

## **Development of a Brønsted acid Al-MIL-53 Metal–Organic Framework catalyst and its Application in [4+2] Cycloadditions**

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### **Supporting Information**

**General Information.** The phase composition of the samples were investigated by X-ray powder diffraction (XRD, M21X, Cu K $\alpha$  radiation,  $\lambda=0.154178$  nm). Their morphology and structure of the as-obtained product was characterized by scanning electron microscopy (SEM, ZEISS SUPRA55). Further information of the structure were revealed by transmission electron microscopy (TEM, TEI Tecnai F20) and high-resolution TEM (HRTEM, TEI Tecnai F20) using TEI Tecnai F20. The samples for the SEM, TEM and HRTEM measurements were first dispersed in ethanol and sonicated for a few minutes, and then supported onto the silicon slice and the holey carbon film on a Cu grid, respectively. The chemical compositions were analyzed using X-ray photoelectron spectrometer (XPS, ESCALAB 250Xi) and inductively coupled plasma-atomic emission spectrometry (ICP-AES, Vavian 715-ES). Thermogravimetric analysis (TG) were conducted by a TGA instrument (Netzsch STA449F) at a heating rate of 10°C/min under an N<sub>2</sub> flow. The specific surface areas were calculated by nitrogen sorption–desorption isotherms using a Micromeritics ASAP 2420 adsorption analyzer. The pore size distributions were derived from the adsorption branches of isotherms by using the Barrett–Joyner–Halenda (BJH) model. Fourier transform Infrared spectra (FTIR) were acquired on a Nicolet 6700 using the KBr pellet technique. The catalytic results were analyzed by a gas chromatography-mass spectrum (GC-MS, Agilent7890/5975C-GC/MSD).

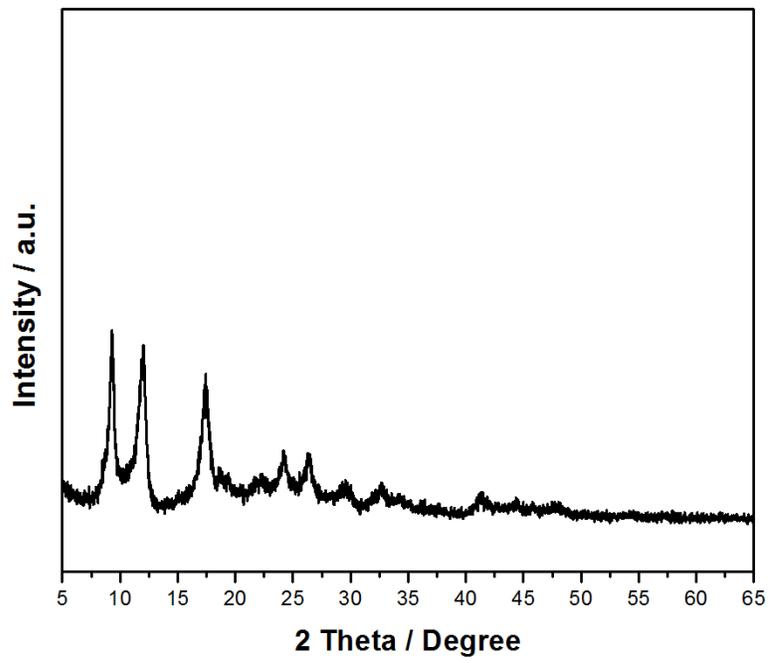
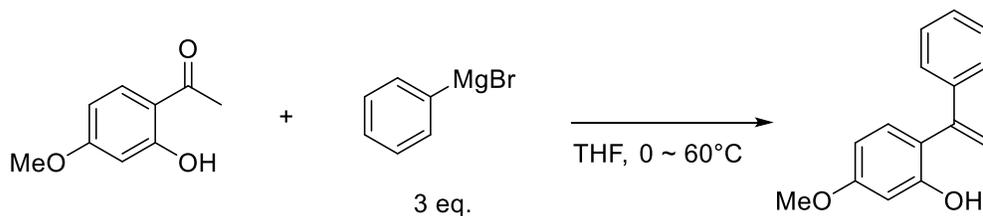


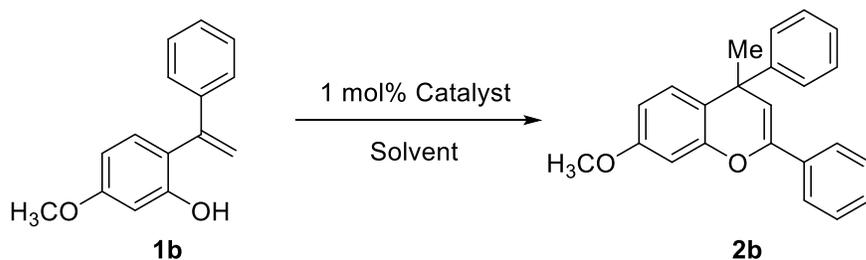
Fig S1. Powder XRD of recycled Al-MIL-53-ArSO<sub>3</sub>H.

### Synthesis of 5-methoxy-2-(1-phenylvinyl)phenol



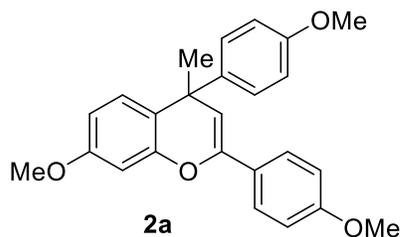
Bromobenzene (24.6 mmol) was added dropwise to magnesium turning (590 mg, 24.6 mmol) in THF (20 ml) and a gentle reflux was kept. The solution was further stirred for 30 min. Then 2-hydroxyacetophenone (12 mmol) was added to the resulting solution at 0 °C. The reaction mixture was warmed to room temperature and stirred overnight. At the end of the reaction, 15 ml acetic acid was added and the reaction mixture was extracted with ethyl acetate three times. The combined organic layer was washed with sat. NaCl aq. and dried over Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>. The organic solvent was removed under reduced pressure to afford a crude product, which was washed with hexanes to afford 5-methoxy-2-(1-phenylvinyl)phenol in 89% yield.

### [4+2] Catalytic reaction conditions



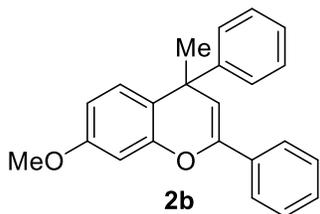
For a general catalytic reaction, 1 mol% of the Al-MIL-53- $\text{ArSO}_3\text{H}$  was added to 1.00 mL solvent, which was in an oven dried round bottom reaction vessel. To the reaction vessel was added 1.0 mmol of 5-methoxy-2-(1-phenylvinyl)phenol. The solution was stirred at 40 °C for 3 h. The reaction mixture was passed through a silica gel plug and eluted with 5 mL of dichloromethane. Then, the filtrate was concentrated under reduced pressure and the residue was purified by flash chromatography over silica gel to afford the dimeric product **2b**. The yield was calculated based on the isolated product.

### 7-methoxy-2,4-bis(4-methoxyphenyl)-4-methyl-4H-chromene



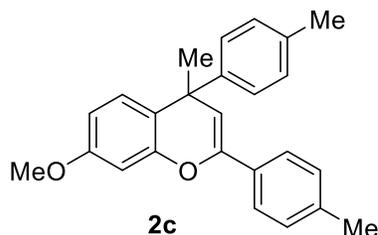
The crude mixture was purified by flash column chromatography with elution by 20:1–15:1, hexanes : EtOAc. Yield: 95%,  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  7.67 (m, 2H), 7.31 (m, 2H), 6.93 (m, 2H), 6.89 (d,  $J = 8.6$  Hz, 1H), 6.85 (m, 2H), 6.68 (d,  $J = 2.6$  Hz, 1H), 6.58 (dd,  $J = 8.6, 2.6$  Hz, 1H), 5.34 (s, 1H), 3.84 (s, 3H), 3.82 (s, 3H), 3.79 (s, 3H), 1.83 (s, 3H).  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ): 160.0, 158.9, 157.8, 151.2, 145.8, 142.9, 129.3, 128.5 (2C), 127.1, 126.2 (2C), 121.5, 113.9 (2C), 113.6 (2C), 110.7, 106.2, 101.1, 55.5 (2C), 55.3, 38.8, 30.9; IR (thin film,  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ): 2970, 2833, 1714, 1670, 1510, 1248, 1164, 1032; HRMS (ESI+): (m/z) ( $\text{M}+\text{H}^+$ ) calculated for  $\text{C}_{25}\text{H}_{25}\text{O}_4$  389.1753, found 389.1750.

### 7-methoxy-4-methyl-2,4-diphenyl-4H-chromene



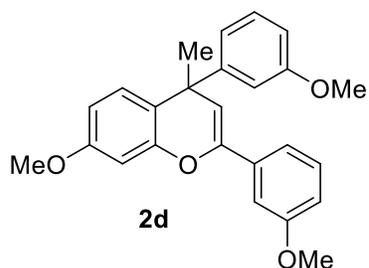
The crude mixture was purified by flash column chromatography with elution by 20:1–15:1, Hexanes : EtOAc. Yield: 91%,  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (500 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  7.77 (m, 2H), 7.46–7.33 (m, 7H), 6.22 (m, 1H), 6.92 (d,  $J = 8.3$  Hz, 1H), 6.73 (d,  $J = 2.0$  Hz, 1H), 6.61 (dd,  $J = 8.3, 2.0$ , 1H), 5.51 (s, 1H), 3.84 (s, 3H), 1.91 (s, 3H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ): 158.9, 151.1, 150.2, 146.0, 134.3, 129.4, 128.5, 128.4 (2C), 128.3 (2C), 127.4 (2C), 126.1, 124.8 (2C), 121.0, 110.8, 107.5, 107.46, 101.0, 55.5, 39.4, 30.6; IR (thin film,  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ): 2932, 1713, 1668, 1622, 1503, 1443, 1325, 1163, 1027; HRMS (ESI+): (m/z) ( $\text{M}+\text{H}^+$ ) calculated for  $\text{C}_{23}\text{H}_{21}\text{O}_2$  329.1542, found 329.1550.

### 7-methoxy-4-methyl-2,4-di-p-tolyl-4H-chromene



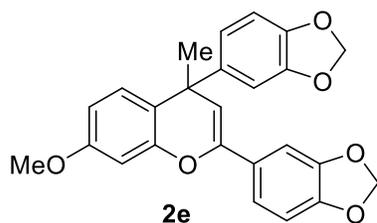
The crude mixture was purified by flash column chromatography with elution by 20:1–15:1, Hexanes : EtOAc. Yield: 82%, <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 7.62 (d, J = 8.2 Hz 2H), 7.30 (d, J = 8.2 Hz, 2H), 7.20 (d, J = 8.2 Hz 2H), 7.11 (d, J = 8.2 Hz, 1H), 6.89 (d, J = 8.6 Hz, 1H), 6.67 (d, J = 2.6 Hz, 1H), 6.56 (dd, J = 8.6, 2.6 Hz, 1H), 5.40 (s, 1H), 3.81(s, 3H), 2.39(s, 3H), 2.32(s, 3H), 1.84 (s, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): 158.9, 151.2, 147.6, 146.2, 138.4, 135.6, 131.7, 129.3, 129.1 (2C), 129.0 (2C), 127.4 (2C), 124.7 (2C), 121.4, 110.7, 107.0, 101.1, 55.5, 39.1, 30.7, 21.4, 21.0. IR (thin film, cm<sup>-1</sup>): 2974, 2824, 1712, 1524, 1233, 1158, 1018; HRMS (ESI<sup>+</sup>): (m/z) (M+H<sup>+</sup>) calculated for C<sub>25</sub>H<sub>25</sub>O<sub>2</sub> 357.1855, found 357.1859.

### 7-methoxy-2,4-bis(3-methoxyphenyl)-4-methyl-4H-chromene



The crude mixture was purified by flash column chromatography with elution by 10:1–8:1, Hexanes : EtOAc. Yield: 86%, <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 7.31-7.22 (m, 4H), 7.00 (d, J = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 6.91-6.88 (m, 2H), 6.73 (dd, J = 8.2, 1.8 Hz, 1H), 6.67 (d, J = 2.5 Hz, 1H), 6.57 (dd, J = 8.6, 2.6 Hz, 1H), 5.46 (s, 1H), 3.86 (s, 3H), 3.81 (s, 3H), 3.77 (s, 3H), 1.84 (s, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): 159.8, 159.6, 158.9, 151.9, 151.0, 145.9, 135.7, 129.5, 129.3, 129.2, 120.8, 120.1, 117.3, 114.1, 110.8, 110.7, 110.5, 107.61, 107.58, 101.0, 55.50, 55.48, 55.3, 39.5, 30.6; IR (thin film, cm<sup>-1</sup>): 2975, 1715, 1670, 1515, 1241, 1163, 1033; HRMS (ESI<sup>+</sup>): (m/z) (M+H<sup>+</sup>) calculated for C<sub>25</sub>H<sub>25</sub>O<sub>4</sub> 389.1753, found 389.1752.

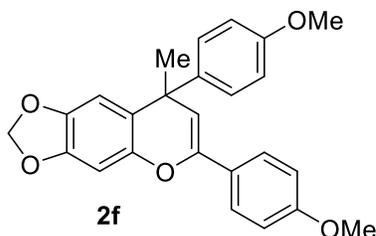
### 2,4-bis(benzo[d][1,3]dioxol-5-yl)-7-methoxy-4-methyl-4H-chromene



The crude mixture was purified by flash column chromatography with elution by 15:1–10:1, Hexanes : EtOAc. Yield: 77%, <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 7.23 (dd, J = 8.2, 1.7 Hz, 1H), 7.17 (d, J = 1.7 Hz, 1H), 6.87 (d, J = 8.2 Hz, 1H), 6.85 (dd, J = 8.1, 1.9 Hz, 1H), 6.83 (d, J = 8.1 Hz, 1H), 6.82 (d, J = 8.1, 1H), 6.73 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 6.63 (d, J = 2.6 Hz, 1H), 6.56 (dd, J = 8.0, 2.6 Hz,

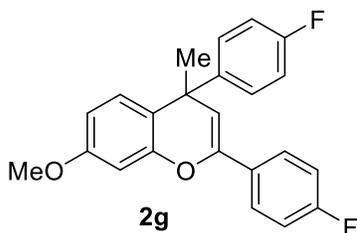
1H), 5.98 (s, 2H), 5.91 (d, J = 1.5 Hz, 1H), 5.89 (d, J = 1.5 Hz, 1H), 5.26 (s, 1H), 3.80(s, 3H), 1.78 (s, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): 158.9, 150.9, 147.9, 147.7, 145.8, 144.8, 129.2, 128.6, 121.0, 119.9, 118.8, 110.8, 108.8, 108.2, 107.7, 106.5, 106.4, 105.6, 105.1, 101.4, 101.1, 101.0, 55.5, 39.2, 30.9; IR (thin film, cm<sup>-1</sup>): 2978, 1714, 1670, 1621, 1503, 1485, 1301, 1166, 1036; HRMS (ESI<sup>+</sup>): (m/z) (M+H<sup>+</sup>) calculated for C<sub>25</sub>H<sub>21</sub>O<sub>6</sub> 417.1338 found 417.1340.

### 6,8-bis(4-methoxyphenyl)-8-methyl-8H-[1,3]dioxolo[4,5-g]chromene



The crude mixture was purified by flash column chromatography with elution by 20:1–15:1, Hexanes : EtOAc. Yield: 92%, <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 7.65 (d, J = 8.8 Hz 2H), 7.34 (d, J = 8.7 Hz, 2H), 6.93 (d, J = 8.8 Hz, 2H), 6.86 (d, J = 8.7 Hz, 2H), 6.66 (s, 1H), 6.40 (s, 1H), 5.89 (s, 1H), 5.87 (s, 1H), 5.28 (s, 1H), 3.84(s, 3H), 3.80 (s, 3H), 1.82 (s, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): 159.9, 157.8, 146.5, 145.8, 145.0, 143.6, 142.6, 128.4 (2C), 126.9, 126.1 (2C), 121.0, 113.8 (2C), 113.6 (2C), 107.0, 104.9, 101.2, 98.0, 55.4, 55.3, 39.4, 30.8; IR (thin film, cm<sup>-1</sup>): 2934, 1712, 1609, 1509, 1246, 1170, 1031; HRMS (ESI<sup>+</sup>): (m/z) (M+H<sup>+</sup>) calculated for C<sub>25</sub>H<sub>23</sub>O<sub>5</sub> 403.1545, found 403.1544.

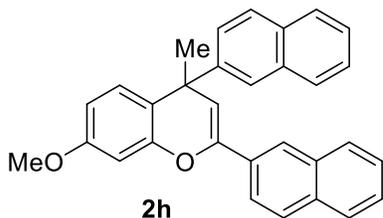
### 2,4-bis(4-fluorophenyl)-7-methoxy-4-methyl-4H-chromene



The crude mixture was purified by flash column chromatography with elution by 10:1–8:1, Hexanes : EtOAc. Yield: 71%, <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 7.68 (m, 2H), 7.33 (m, 2H), 7.07 (m, 2H), 6.98 (m, 2H), 6.84 (d, J = 8.6 Hz, 1H), 6.65 (d, J = 2.5 Hz, 1H), 6.57 (dd, J = 8.6, 2.5, 1H), 5.34 (s, 1H), 3.81 (s, 3H), 1.83 (s, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): 163.1 (d, <sup>1</sup>J<sub>C-F</sub>=226.3 Hz), 161.2 (d, <sup>1</sup>J<sub>C-F</sub>= 223.0 Hz), 159.0, 150.9, 146.0 (d, <sup>4</sup>J<sub>C-F</sub>= 3.3 Hz), 145.4, 130.4 (d, <sup>4</sup>J<sub>C-F</sub>= 3.3 Hz), 129.3, 129.0 (d, <sup>3</sup>J<sub>C-F</sub>= 7.8 Hz, 2C), 126.6 (d, <sup>3</sup>J<sub>C-F</sub>= 7.8 Hz, 2C), 120.7, 115.4 (d, <sup>2</sup>J<sub>C-F</sub>= 25 Hz, 2C), 115.0 (d, <sup>2</sup>J<sub>C-F</sub>= 25 Hz, 2C), 111.0, 107.0, 101.1, 55.6, 39.0, 30.9 ; IR (thin film,

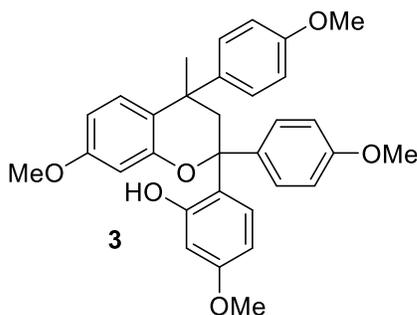
cm<sup>-1</sup>): 2925, 1716, 1670, 1622, 1505, 1163, 1040; HRMS (ESI<sup>+</sup>): (m/z) (M+H<sup>+</sup>) calculated for C<sub>23</sub>H<sub>19</sub>O<sub>2</sub>F<sub>2</sub> 365.1353, found 365.1333.

### 7-methoxy-4-methyl-2,4-di(naphthalen-2-yl)-4H-chromene



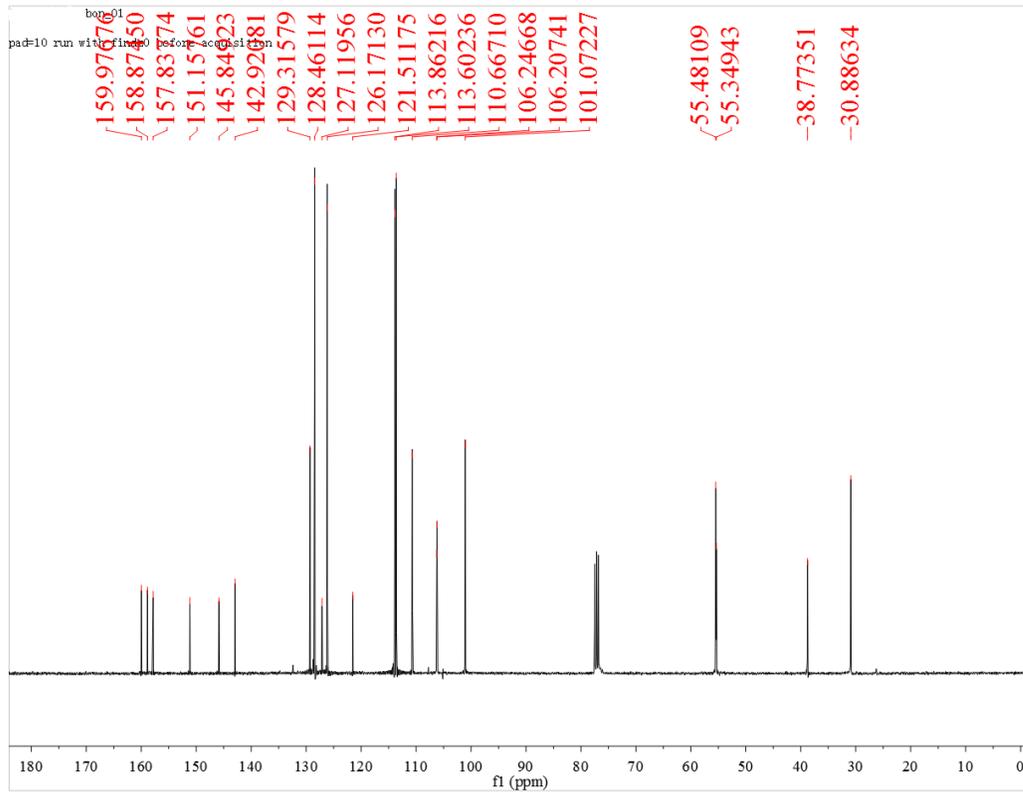
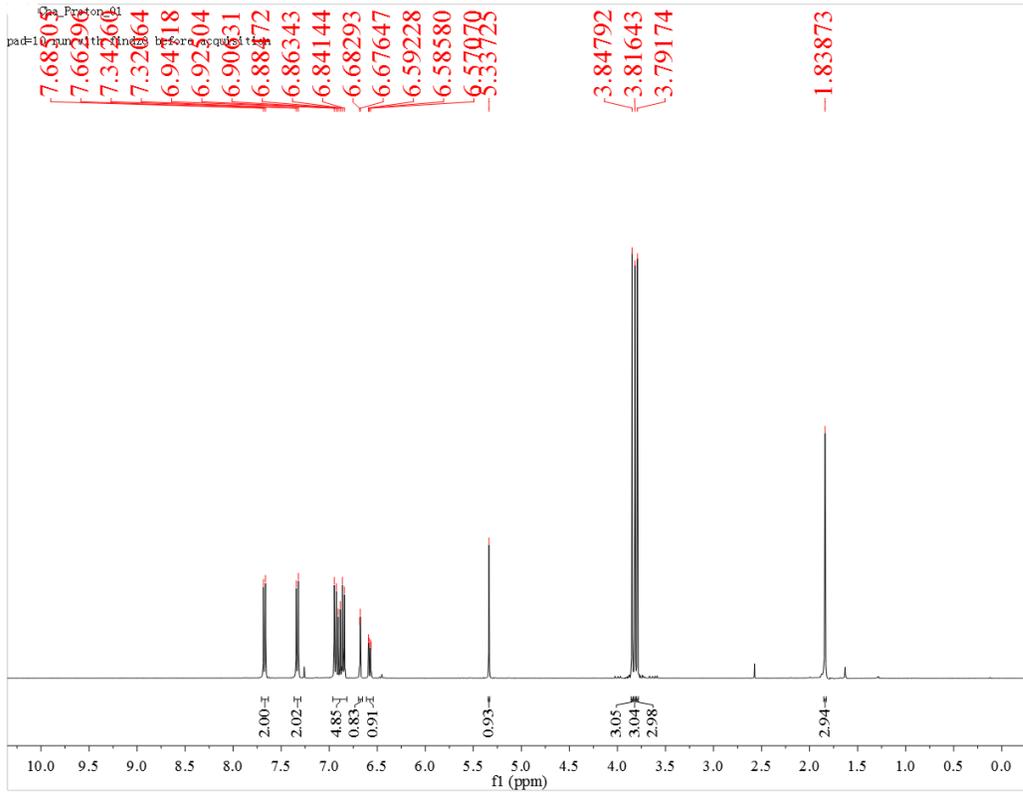
The crude mixture was purified by flash column chromatography with elution by 10:1–8:1, Hexanes : EtOAc. Yield: 74%, <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 8.30 (s, 1H), 7.93-7.75 (m, 8H), 7.53-7.45 (m, 5H), 6.91 (d, J = 8.6 Hz, 1H), 6.81 (d, J = 2.6 Hz, 1H), 6.58 (dd, J = 8.6, 26 Hz, 1H), 5.66 (s, 1H), 3.85 (s, 3H), 2.03 (s, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): 159.1, 151.2, 147.3, 146.3, 133.40, 133.35, 133.2, 132.0, 131.4, 129.6, 128.6 (2C), 128.3, 128.14, 128.08, 127.7, 127.6 (2C), 126.5, 126.4, 126.2, 125.9, 124.0, 123.9, 122.6, 110.9, 107.9, 101.1, 55.6, 39.8, 30.7; IR (thin film, cm<sup>-1</sup>): 3056, 2979, 1712, 1503, 1357, 1132, 1040; HRMS (ESI<sup>+</sup>): (m/z) (M+H<sup>+</sup>) calculated for C<sub>31</sub>H<sub>25</sub>O<sub>2</sub> 429.1855, found 429.1853.

### 5-methoxy-2-(7-methoxy-2,4-bis(4-methoxyphenyl)-4-methylchroman-2-yl)phenol

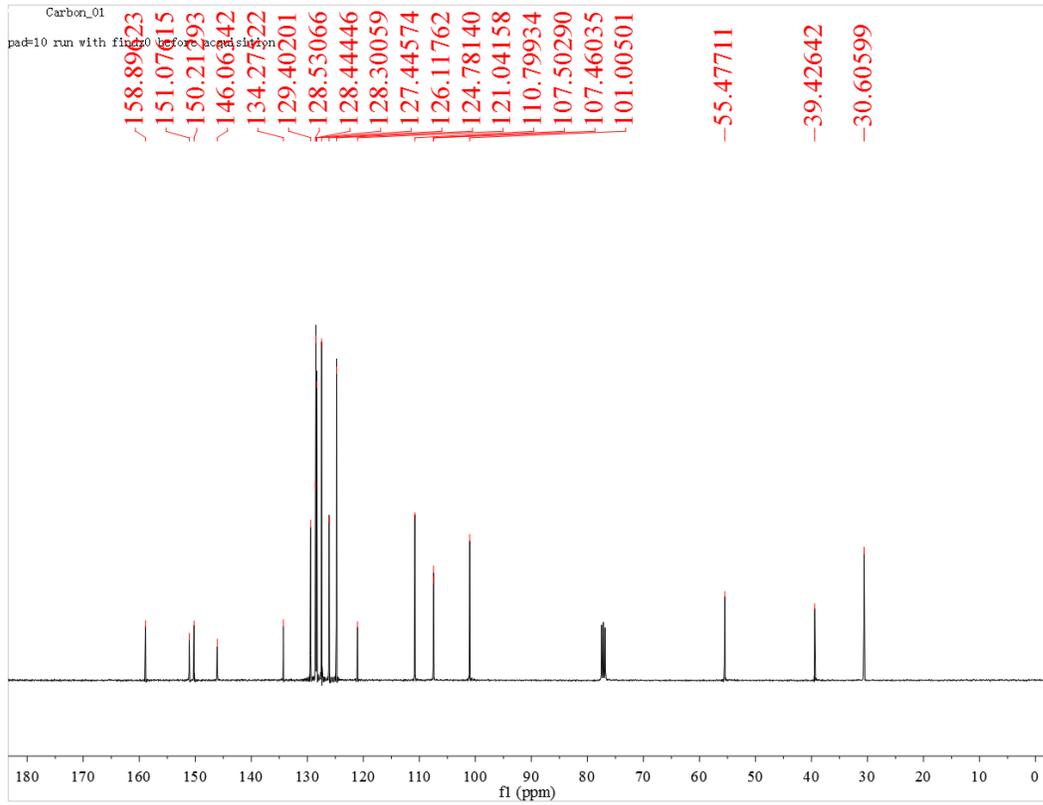
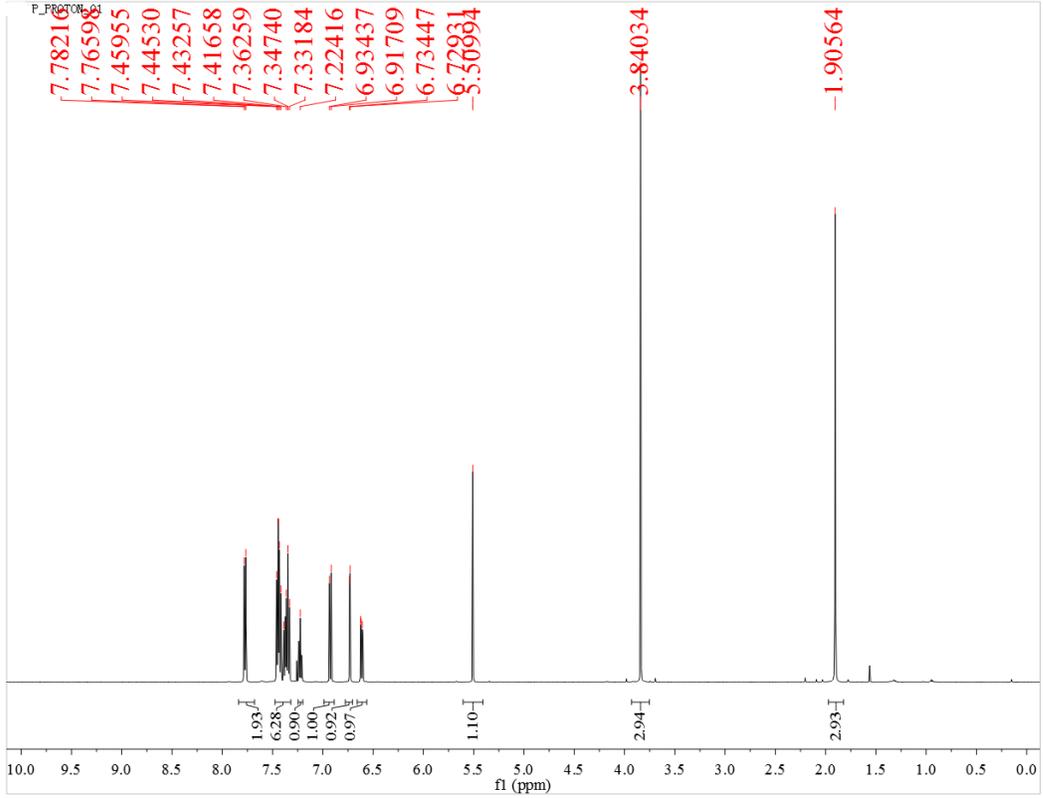


The crude mixture was purified by flash column chromatography with elution by 8:1–4:1, Hexanes : EtOAc. Yield: 40%, <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 7.58 (s, 1H), 7.22 (d, J = 8.9 Hz, 2H), 6.93 (d, J = 8.8 Hz, 2H), 6.85 (d, J = 8.7 Hz, 2H), 6.80 (d, J = 8.8 Hz, 2H), 6.68-6.65 (m, 4H), 6.53 (dd, J = 8.8, 2.5 Hz, 1H), 6.21 (d, J = 2.5 Hz, 1H), 6.08 (dd, J = 8.8, 2.5 Hz, 1H), 3.83 (s, 3H), 3.75 (s, 3H), 3.74 (s, 3H), 3.67 (s, 3H), 3.09 (d, J = 14.5 Hz, 1H), 2.75 (d, J = 14.5 Hz, 1H), 1.42 (s, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): 160.2, 159.2, 158.7, 157.5, 155.7, 152.7, 142.3, 135.90, 135.85, 130.4, 128.3, 127.9, 127.3, 122.1, 120.5, 113.6, 113.2, 112.9, 109.3, 105.2, 105.0, 102.7, 101.5, 101.4, 83.8, 55.4, 55.22, 55.20, 55.1, 49.4, 39.4, 31.2; IR (thin film, cm<sup>-1</sup>): 2978, 1650, 1505, 1288, 1230, 987; HRMS (ESI<sup>+</sup>): (m/z) (M+H<sup>+</sup>) calculated for C<sub>32</sub>H<sub>33</sub>O<sub>6</sub> 513.2277, found 513.2271.

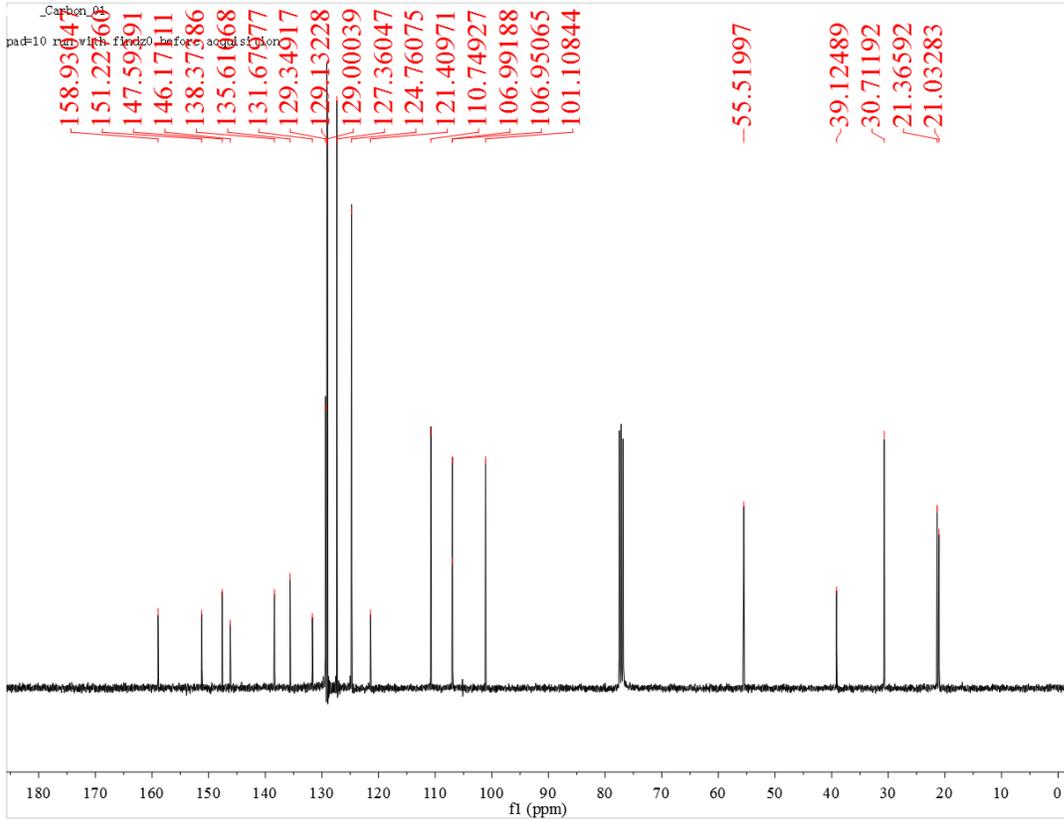
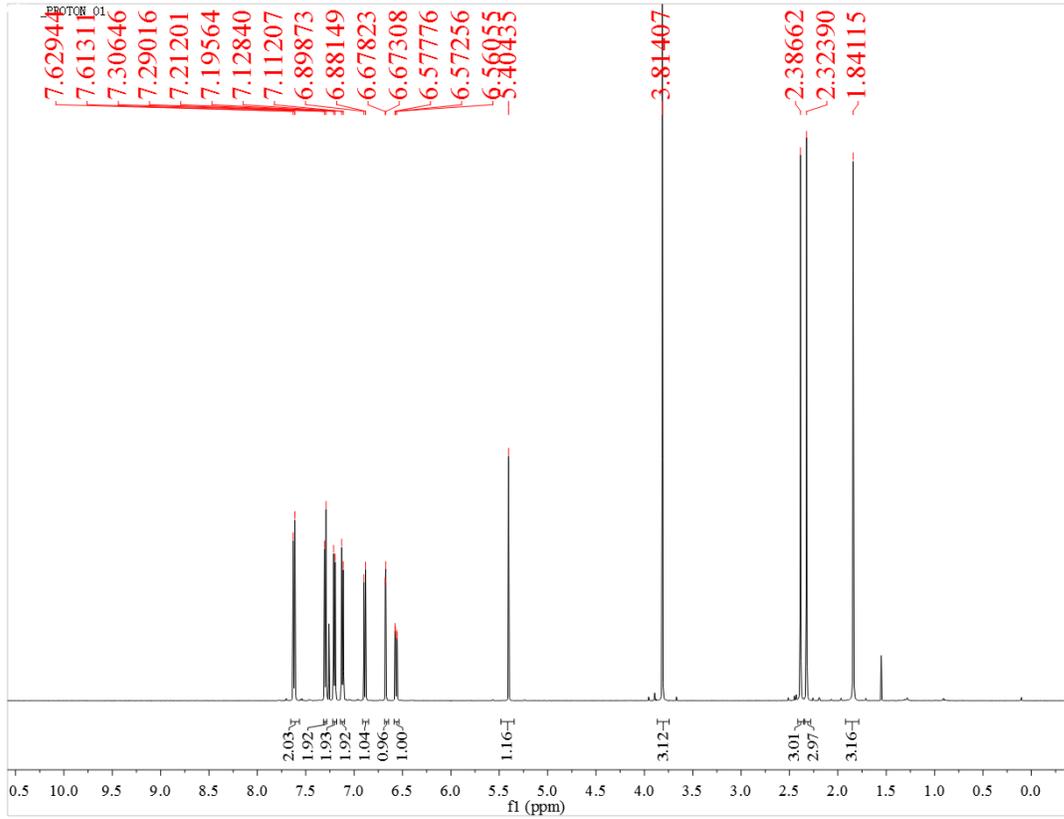
# Compound 2a



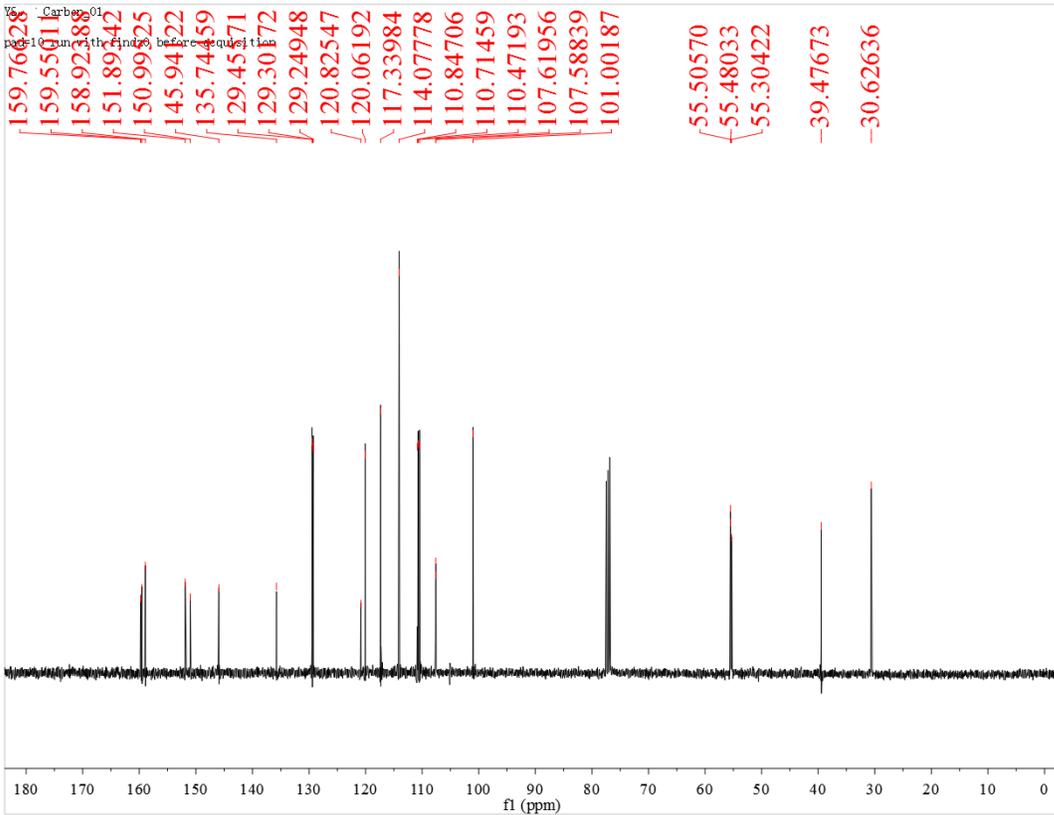
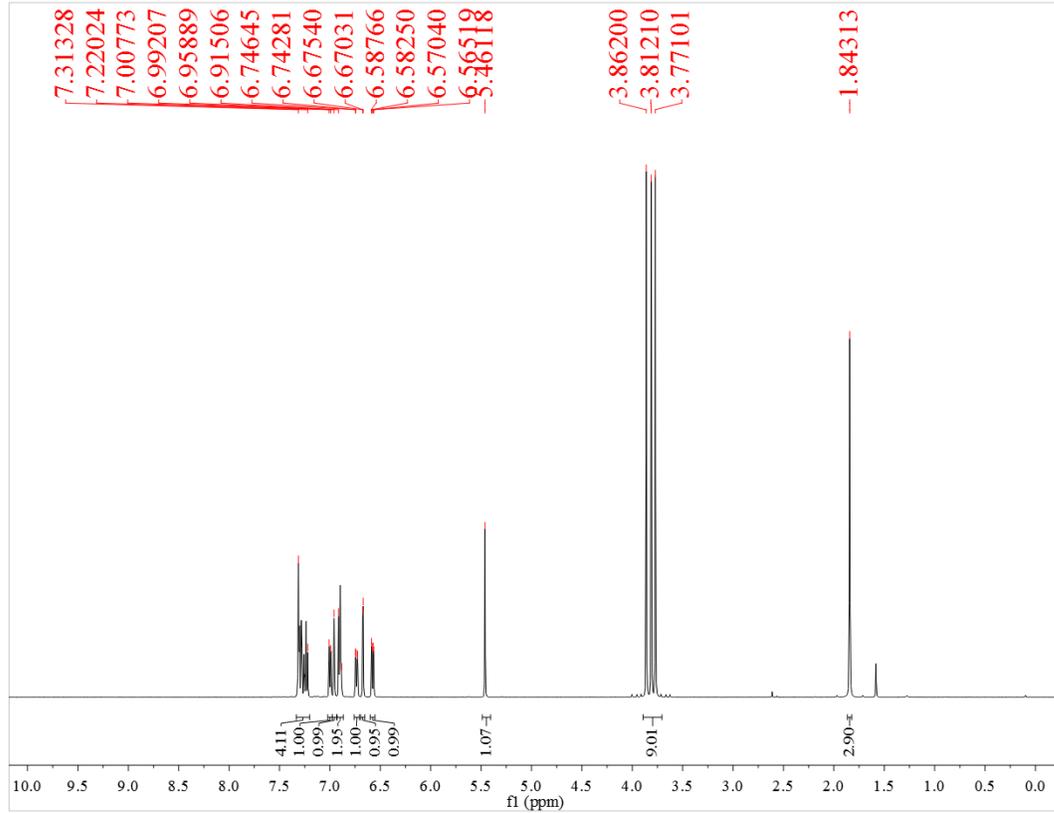
# Compound 2b



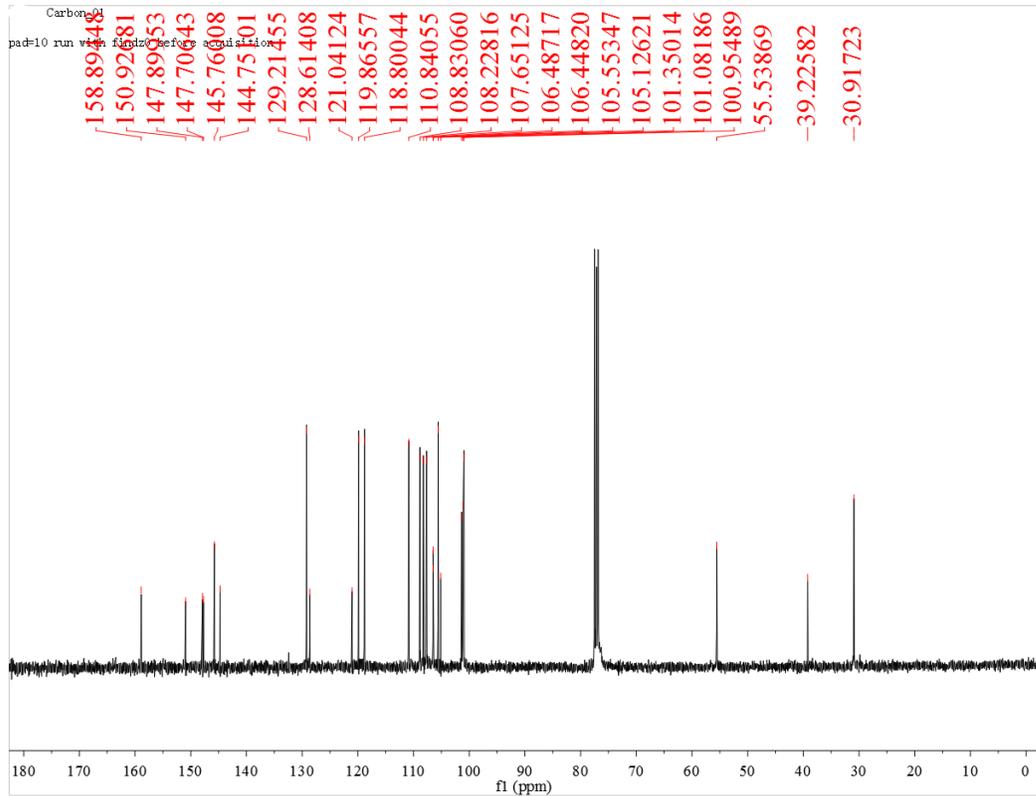
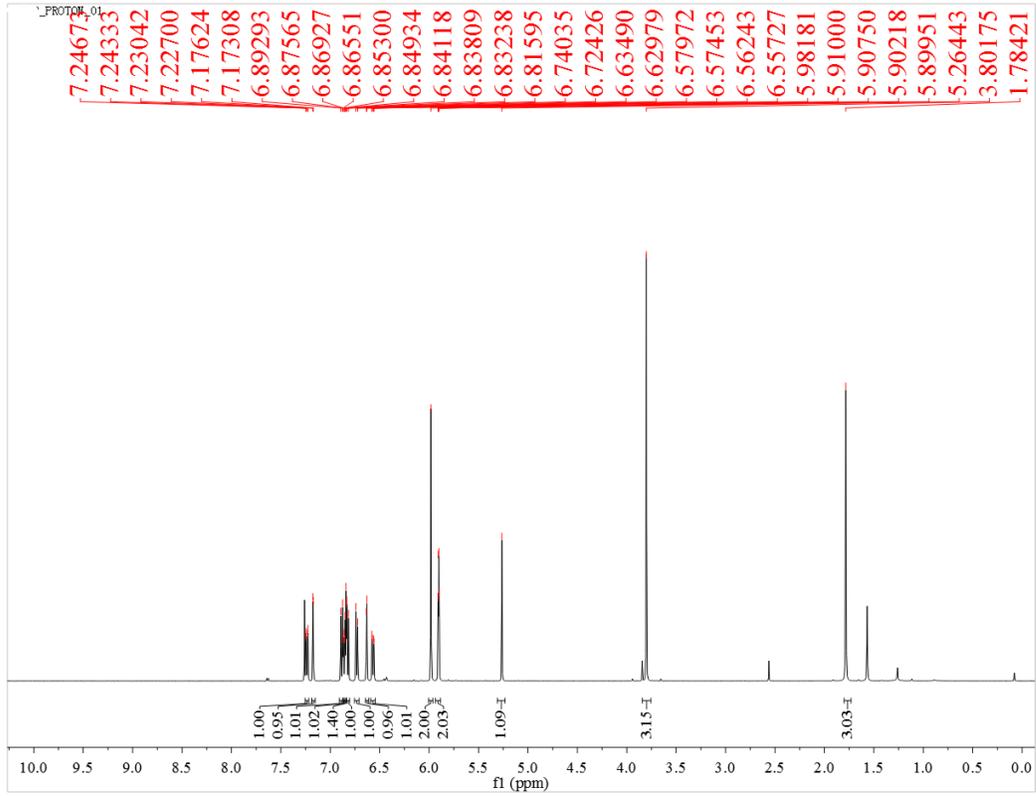
Compound 2c



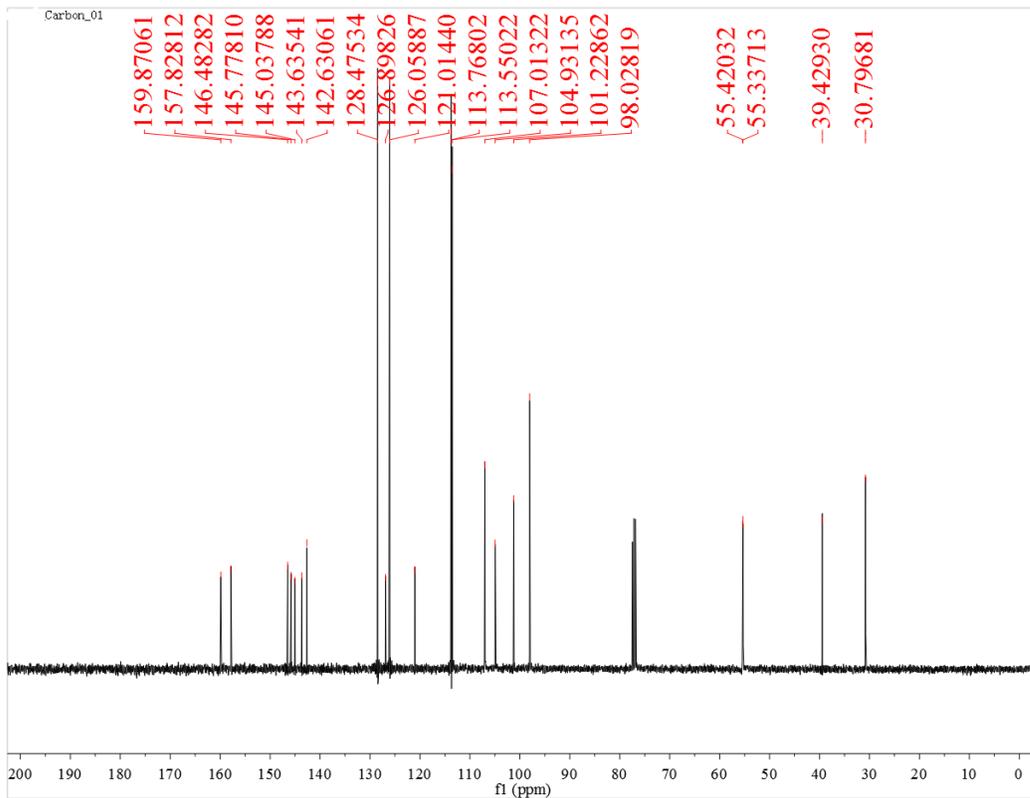
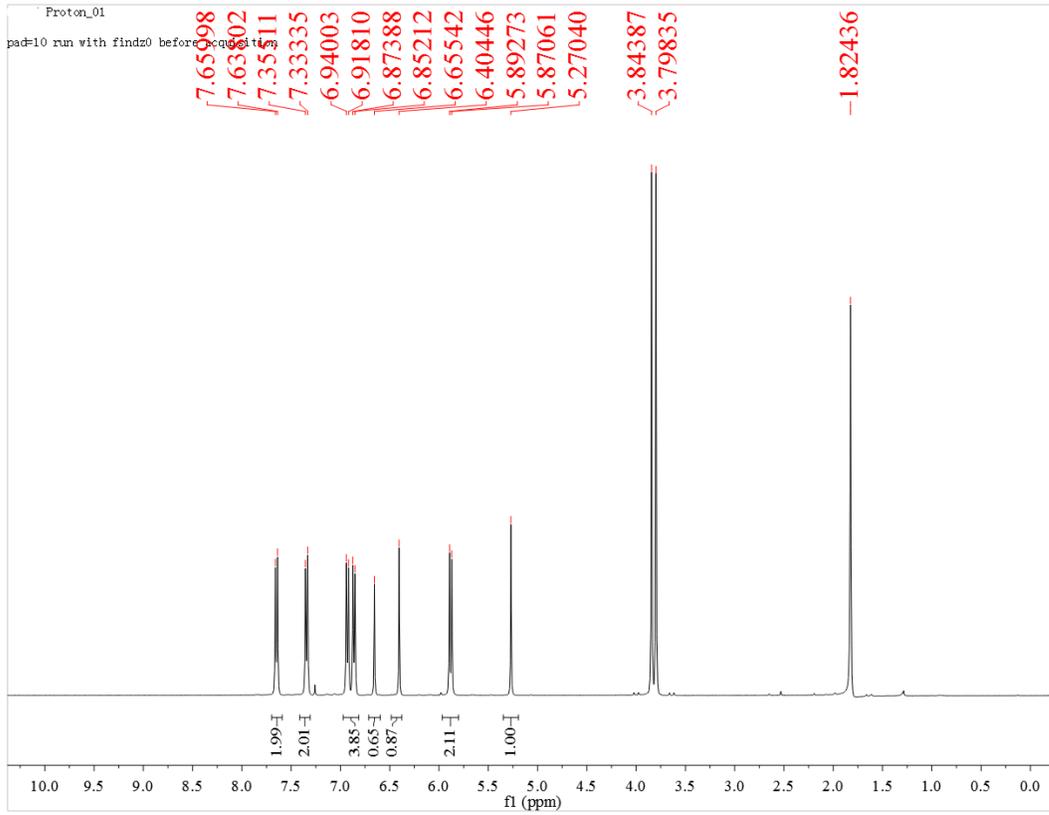
Compound 2d



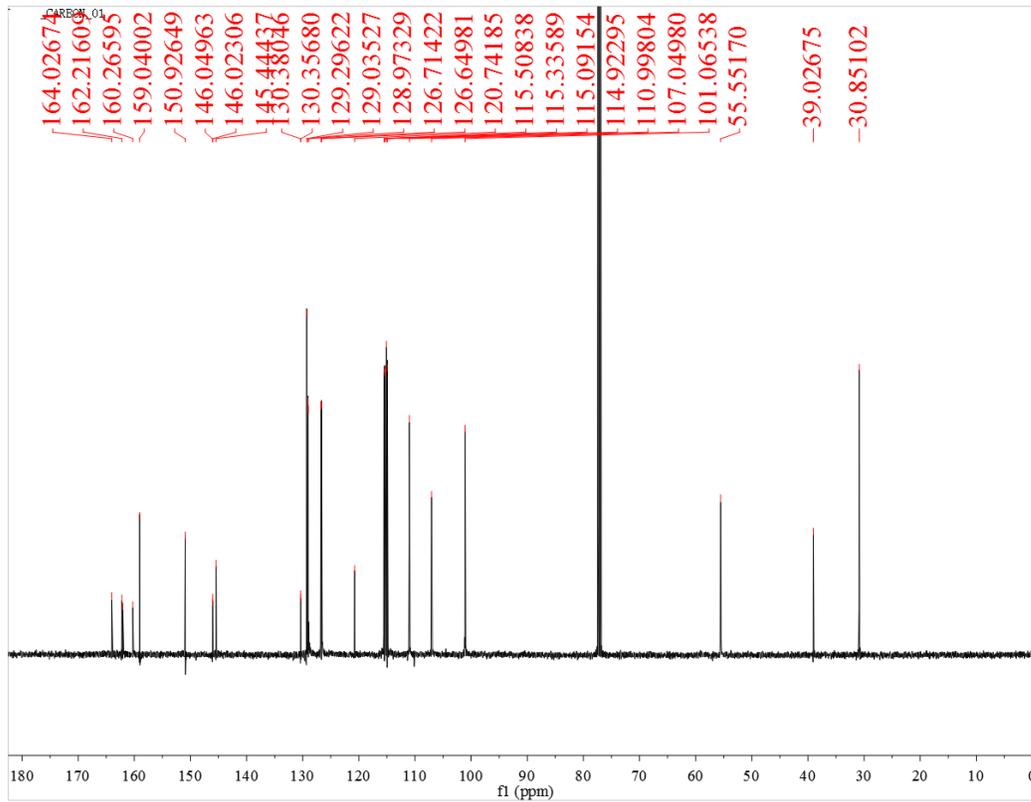
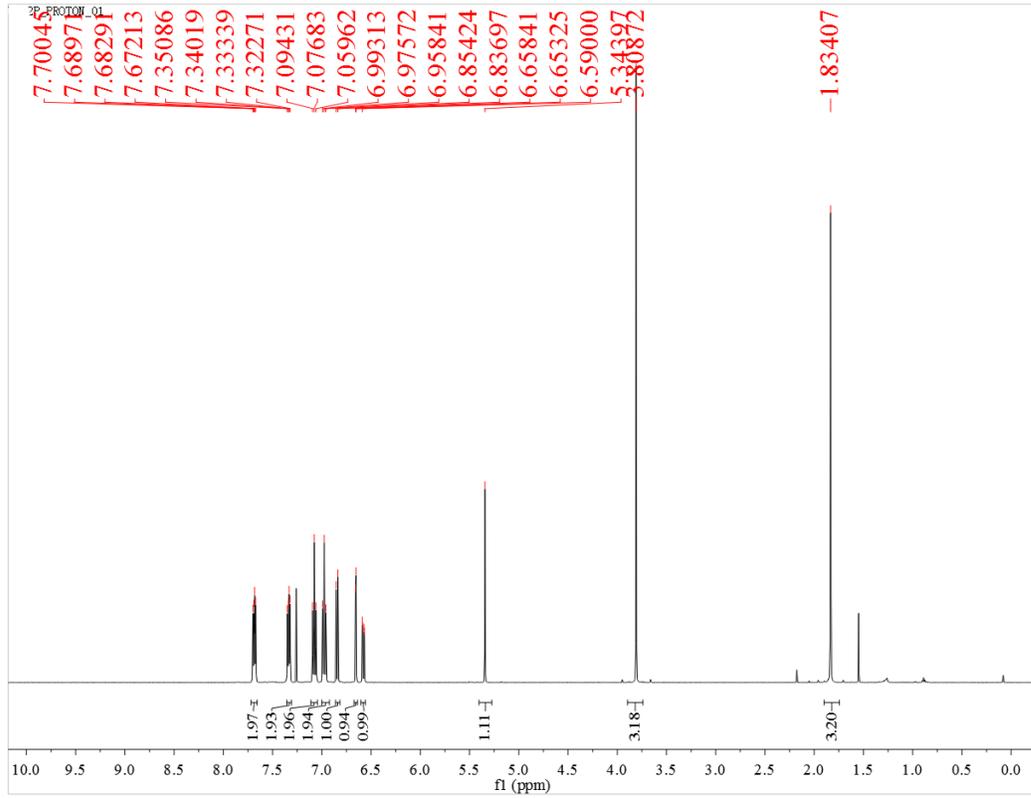
Compound 2e



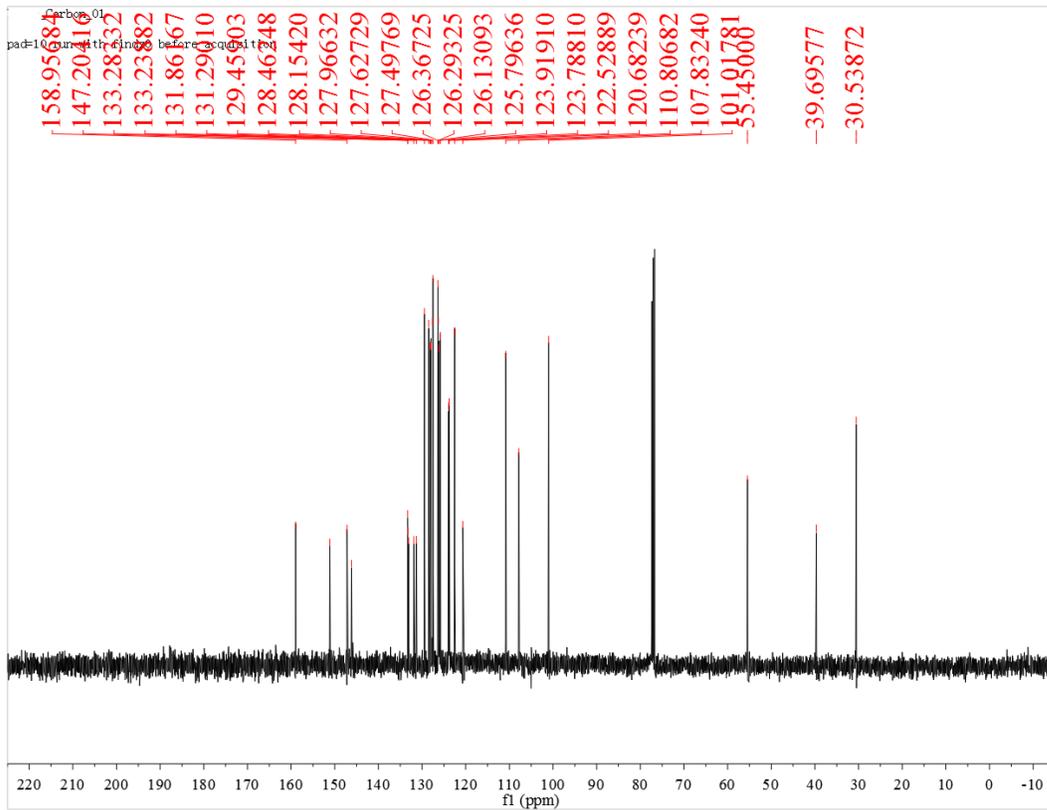
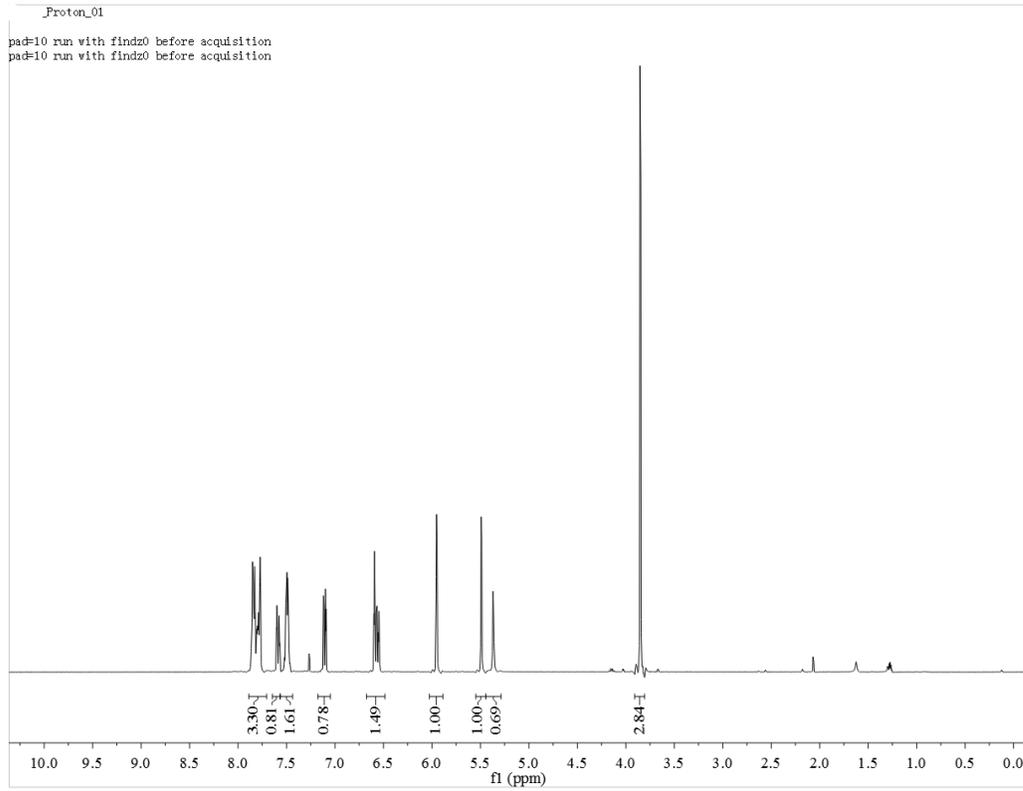
# Compound 2f



Compound 2g



# Compound 2h



# Compound 3

