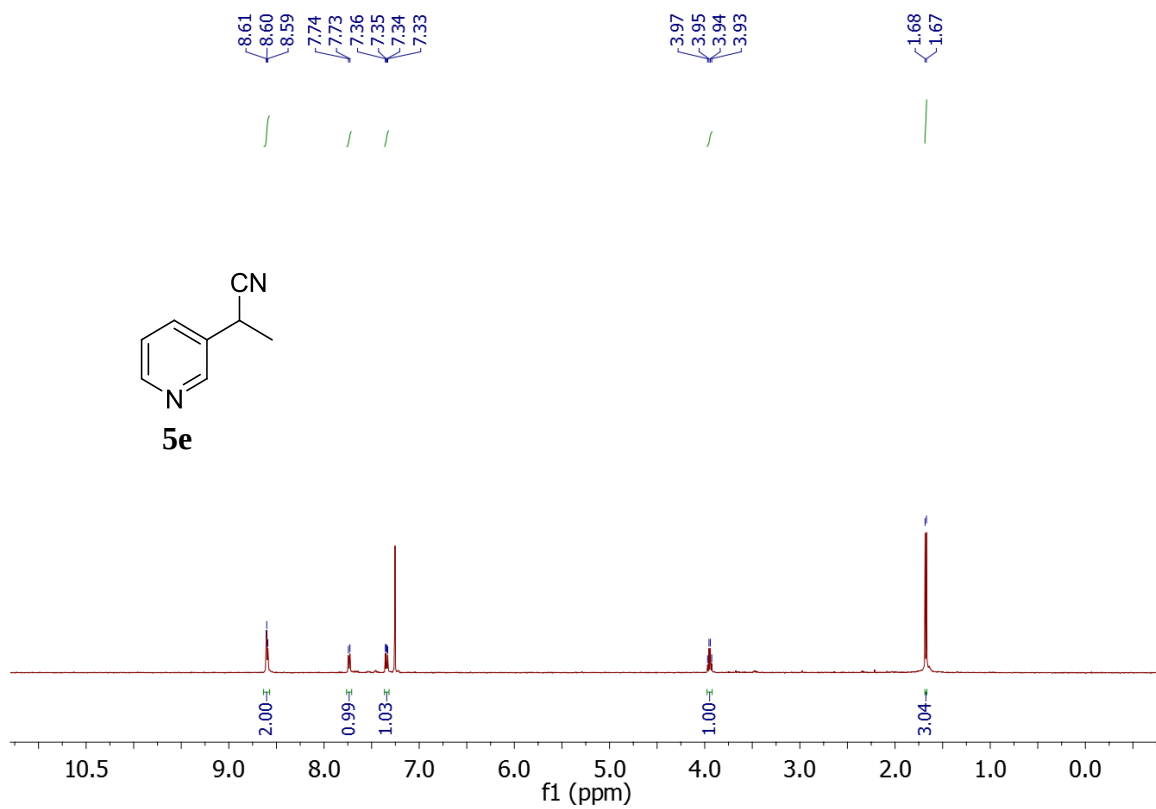
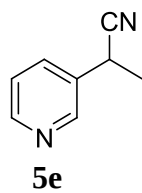


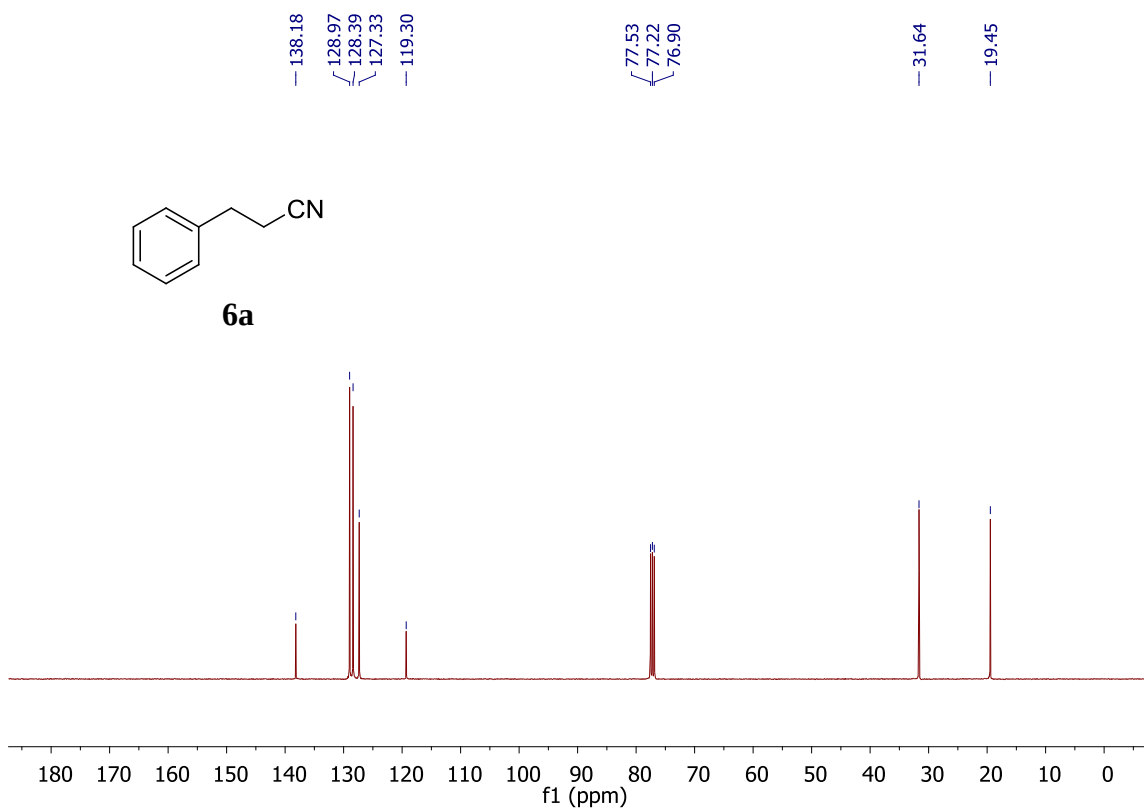
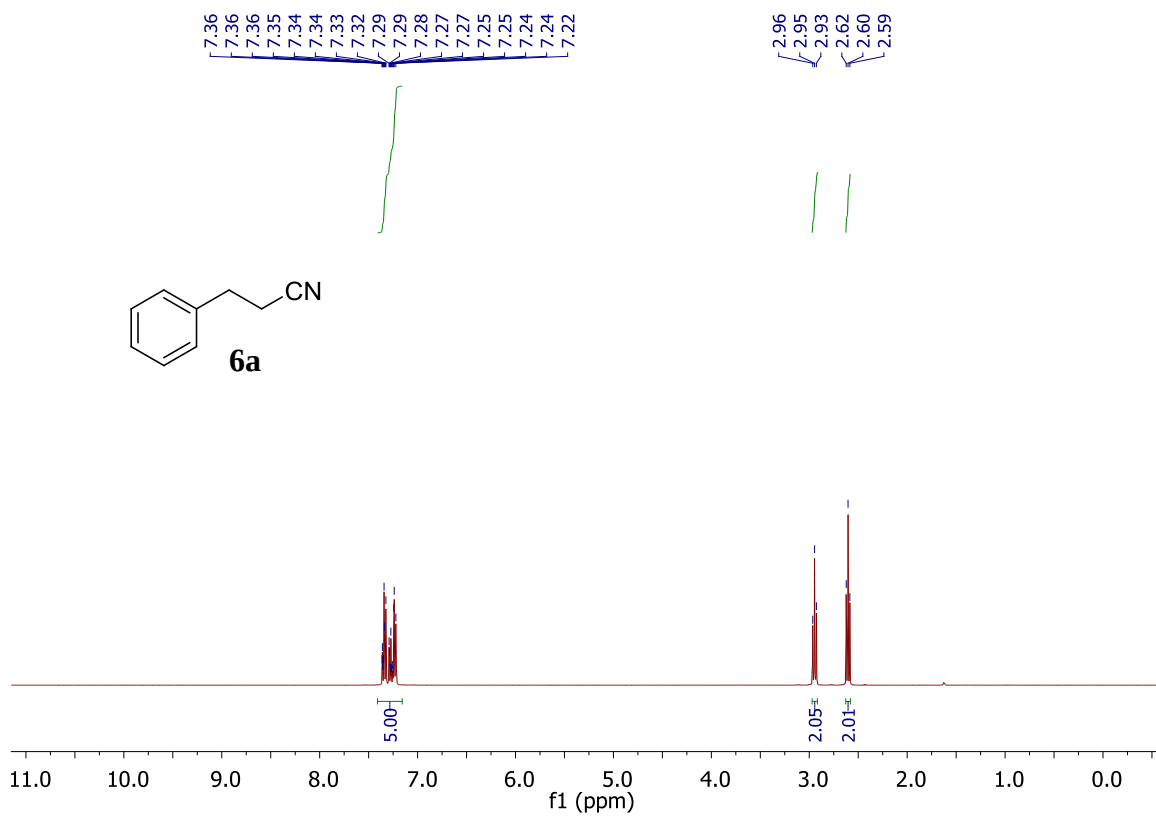


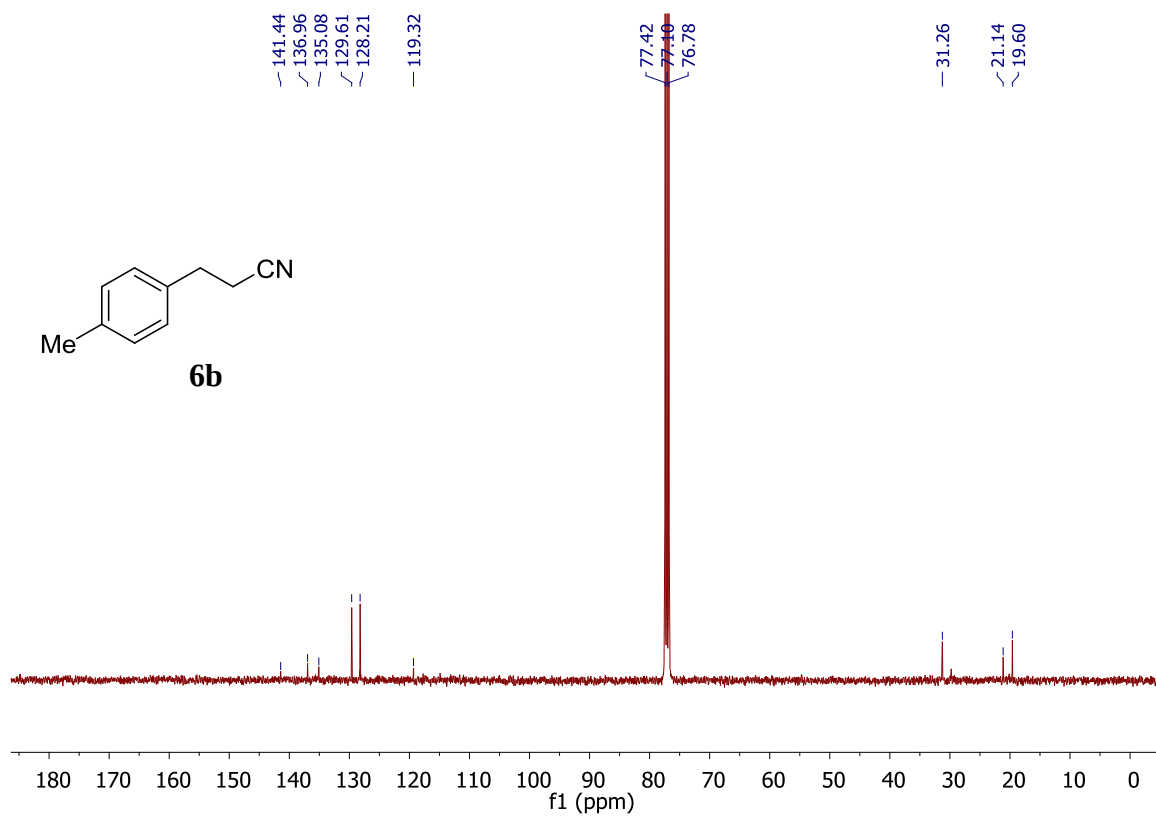
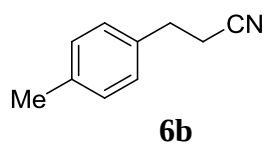
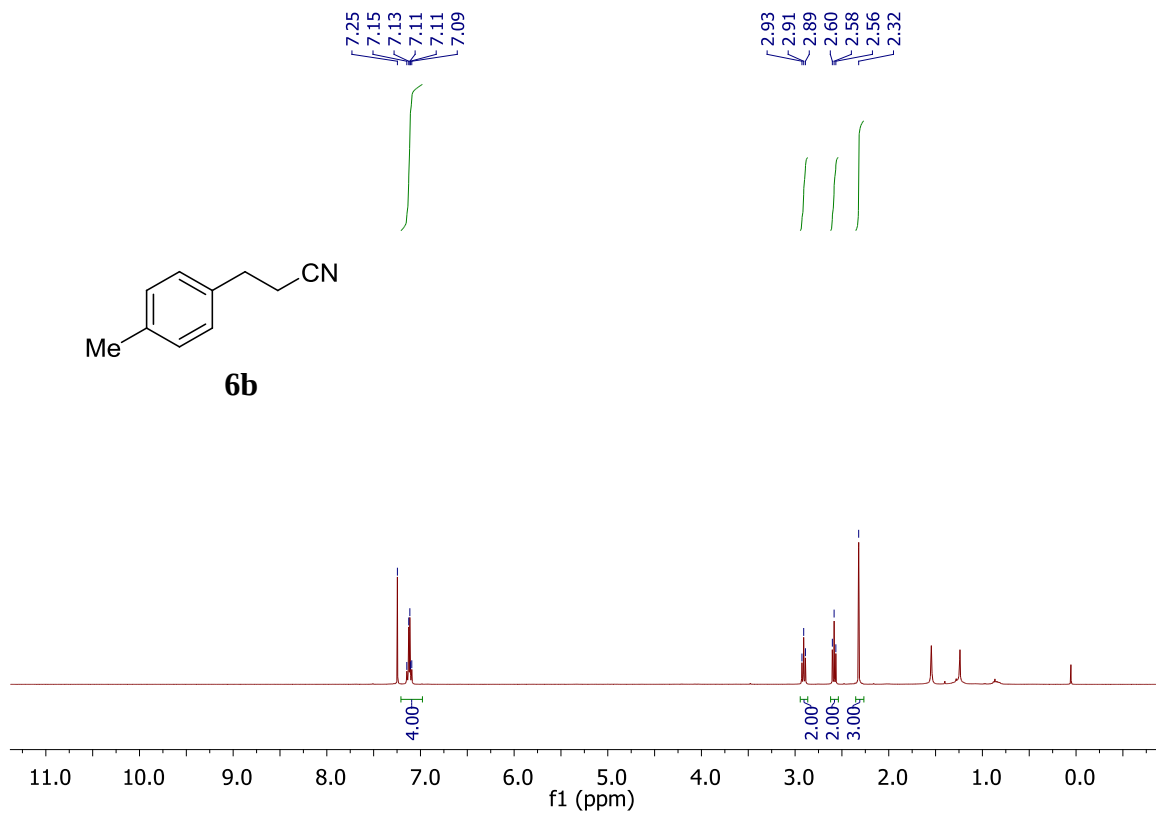
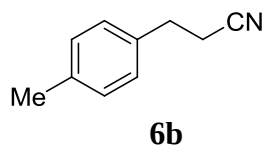


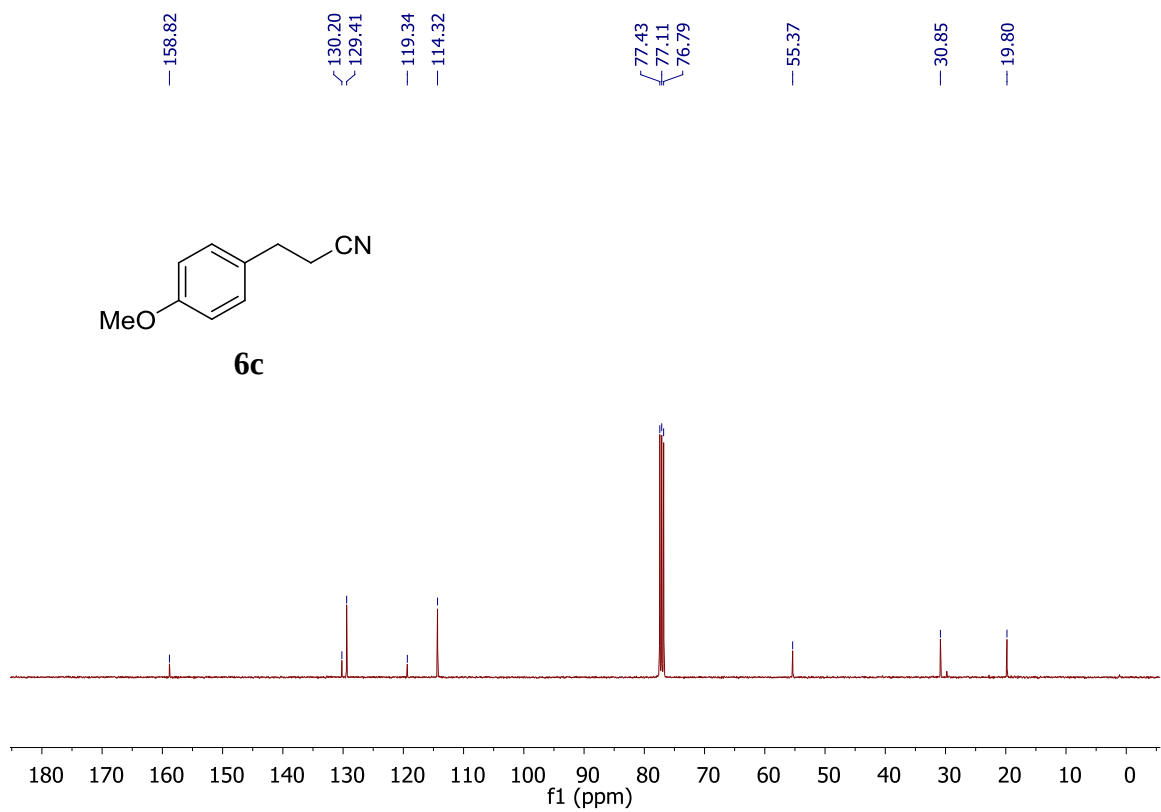
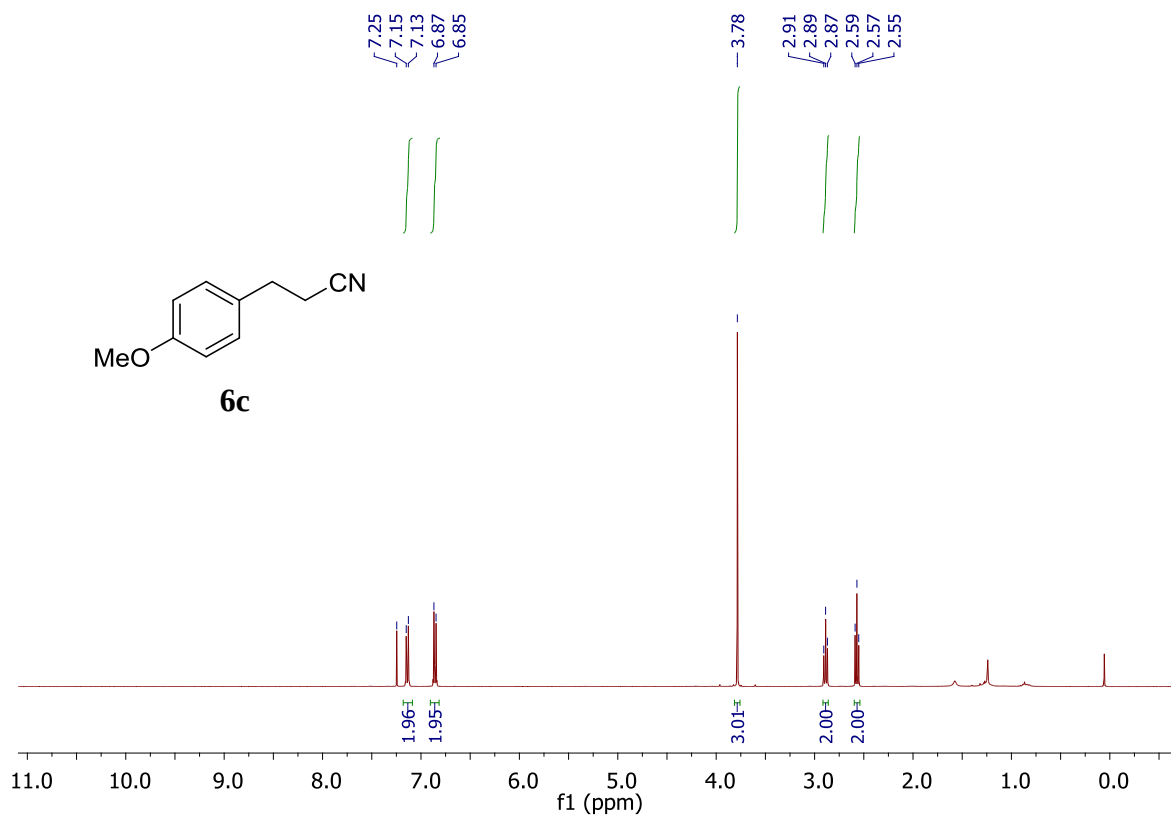


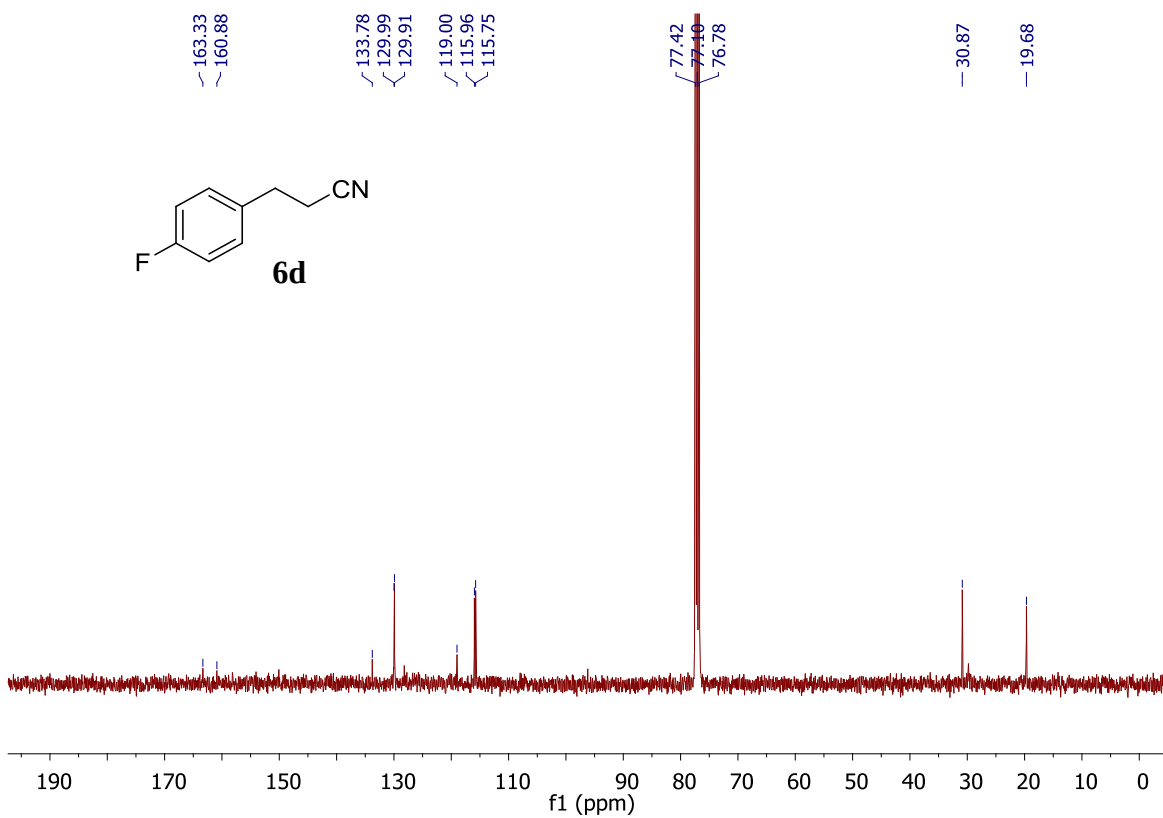
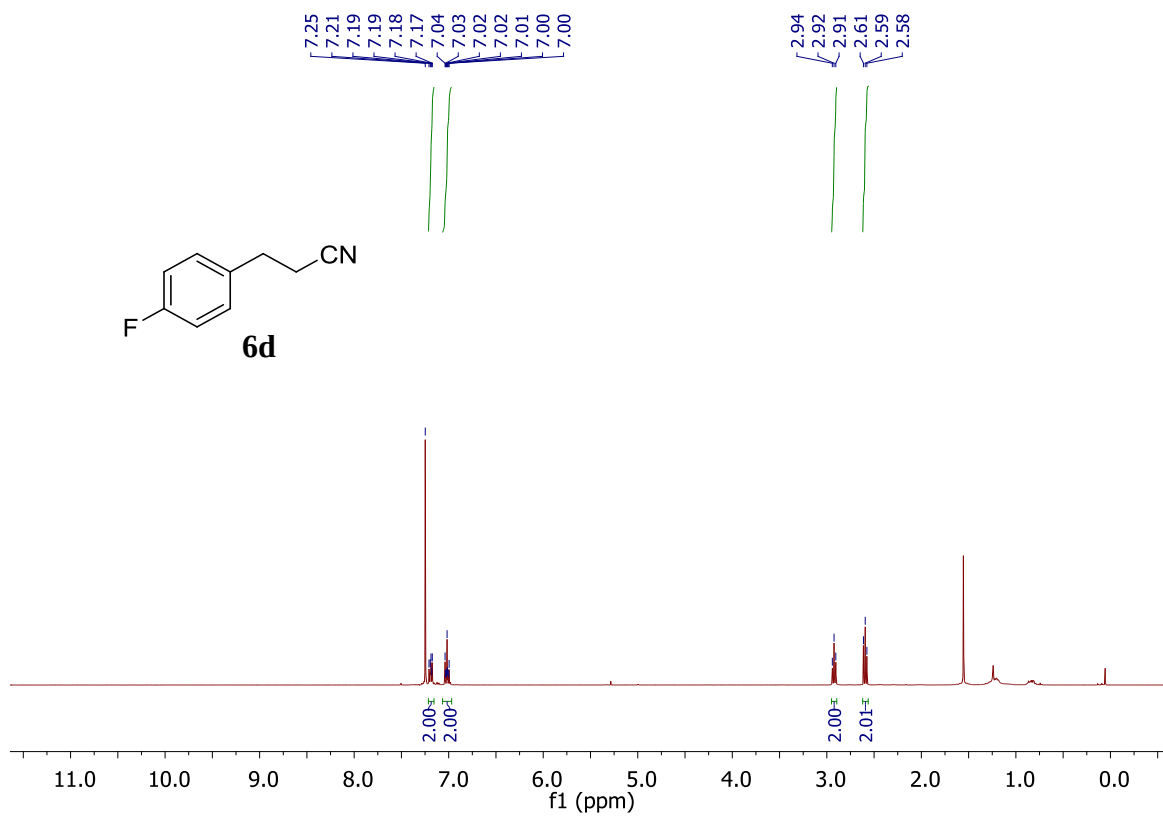


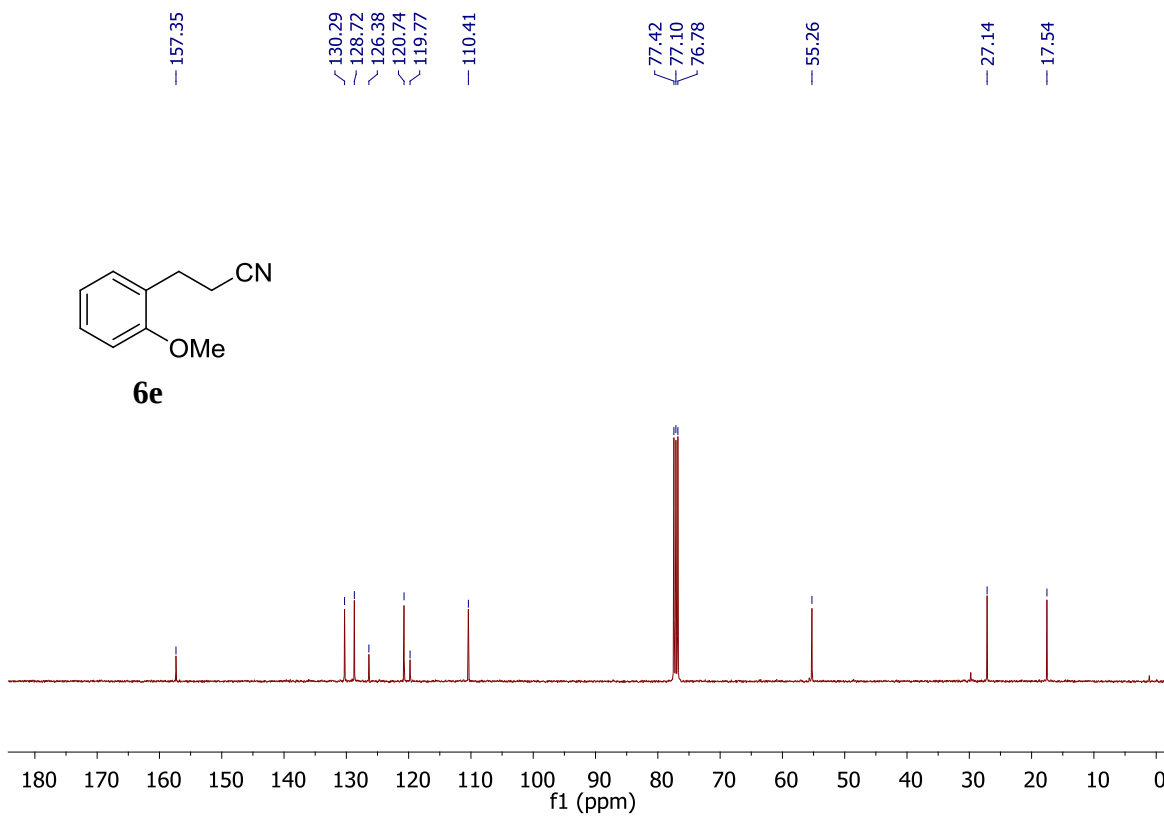
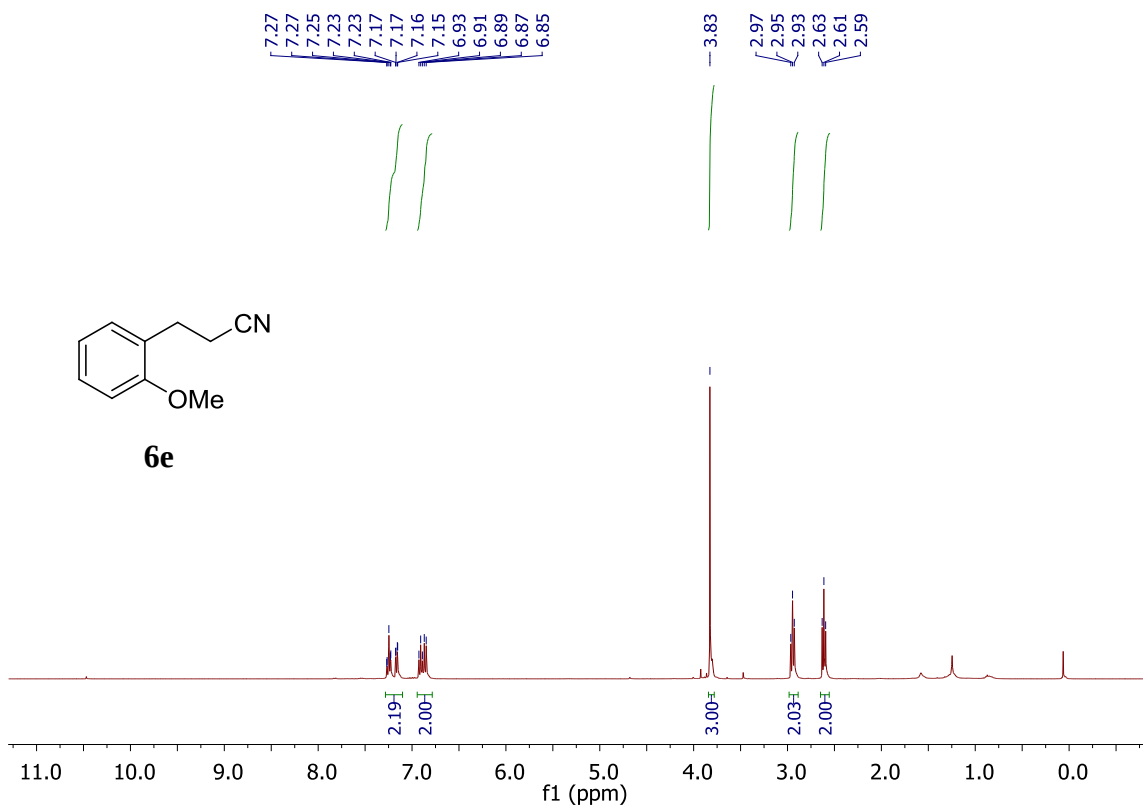


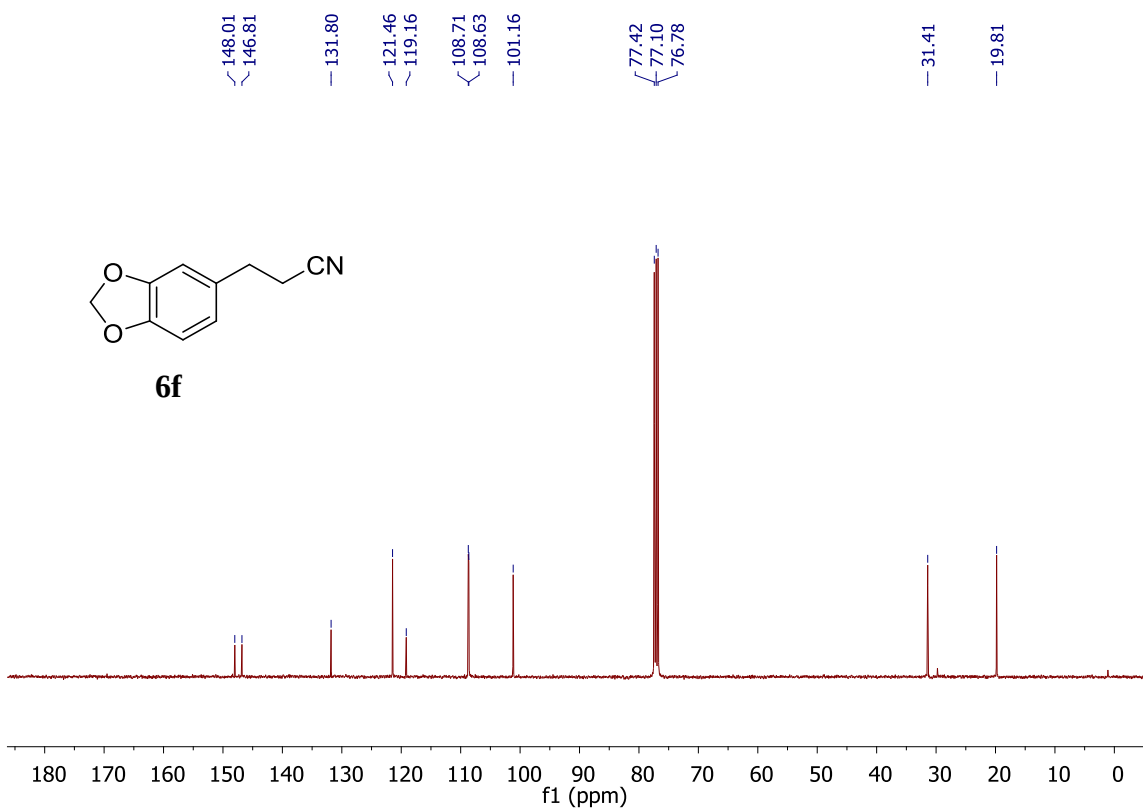
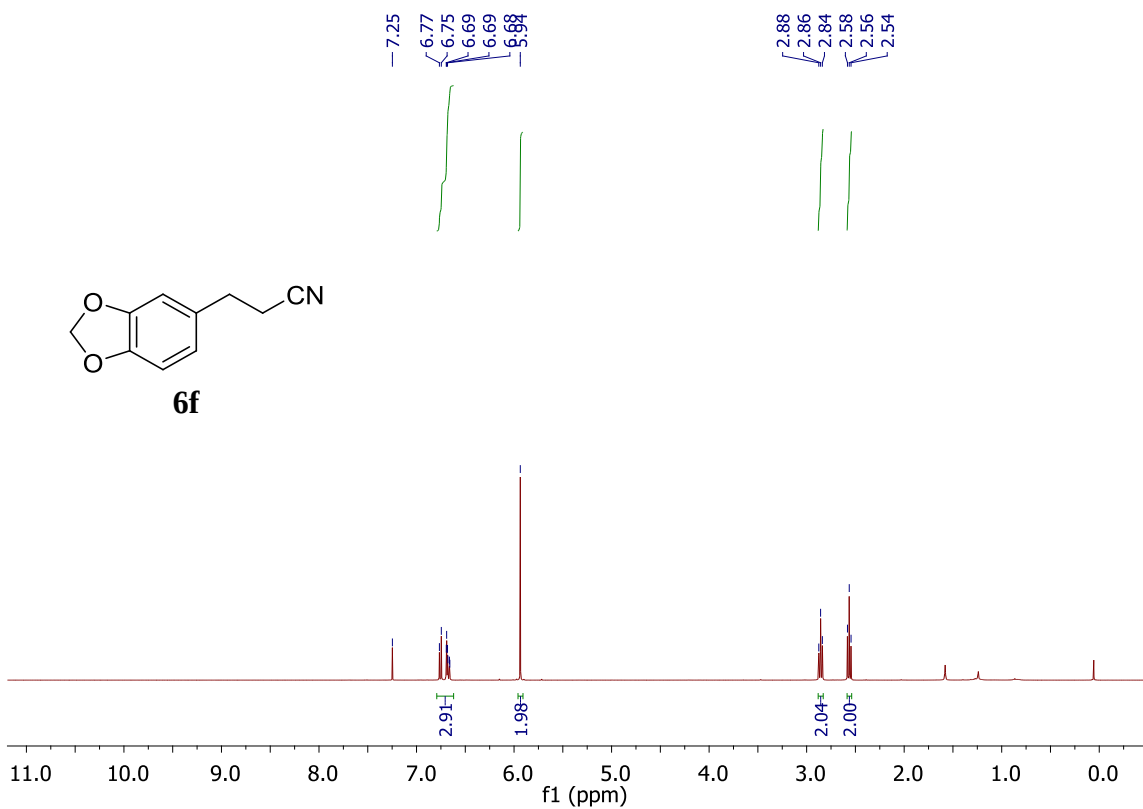


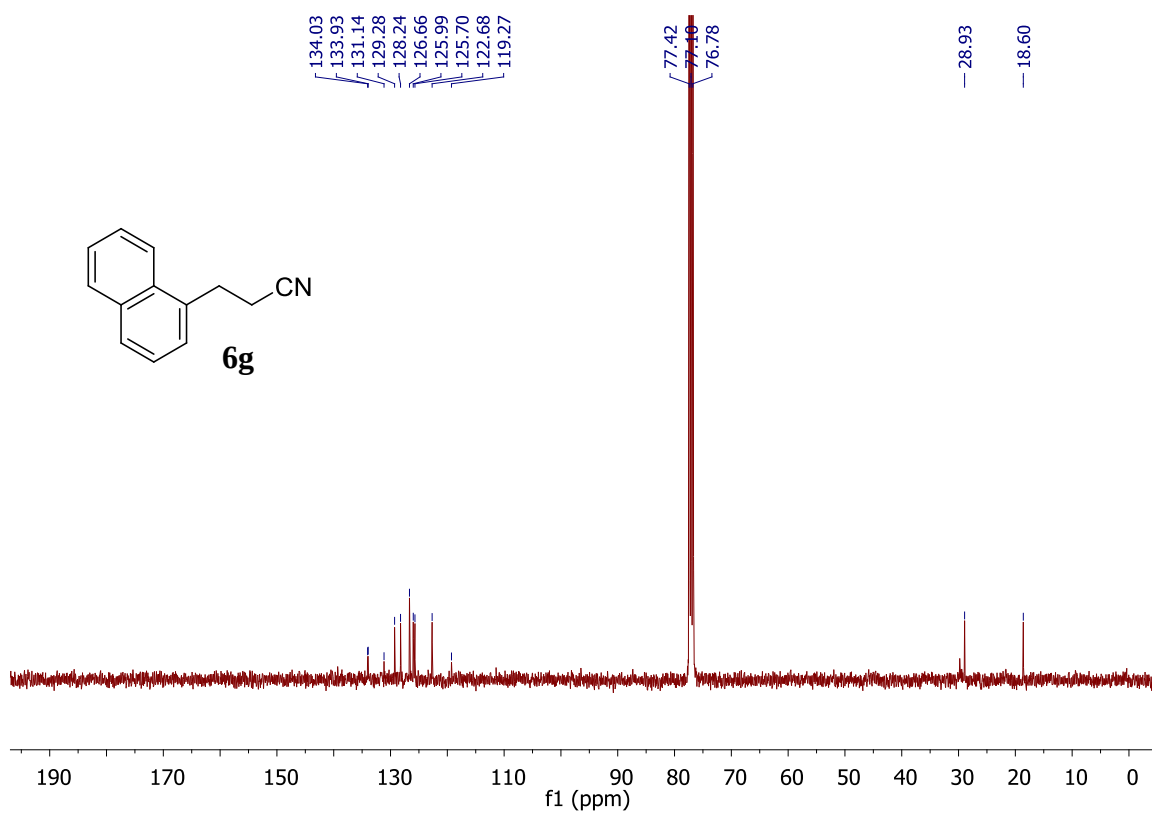
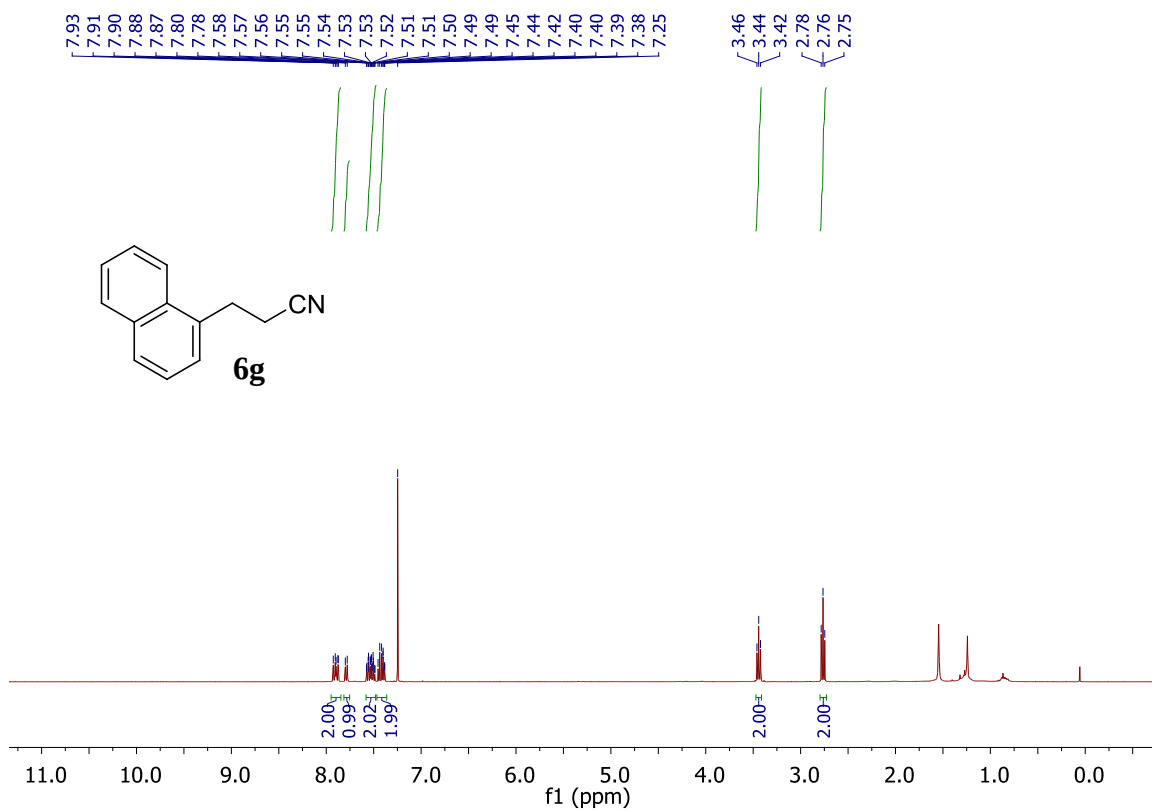


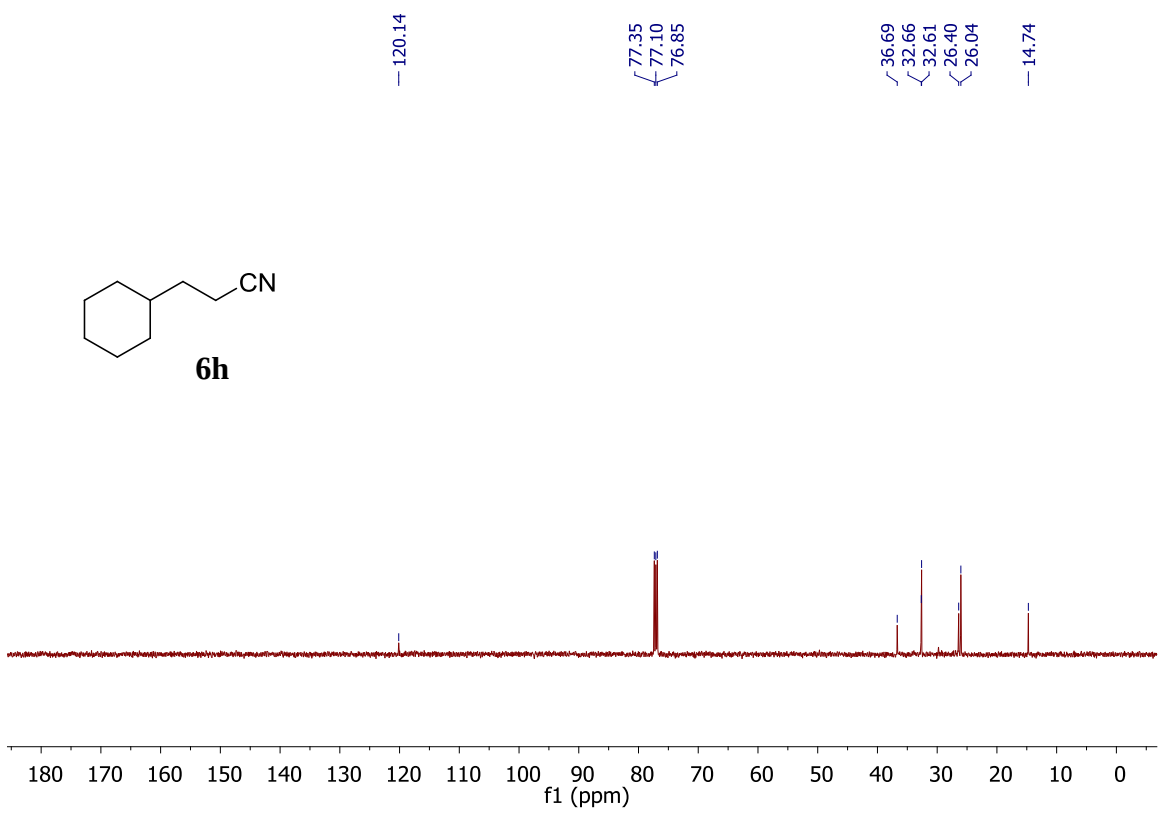
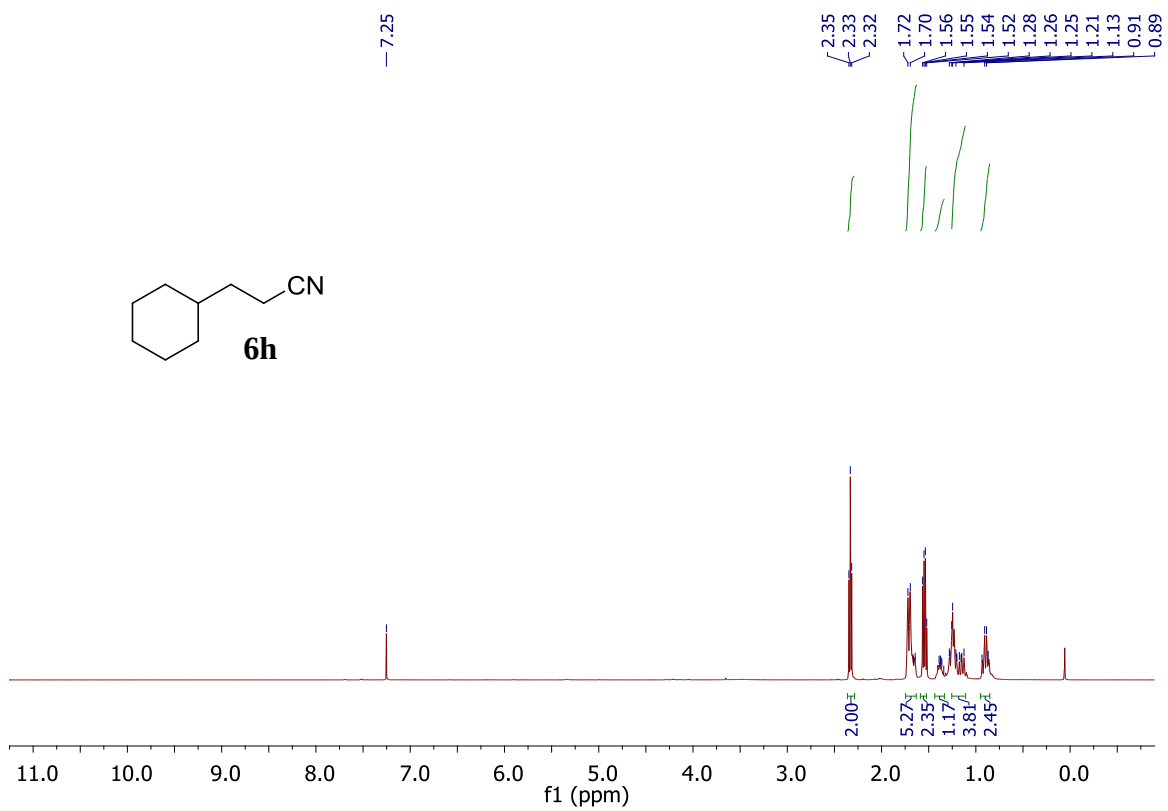


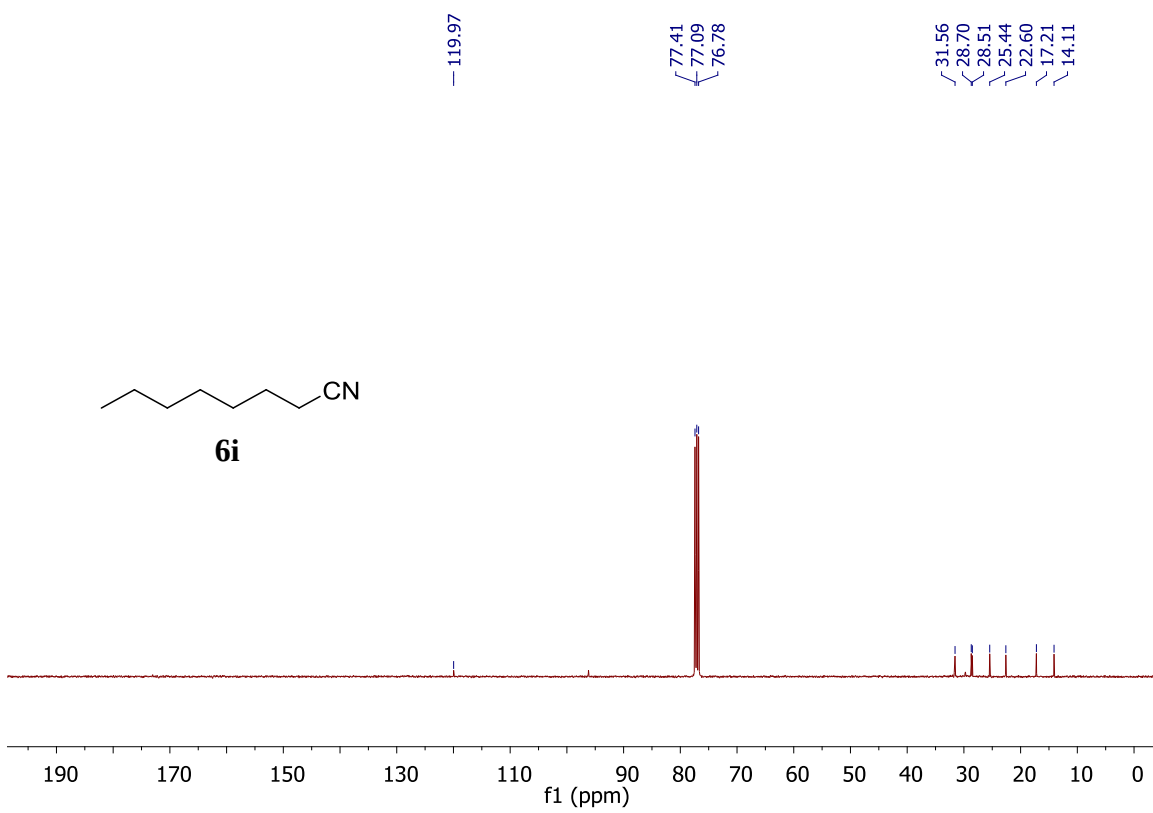
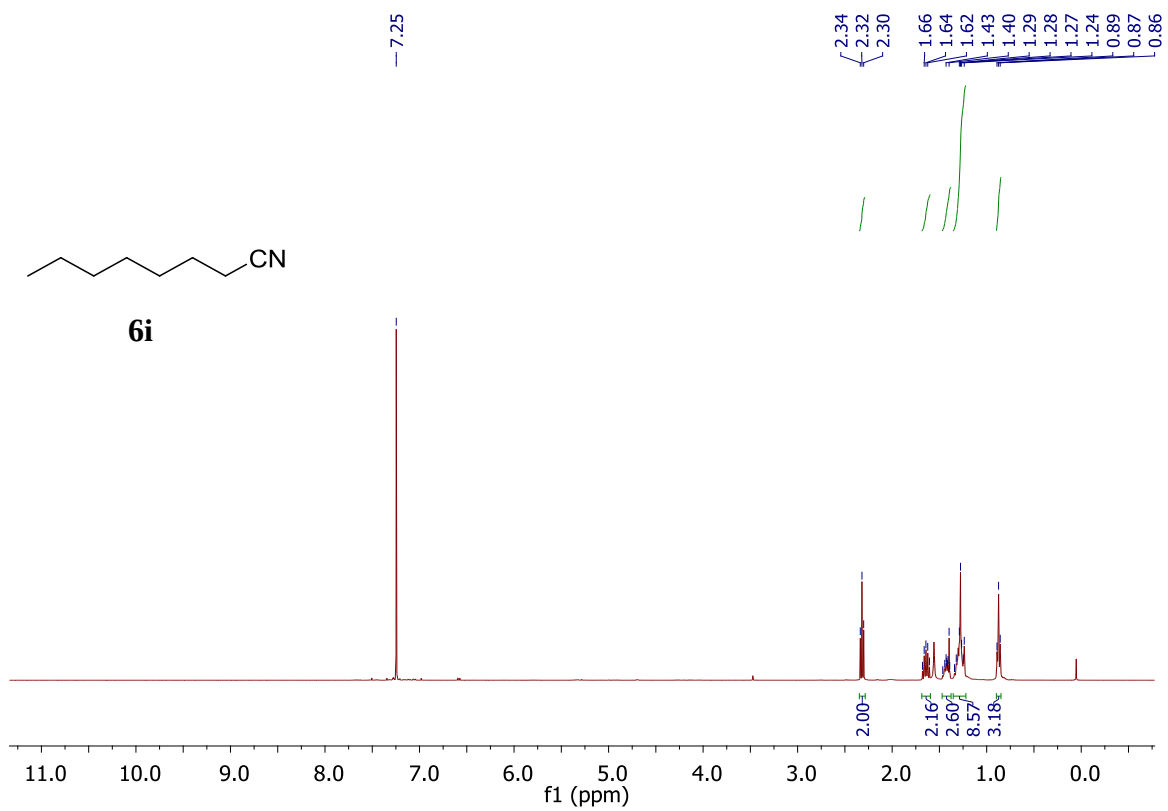


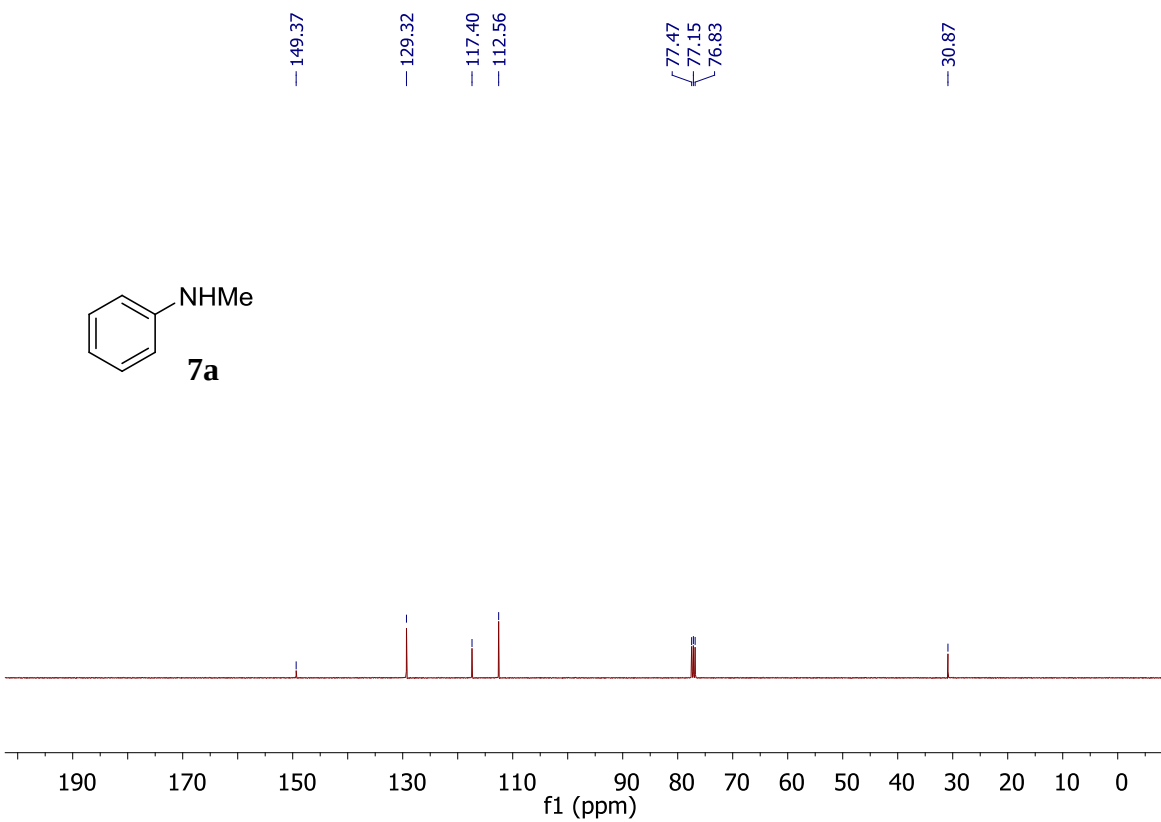
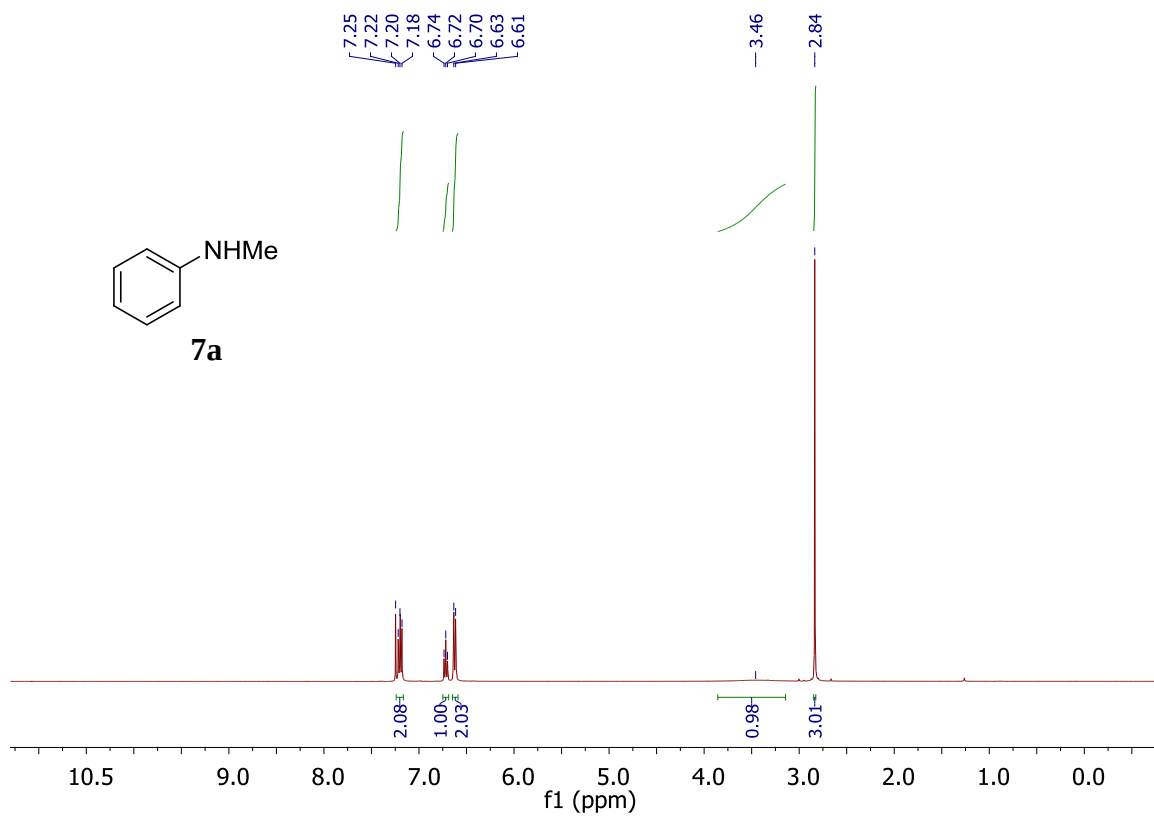


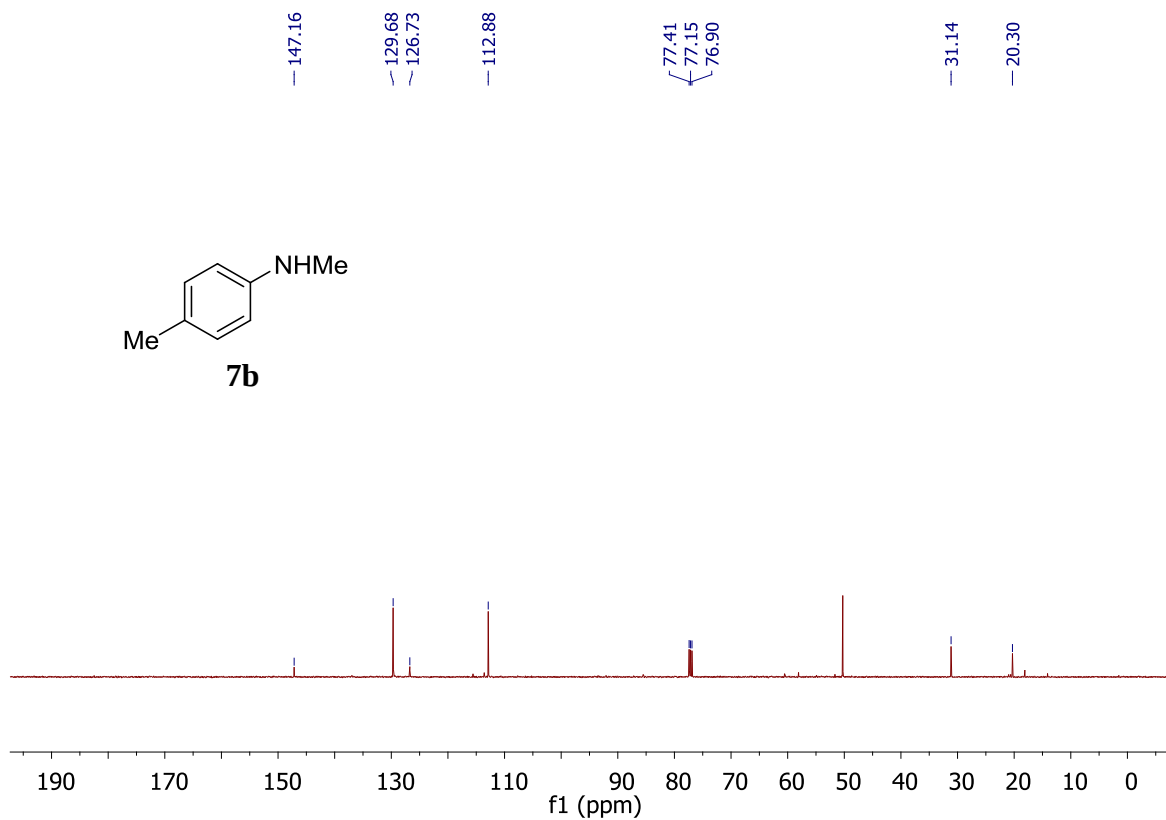
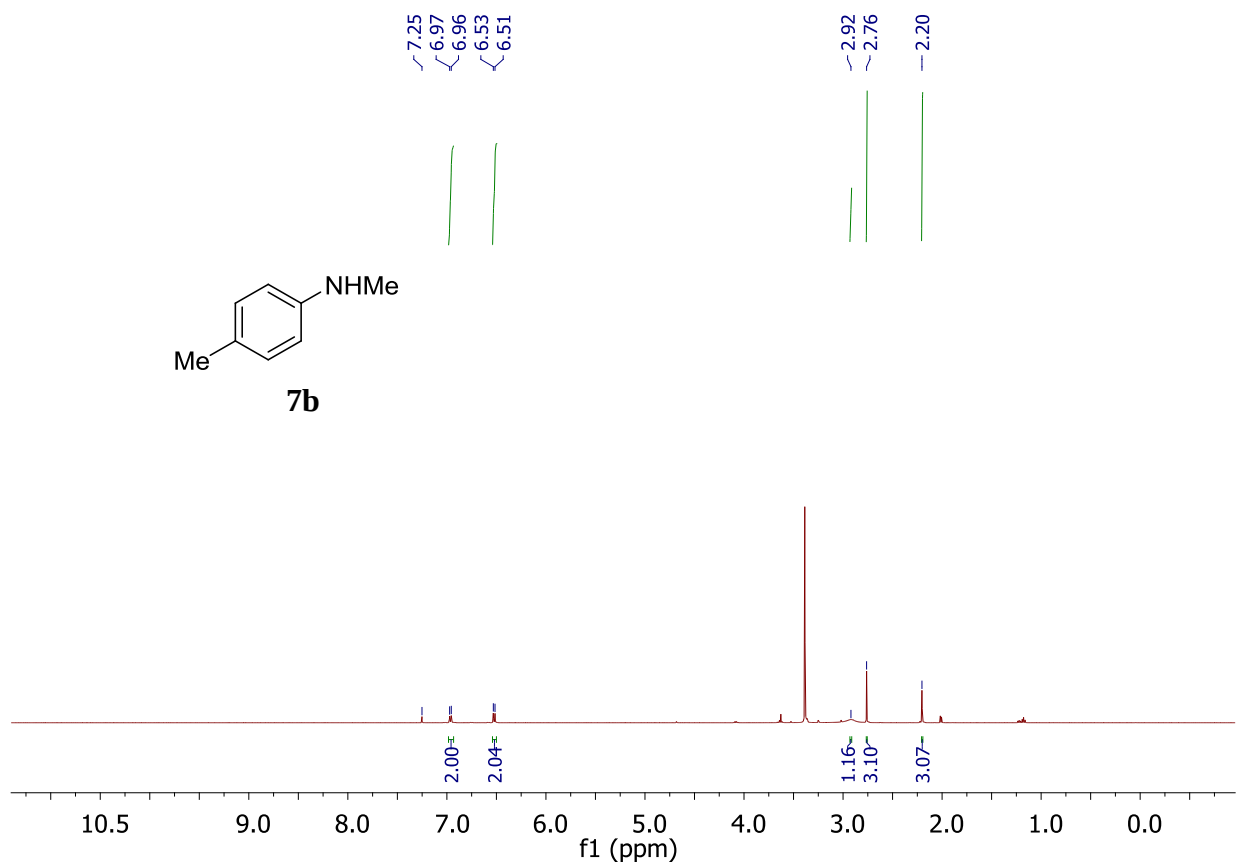


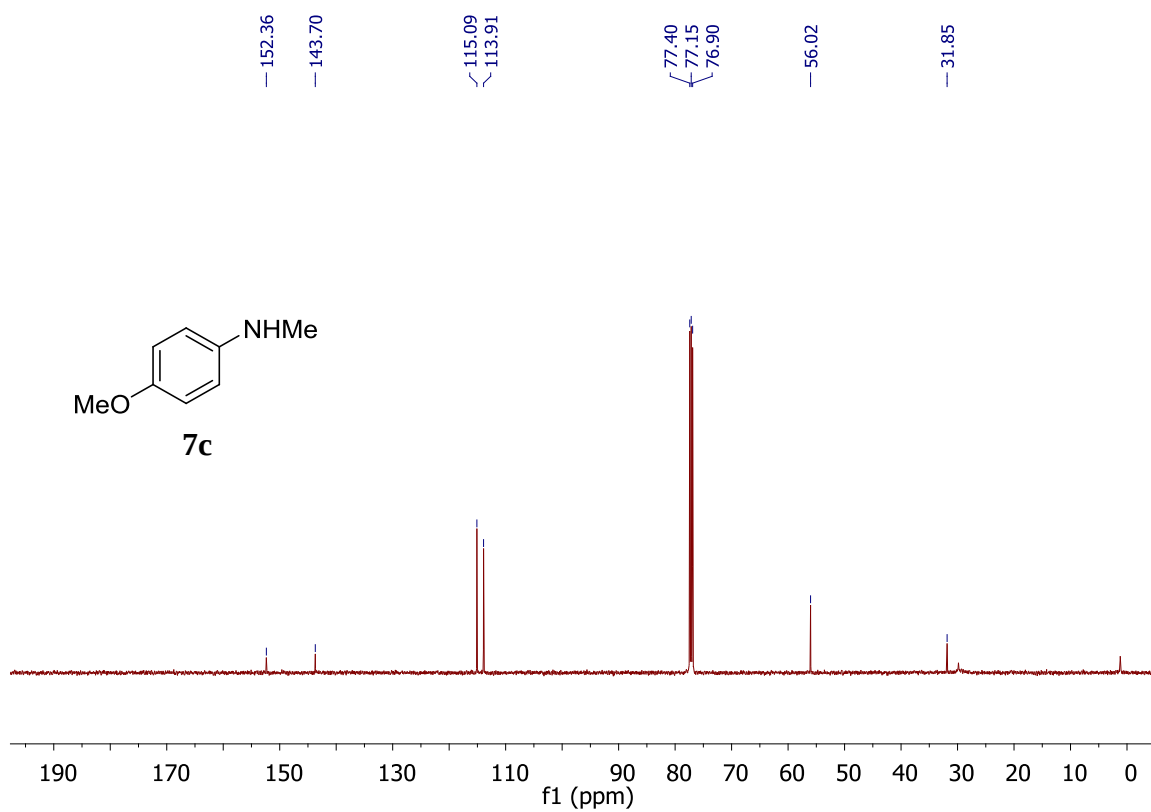
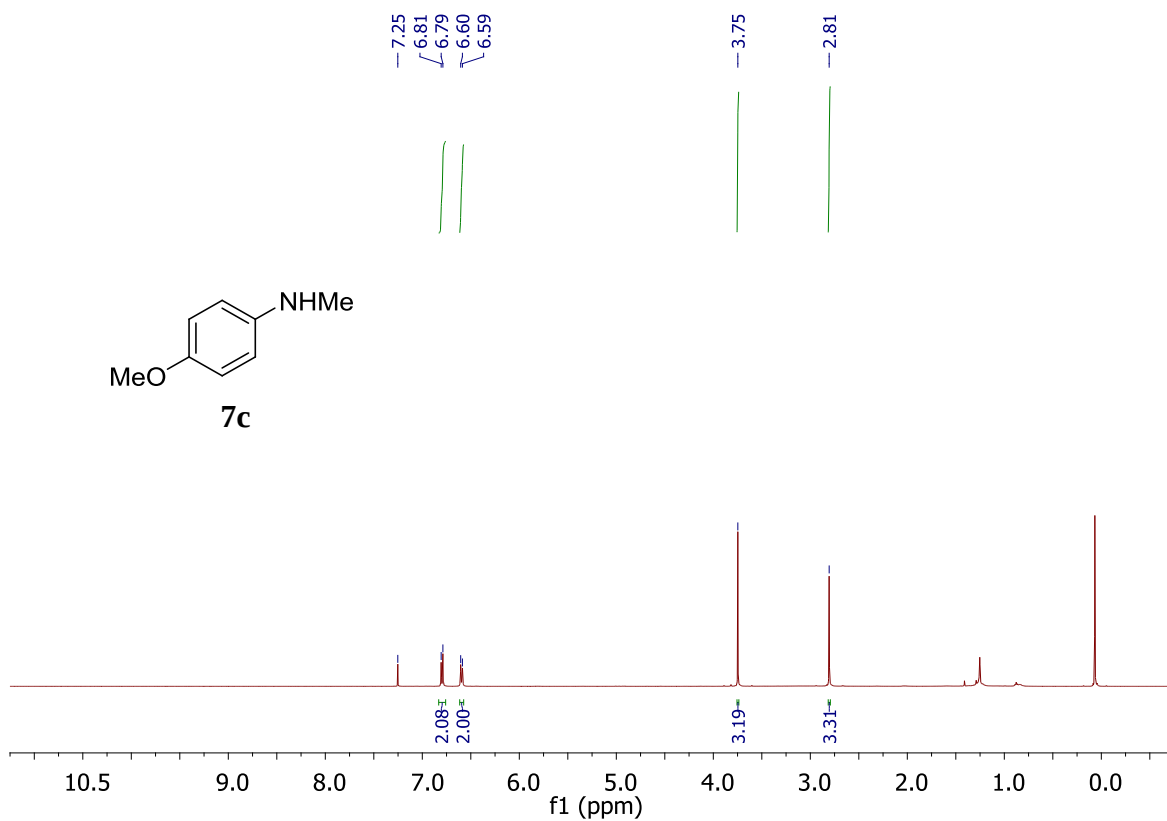


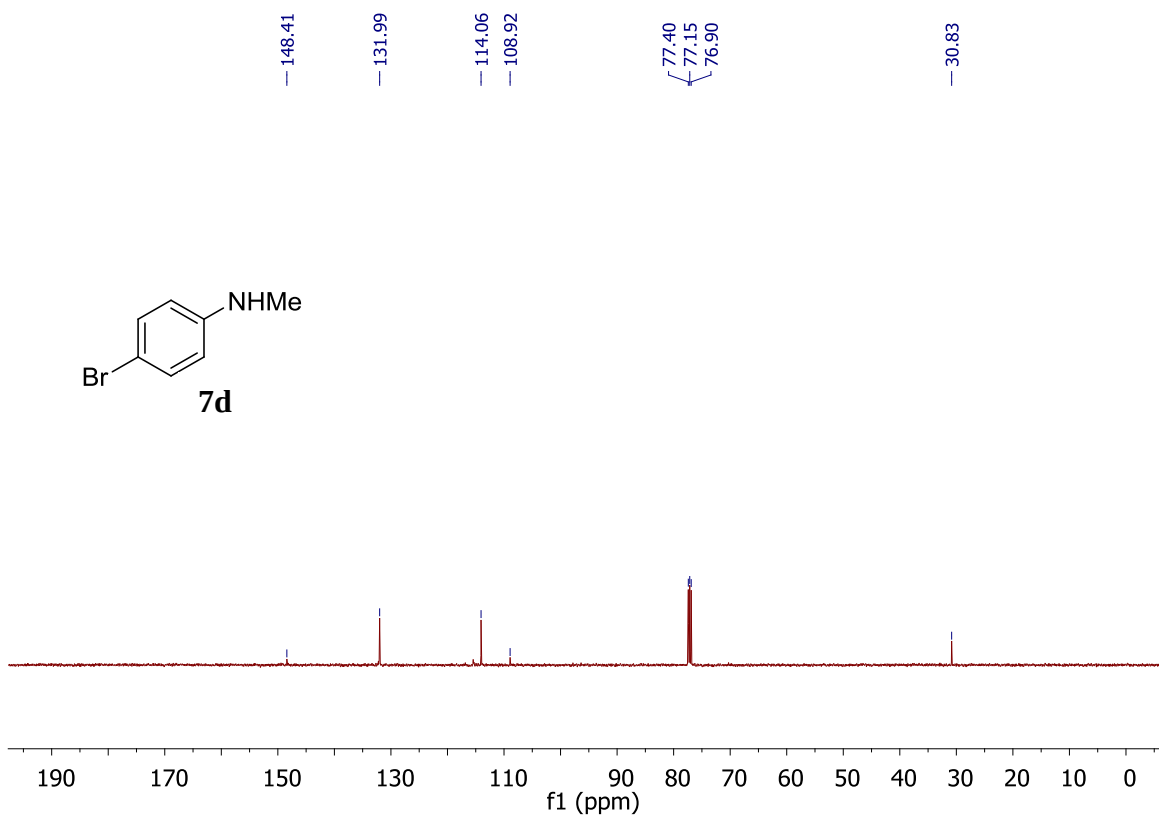
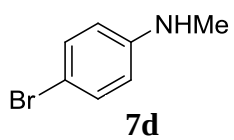
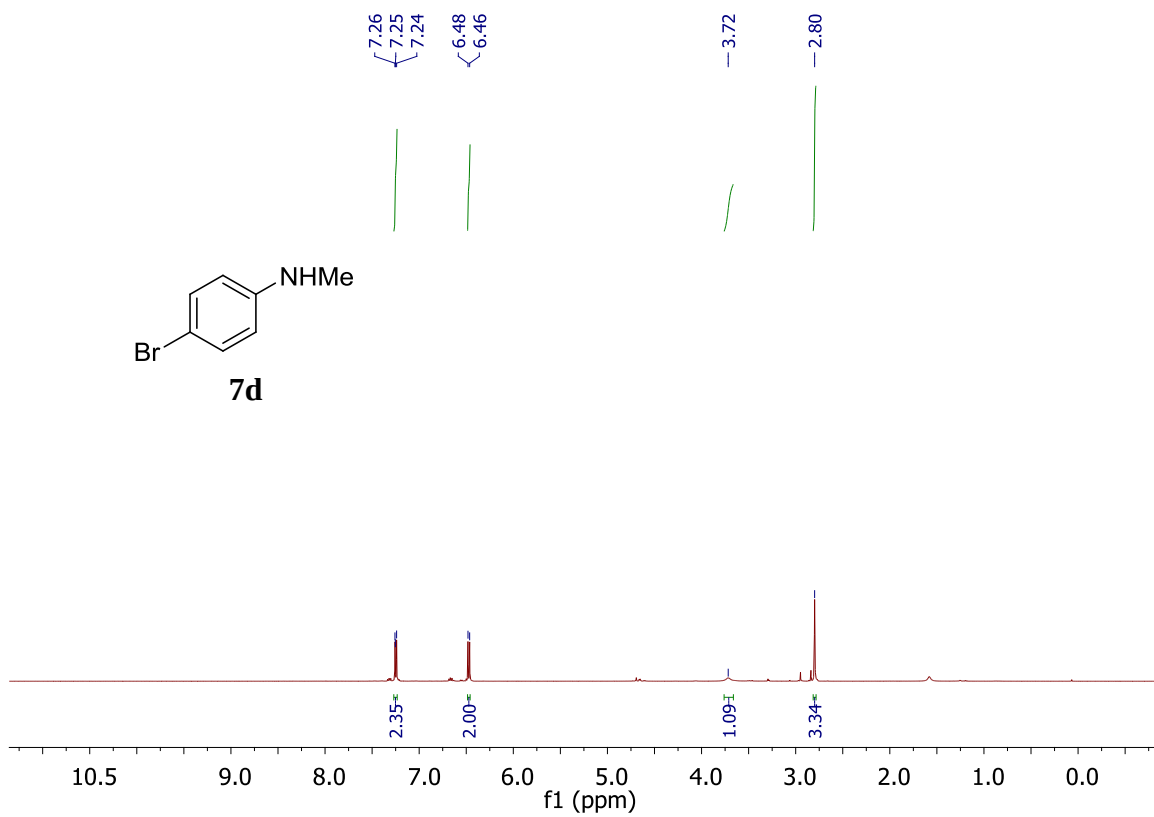
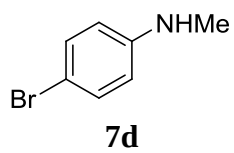


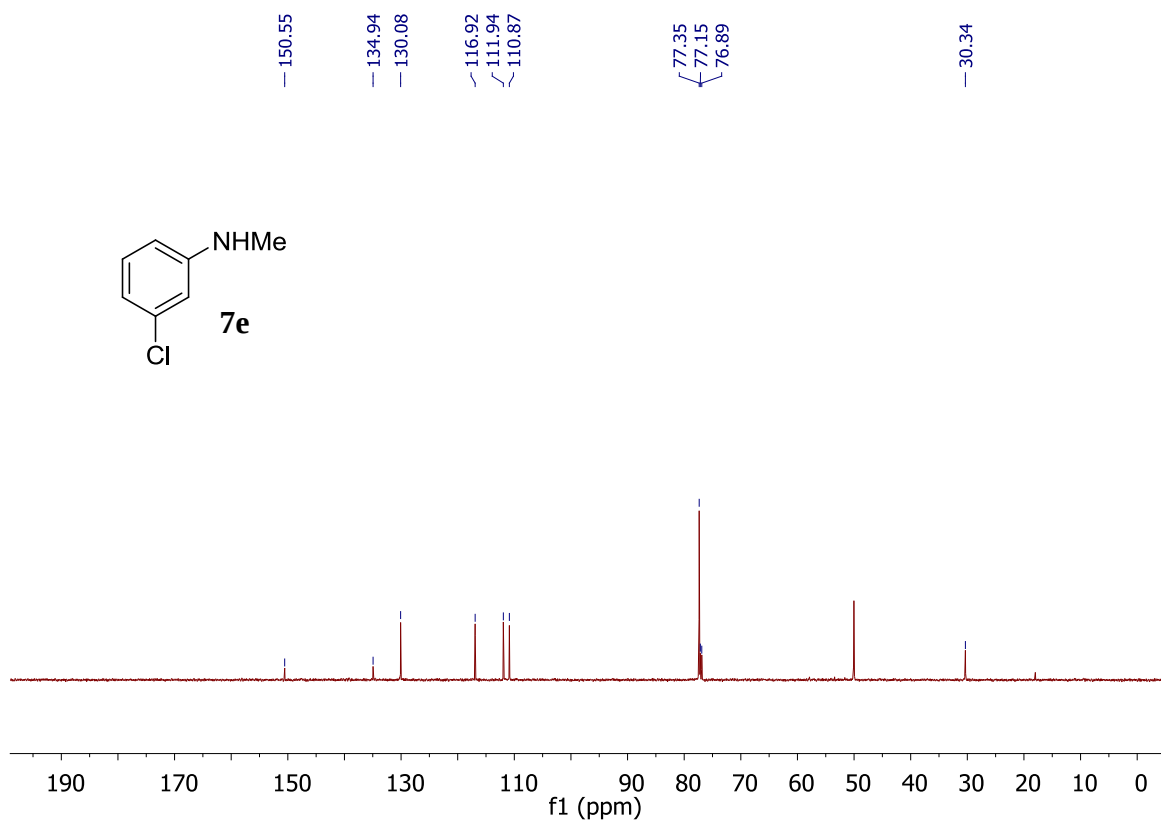
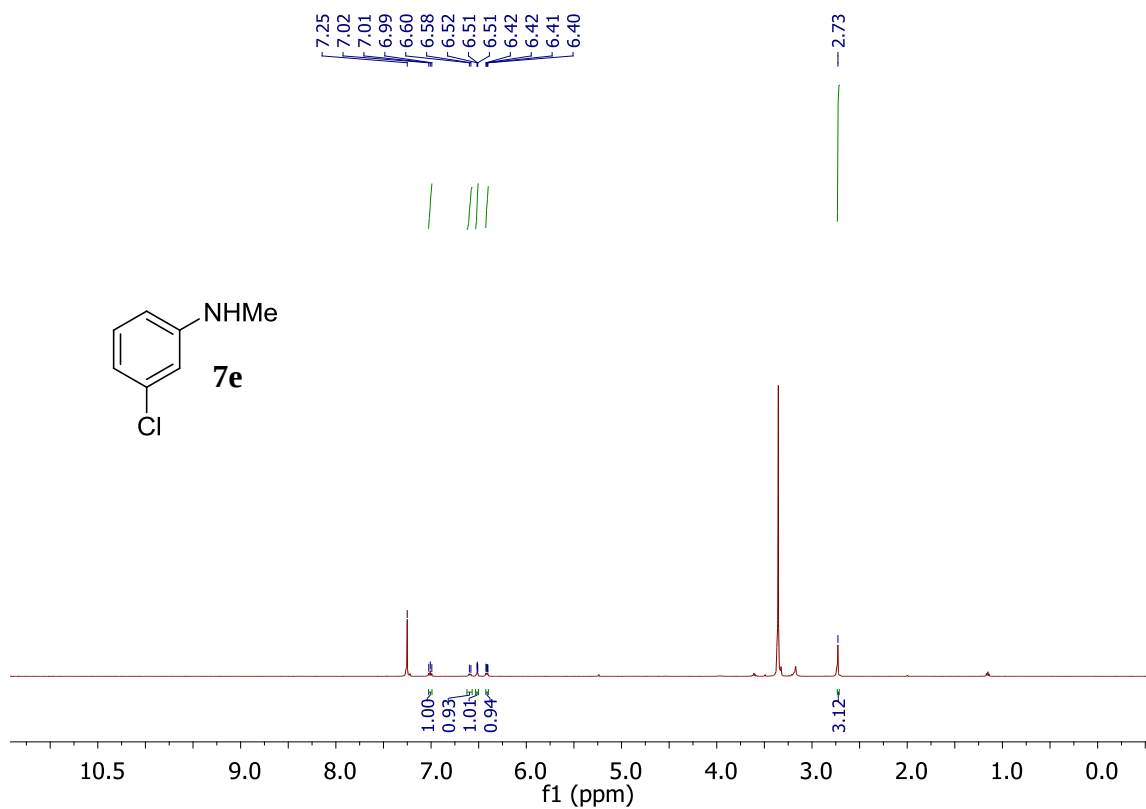


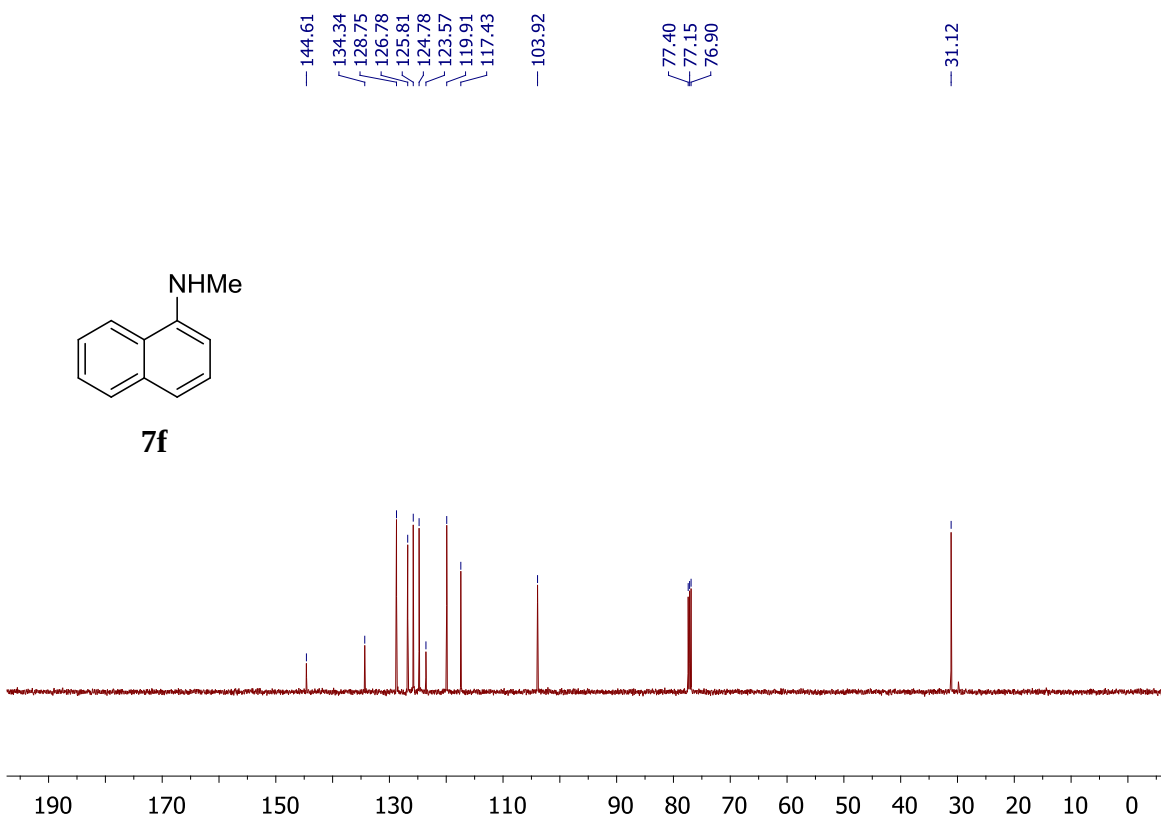
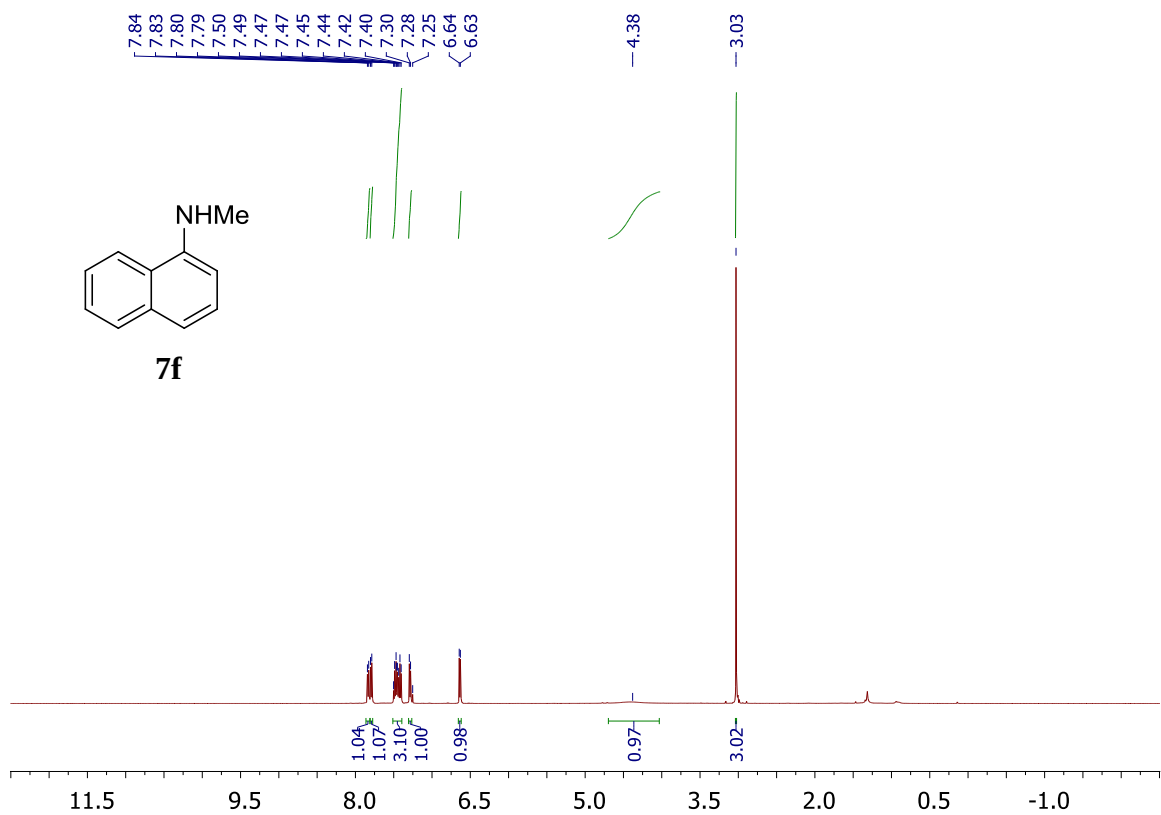


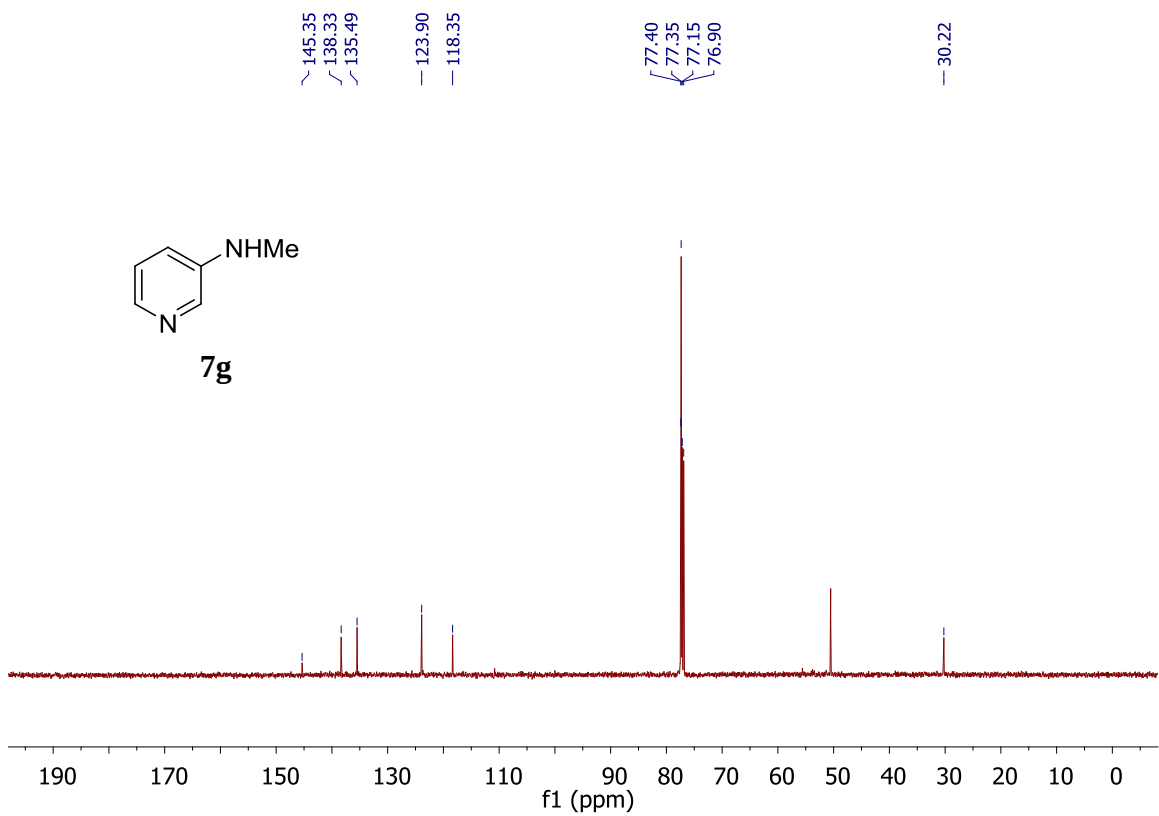
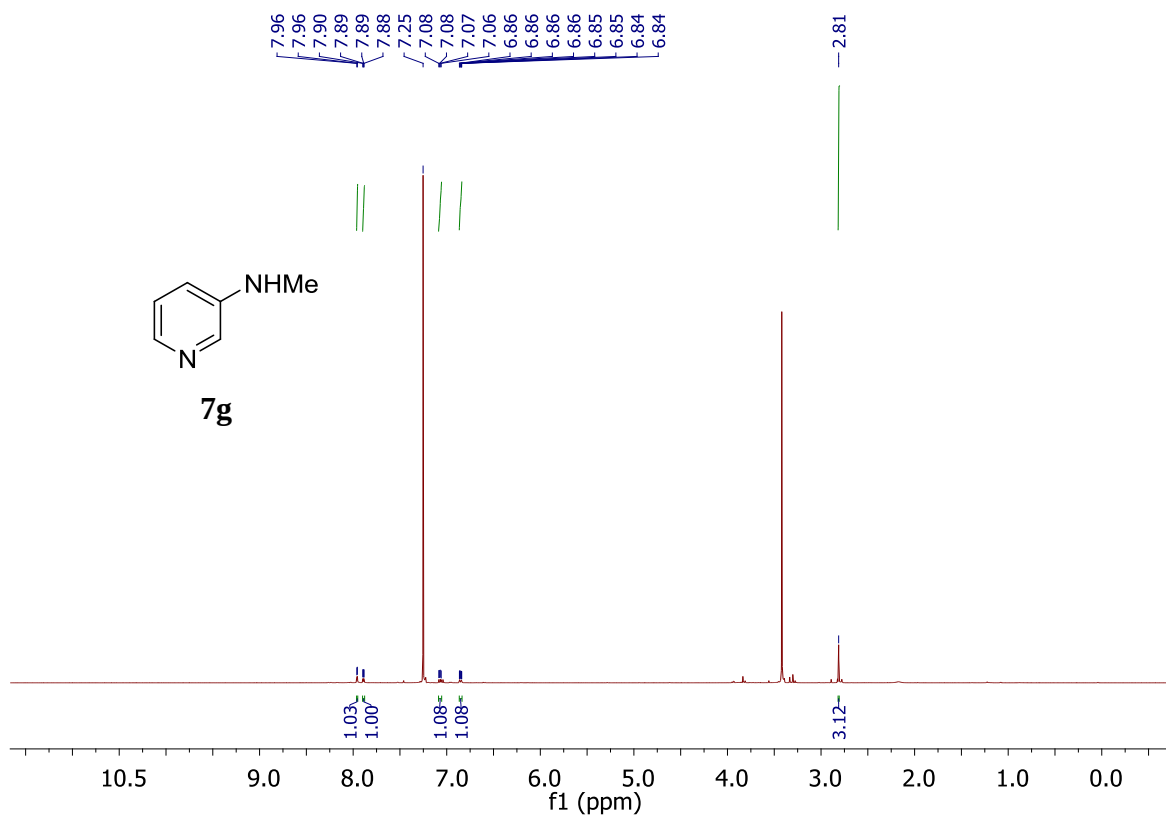


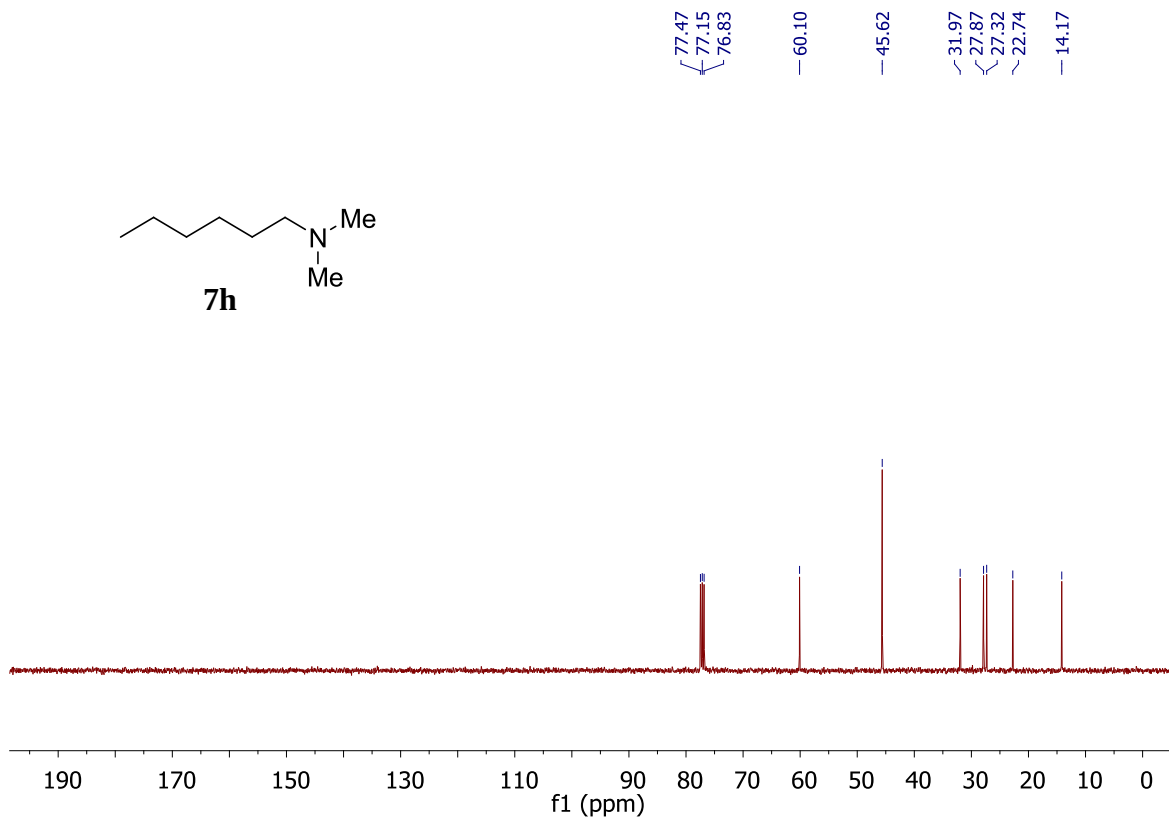
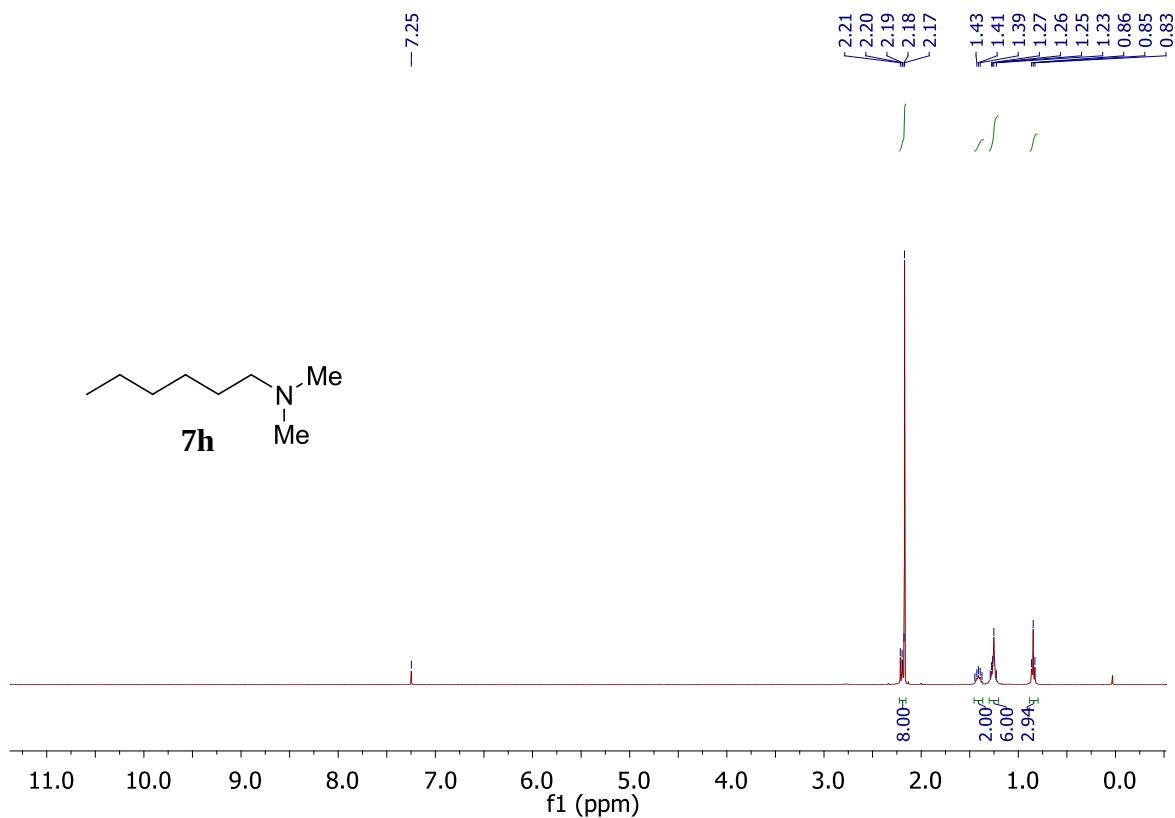












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