

## Supporting Information

### Annulation of 2,3-diphenyl-4*H*-chromen-4-ones *via* photo-induced hydrogen evolution

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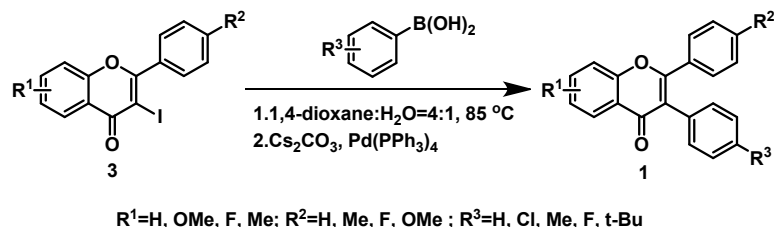
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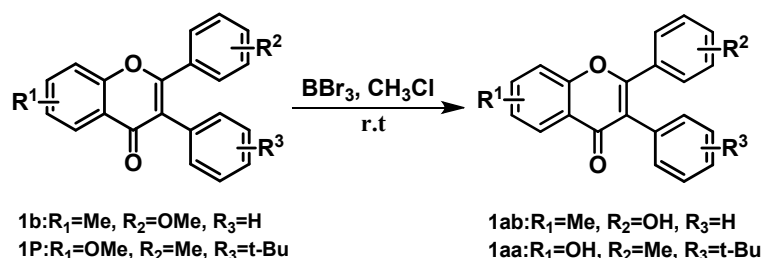
# 1. Experimental Procedures

## 1.1 Synthesis of 2,3-diphenyl-4*H*-chromen-4-one (**1**)<sup>1</sup>



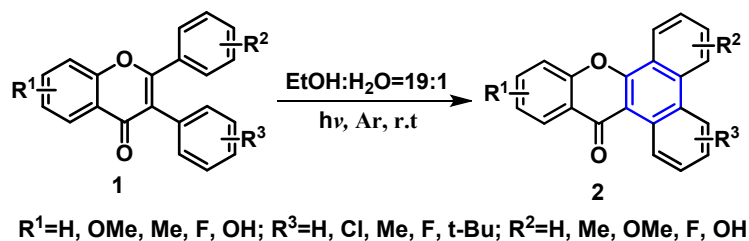
The mixture of 3-iodo-2-phenyl-4*H*-chromen-4-one **3a** (139 mg, 0.4 mmol), phenylboronic acid (122 mg, 1 mmol), Cs<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub> (652 mg, 2 mmol) and Pd(PPh<sub>3</sub>)<sub>4</sub> (1 % mmol, 11.5 mmg) was dissolved in a mixed solvent composed of dioxane and water (10 ml, 4:1, v/v). The reaction mixture was allowed to stir at 85 °C for 6 h under Ar. Then, the mixture was poured into the water (10 ml) and then extracted with ethyl acetate (20 ml×3). The combined organic layer dried over (Mg<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>) and concentrated under reduced pressure. The residue was purified by column chromatography (ethyl acetate/petroleum ether, 1:12) to give the desired product **1a** (yield, 83 %).

Similarly, compounds **1a-1z** and were prepared with the same method described above.



The cold diluted solution of BBr<sub>3</sub> (625 mg, 2.5 mmol) was added to a stirring solution of compound **1b** (171 mg, 0.5 mmol) or **1p** (199 mg, 0.5 mmol) in dry chloroform (10 mL) under the ice bath. The mixture was stirred at the ice bath for 30 min and refluxed for overnight. After cooling to room temperature, the excess BBr<sub>3</sub> was quenched by adding MeOH (5 mL). The volatiles were removed under the reduced pressure and purified by column chromatography to give **1b** (91.8 mg, 56 %) or **1p** (yield, 60 %).<sup>2</sup>

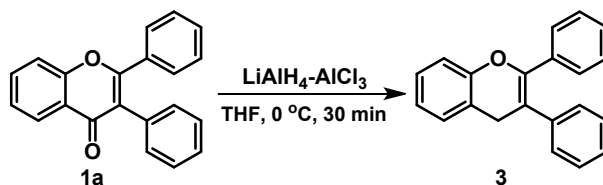
## 1.2 Synthesis of 14*H*-dibenzo[*a,c*]xanthen-14-one derivatives (2)



Substrate 2,3-diphenyl-4*H*-chromen-4-one **1a** (149 mg, 0.5 mmol) was dissolved in a mixture of EtOH-H<sub>2</sub>O (100 mL, 19:1, v/v) at ambient temperature in a quartz tube. The mixture was deaerated for 3 min by bubbling argon and irradiated with a high pressure mercury lamp (500 W) at room temperature for 3 h. Then the reaction mixture were removed under reduced pressure and purified by column chromatographed (ethyl acetate/petroleum ether, 1:50) to give **2a** (yield, 63 %).

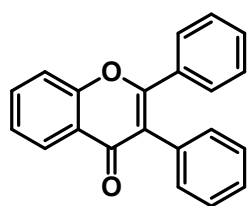
Similarly, compounds **2a-2z** were prepared with the same method as described above.

## 1.3 Synthesis of 2,3-diphenyl-4*H*-chromene (3)

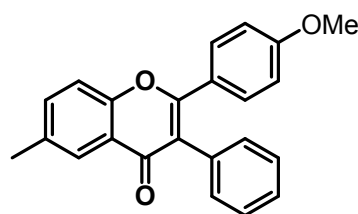


The mixture of 2,3-diphenyl-4*H*-chromen-4-one **1a** (149 mg, 0.5 mmol) and aluminium chloride (333 mg, 2.5 mmol) were dissolved in absolute THF (10 ml) at ice bath. Then the LiAlH<sub>4</sub> (6 ml) was added drop by drop. The solution was stirred at the room temperature for 30 min under Ar, poured into the saturated ammonium chloride to quench the reaction. The mixture was extracted with ethyl acetate (20 ml×3) and combined organic layer dried over (Mg<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>), concentrated under reduced pressure. Then the oily residue were purified by column chromatographed (petroleum ether) to give **3** (yield, 44 %).

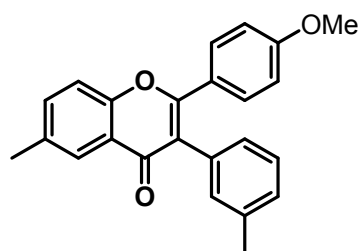
## 2. Characterization Data for Compounds



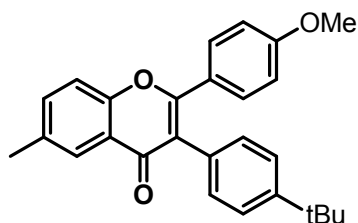
**2,3-diphenyl-4H-chromen-4-one (1a):**<sup>3</sup> Yield: 83%. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ (ppm) 8.30 (d, *J* = 7.9 Hz, 1H), 7.71 (t, *J* = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 7.54 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 7.42 (dd, *J* = 15.1, 7.7 Hz, 3H), 7.35-7.26 (m, 6H), 7.22 (d, *J* = 7.4 Hz, 2H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ (ppm) 177.48, 161.62, 156.22, 133.81, 133.46, 133.00, 131.37, 130.20, 129.72, 128.40, 128.22, 127.74, 126.55, 125.22, 123.69, 123.12, 118.11.



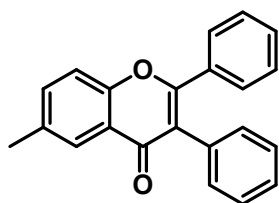
**2-(4-methoxyphenyl)-6-methyl-3-phenyl-4H-chromen-4-one (1b):**<sup>4</sup> Yield: 86%. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ (ppm) 8.05 (s, 1H), 7.49 (dd, *J* = 8.5, 1.8 Hz, 1H), 7.42 (d, *J* = 8.5 Hz, 1H), 7.36-7.27 (m, 5H), 7.25-7.22 (m, 2H), 6.76 (d, *J* = 8.8 Hz, 2H), 3.79 (s, 3H), 2.47 (s, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ (ppm) 177.48, 161.29, 160.94, 154.37, 134.94, 134.89, 133.59, 131.36, 131.33, 128.45, 127.55, 125.71, 125.69, 123.26, 122.03, 117.75, 113.58, 55.40, 21.12.



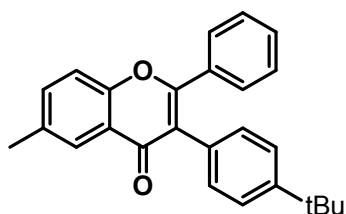
**2-(4-methoxyphenyl)-6-methyl-3-(*m*-tolyl)-4H-chromen-4-one (1c):** Yield: 89%. White solid. m.p. 135.7-137.1 °C. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ (ppm) 8.05 (s, 1H), 7.49 (d, *J* = 8.5 Hz, 1H), 7.42 (d, *J* = 8.5 Hz, 1H), 7.35 (d, *J* = 8.6 Hz, 2H), 7.20-7.18 (m, 1H), 7.10 (s, 2H), 6.97 (d, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 6.77 (d, *J* = 8.6 Hz, 2H), 3.80 (s, 3H), 2.48 (s, 3H), 2.32 (s, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ (ppm) 177.61, 161.08, 160.92, 154.36, 137.94, 134.89, 134.85, 133.45, 131.95, 131.30, 128.41, 128.37, 128.32, 125.77, 125.72, 123.26, 122.16, 117.73, 113.55, 55.41, 21.62, 21.14; IR (KBr), ν (cm<sup>-1</sup>) 2914, 2565, 2038, 1778, 1608, 1485, 1363, 1257, 1024, 825, 696, 522; HRMS (ESI): calc. for C<sub>24</sub>H<sub>20</sub>O<sub>3</sub> [M+Na]<sup>+</sup> 379.1310, found 379.1308.



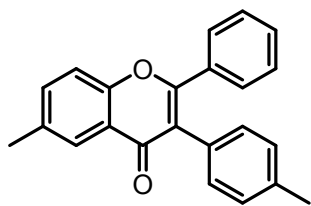
**3-(4-(*tert*-butyl)phenyl)-2-(4-methoxyphenyl)-6-methyl-4*H*-chromen-4-one (1d):** Yield: 92% (146.5 mg). White soild. m.p. 169.8-171.6 °C. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ (ppm) 8.04 (s, 1H), 7.48 (dd, *J* = 8.5, 2.0 Hz, 1H), 7.41 (d, *J* = 8.5 Hz, 1H), 7.36-7.31 (m, 4H), 7.15 (d, *J* = 8.6 Hz, 2H), 6.76 (d, *J* = 8.6 Hz, 2H), 3.79 (s, 3H), 2.47 (s, 3H), 1.31 (s, 9H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ (ppm) 177.62, 161.11, 160.87, 154.38, 150.35, 134.84, 134.79, 131.35, 130.89, 130.38, 125.95, 125.75, 125.40, 123.31, 121.95, 117.72, 113.51, 55.41, 34.68, 31.49, 21.13; IR (KBr), ν (cm<sup>-1</sup>) 2962, 1606, 1500, 1363, 1255, 1022, 925, 829, 594, 532; HRMS (ESI): calc. for C<sub>27</sub>H<sub>26</sub>O<sub>3</sub> [M+Na]<sup>+</sup> 421.1780, found 421.1773.



**6-methyl-2,3-diphenyl-4*H*-chromen-4-one (1e):**<sup>4</sup> Yield: 81%. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ (ppm) 8.12 (s, 1H), 7.56 (dd, *J* = 8.4, 1.7 Hz, 1H), 7.48 (d, *J* = 8.6 Hz, 1H), 7.44 (d, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 7.41-7.27 (m, 8H), 2.53 (s, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ (ppm) 177.49, 161.47, 154.48, 135.12, 135.06, 133.56, 133.17, 131.39, 130.09, 129.69, 128.36, 128.17, 127.66, 125.76, 123.32, 122.93, 117.86, 21.14.

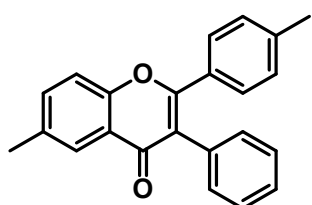


**3-(4-(*tert*-butyl)phenyl)-6-methyl-2-phenyl-4*H*-chromen-4-one (1f):** Yield: 91%. White soild. m.p. 185.6-188.7 °C. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ (ppm) 8.06 (s, 1H), 7.48 (d, *J* = 8.5 Hz, 1H), 7.43-7.37 (m, 3H), 7.30 (d, *J* = 8.2 Hz, 3H), 7.25 (d, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 7.14 (d, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 2.47 (s, 3H), 1.30 (s, 9H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ (ppm) δ 177.61, 161.25, 154.44, 150.44, 134.97, 134.94, 133.71, 130.90, 129.95, 129.68, 128.05, 125.74, 125.28, 123.31, 122.77, 117.80, 34.64, 31.44, 21.11. IR (KBr), ν (cm<sup>-1</sup>) 2960, 1639, 1485, 1367, 1230, 1049, 929, 837, 696, 553. HRMS (ESI): calc. for C<sub>26</sub>H<sub>24</sub>O<sub>2</sub> [M+Na]<sup>+</sup> 391.1674, found 391.1670.



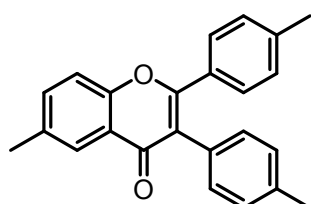
**6-methyl-2-phenyl-3-(*p*-tolyl)-4*H*-chromen-4-one (1g):**

Yield: 87%. White soild. m.p. 197.8-201.1 °C. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ (ppm) 8.06 (s, 1H), 7.49 (dd, *J* = 8.5, 2.0 Hz, 1H), 7.44-7.38 (m, 3H), 7.32 (d, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 1H), 7.29-7.25 (m, 2H), 7.10 (s, 4H), 2.47 (s, 3H), 2.33 (s, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ (ppm) 177.64, 161.24, 154.48, 137.32, 135.02, 134.97, 133.73, 131.19, 130.05, 129.98, 129.68, 129.15, 128.15, 125.78, 123.31, 122.86, 117.83, 21.44, 21.12; IR (KBr), ν (cm<sup>-1</sup>) 2920, 1637, 1485, 1363, 1228, 1045, 925, 819, 698, 511; HRMS (ESI): calc. for C<sub>23</sub>H<sub>18</sub>O<sub>2</sub> [M+H]<sup>+</sup> 327.1385, found 327.1378.



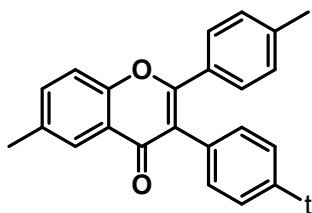
**6-methyl-3-phenyl-2-(*p*-tolyl)-4*H*-chromen-4-one (1h):<sup>4</sup>**

Yield: 83%. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ (ppm) 8.06 (s, 1H), 7.50 (d, *J* = 8.5 Hz, 1H), 7.42 (d, *J* = 8.5 Hz, 1H), 7.31-7.25 (m, 5H), 7.22 (d, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 7.06 (d, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 2.48 (s, 3H), 2.32 (s, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ (ppm) 177.52, 161.61, 154.49, 140.45, 135.02, 134.96, 133.45, 131.40, 130.70, 129.63, 128.91, 128.38, 127.58, 125.77, 123.35, 122.59, 117.84, 21.54, 21.14.



**6-methyl-2,3-di-*p*-tolyl-4*H*-chromen-4-one (1i):** Yield:

86%. White soild. m.p. 203.1-205.9 °C. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ (ppm) 8.05 (s, 1H), 7.48 (dd, *J* = 8.5, 2.0 Hz, 1H), 7.41 (d, *J* = 8.5 Hz, 1H), 7.30 (d, *J* = 8.2 Hz, 2H), 7.11 (s, 4H), 7.07 (d, *J* = 8.2 Hz, 2H), 2.47 (s, 3H), 2.33 (d, *J* = 5.6 Hz, 6H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ (ppm) 177.65, 161.35, 154.45, 140.31, 137.22, 134.90, 134.86, 131.15, 130.82, 130.29, 129.59, 129.16, 128.88, 125.75, 123.30, 122.48, 117.79, 21.53, 21.45, 21.11; IR (KBr), ν (cm<sup>-1</sup>) 2920, 1795, 1639, 1481, 1361, 1224, 1045, 925, 817, 634, 509; HRMS (ESI): calc. for C<sub>24</sub>H<sub>20</sub>O<sub>2</sub> [M+H]<sup>+</sup> 341.1542, found 341.1531.

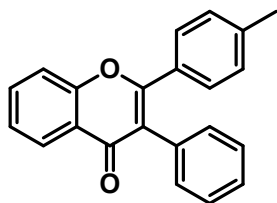


**3-(4-(*tert*-butyl)phenyl)-6-methyl-2-(*p*-tolyl)-4*H*-**

**chromen-4-one (1j):** Yield: 94%. White solid. m.p.

188.6-191.1 °C. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ (ppm)

8.05 (s, 1H), 7.48 (dd, *J* = 8.5, 1.9 Hz, 1H), 7.41 (d, *J* = 8.5 Hz, 1H), 7.30 (dd, *J* = 15.7, 8.2 Hz, 4H), 7.14 (d, *J* = 8.1 Hz, 2H), 7.05 (d, *J* = 8.1 Hz, 2H), 2.47 (s, 3H), 2.32 (s, 3H), 1.31 (s, 9H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ (ppm) 177.67, 161.36, 154.44, 150.38, 140.29, 134.88, 134.86, 130.87, 130.82, 130.19, 129.62, 128.82, 125.73, 125.33, 123.31, 122.42, 117.78, 34.67, 31.48, 21.55, 21.12; IR (KBr), ν (cm<sup>-1</sup>) 3055, 2952, 1892, 1645, 1483, 1363, 1228, 1105, 1020, 929, 817, 659, 551; HRMS (ESI): calc. for C<sub>27</sub>H<sub>26</sub>O<sub>2</sub> [M+Na]<sup>+</sup> 405.1830, found 405.1824.



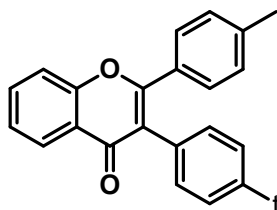
**3-phenyl-2-(*p*-tolyl)-4*H*-chromen-4-one (1k):**<sup>5</sup> Yield: 84%.

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ (ppm) 8.30 (dd, *J* = 7.9, 1.5 Hz,

1H), 7.71-7.68 (m, Hz, 1H), 7.53 (d, *J* = 8.3 Hz, 1H), 7.44-

7.41 (m, 1H), 7.33-7.28 (m, 5H), 7.25-7.22 (m, 2H), 7.08 (d, *J*

= 8.0 Hz, 2H), 2.33 (s, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (150 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ (ppm) 177.47, 161.77, 156.26, 140.57, 133.68, 133.32, 131.39, 130.63, 129.66, 128.96, 128.40, 127.65, 126.55, 125.11, 123.77, 122.82, 118.07, 21.52.



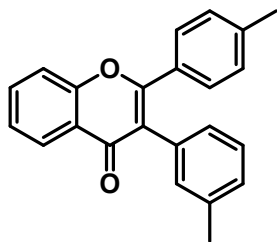
**3-(4-(*tert*-butyl)phenyl)-2-(*p*-tolyl)-4*H*-chromen-4-one**

**(1l):** Yield: 92%. White solid. m.p. 148.2-150.8 °C. <sup>1</sup>H

NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ (ppm) 8.33-8.24 (m, 1H), 7.69

(dd, *J* = 11.3, 4.2 Hz, 1H), 7.52 (d, *J* = 8.3 Hz, 1H), 7.41

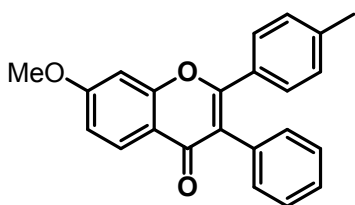
(t, *J* = 7.3 Hz, 1H), 7.32 (dd, *J* = 10.8, 8.4 Hz, 4H), 7.16 (d, *J* = 8.2 Hz, 2H), 7.07 (d, *J* = 8.2 Hz, 2H), 2.34 (s, 3H), 1.32 (s, 9H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ (ppm) 177.65, 161.48, 156.13, 150.45, 140.42, 133.60, 130.81, 130.64, 129.99, 129.63, 128.85, 126.47, 125.35, 125.01, 123.62, 122.54, 118.01, 34.67, 31.47, 21.56; IR (KBr), ν (cm<sup>-1</sup>) 3037, 2956, 1639, 1465, 1377, 1228, 1107, 1016, 879, 765, 621, 563; HRMS (ESI): calc. for C<sub>26</sub>H<sub>24</sub>O<sub>2</sub> [M+Na]<sup>+</sup> 391.1674, found 391.1672.



**3-(*m*-tolyl)-2-(*p*-tolyl)-4*H*-chromen-4-one (1m):** Yield: 90%.

Yellow solid. m.p. 159.6-161.3 °C. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ (ppm) 8.27 (dd, *J* = 7.9, 1.3 Hz, 1H), 7.68-7.64 (m, 1H), 7.50 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 7.39 (t, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 7.30 (d, *J* = 8.2 Hz, 2H), 7.17 (t, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.12-7.05 (m, 4H),

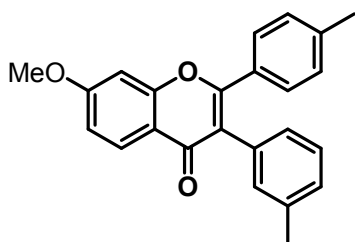
6.96 (d, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 2.31 (d, *J* = 3.9 Hz, 6H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (150 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ (ppm) 177.53, 161.50, 156.08, 140.44, 137.81, 133.60, 133.04, 131.87, 130.48, 129.52, 128.83, 128.43, 128.26, 128.23, 126.38, 125.00, 123.56, 122.76, 117.98, 21.54, 21.47; IR (KBr), ν (cm<sup>-1</sup>) 3028, 2916, 1818, 1635, 1461, 1377, 1220, 1137, 1051, 827, 759, 702, 501; HRMS (ESI): calc. for C<sub>23</sub>H<sub>18</sub>O<sub>2</sub> [M+Na]<sup>+</sup> 349.1204, found 349.1207.



**7-methoxy-3-phenyl-2-(*p*-tolyl)-4*H*-chromen-4-one**

**(1n):**<sup>5</sup> Yield: 91%. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ (ppm) 8.18 (d, *J* = 8.9 Hz, 1H), 7.31-7.24 (m, 5H), 7.24-7.17 (m, 2H), 7.06 (d, *J* = 8.1 Hz, 2H), 6.98 (dd,

*J* = 8.9, 2.4 Hz, 1H), 6.91 (d, *J* = 2.3 Hz, 1H), 3.91 (s, 3H), 2.32 (s, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ (ppm) 176.84, 164.19, 161.27, 157.86, 140.37, 133.31, 131.35, 130.57, 129.53, 128.89, 128.33, 127.86, 127.54, 122.52, 117.53, 114.53, 100.14, 55.94, 21.52.



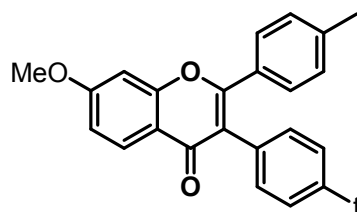
**7-methoxy-3-(*m*-tolyl)-2-(*p*-tolyl)-4*H*-chromen-4-one**

**(1o):** Yield: 93%. White solid. m.p. 153.7-154.9 °C. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ (ppm) 8.17 (d, *J* = 8.8 Hz, 1H), 7.28 (d, *J* = 8.1 Hz, 2H), 7.16 (t, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 7.07 (dd, *J* = 20.6, 8.5 Hz, 4H), 6.98-6.93 (m, 2H), 6.90

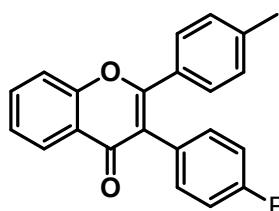
(d, *J* = 2.0 Hz, 1H), 3.90 (s, 3H), 2.31 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 6H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (150 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ (ppm) 176.94, 164.14, 161.07, 157.81, 140.28, 137.75, 133.13, 131.92, 130.57, 129.45, 128.82, 128.36, 128.27, 128.22, 127.80, 122.60, 117.48, 114.47, 100.09, 55.89, 21.54, 21.48; IR (KBr), ν (cm<sup>-1</sup>) 3024, 2918, 1919, 1629, 1438, 1355,



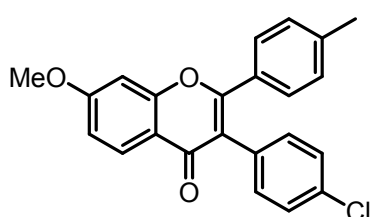
1261, 1170, 1016, 829, 702, 528; HRMS (ESI): calc. for C<sub>24</sub>H<sub>20</sub>O<sub>3</sub> [M+Na]<sup>+</sup> 379.1310, found 379.1308.



**3-(4-(*tert*-butyl)phenyl)-7-methoxy-2-(*p*-tolyl)-4*H*-chromen-4-one (1p):** Yield: 96%. White soild. m.p. 137.5-140.2 °C. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ (ppm) 8.18 (d, *J* = 8.9 Hz, 1H), 7.30 (dd, *J* = 13.3, 8.2 Hz, 4H), 7.14 (d, *J* = 8.2 Hz, 2H), 7.05 (d, *J* = 8.2 Hz, 2H), 6.98 (dd, *J* = 8.9, 2.3 Hz, 1H), 6.91 (d, *J* = 2.2 Hz, 1H), 3.92 (s, 3H), 2.33 (s, 3H), 1.31 (s, 9H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>), δ (ppm) 177.05, 164.14, 161.05, 157.85, 150.37, 140.25, 130.85, 130.74, 130.07, 129.56, 128.84, 127.90, 125.31, 122.38, 117.56, 114.47, 100.10, 55.94, 34.67, 31.48, 21.56; IR (KBr), ν (cm<sup>-1</sup>) 2958, 1915, 1620, 1438, 1367, 1253, 1022, 929, 827, 621, 563, 476; HRMS (ESI): calc. for C<sub>26</sub>H<sub>23</sub>O<sub>3</sub> [M+H]<sup>+</sup> 399.1960, found 399.1957.

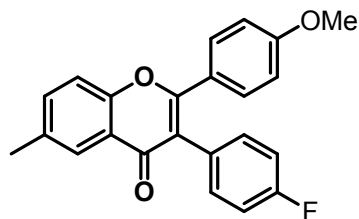


**3-(4-fluorophenyl)-2-(*p*-tolyl)-4*H*-chromen-4-one (1q):** Yield: 85%. White soild. m.p. 170.1-172.9 °C. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ (ppm) 8.27 (d, *J* = 7.9 Hz, 1H), 7.68 (d, *J* = 7.3 Hz, 1H), 7.52 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 7.42 (t, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 7.28 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 7.20 (dd, *J* = 8.0, 5.7 Hz, 2H), 7.09 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 7.00 (t, *J* = 8.6 Hz, 2H), 2.34 (s, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ (ppm) 177.40, 162.36 (d, <sup>1</sup>*J* = 245.33 Hz), 161.96, 156.16, 140.76, 133.80, 133.06 (d, <sup>3</sup>*J* = 8.03 Hz), 130.35, 129.59, 129.10 (d, <sup>4</sup>*J* = 3.74 Hz), 129.05, 126.44, 125.21, 123.55, 121.70, 118.08, 115.45 (d, <sup>2</sup>*J* = 21.33 Hz), 21.53; IR (KBr), ν (cm<sup>-1</sup>) 3041, 1917, 1762, 1631, 1463, 1377, 1226, 1043, 1012, 875, 765, 715, 621, 514; HRMS (ESI): calc. for C<sub>22</sub>H<sub>15</sub>FO<sub>2</sub> [M+Na]<sup>+</sup> 353.0954, found 353.0952.



**3-(4-chlorophenyl)-7-methoxy-2-(*p*-tolyl)-4*H*-chromen-4-one (1r):** Yield: 75%. Yellow soild. m.p. 188.1-189.6 °C. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ (ppm) 8.17 (d, *J* = 8.9 Hz, 1H), 7.27 (dd, *J* = 8.3, 1.8 Hz, 4H), 7.16 (d, *J* = 8.5 Hz, 2H), 7.10 (d, *J* = 8.1 Hz, 2H), 7.00

(dd,  $J = 8.9, 2.4$  Hz, 1H), 6.92 (d,  $J = 2.3$  Hz, 1H), 3.92 (s, 3H), 2.35 (s, 3H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  (ppm) 176.69, 164.40, 161.69, 157.90, 140.76, 133.59, 132.78, 131.81, 130.27, 129.54, 129.12, 128.63, 127.88, 121.40, 117.37, 114.76, 100.22, 55.99, 21.56; IR (KBr),  $\nu$  ( $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ) 3041, 1627, 1444, 1377, 1255, 1091, 1012, 929, 823, 511; HRMS (ESI): calc. for  $\text{C}_{23}\text{H}_{17}\text{ClO}_3$   $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$  377.0944, found 377.0939.



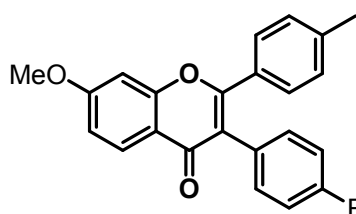
**3-(4-fluorophenyl)-2-(4-methoxyphenyl)-6-methyl-**

**4H-chromen-4-one (1s):** Yield: 75%. Gray soild. m.p.

179.2-182.4 °C.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (600 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  (ppm)

8.04 (s, 1H), 7.50 (dd,  $J = 8.5, 1.4$  Hz, 1H), 7.42 (d,  $J =$

8.5 Hz, 1H), 7.32 (d,  $J = 8.7$  Hz, 2H), 7.20 (dd,  $J = 8.2, 5.6$  Hz, 2H), 7.03-7.00 (m, 2H), 6.79 (d,  $J = 8.7$  Hz, 2H), 3.80 (s, 3H), 2.47 (s, 3H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (150 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  (ppm) 177.40, 162.30 (d,  $^1J = 244.92$  Hz), 161.48, 161.06, 154.36, 135.08, 135.01, 133.08 (d,  $^3J = 8.12$  Hz), 131.31, 129.46 (d,  $^4J = 3.44$  Hz), 125.68, 125.50, 123.16, 121.02, 117.77, 115.50 (d,  $^2J = 21.51$  Hz), 113.71, 55.43, 21.12; IR (KBr),  $\nu$  ( $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ) 2960, 1899, 1610, 1508, 1367, 1251, 1043, 927, 833, 522; HRMS (ESI): calc. for  $\text{C}_{23}\text{H}_{17}\text{FO}_2$   $[\text{M}+\text{Na}]^+$  383.1059, found 383.1059.



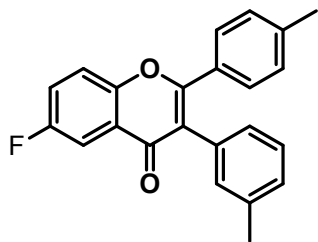
**3-(4-fluorophenyl)-7-methoxy-2-(p-tolyl)-4H-**

**chromen-4-one (1t):** Yield: 82%. White soild. m.p.

208.1-210.5 °C.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  (ppm)

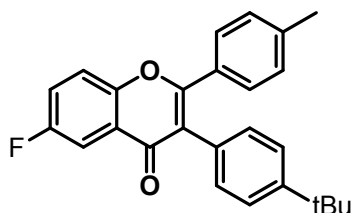
8.17 (d,  $J = 8.9$  Hz, 1H), 7.28-7.25 (m, 2H), 7.19 (dd,

$J = 8.5, 5.6$  Hz, 2H), 7.09 (d,  $J = 8.1$  Hz, 2H), 7.02-6.97 (m, 3H), 6.92 (d,  $J = 2.3$  Hz, 1H), 3.92 (s, 3H), 2.34 (s, 3H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  (ppm) 176.81, 164.31, 162.32 (d,  $^1J = 245.07$  Hz), 161.52, 157.88, 140.59, 133.07 (d,  $^3J = 8.03$  Hz), 130.40, 129.52, 129.16 (d,  $^4J = 3.43$  Hz), 129.03, 127.84, 121.51, 117.41, 115.41 (d,  $^2J = 21.36$  Hz), 114.68, 100.17, 55.97, 21.54; IR (KBr),  $\nu$  ( $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ) 2977, 1629, 1506, 1380, 1255, 1012, 929, 829, 603, 518; HRMS (ESI): calc. for  $\text{C}_{23}\text{H}_{17}\text{FO}_3$   $[\text{M}+\text{Na}]^+$  383.1059, found 383.1063.



**6-fluoro-3-(*m*-tolyl)-2-(*p*-tolyl)-4*H*-chromen-4-one (1u):**

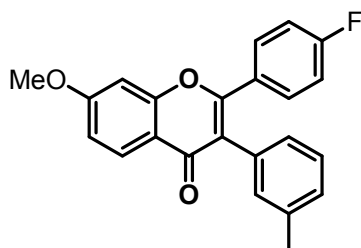
Yield: 91%. White soild. m.p. 126.3-128.6 °C. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ (ppm) 7.91 (dd, *J* = 8.1, 2.8 Hz, 1H), 7.53 (dd, *J* = 9.0, 3.9 Hz, 1H), 7.44-7.39 (m, 1H), 7.29 (d, *J* = 7.9 Hz, 2H), 7.18 (t, *J* = 7.4 Hz, 1H), 7.11-7.07 (m, 4H), 6.95 (d, *J* = 7.4 Hz, 1H), 2.32 (d, *J* = 8.5 Hz, 6H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>), δ (ppm) 176.92, 161.87, 159.65 (d, <sup>1</sup>*J* = 244.47 Hz), 152.38, 140.74, 137.99, 132.78, 131.87, 130.32, 129.58, 128.95, 128.64, 128.39, 128.25, 124.78 (d, <sup>3</sup>*J* = 7.39 Hz), 122.23, 121.91 (d, <sup>2</sup>*J* = 25.35 Hz), 120.15 (d, <sup>3</sup>*J* = 7.98 Hz), 111.22 (d, <sup>2</sup>*J* = 23.38 Hz), 21.59, 21.56; IR (KBr), ν (cm<sup>-1</sup>) 3035, 2921, 1627, 1481, 1359, 1272, 1188, 1095, 962, 757, 711, 495; HRMS (ESI): calc. for C<sub>23</sub>H<sub>17</sub>FO<sub>2</sub> [M+Na]<sup>+</sup> 367.1110, found 367.1111.



**3-(4-(*tert*-butyl)phenyl)-6-fluoro-2-(*p*-tolyl)-4*H*-**

**chromen-4-one (1v):** Yield: 77%. White soild. m.p.

170.8-173.5 °C. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ (ppm) 7.91 (dd, *J* = 8.3, 3.1 Hz, 1H), 7.53 (dd, *J* = 9.1, 4.2 Hz, 1H), 7.43-7.38 (m, 1H), 7.35-7.28 (m, 4H), 7.16-7.13 (m, 2H), 7.07 (d, *J* = 8.1 Hz, 2H), 2.34 (s, 3H), 1.32 (s, 9H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ (ppm) 176.94, 161.81, 159.63 (d, <sup>1</sup>*J* = 244.56 Hz), 152.39, 150.66, 140.67, 130.79, 130.42, 129.69, 129.63, 128.92, 125.43, 124.78 (d, <sup>3</sup>*J* = 7.31 Hz), 121.97 (d, <sup>4</sup>*J* = 2.25 Hz), 121.84 (d, <sup>2</sup>*J* = 23.12 Hz), 120.12 (d, <sup>3</sup>*J* = 7.94 Hz), 111.22 (d, <sup>2</sup>*J* = 23.41 Hz), 34.71, 31.47, 21.58; IR (KBr), ν (cm<sup>-1</sup>) 3047, 2958, 1919, 1635, 1481, 1369, 1272, 1103, 1043, 941, 831, 559; HRMS (ESI): calc. for C<sub>26</sub>H<sub>23</sub>FO<sub>2</sub> [M+Na]<sup>+</sup> 409.1580, found 409.1578.

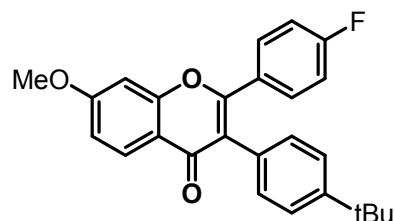


**2-(4-fluorophenyl)-7-methoxy-3-(*m*-tolyl)-4*H*-**

**chromen-4-one (1w):** Yield: 84%. Yellow soild. m.p.

210.1-213.5 °C. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ (ppm) 8.18 (d, *J* = 8.9 Hz, 1H), 7.39 (dd, *J* = 8.5, 5.5 Hz, 2H), 7.18 (t, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.12-7.06 (m, 2H), 7.01-6.91 (m, 5H), 3.92 (s, 3H), 2.30 (s, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ (ppm) 176.80,

164.31, 163.46 (d,  $^1J = 250.15$  Hz), 159.87, 157.79, 138.00, 132.79, 131.88, 131.73 (d,  $^3J = 8.59$  Hz), 129.63 (d,  $^4J = 3.48$  Hz), 128.62, 128.38, 128.27, 127.93, 122.98, 117.49, 115.33 (d,  $^2J = 21.76$  Hz), 114.64, 100.14, 55.96, 21.54; IR (KBr),  $\nu$  ( $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ) 3022, 2916, 1629, 1444, 1375, 1261, 1012, 948, 835, 700, 534; HRMS (ESI): calc. for  $\text{C}_{23}\text{H}_{17}\text{FO}_3$   $[\text{M}+\text{Na}]^+ 383.1059$ , found 383.1066.

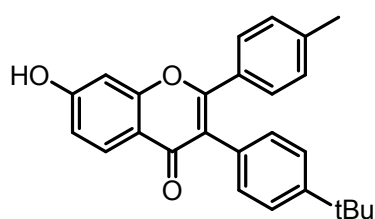


**3-(4-(*tert*-butyl)phenyl)-2-(4-fluorophenyl)-7-**

**methoxy-4*H*-chromen-4-one (1x):** Yield: 60%.

White soild. m.p. 179.9-182.5 °C.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (600

MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  (ppm) 8.18 (d,  $J = 8.8$  Hz, 1H), 7.38 (dd,  $J = 8.2, 5.6$  Hz, 2H), 7.32 (d,  $J = 8.0$  Hz, 2H), 7.12 (d,  $J = 8.0$  Hz, 2H), 6.99 (dd,  $J = 8.8, 1.6$  Hz, 1H), 6.93 (dd,  $J = 17.4, 8.9$  Hz, 3H), 3.92 (s, 3H), 1.31 (s, 9H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (150 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  (ppm) 176.86, 163.44 (d,  $^1J = 251.22$  Hz), 159.89, 157.79, 150.67, 131.78 (d,  $^3J = 8.31$  Hz), 130.85, 129.75 (d,  $^4J = 3.15$  Hz), 129.70, 127.95, 125.42, 122.73, 117.51, 115.30 (d,  $^2J = 21.75$  Hz), 114.61, 100.12, 55.96, 34.69, 31.45; IR (KBr),  $\nu$  ( $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ) 3060, 2962, 1625, 1444, 1384, 1261, 1109, 1024, 931, 833, 619, 518; HRMS (ESI): calc. for  $\text{C}_{26}\text{H}_{23}\text{FO}_3$   $[\text{M}+\text{Na}]^+ 425.1529$ , found 425.1525.

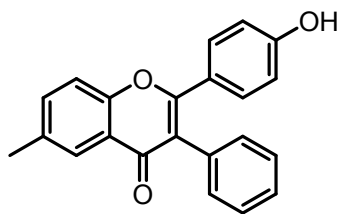


**3-(4-(*tert*-butyl)phenyl)-7-hydroxy-2-(*p*-tolyl)-4*H*-**

**chromen-4-one (1y):** Yield: 62%. White soild. m.p.

296.6-298.5 °C.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (600 MHz, DMSO)  $\delta$  (ppm)

10.81 (s, 1H), 7.92 (d,  $J = 8.7$  Hz, 1H), 7.31 (d,  $J = 8.2$  Hz, 2H), 7.26 (d,  $J = 8.2$  Hz, 2H), 7.11 (d,  $J = 8.0$  Hz, 2H), 7.06 (d,  $J = 8.0$  Hz, 2H), 6.94 (dd,  $J = 8.7, 2.0$  Hz, 1H), 6.90 (d,  $J = 2.0$  Hz, 1H), 2.27 (s, 3H), 1.27 (s, 9H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz, DMSO)  $\delta$  (ppm) 175.54, 162.71, 160.42, 157.26, 149.54, 139.84, 130.76, 130.27, 130.26, 129.22, 128.64, 127.16, 124.67, 121.38, 115.53, 115.10, 102.15, 34.25, 31.12, 20.88; IR (KBr),  $\nu$  ( $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ) 3201, 2960, 1618, 1452, 1271, 1172, 931, 833, 702, 513; HRMS (ESI): calc. for  $\text{C}_{26}\text{H}_{24}\text{O}_3$   $[\text{M}+\text{Na}]^+ 407.1623$ , found 407.1619.

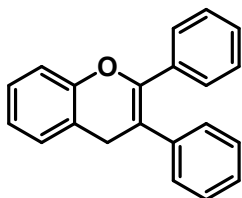


**2-(4-hydroxyphenyl)-6-methyl-3-phenyl-4H-chromen-**

**4-one (1z):** Yield: 66%. White solid. m.p. 277.6-279.5 °C.

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (600 MHz, DMSO)  $\delta$  (ppm) 10.01 (s, 1H), 7.87 (s, 1H), 7.65 (dd,  $J = 8.6, 1.9$  Hz, 1H), 7.61 (d,  $J = 8.5$  Hz,

1H), 7.33-7.28 (m, 3H), 7.23-7.20 (m, 2H), 7.17 (dd,  $J = 7.9, 1.3$  Hz, 2H), 6.67-6.65 (m, 2H), 2.45 (s, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (150 MHz, DMSO)  $\delta$  (ppm) 175.96, 161.32, 159.15, 153.69, 135.14, 134.72, 133.64, 131.14, 131.11, 127.98, 127.16, 124.50, 123.25, 122.42, 120.99, 118.06, 114.91, 20.47; IR (KBr),  $\nu$  (cm<sup>-1</sup>) 3168, 1606, 1434, 1367, 1280, 1176, 1060, 933, 844, 740, 595, 516; HRMS (ESI): calc. for C<sub>22</sub>H<sub>16</sub>O<sub>3</sub> [M+Na]<sup>+</sup> 351.0977, found 351.0933.



**2,3-diphenyl-4H-chromene (3):** Yield: 44%. White solid. m.p.

77.6-79.5 °C. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  (ppm) 7.32 -7.28 (m, 2H), 7.21-7.10 (m, 5H), 7.04 (d,  $J = 7.6$  Hz, 1H), 3.84 (s, 1H);

<sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  (ppm) 151.93, 146.86, 140.38,

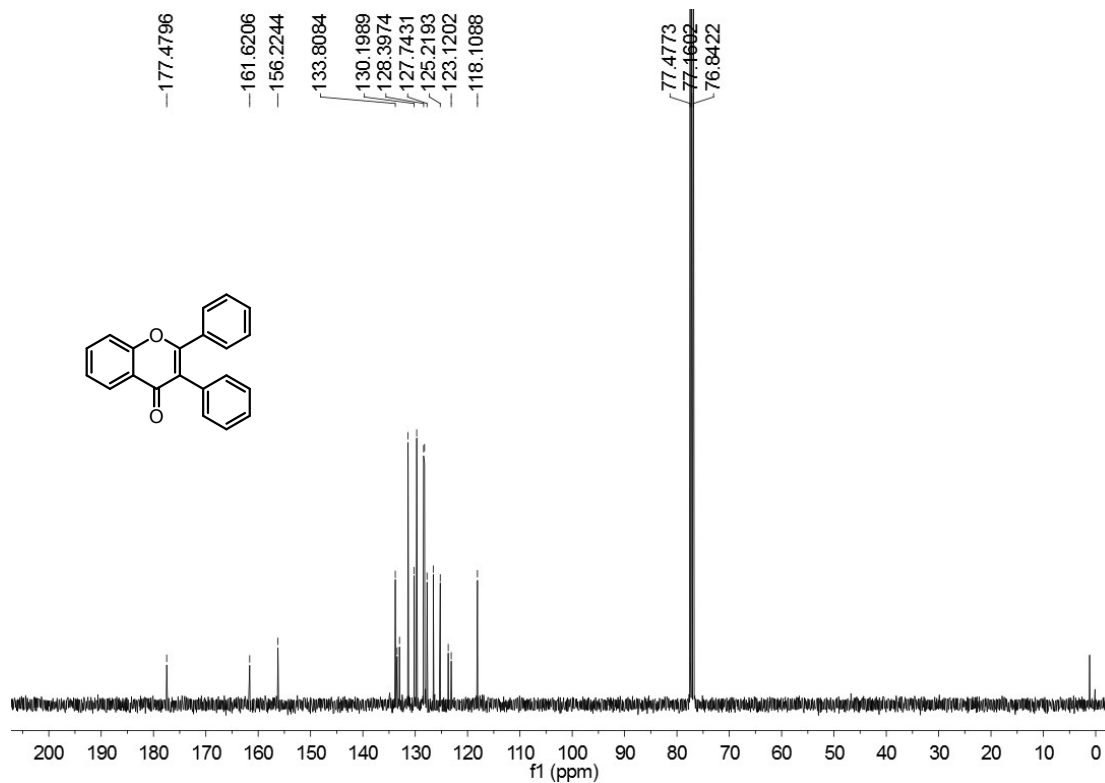
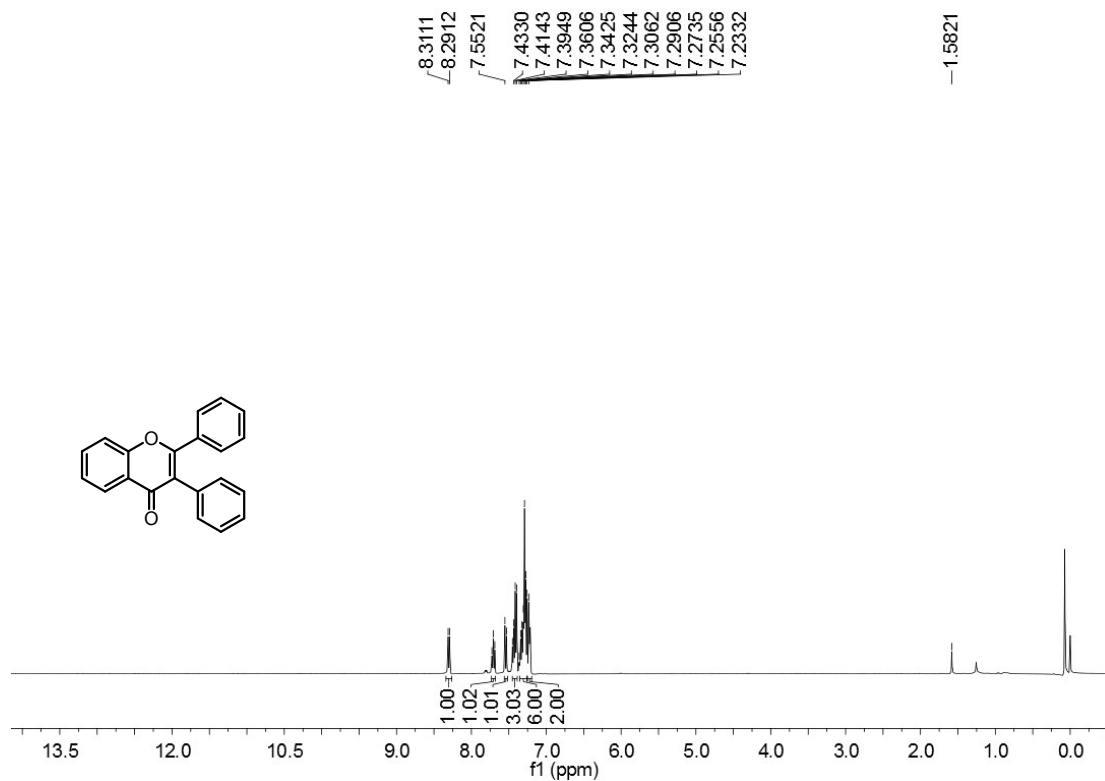
135.26, 129.52, 129.02, 128.67, 128.37, 128.21, 127.92, 127.64, 126.70, 123.43, 120.70, 116.27, 110.59, 31.23; IR (KBr),  $\nu$  (cm<sup>-1</sup>) 3053, 2920, 1946, 1585, 1488, 1357, 1242, 1114, 995, 756, 655, 545.

### 3 . References

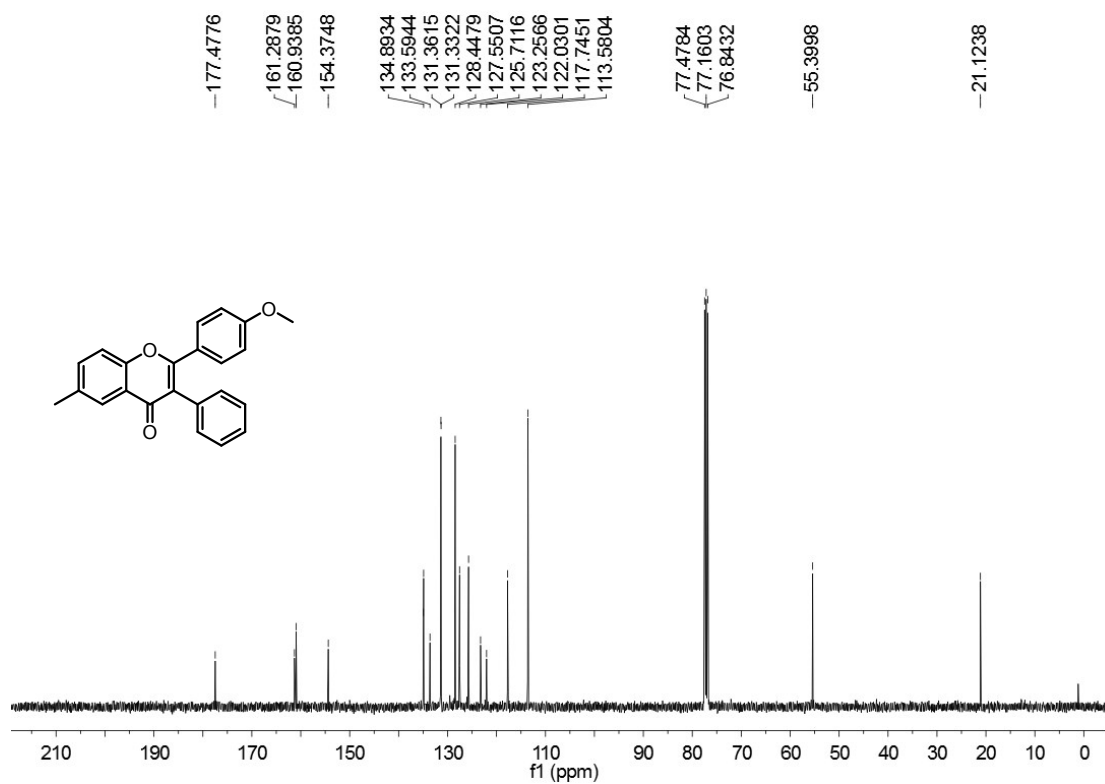
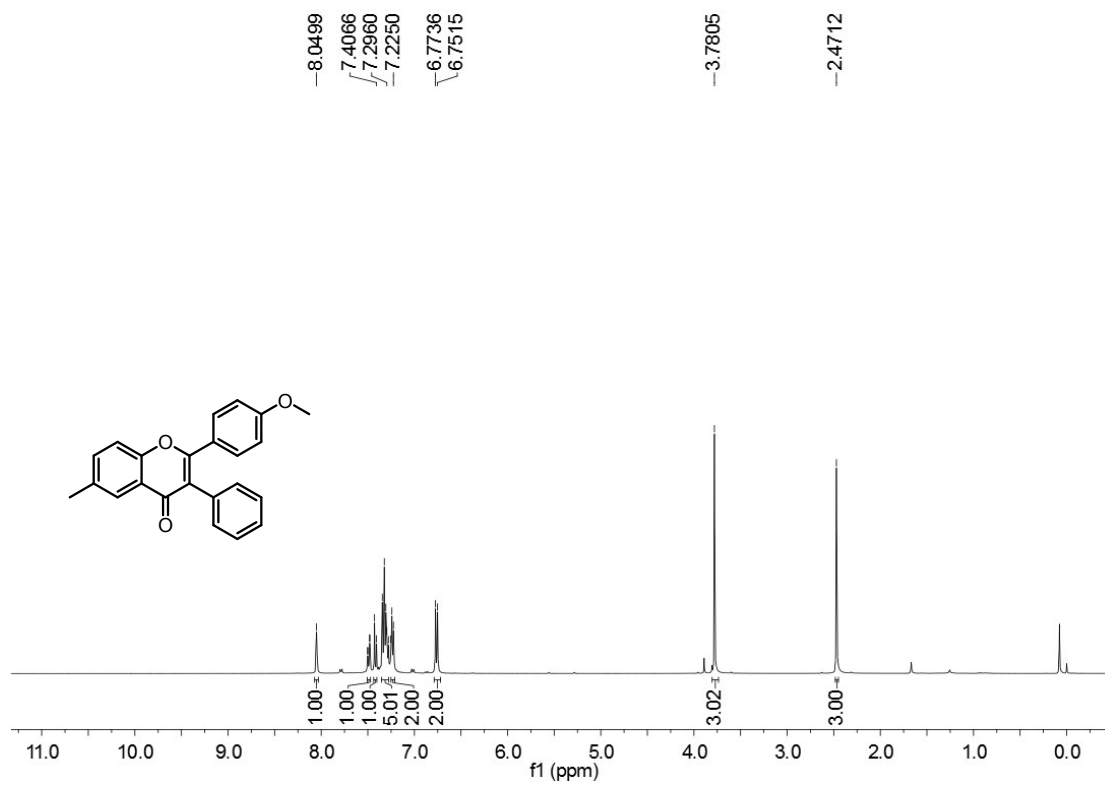
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2. Che, H.; Lim, H.; Kim, H. P.; Park, H. *Eur. J. Med. Chem.* **2011**,*46*, 4657-4660.
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#### 4. $^1\text{H}$ , $^{13}\text{C}$ NMR for compounds 1, 2 and 3

**1a**

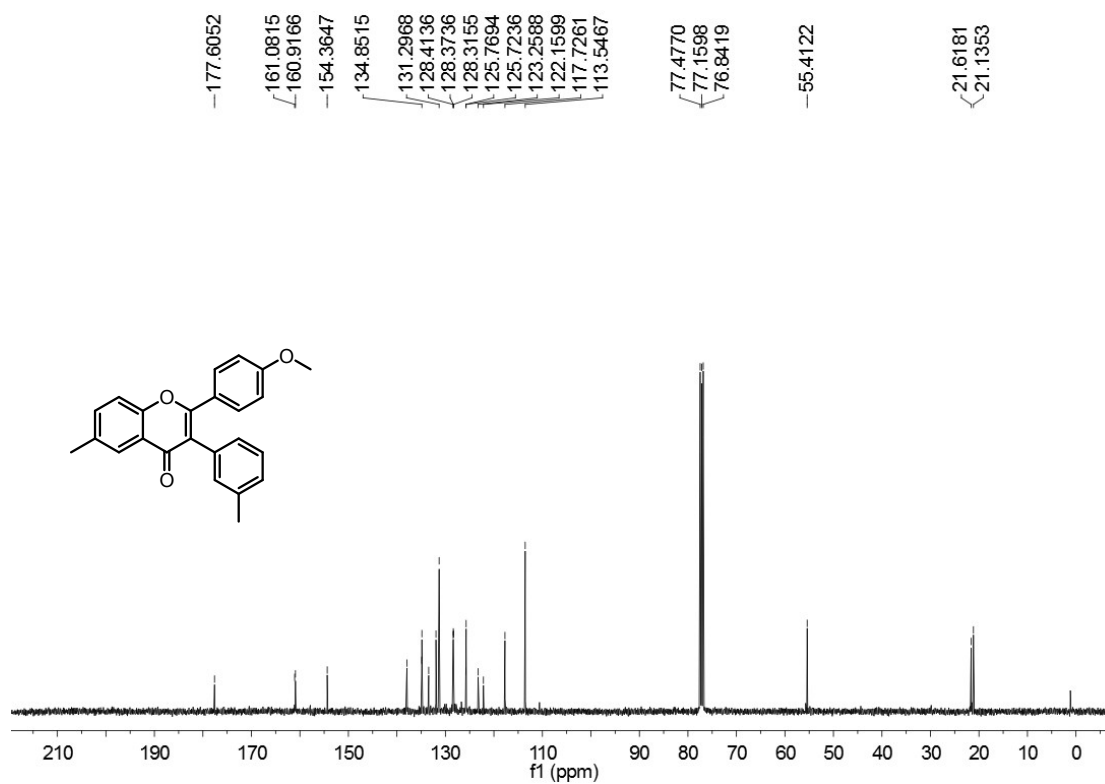
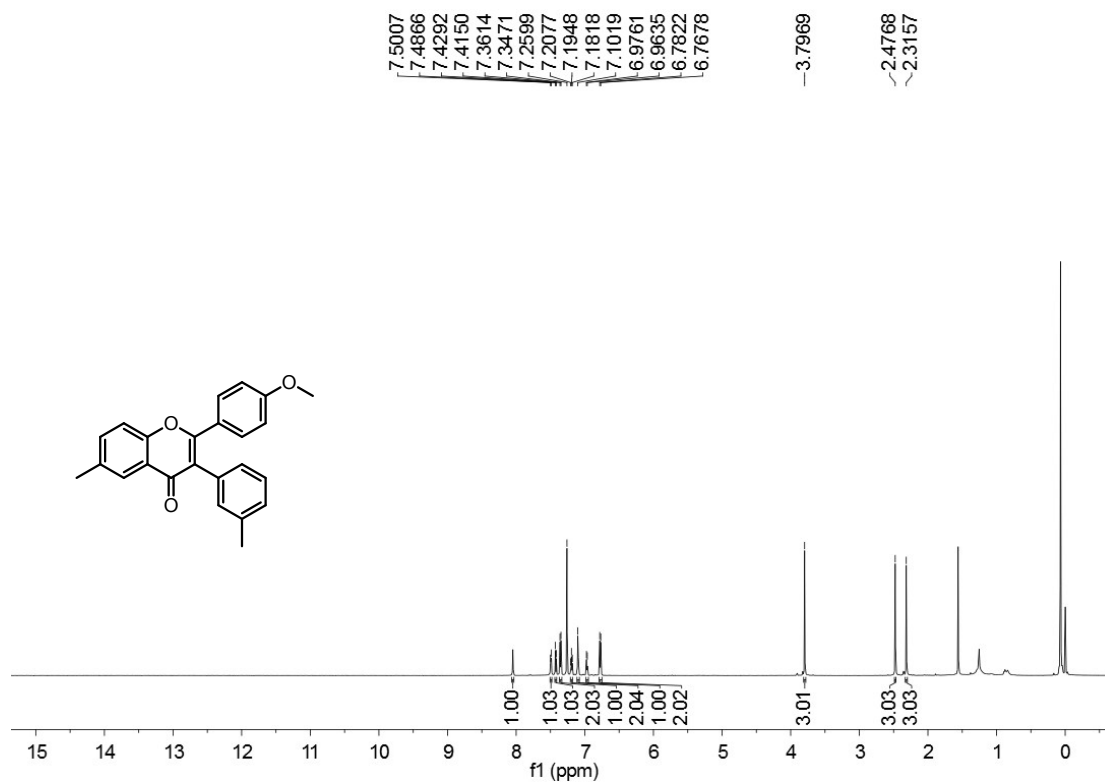


# 1b

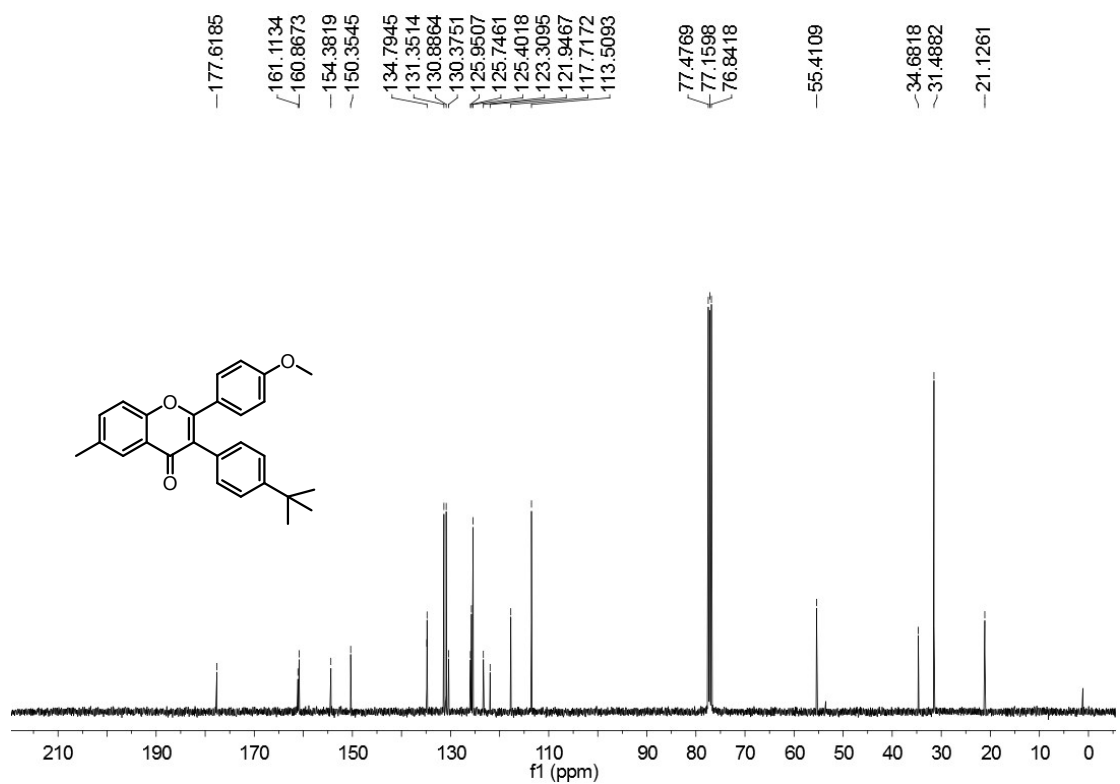
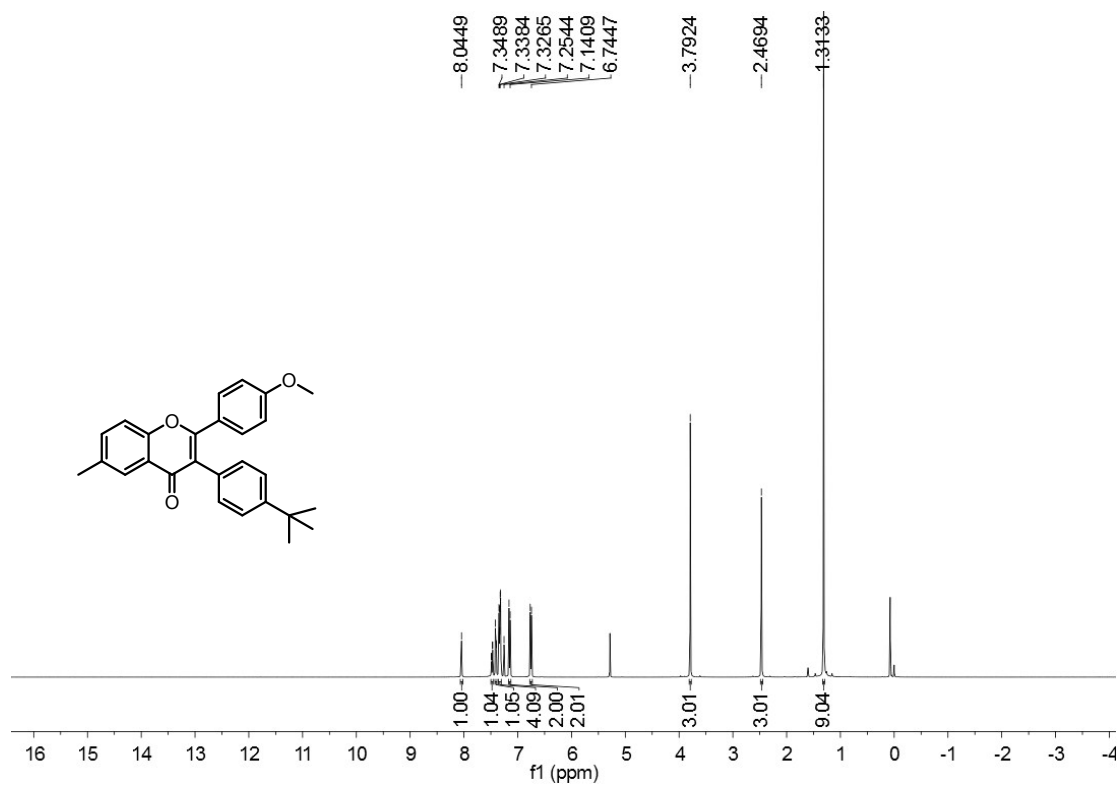




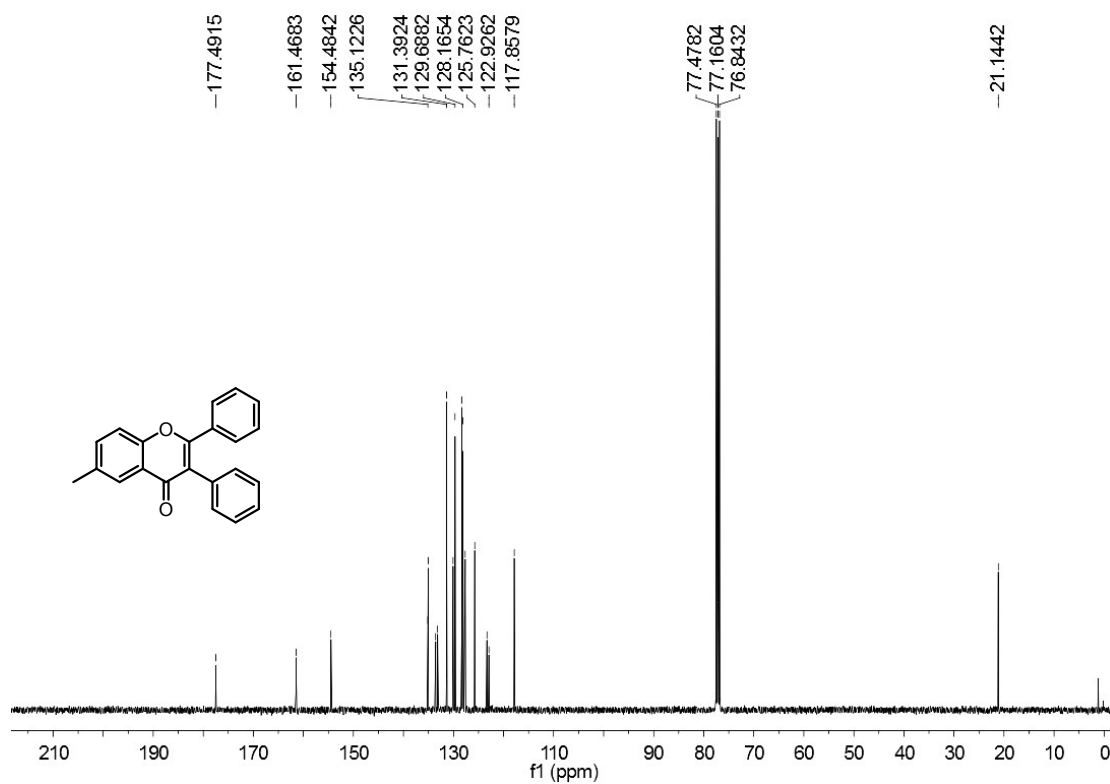
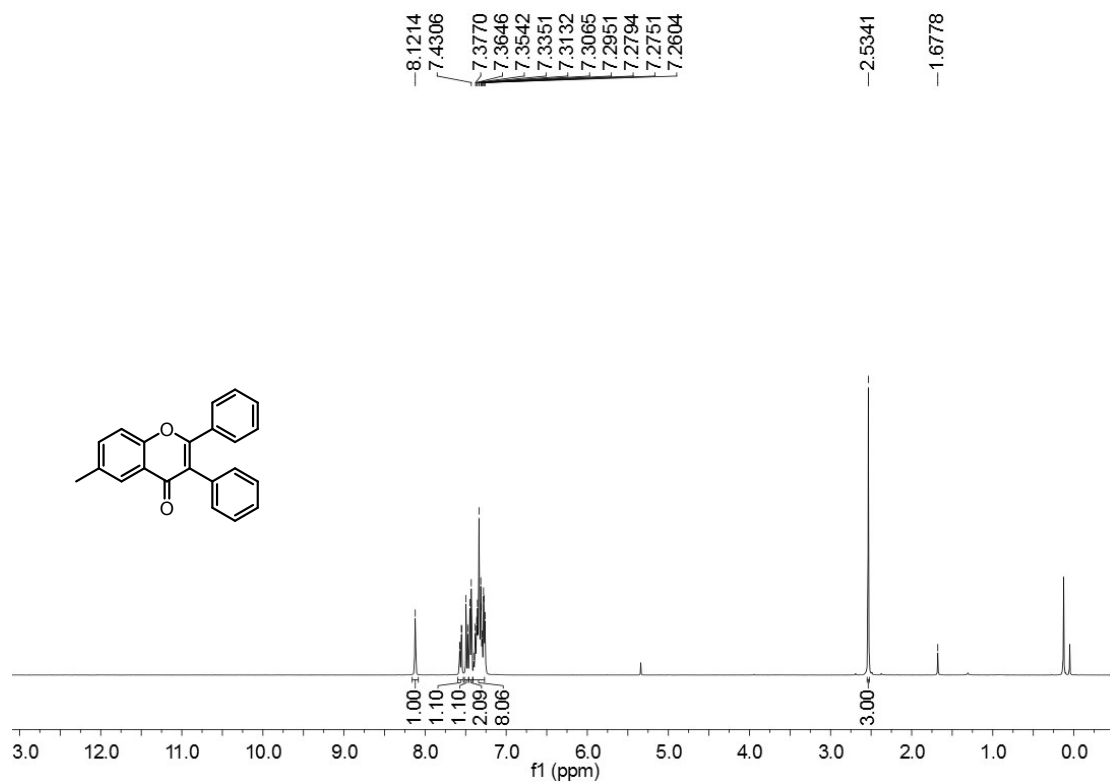
# 1c



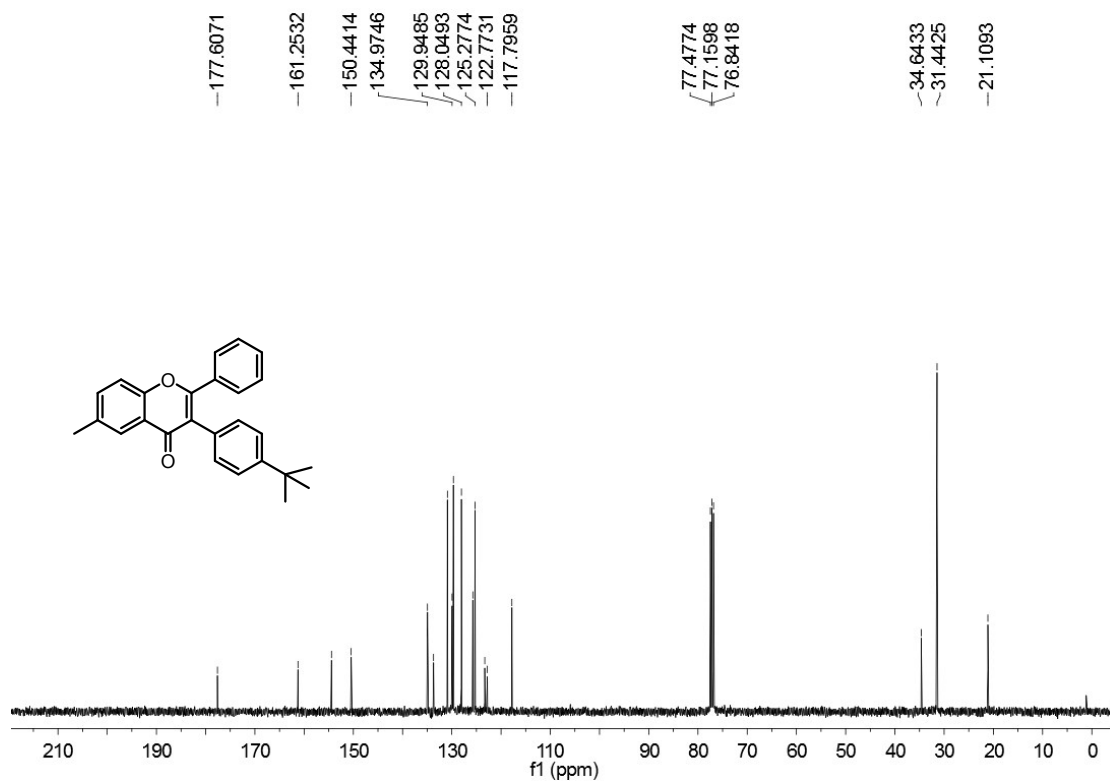
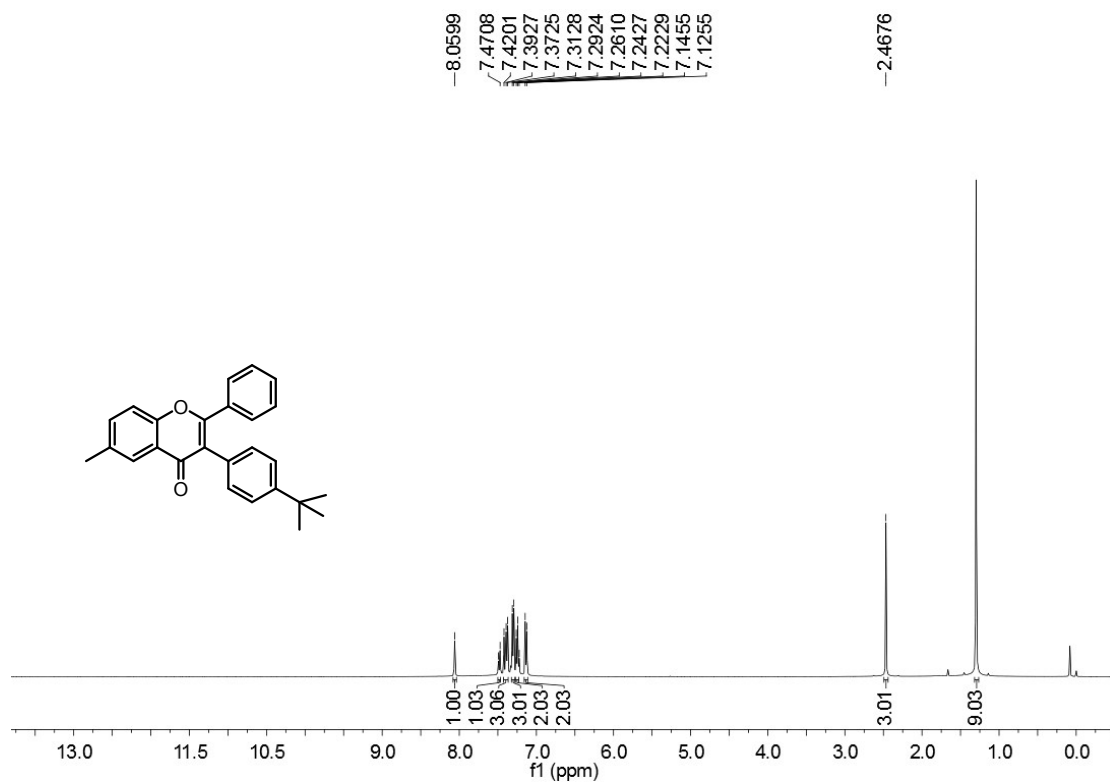
# 1d



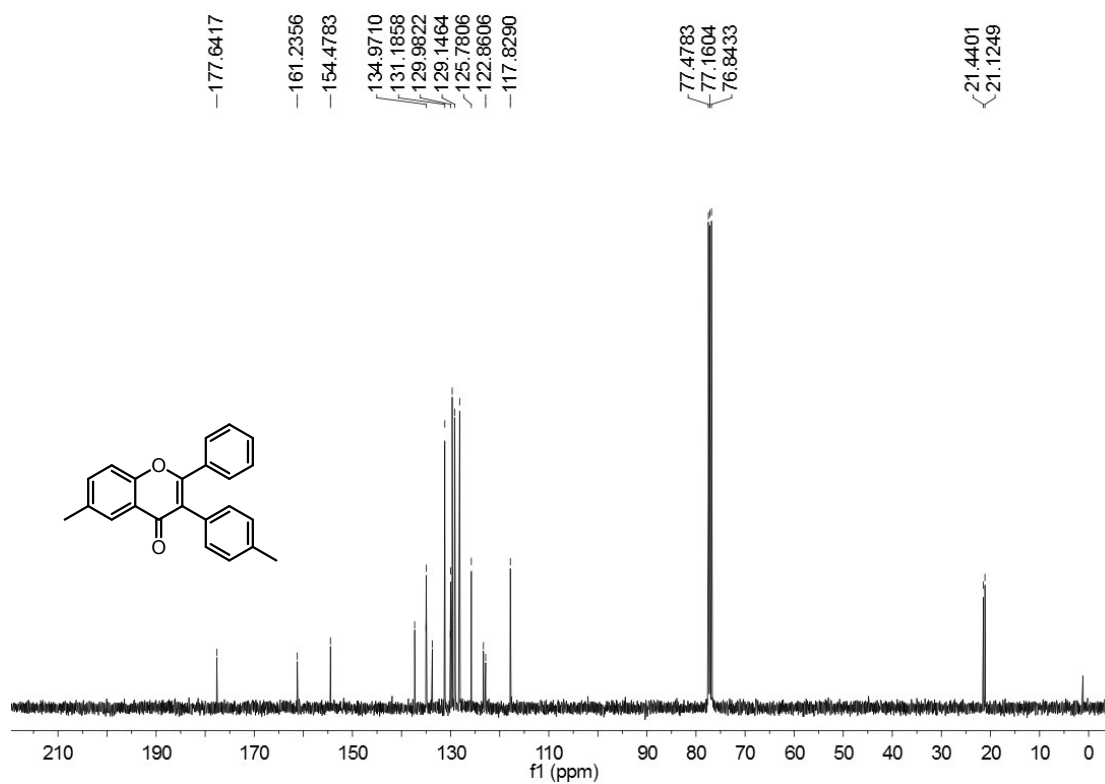
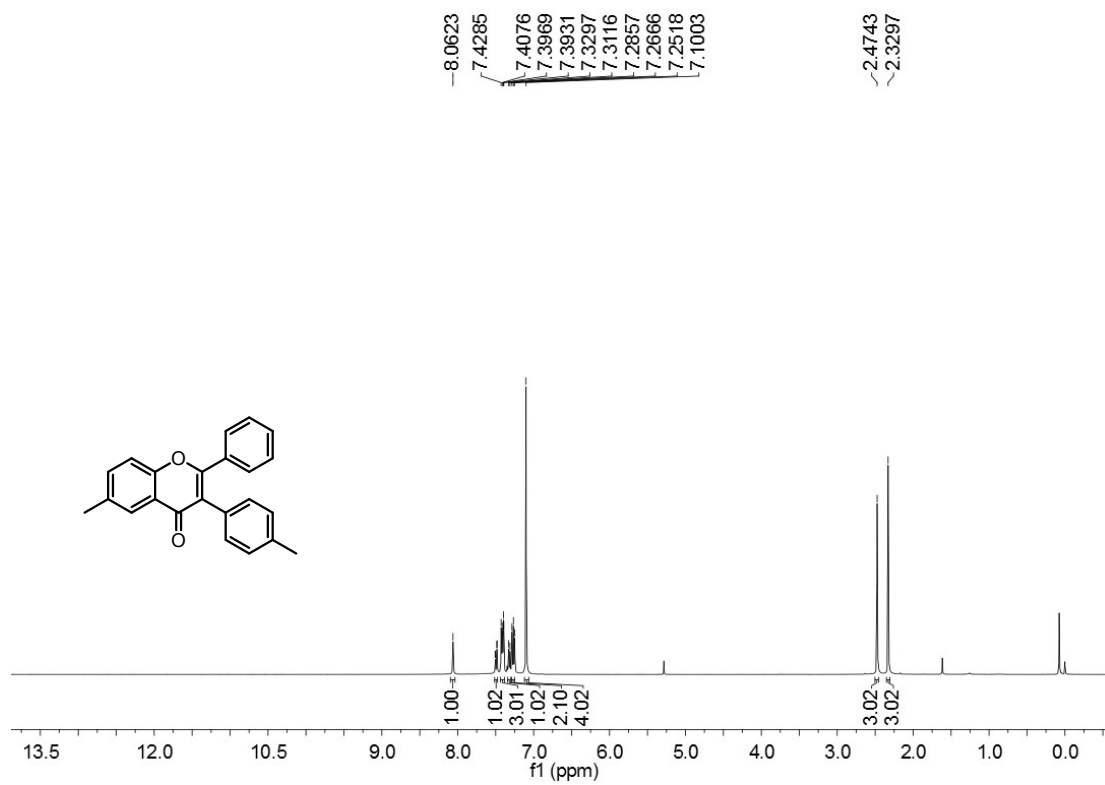
# 1e



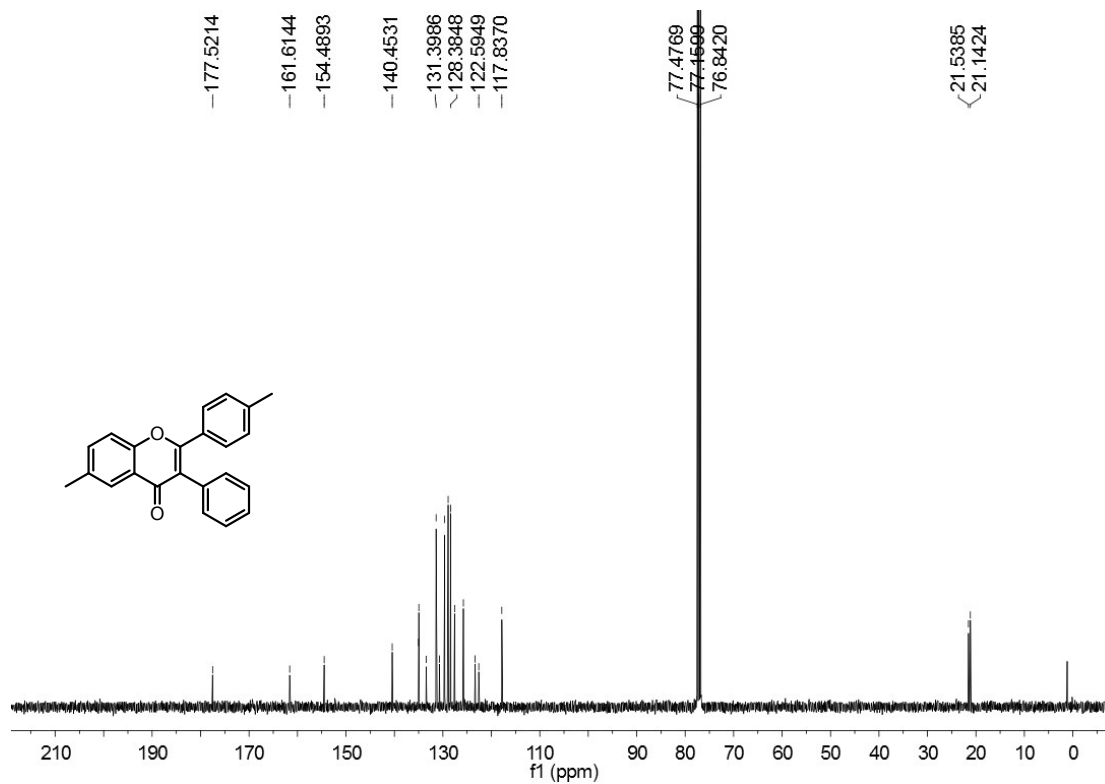
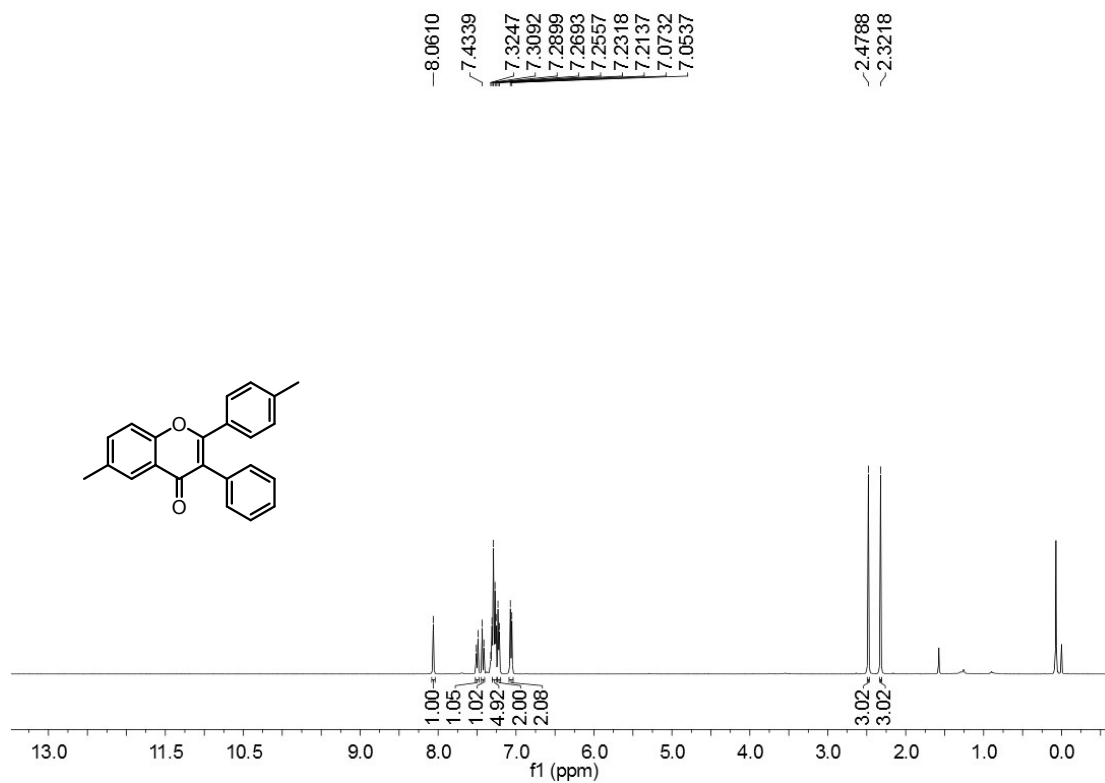
# 1f



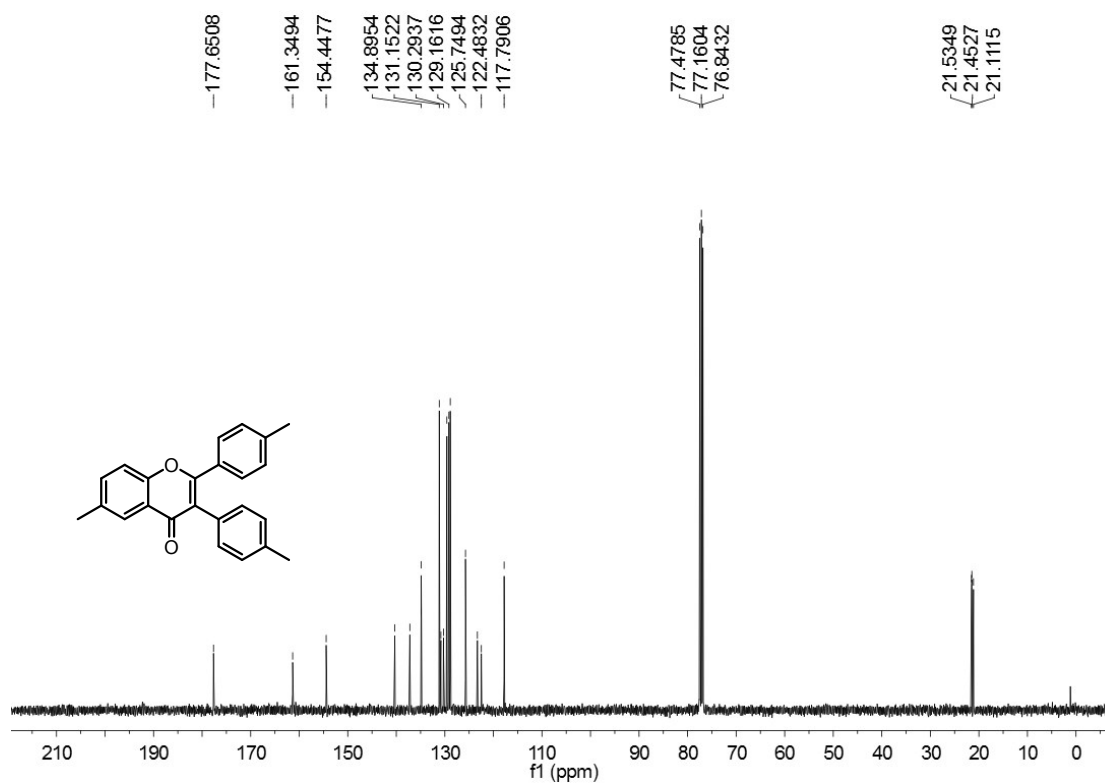
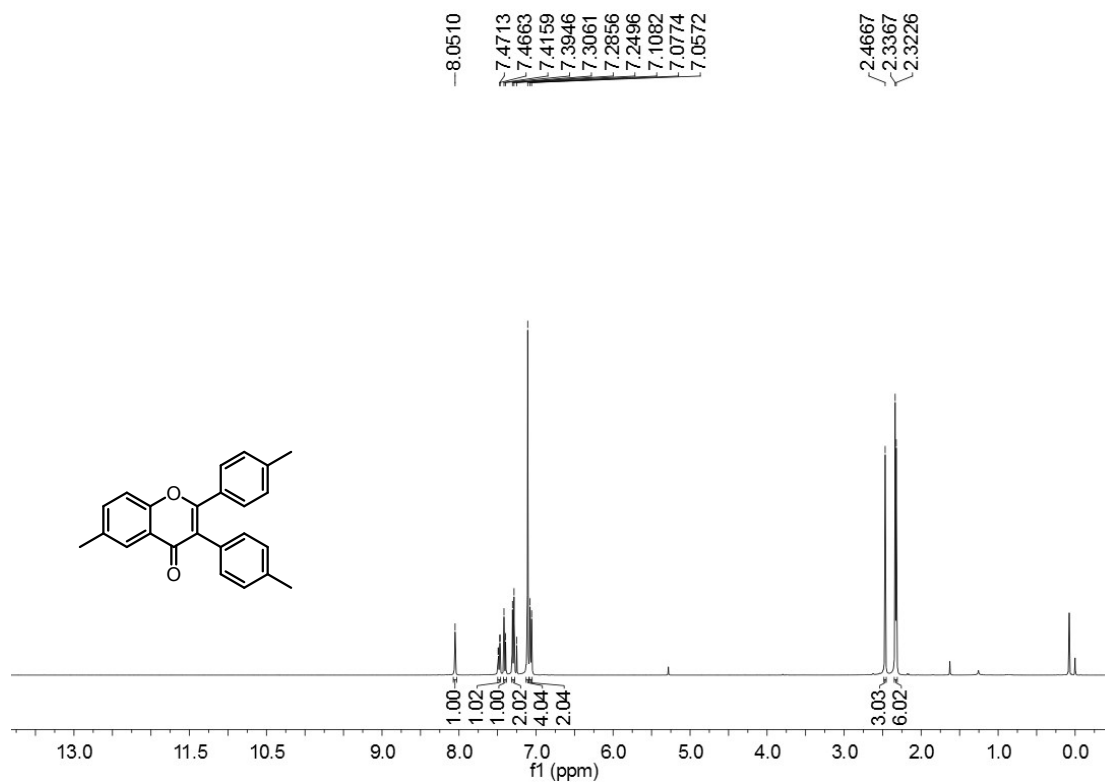
# 1g



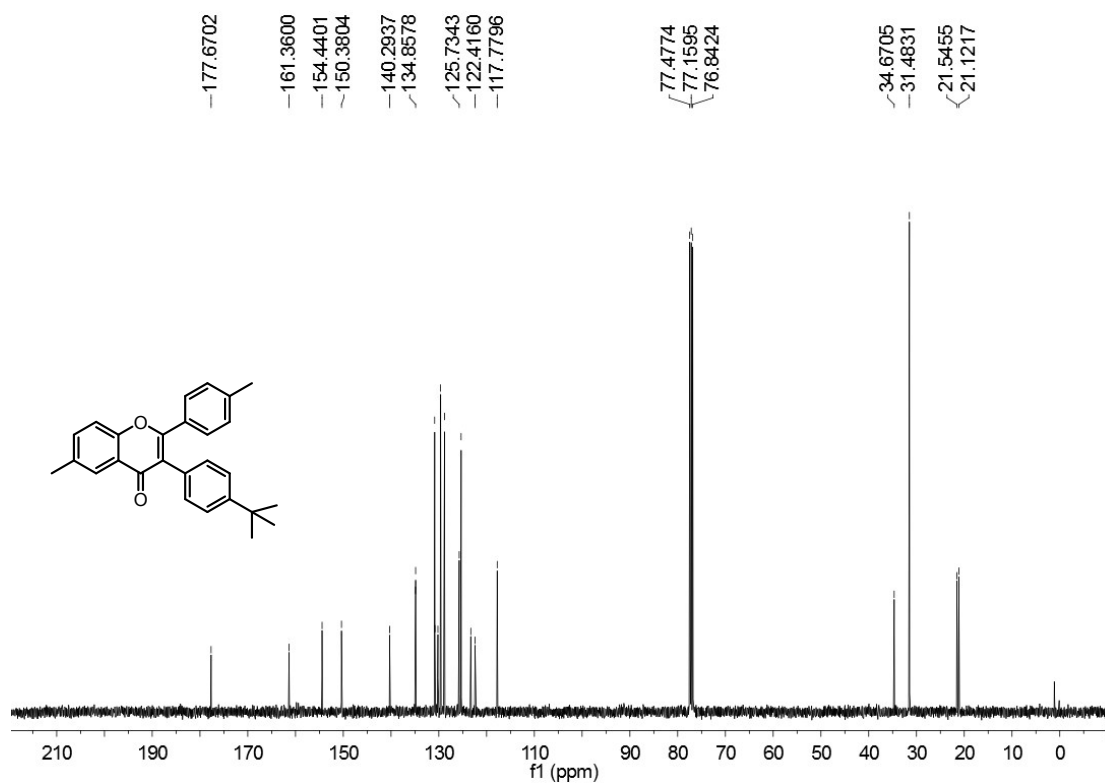
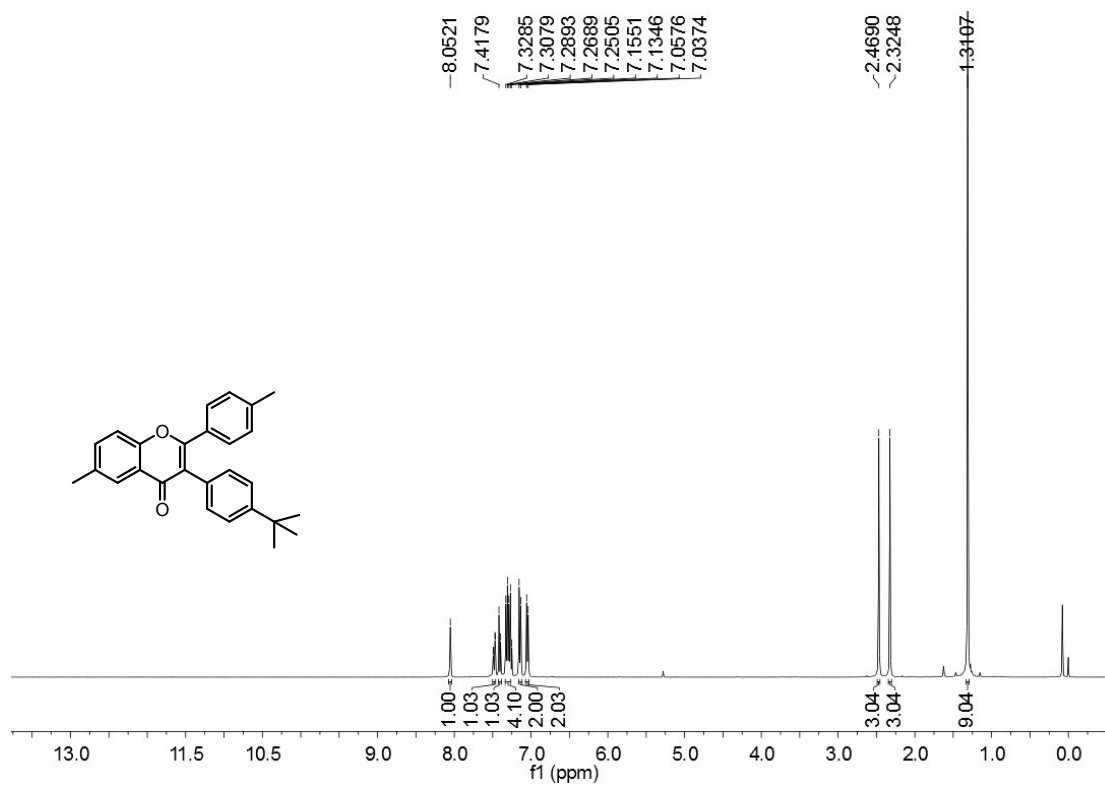
# 1h



# 1i

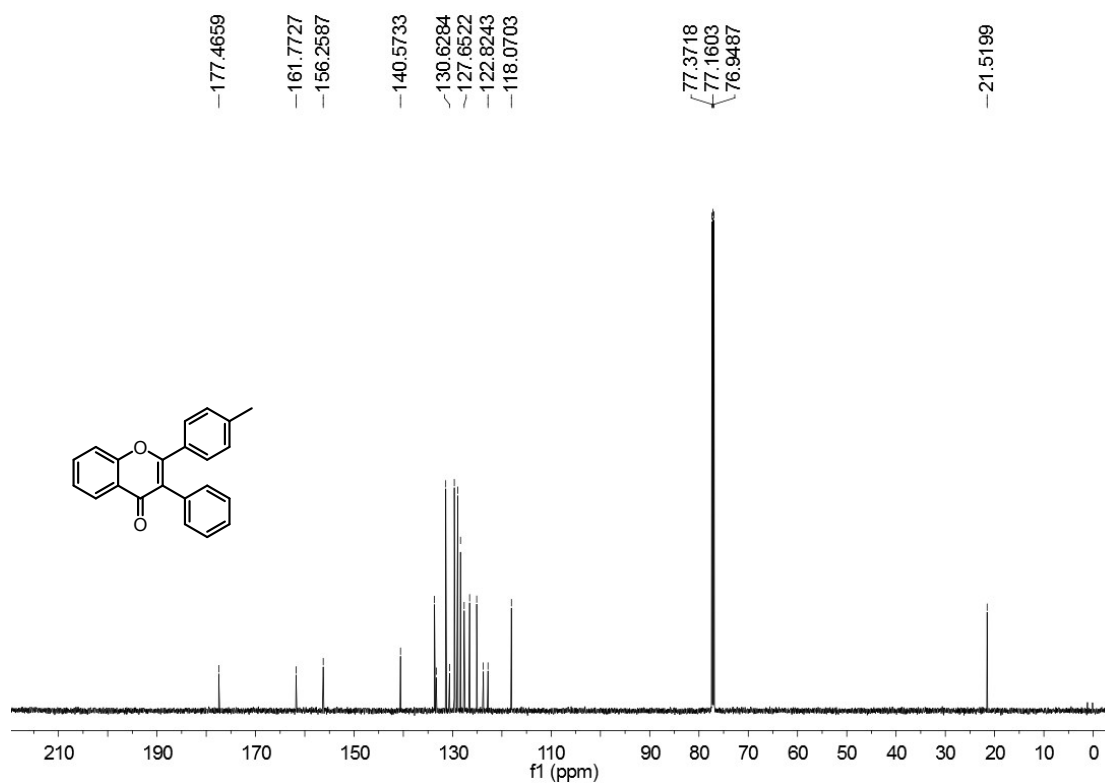
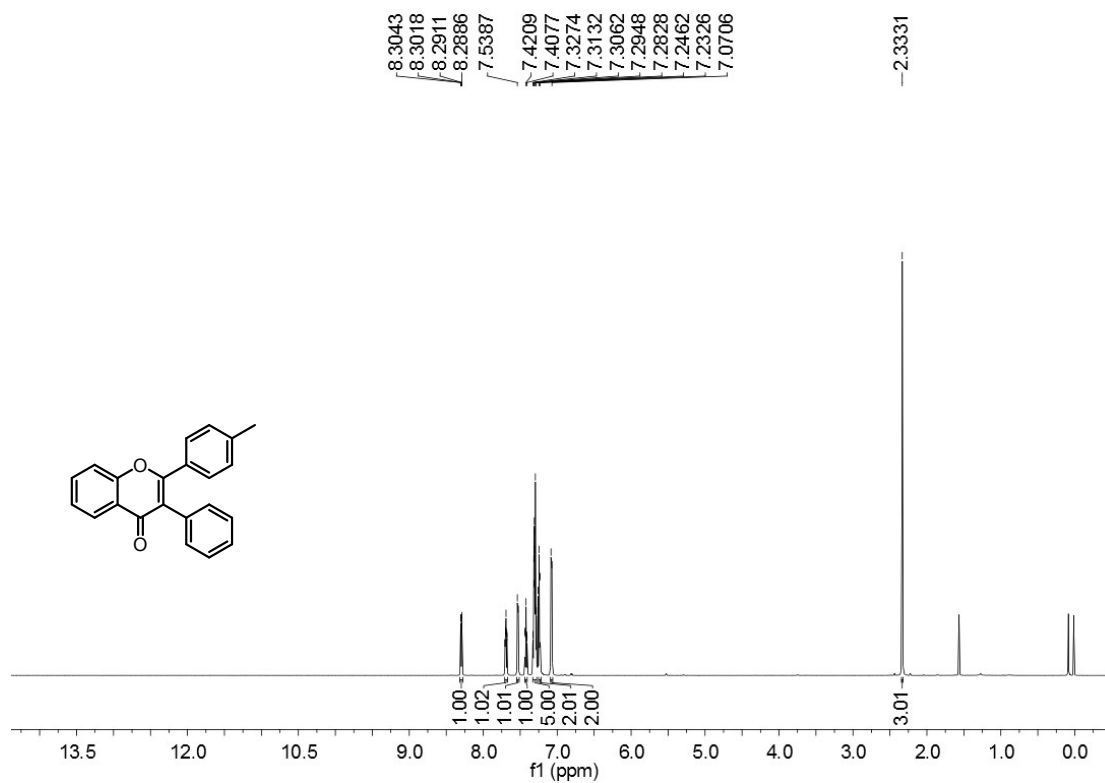


lj

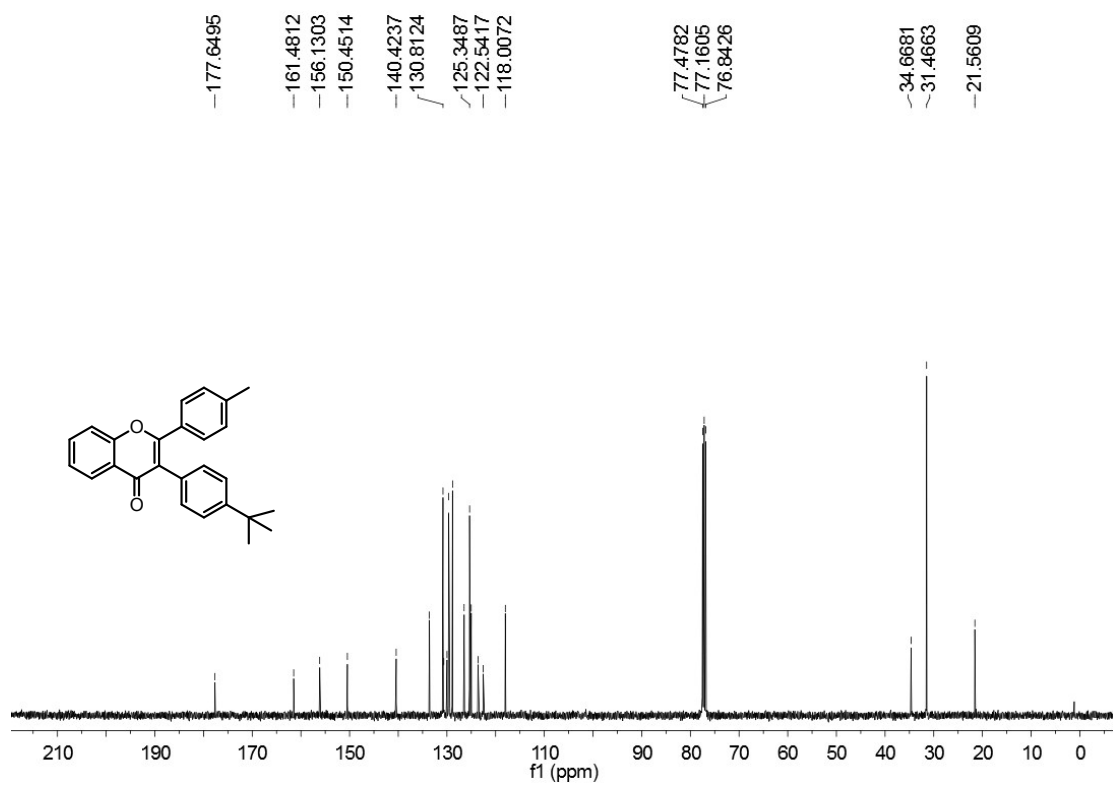
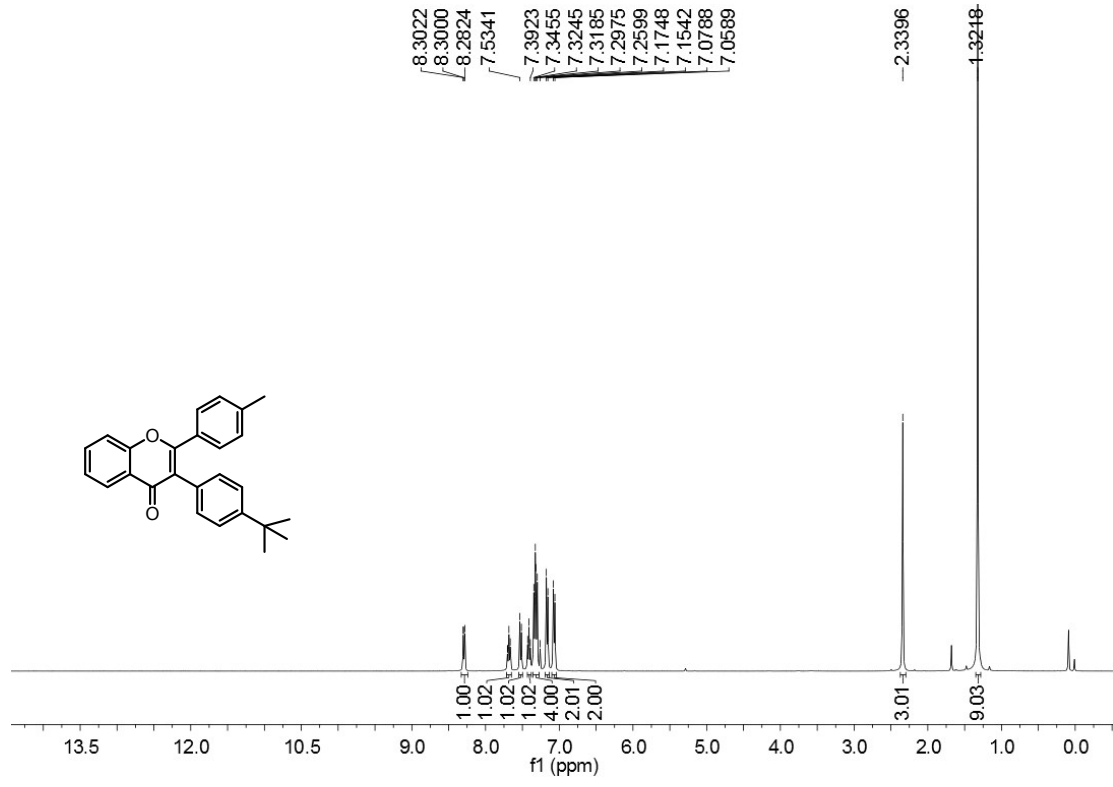




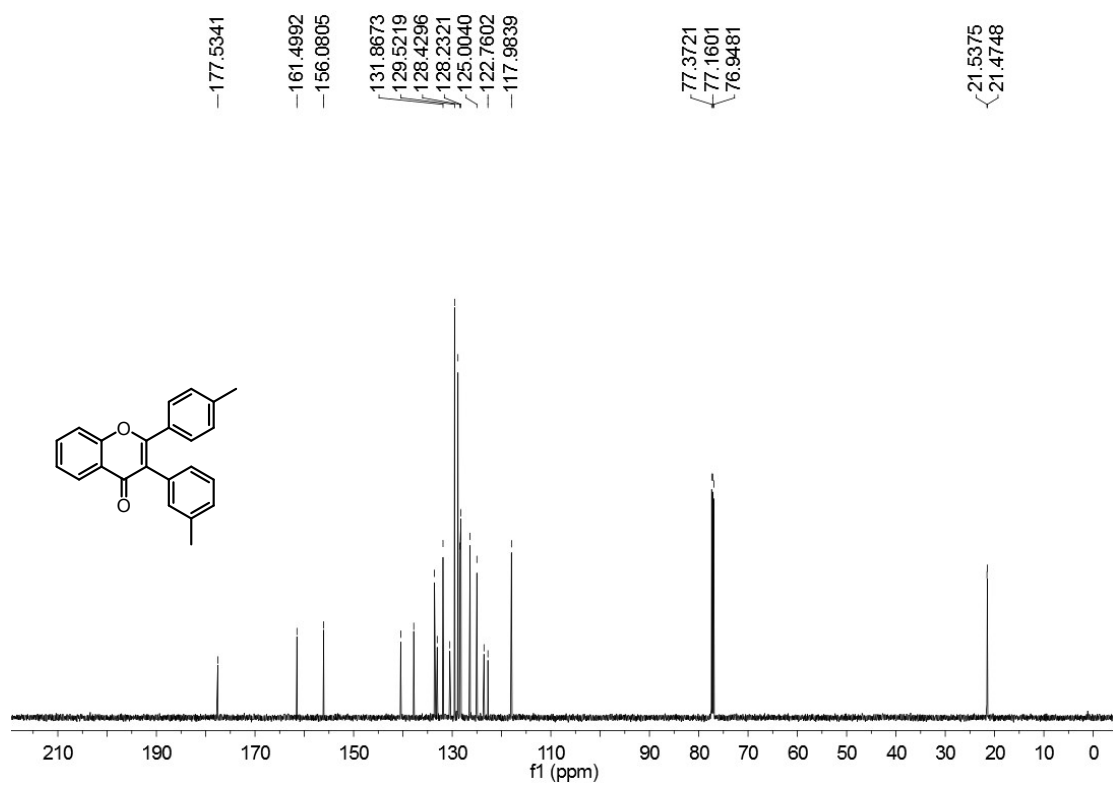
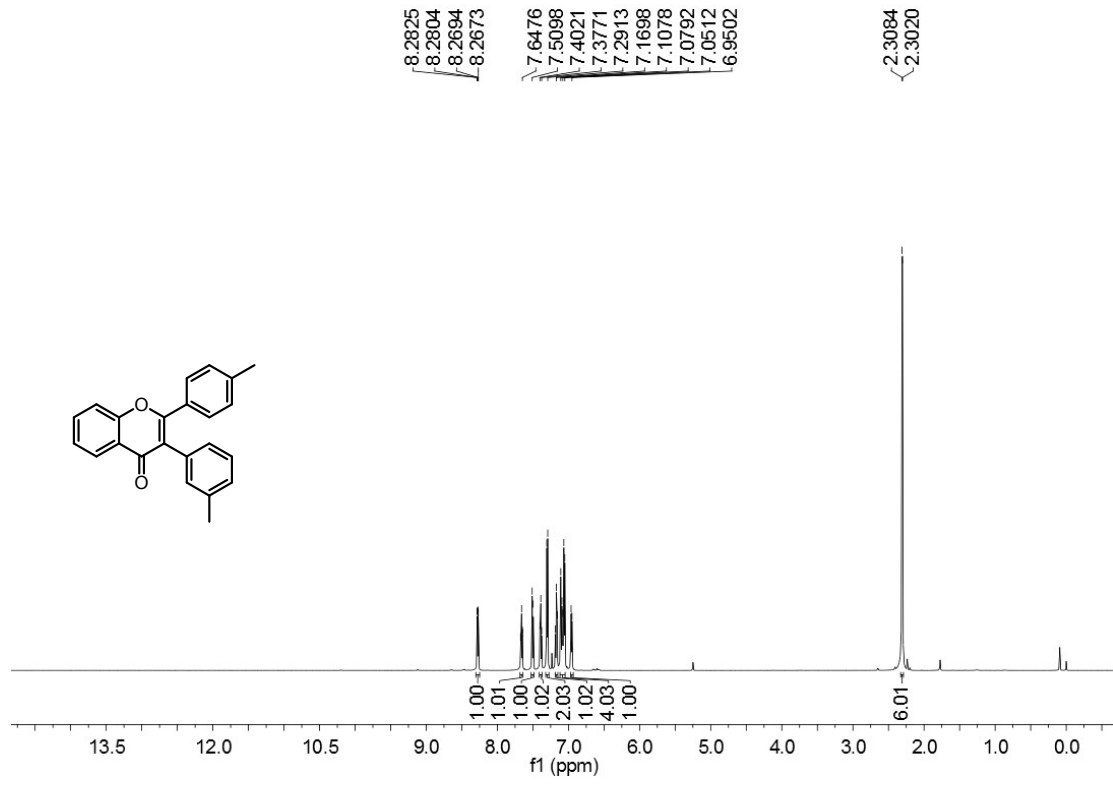
# 1k



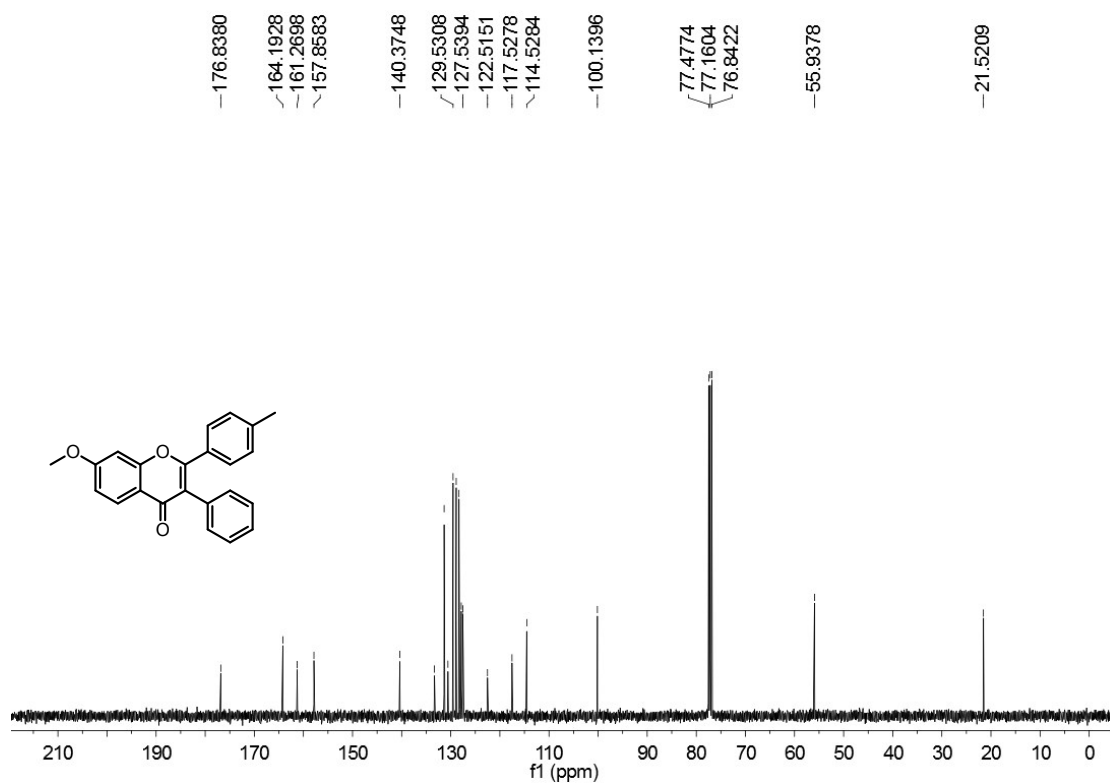
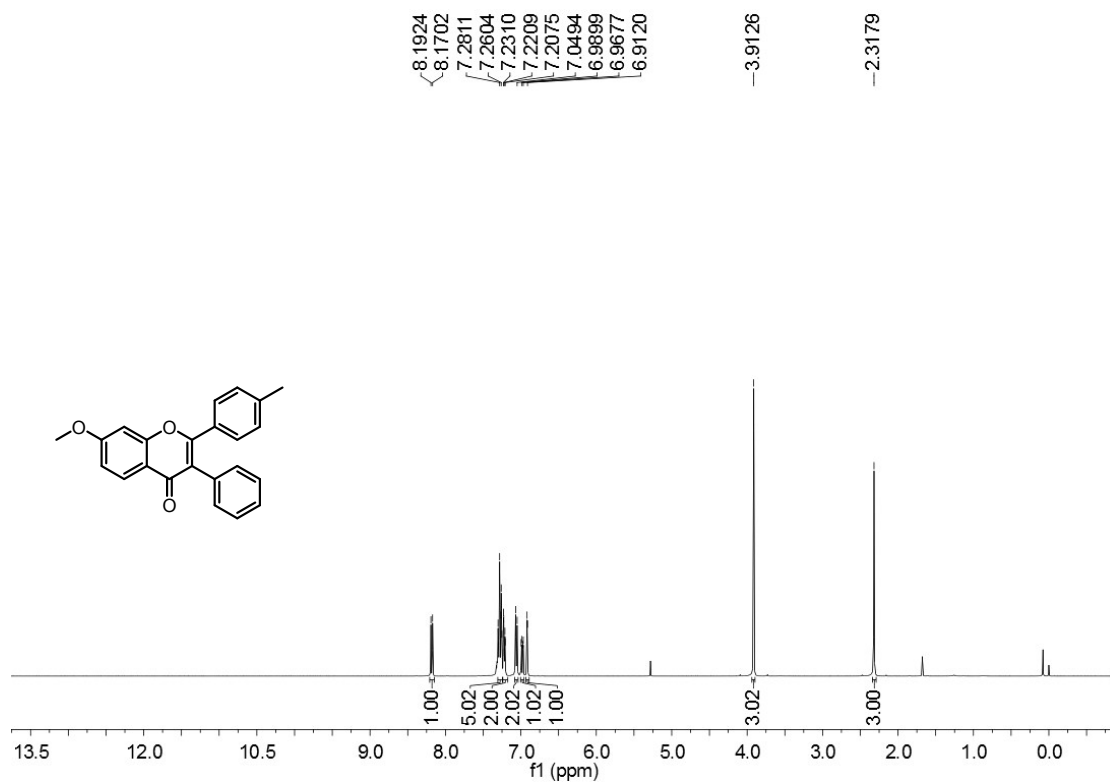
# 11



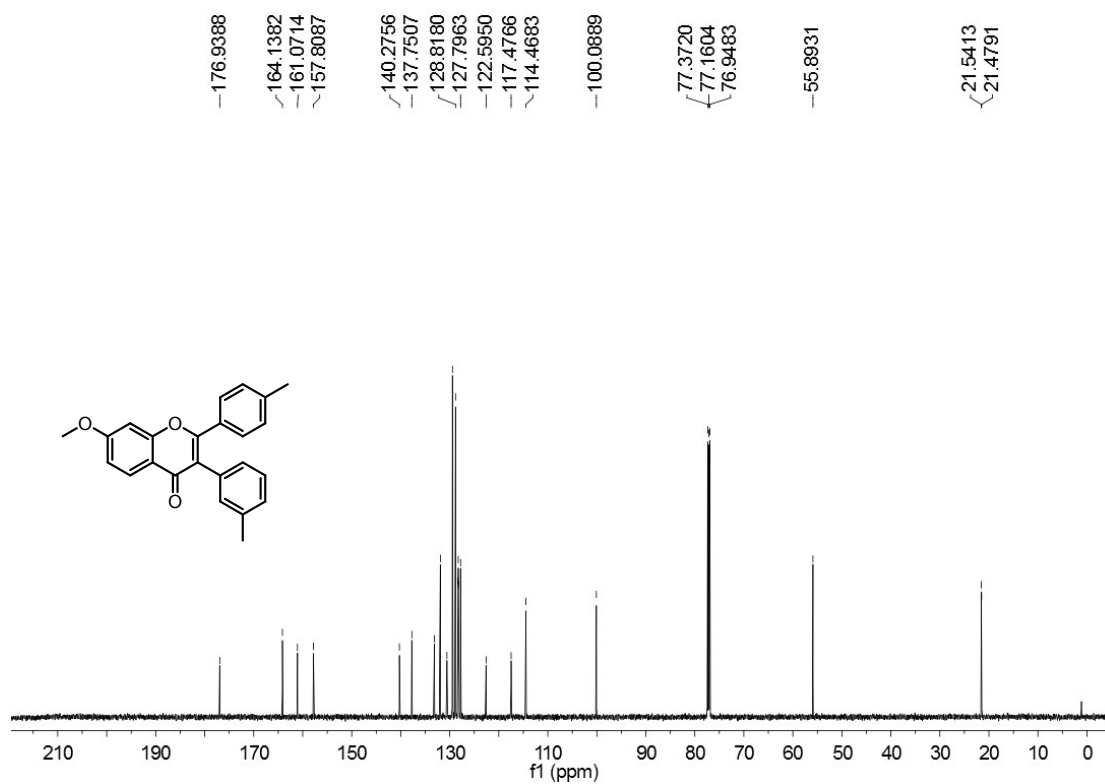
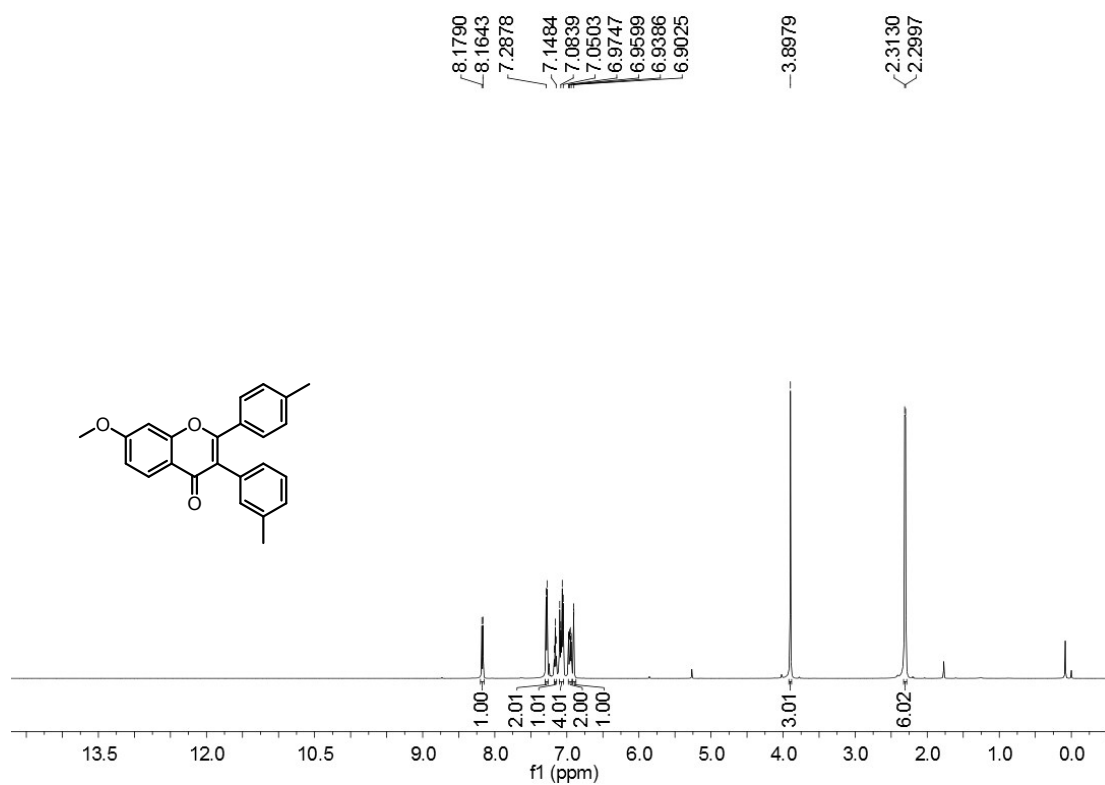
# 1m



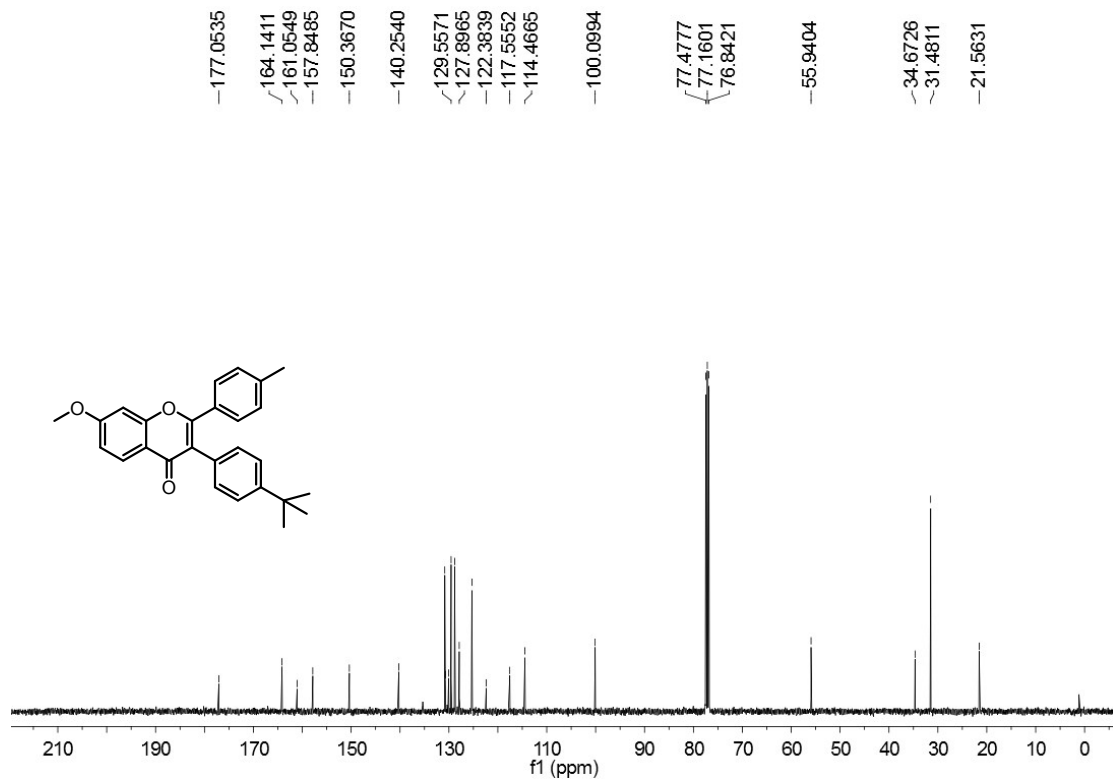
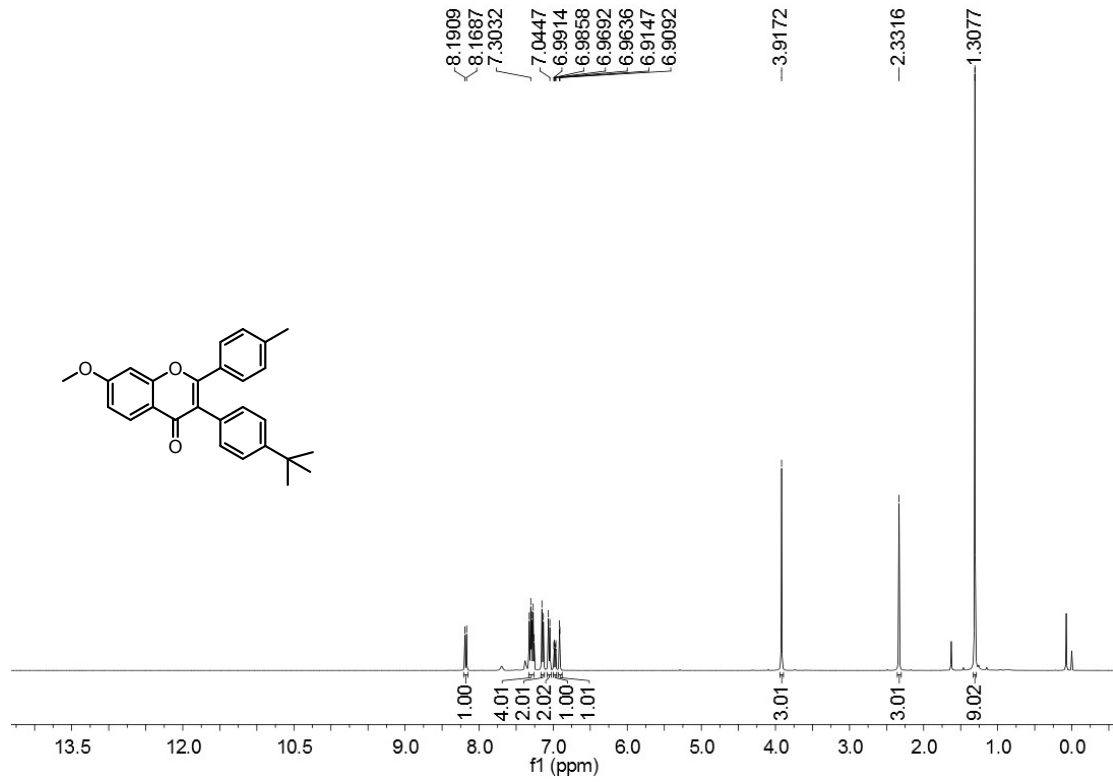
# 1n



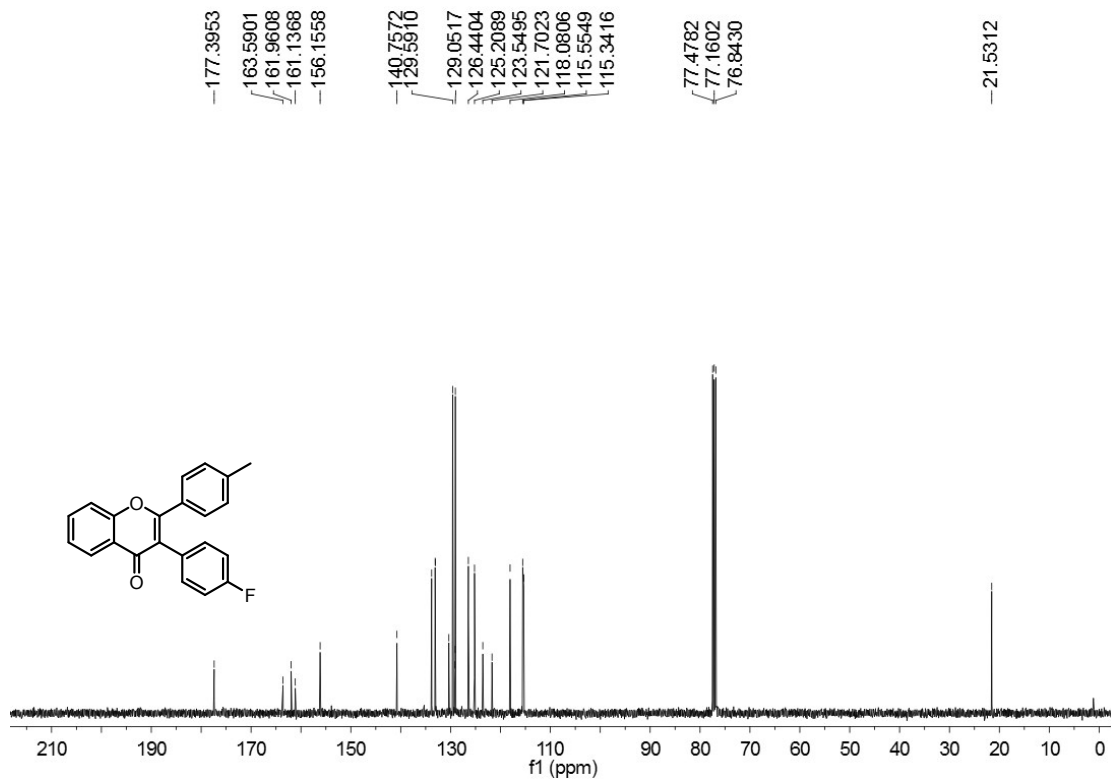
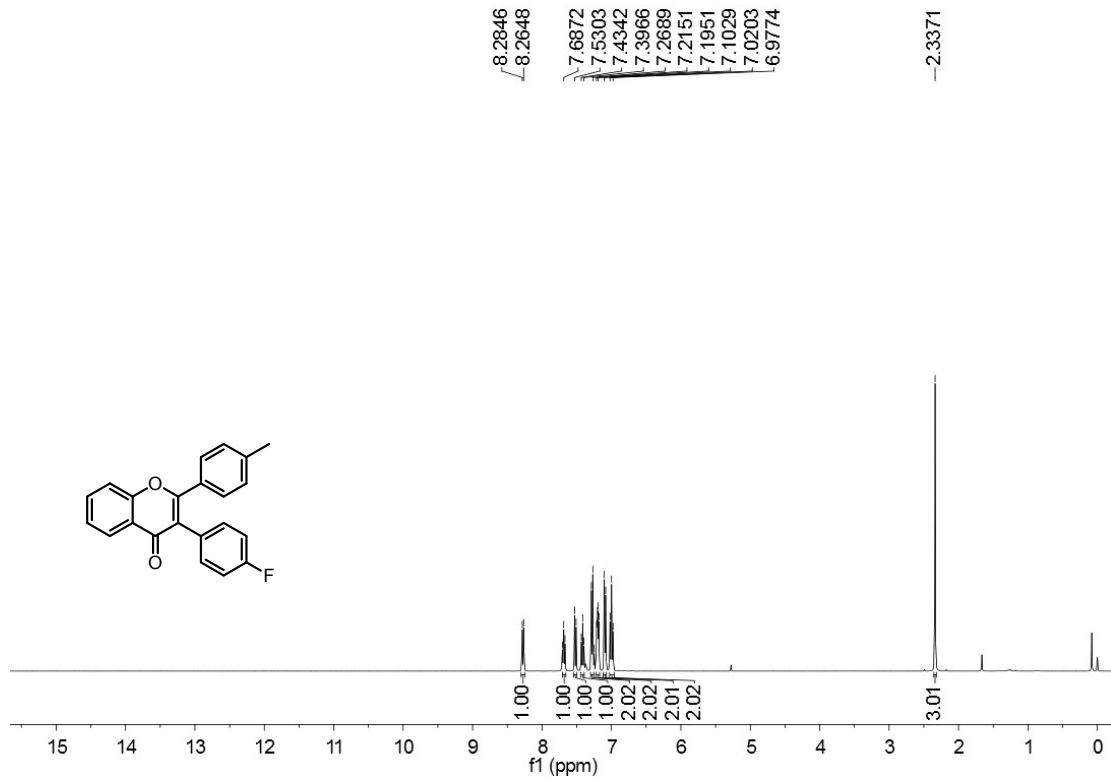
# 1o



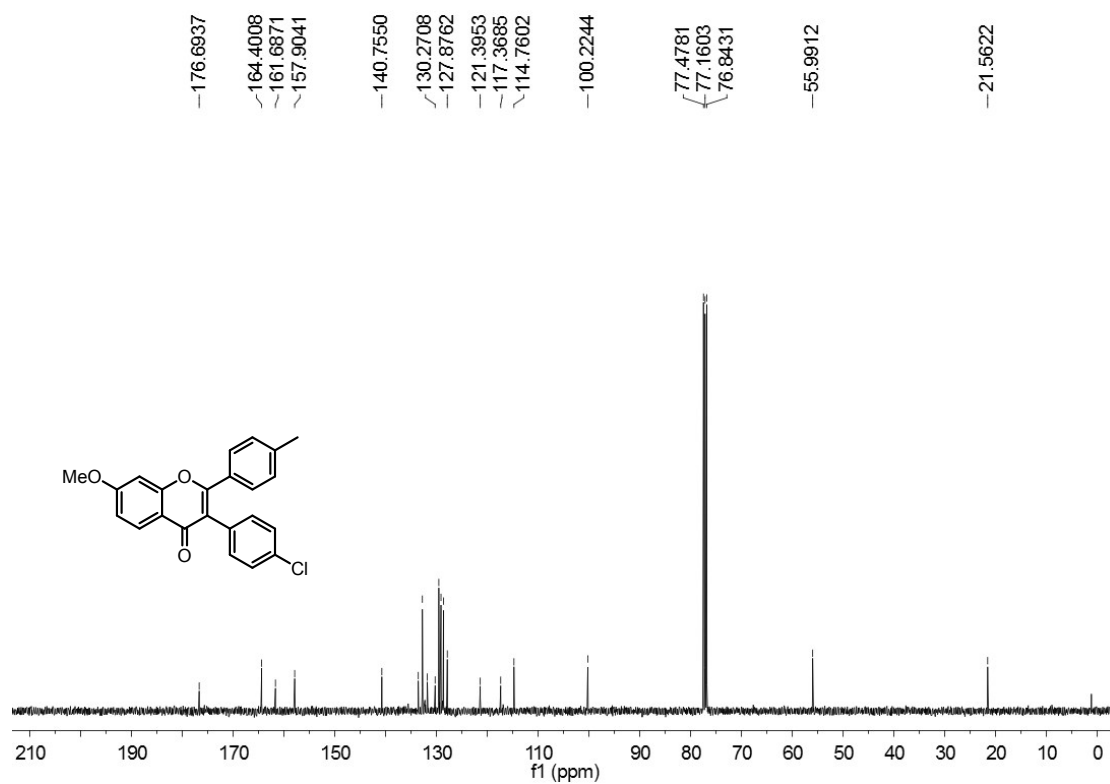
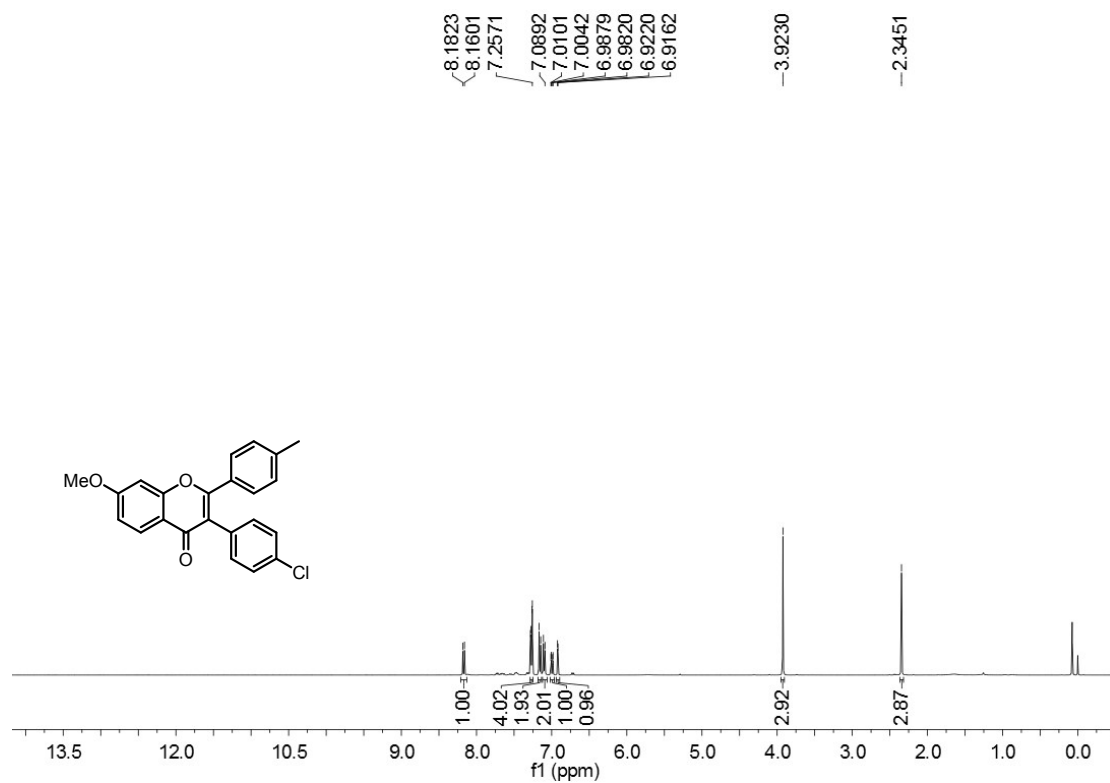
# 1p



# 1q

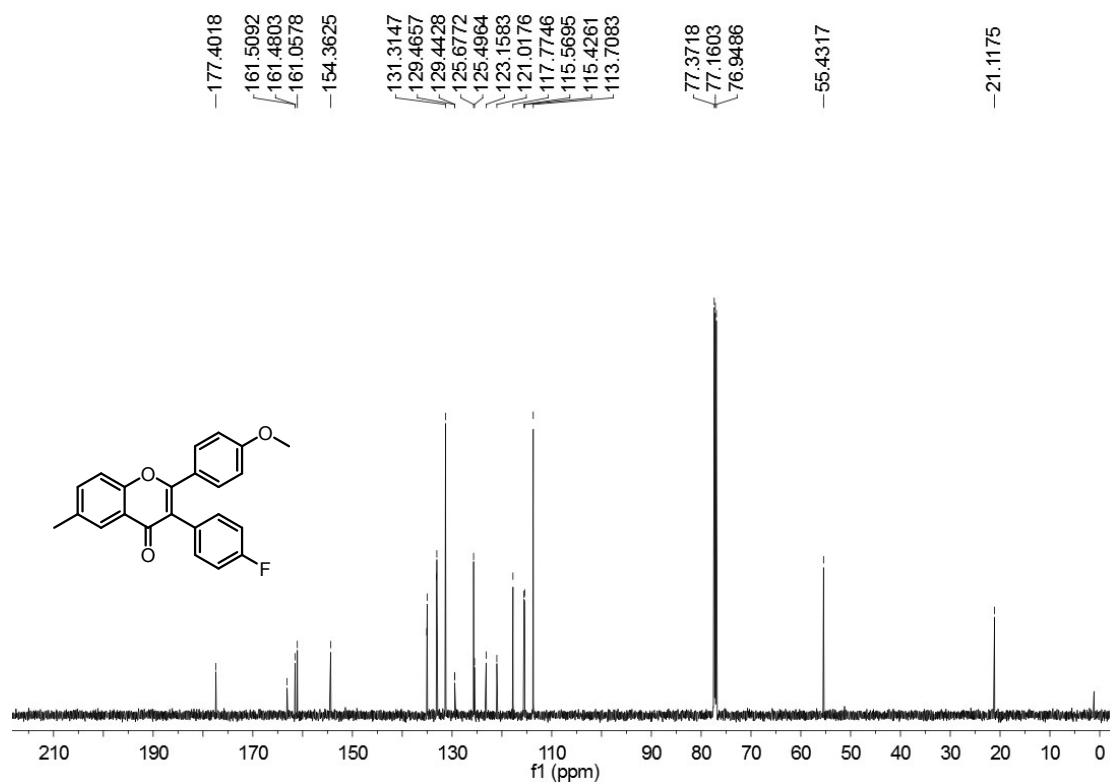
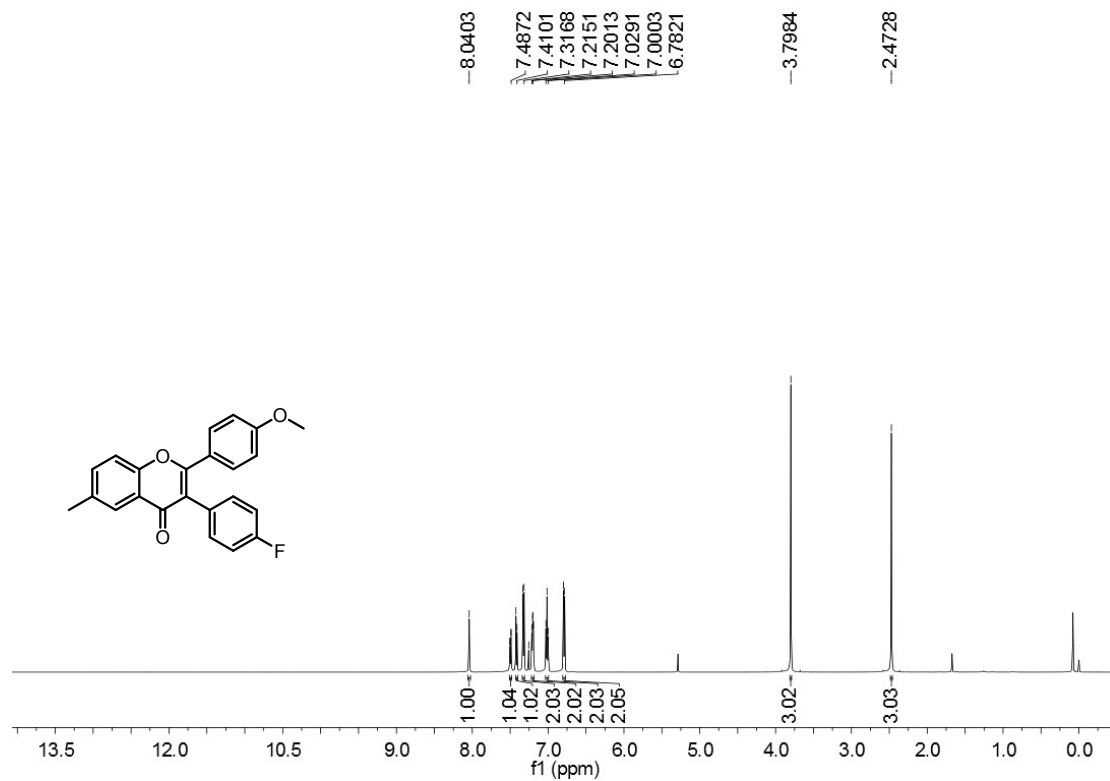


# 1r

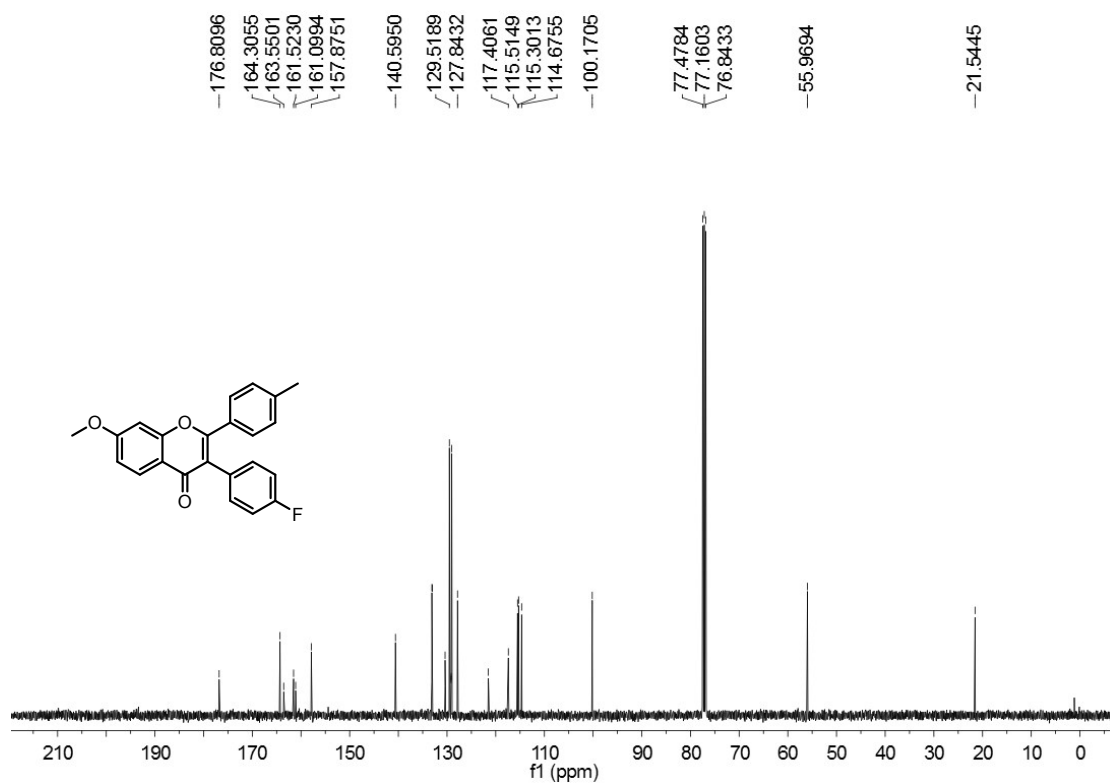
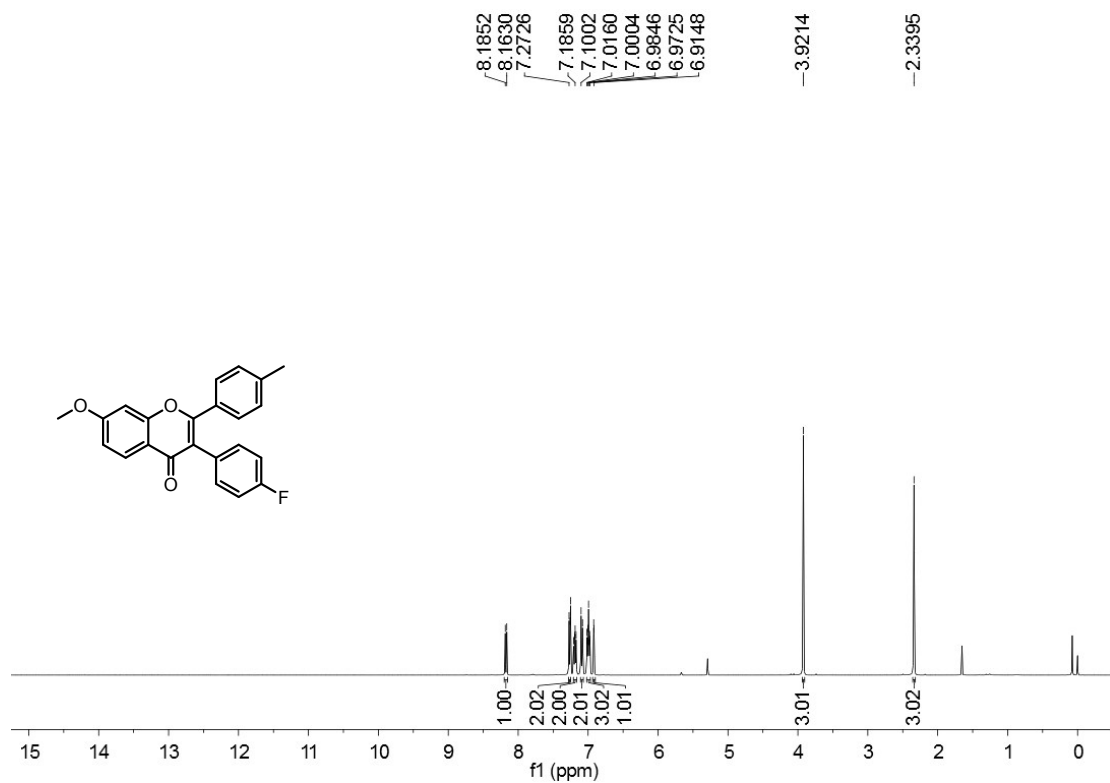




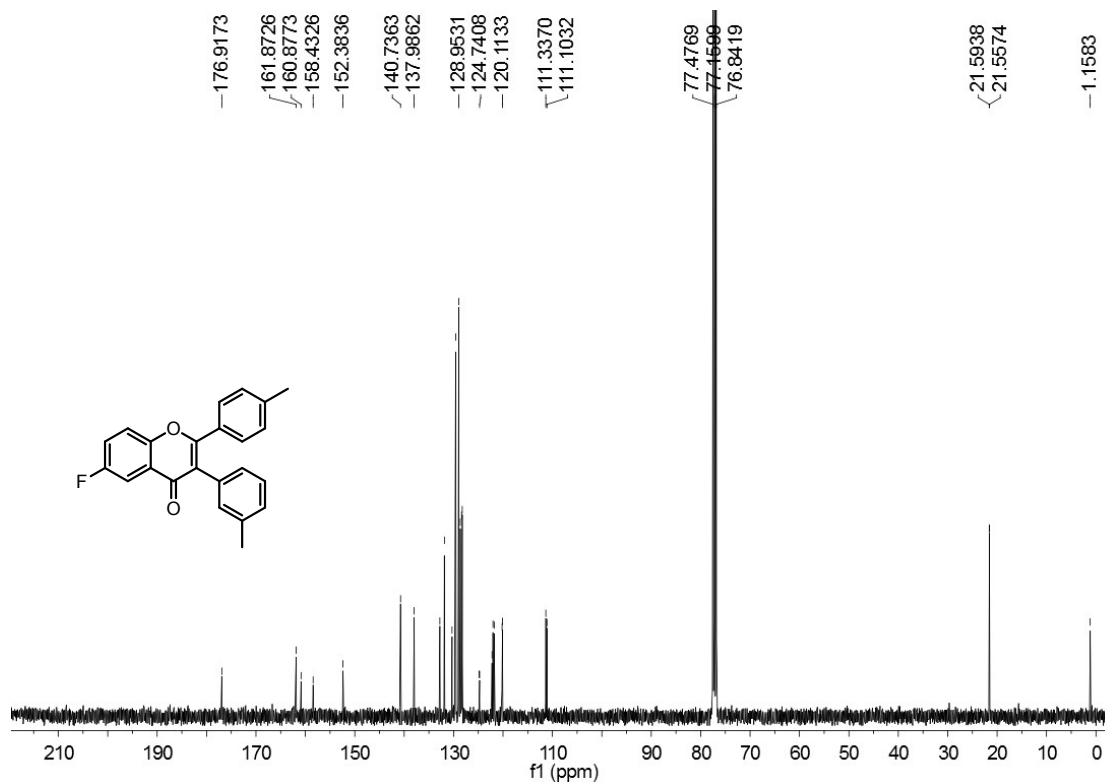
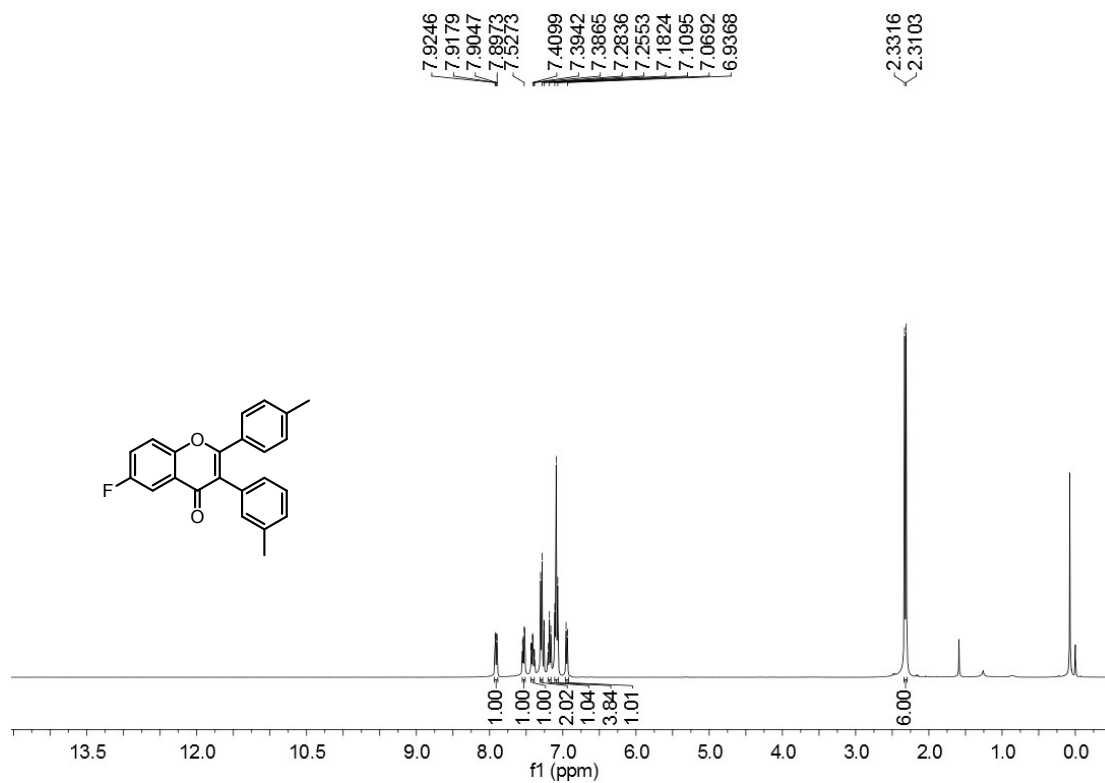
# 1s



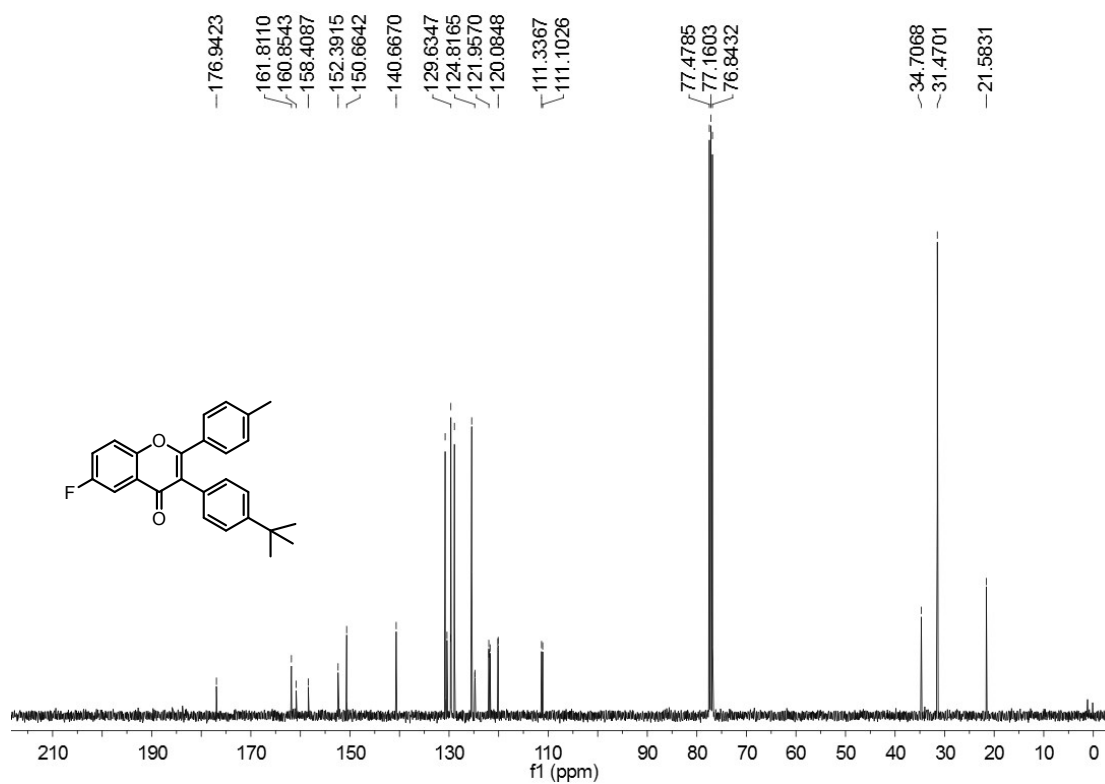
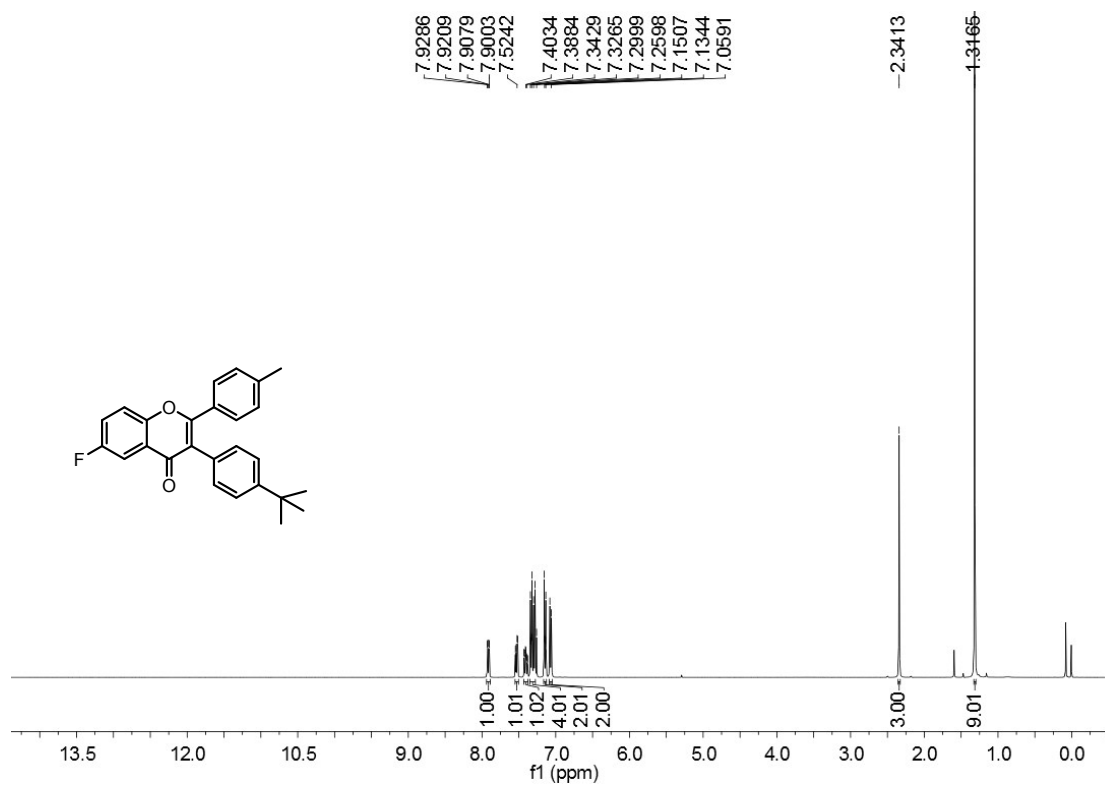
# 1t



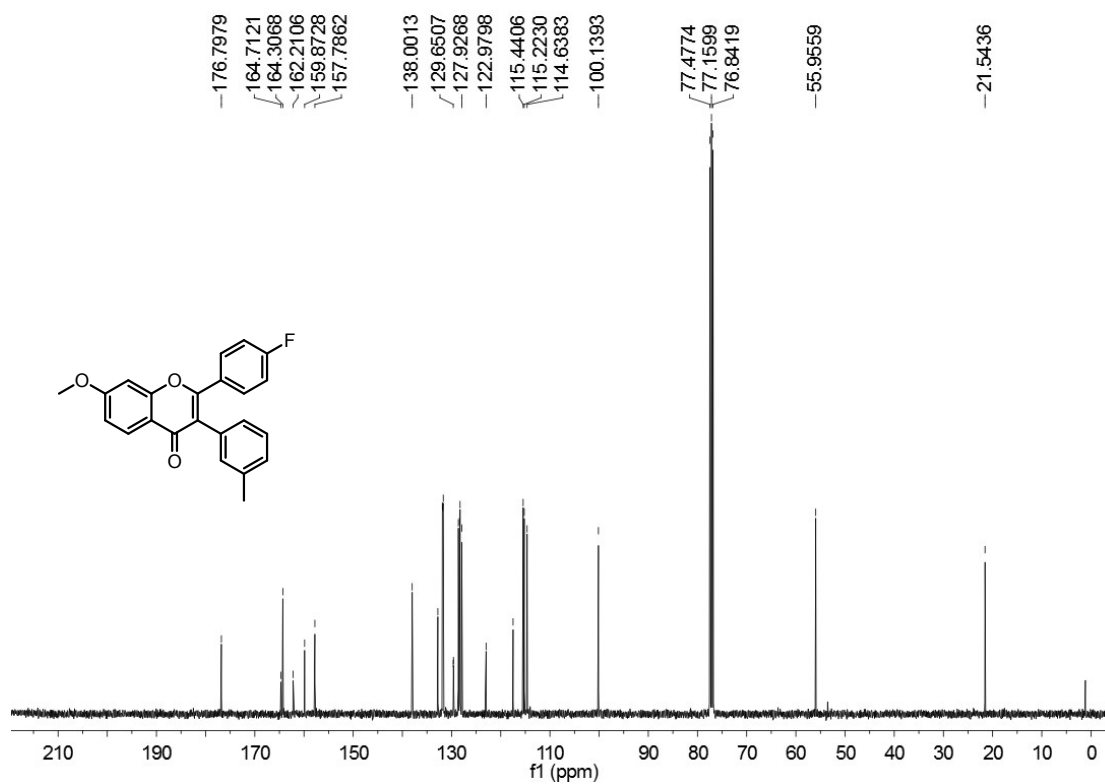
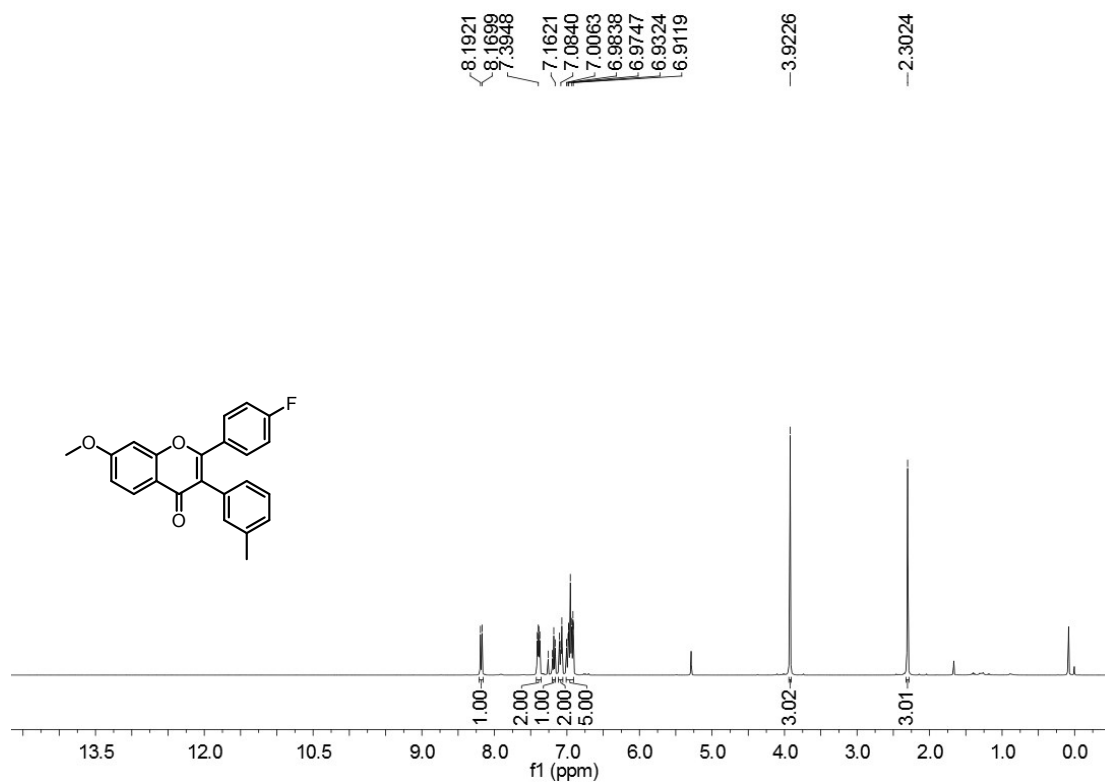
# 1u



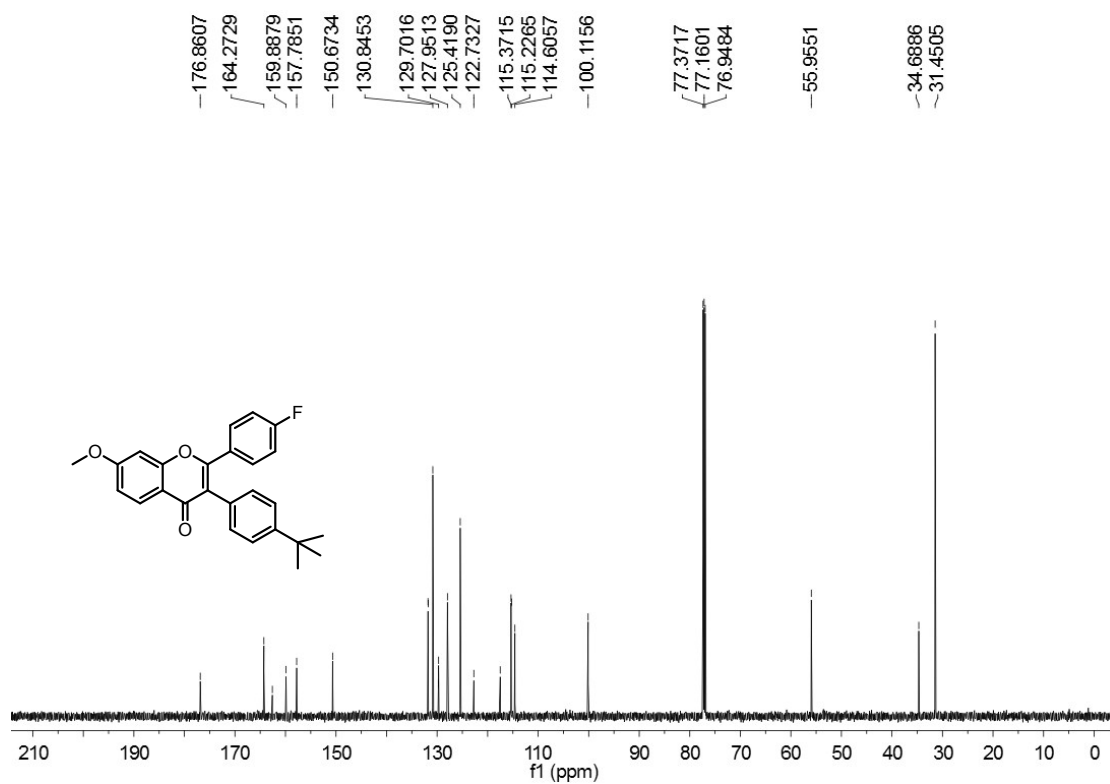
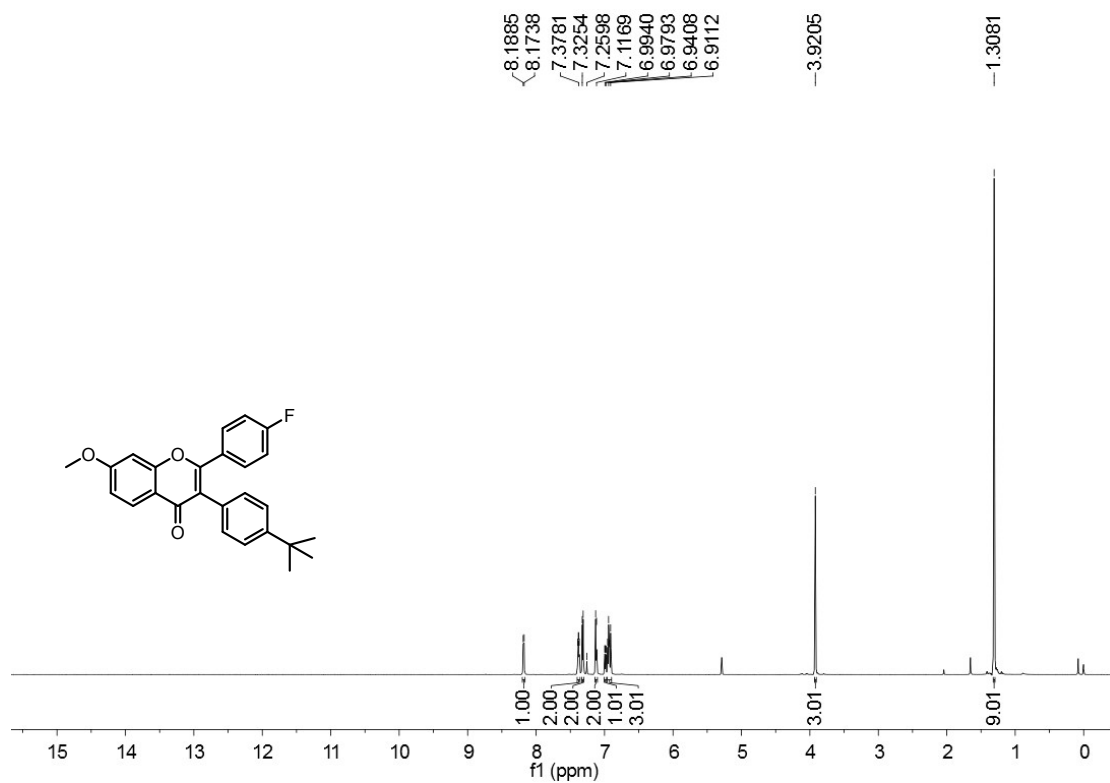
# 1v



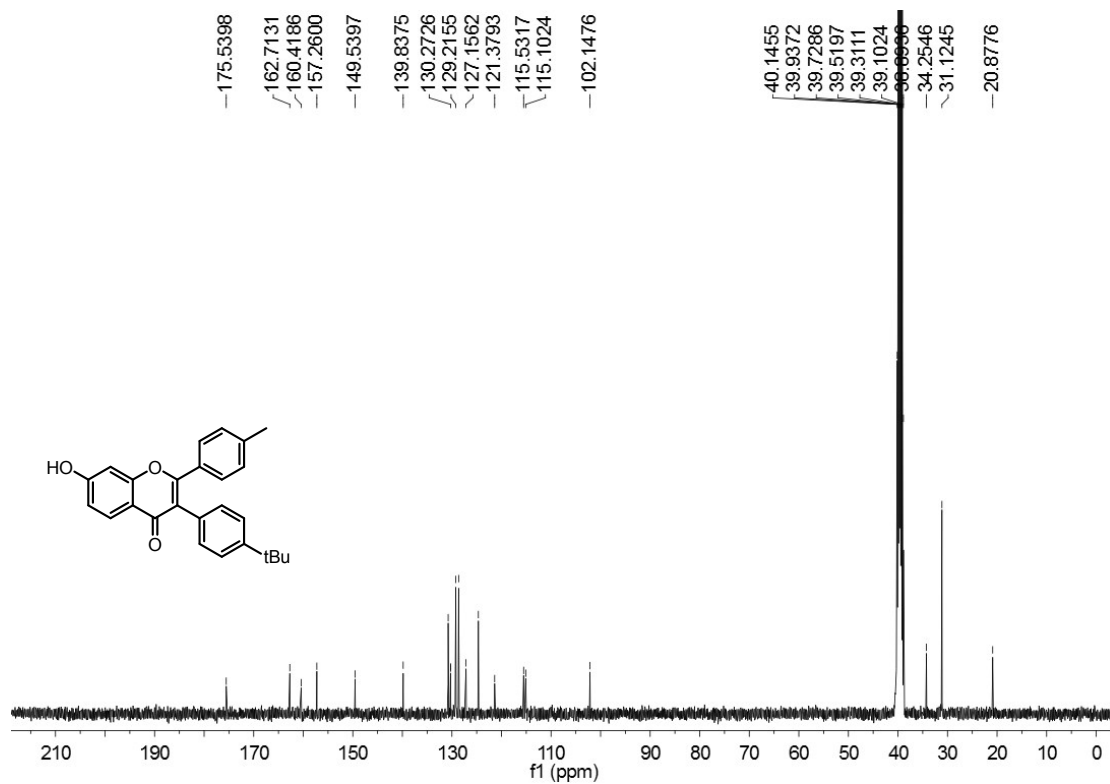
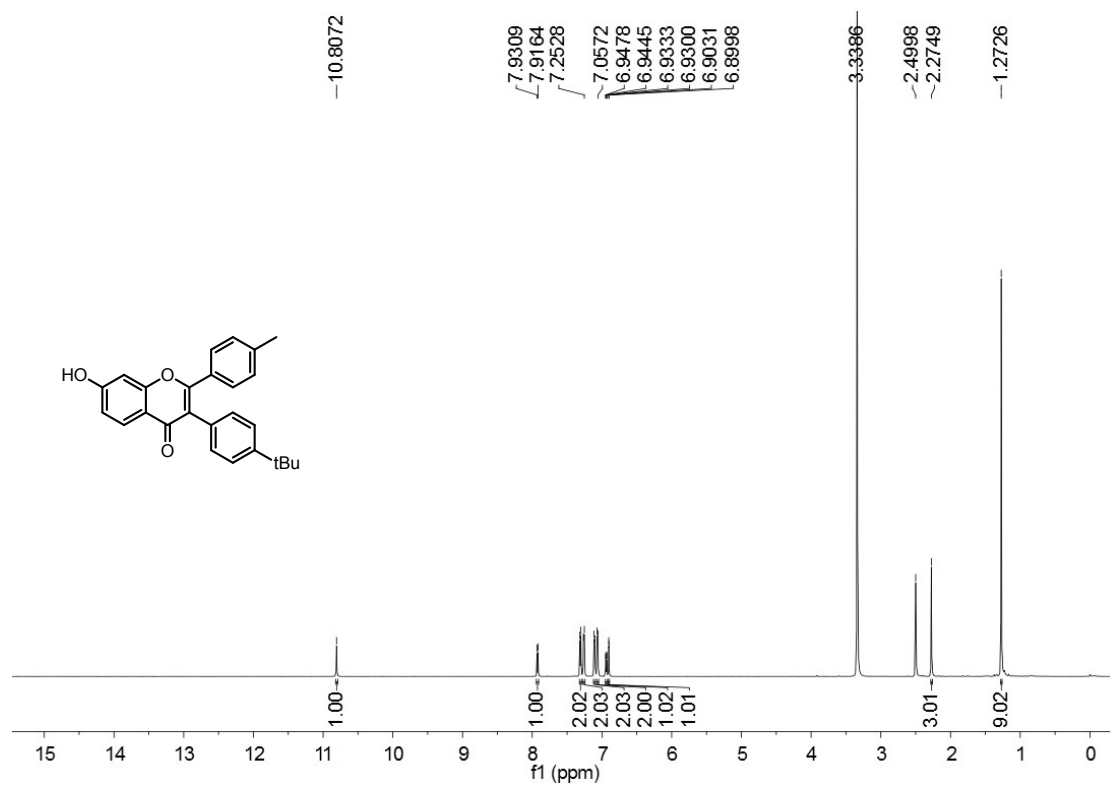
# 1w



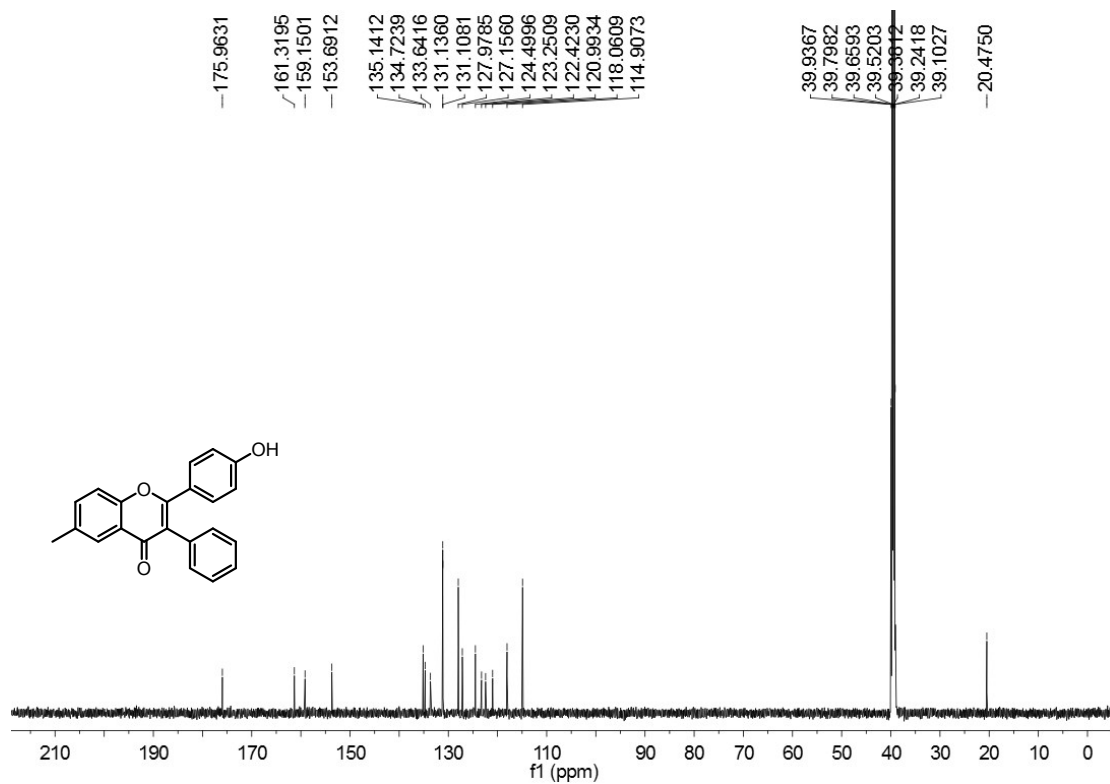
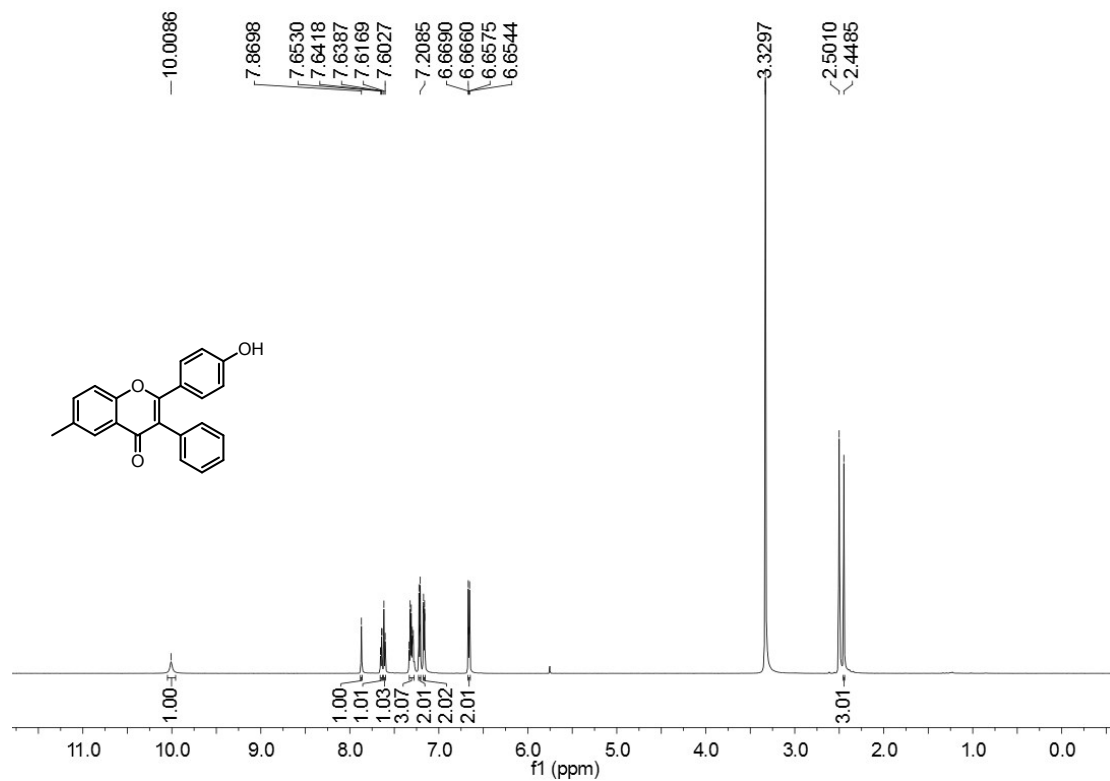
# 1x



# 1y

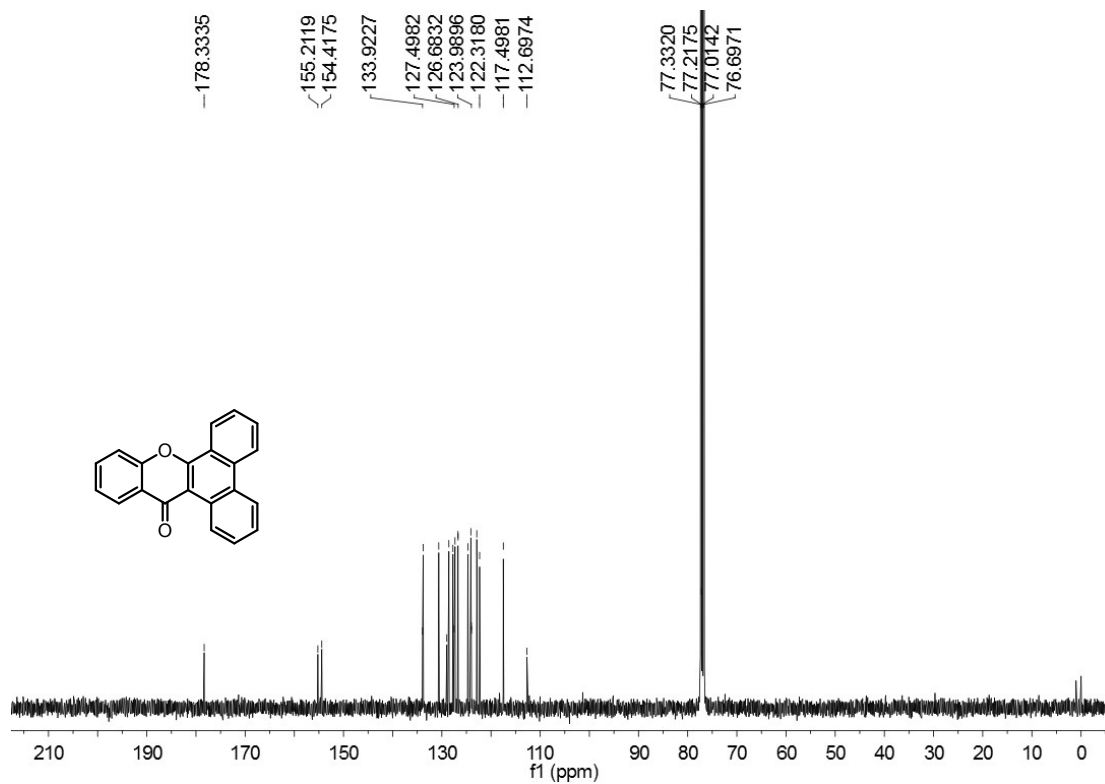
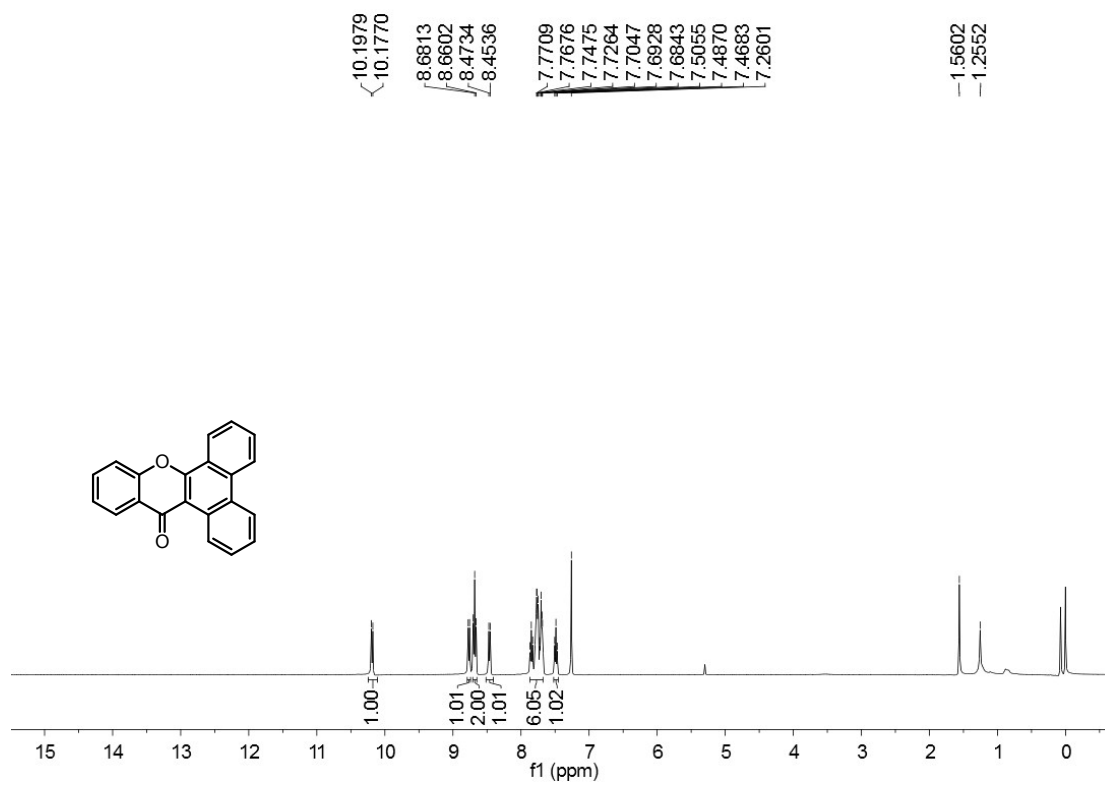


# 1z

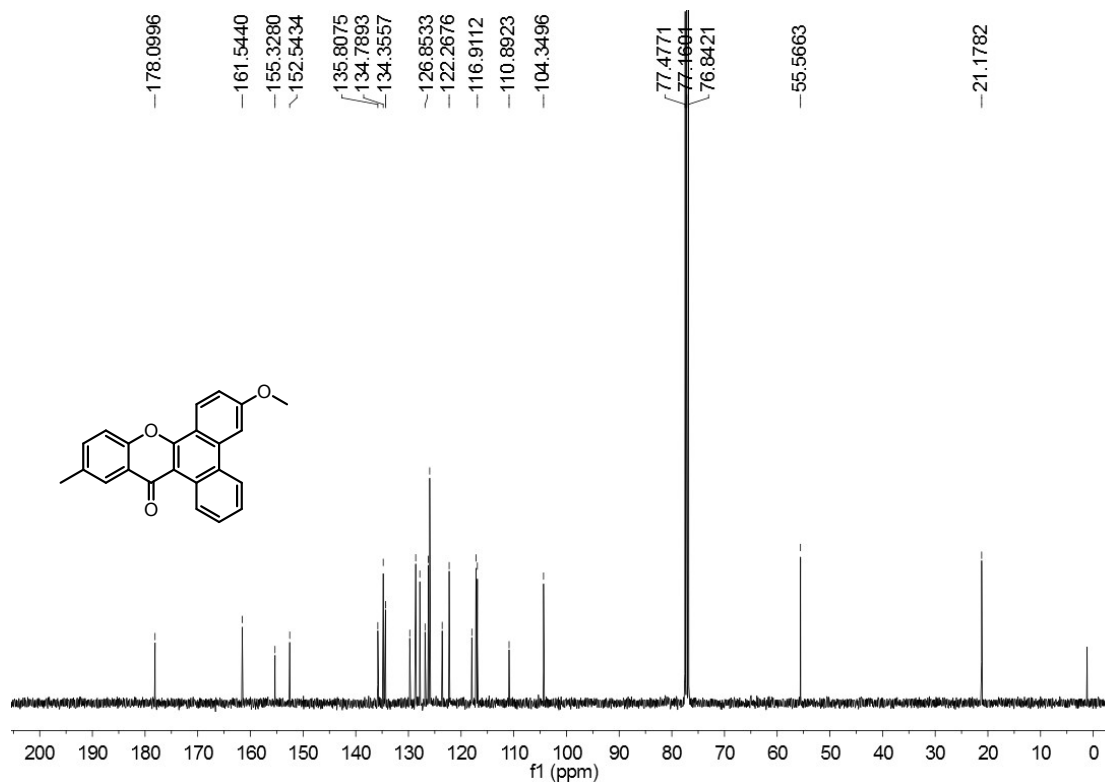
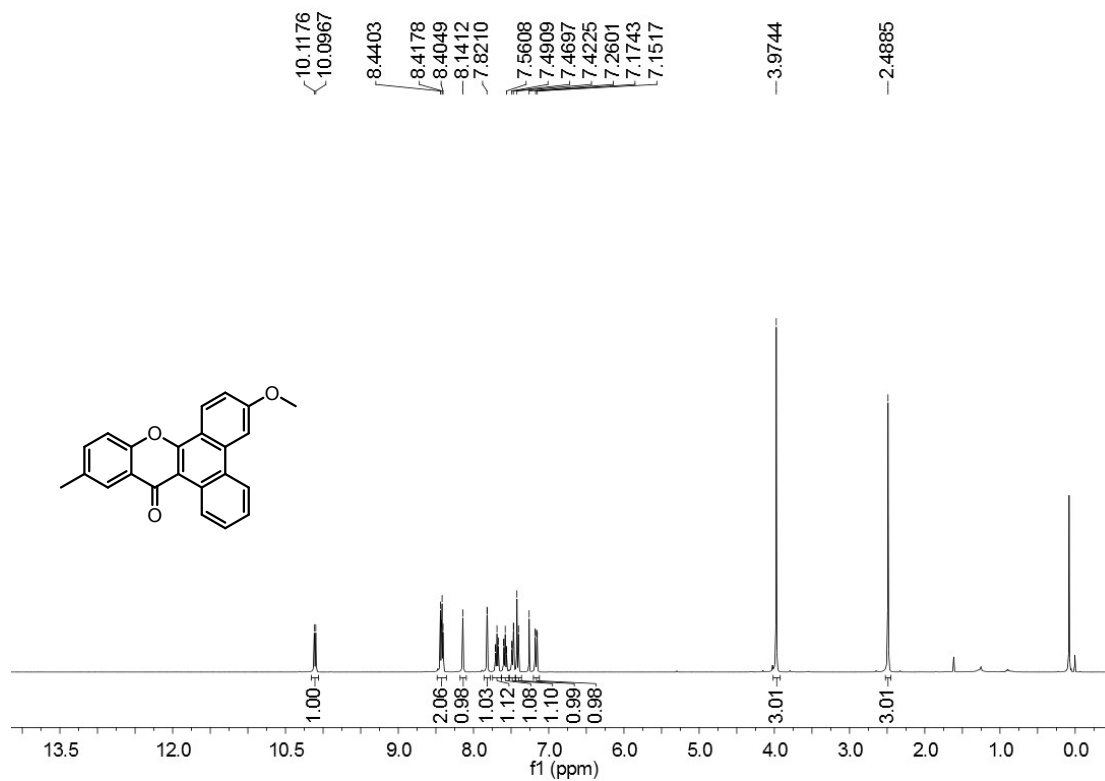




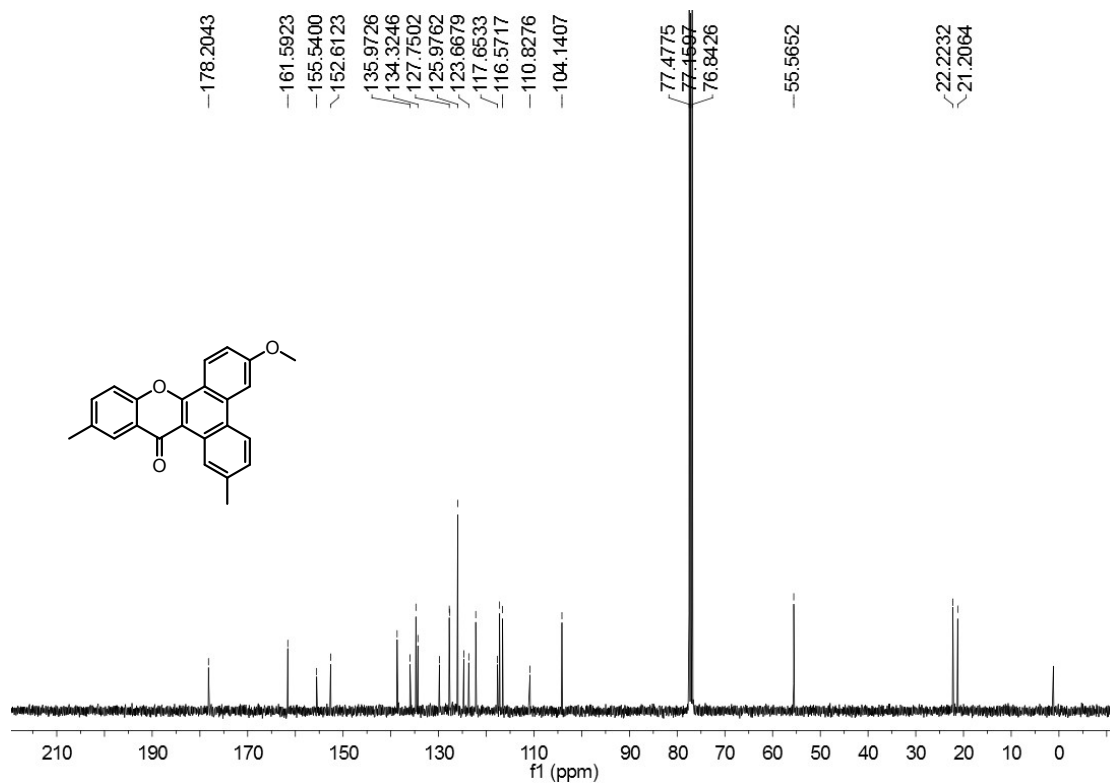
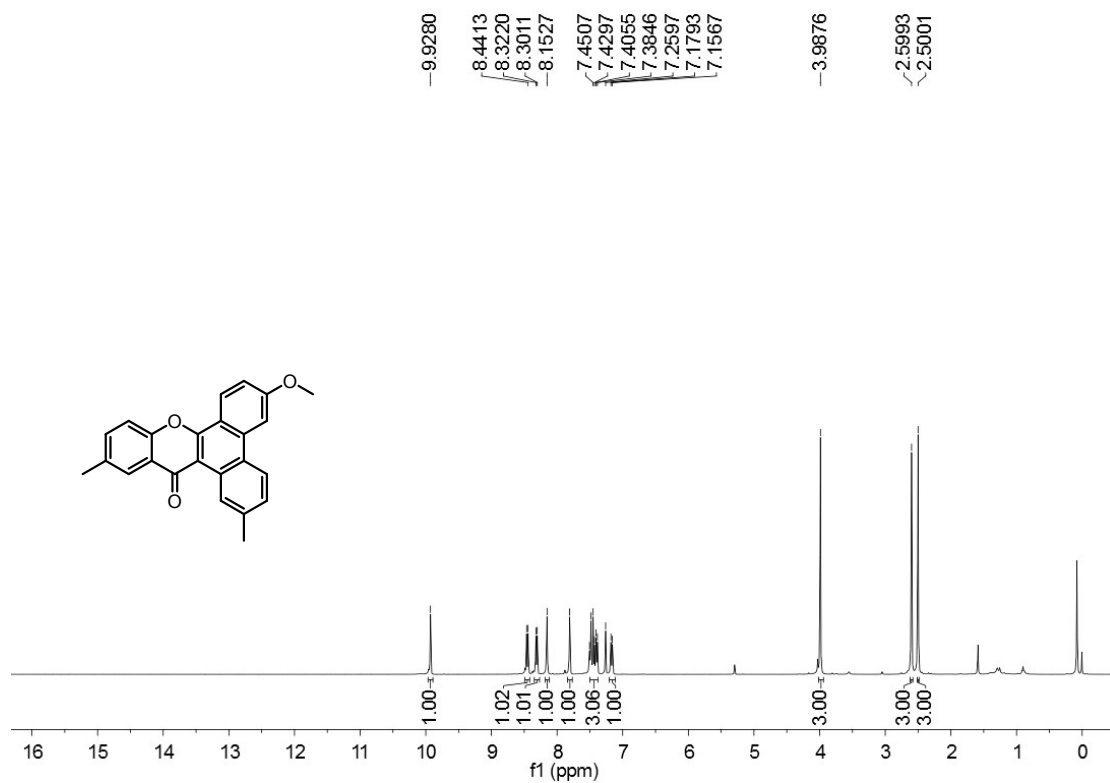
## 2a



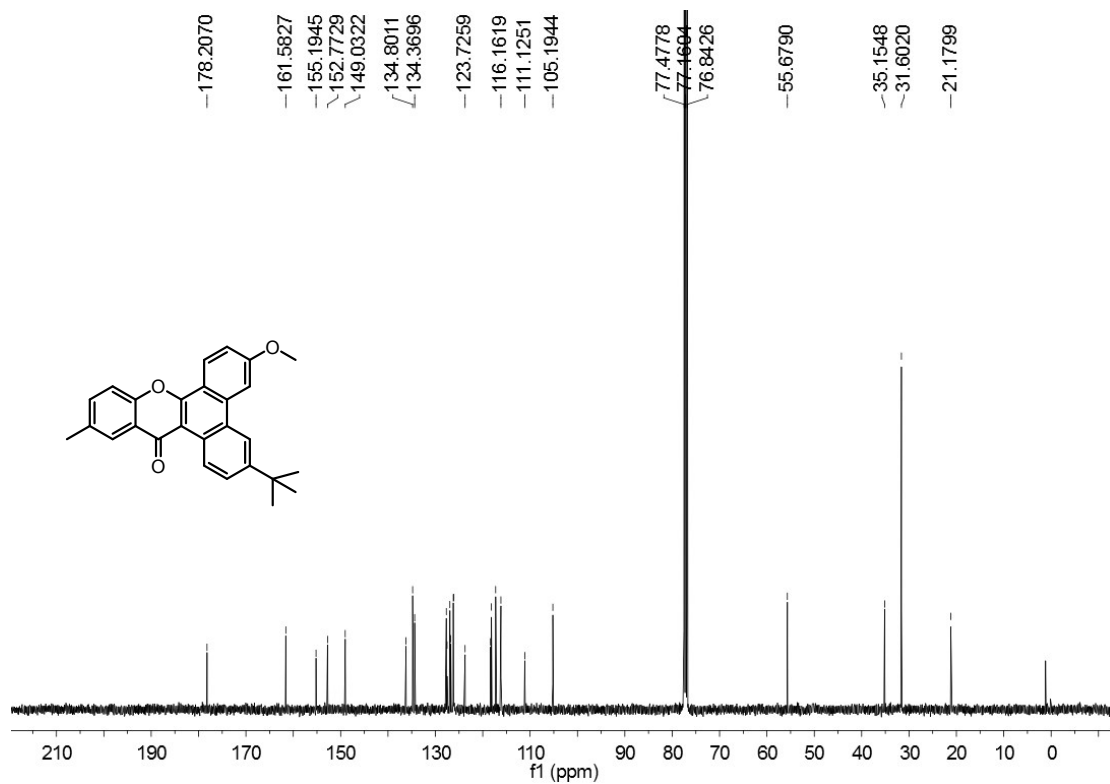
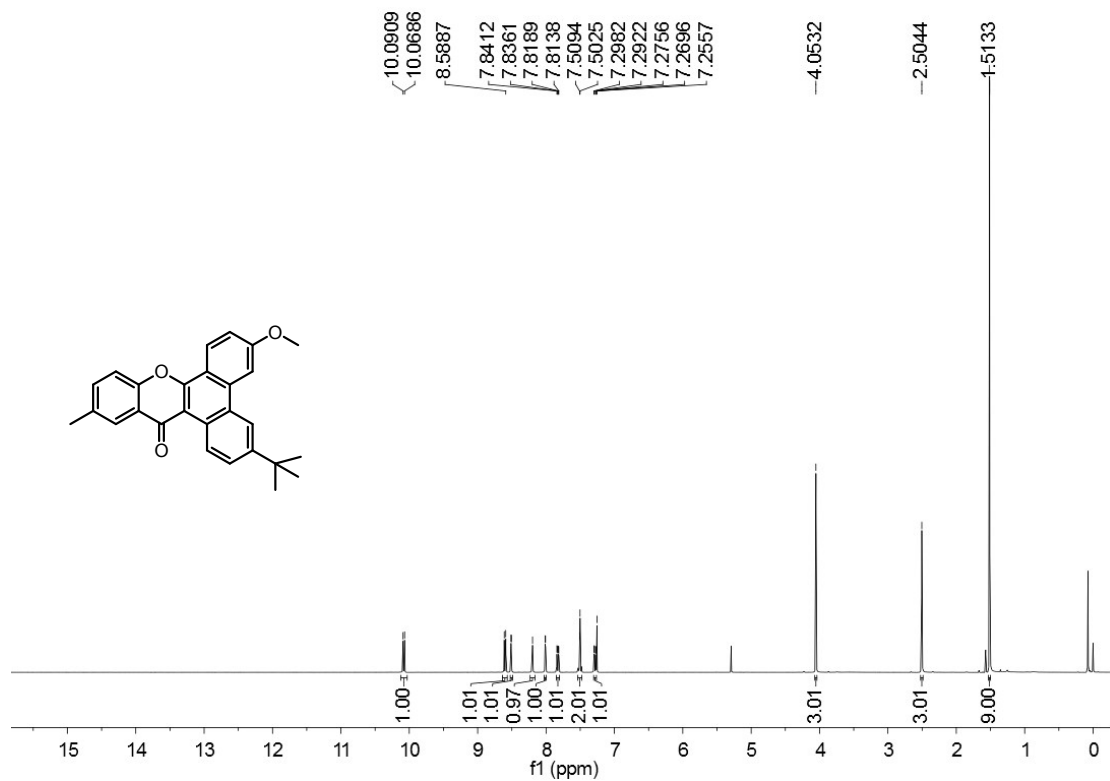
# 2b



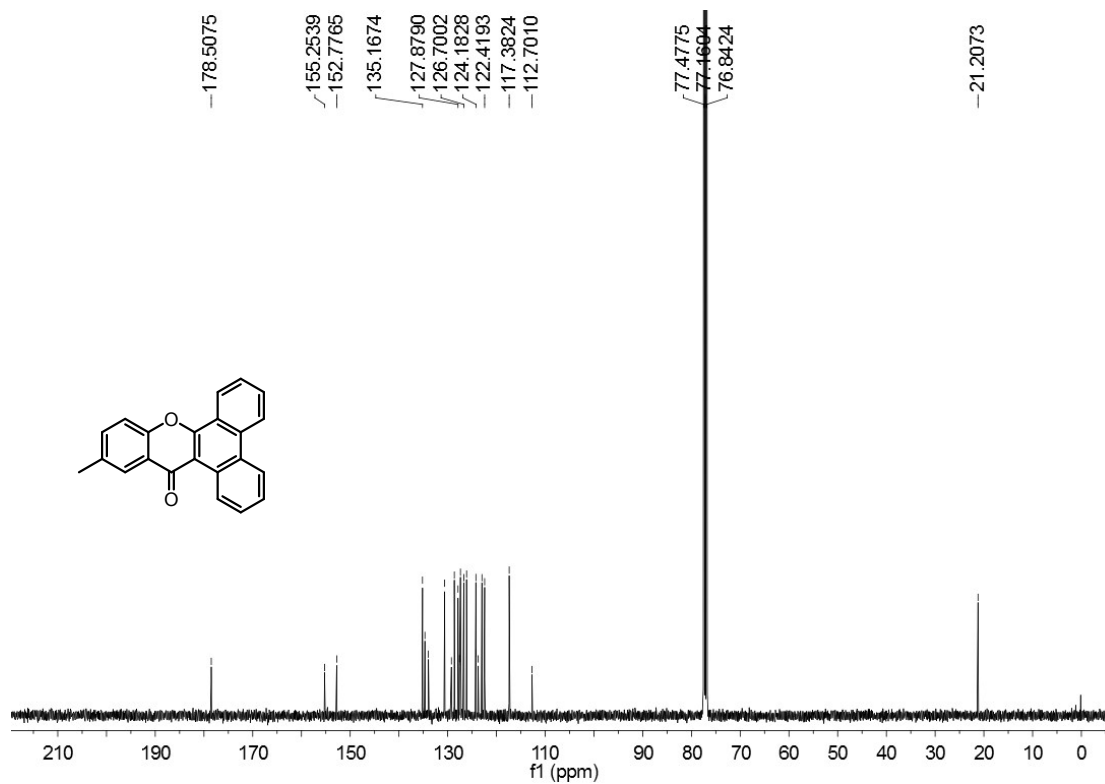
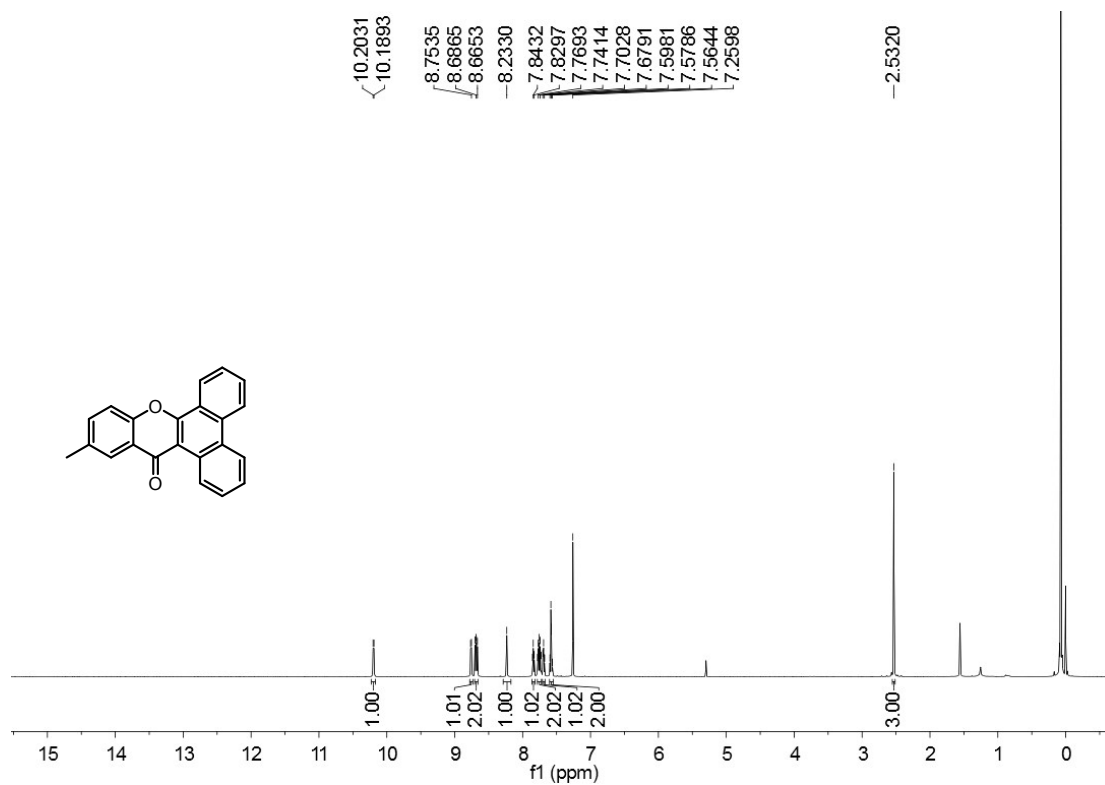
### 2c



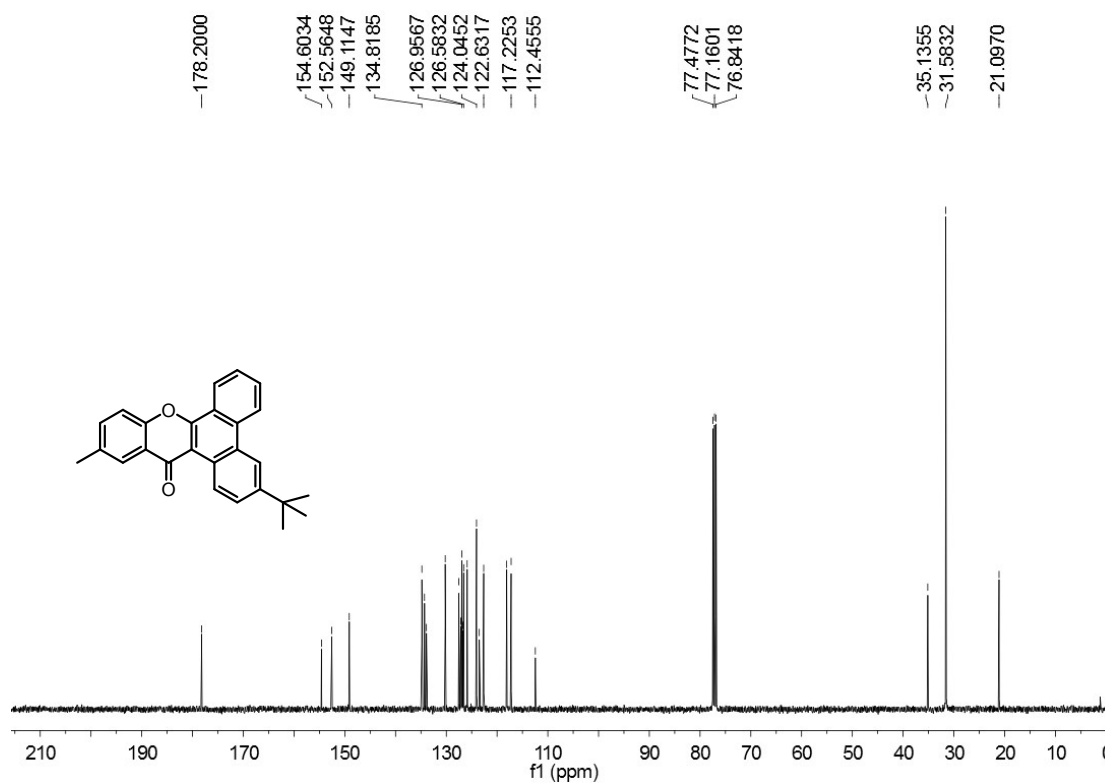
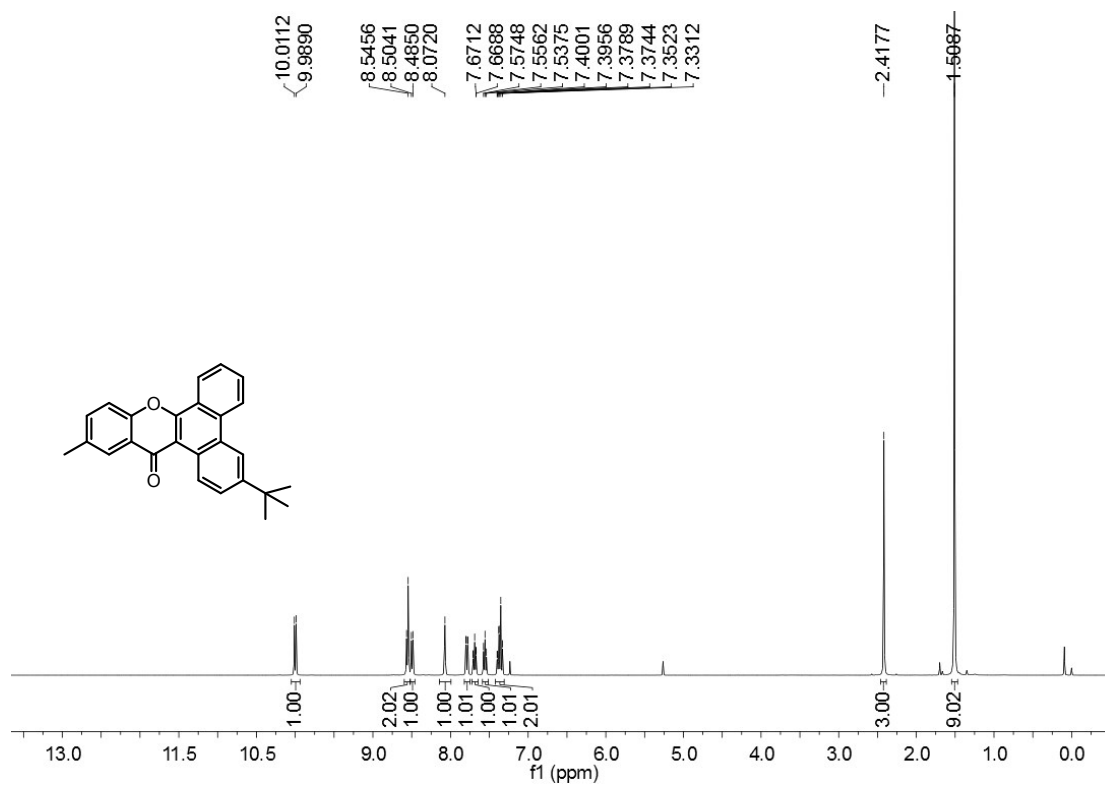
### 2d



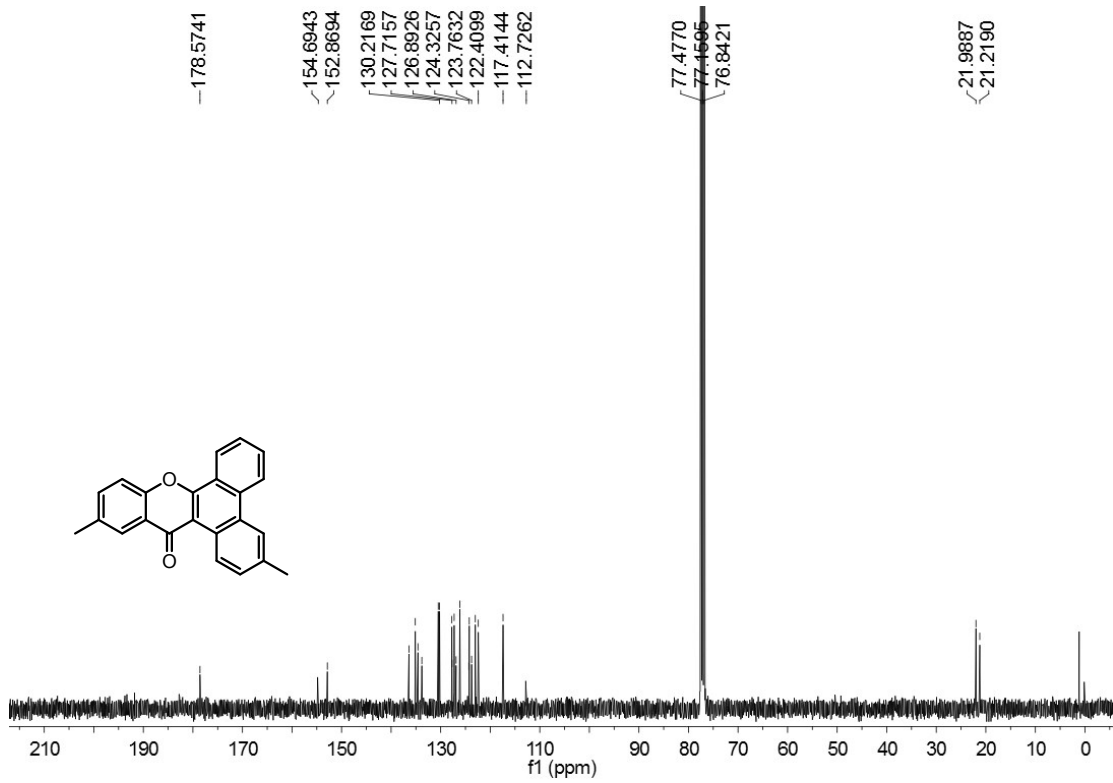
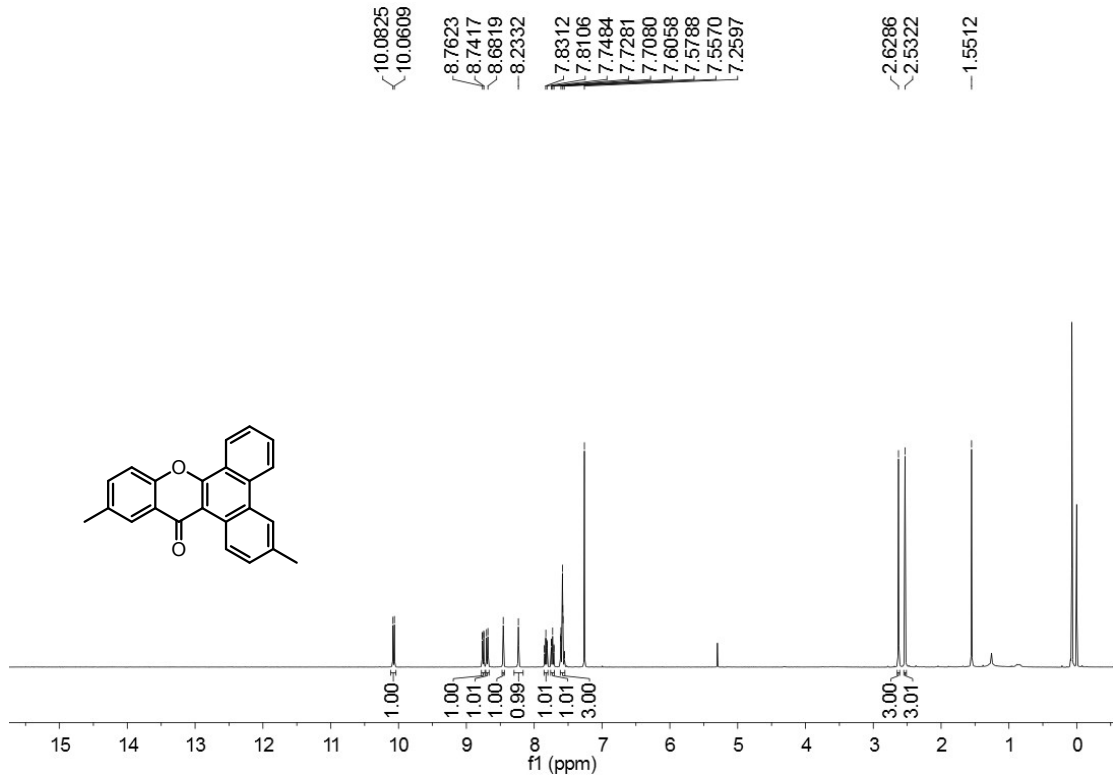
# 2e



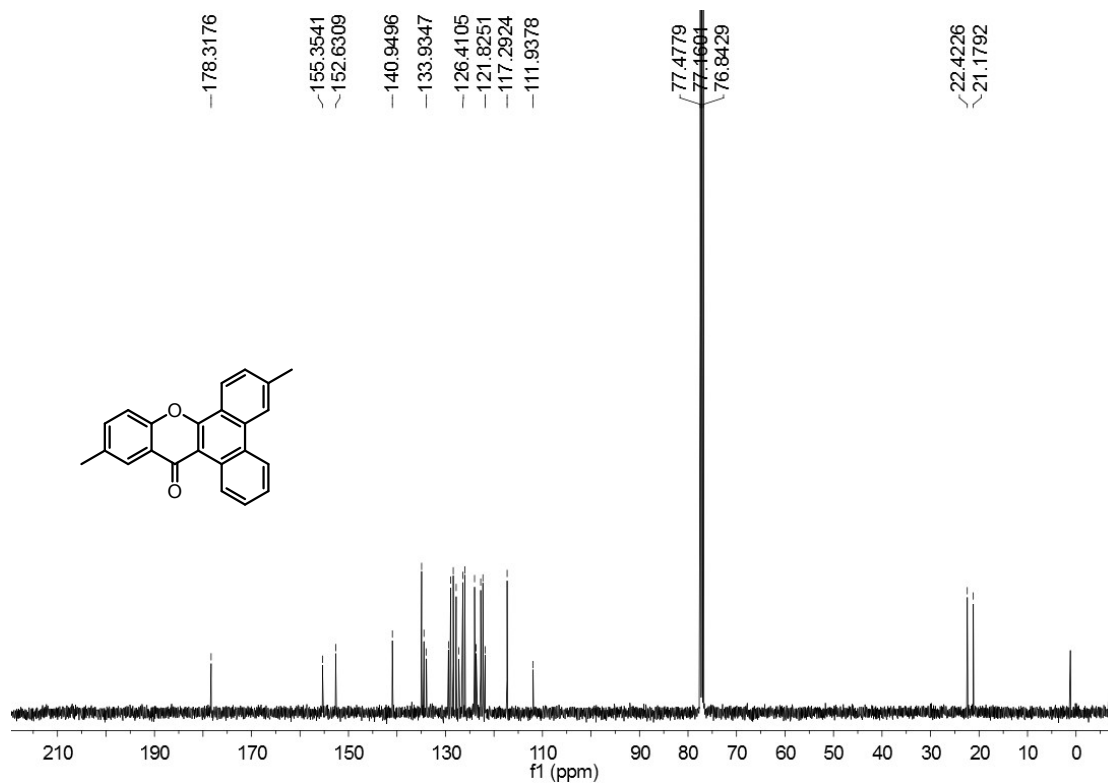
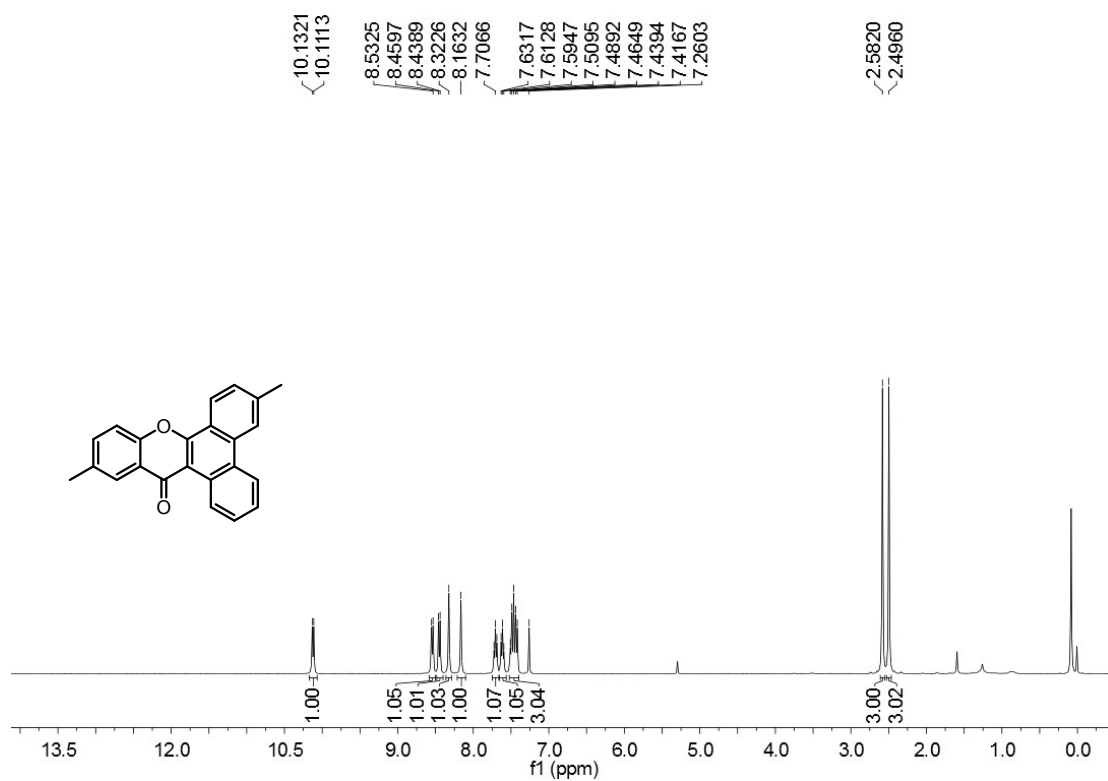
2f



2g

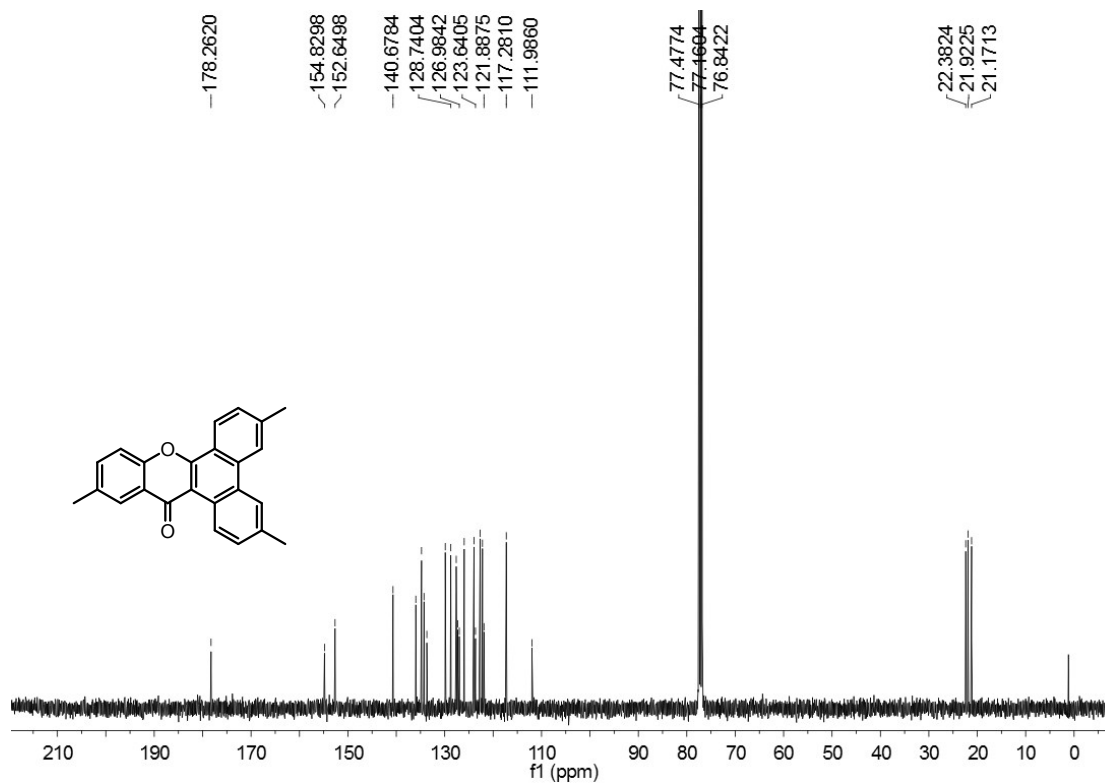
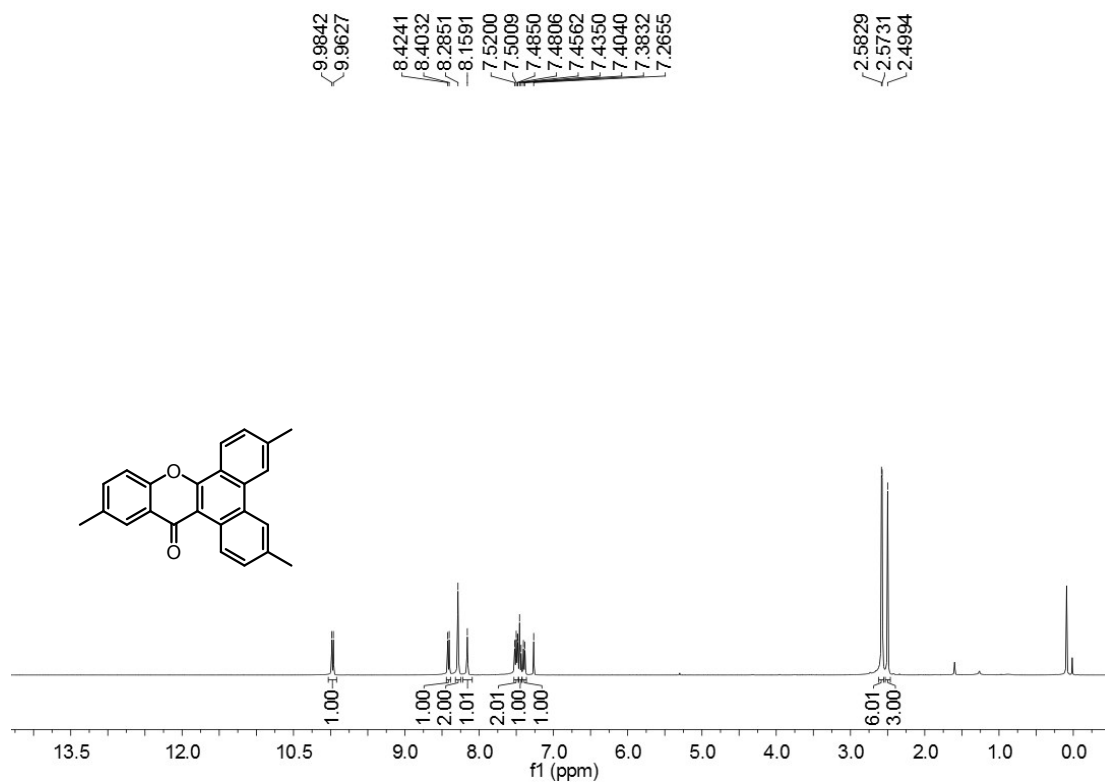


## 2h

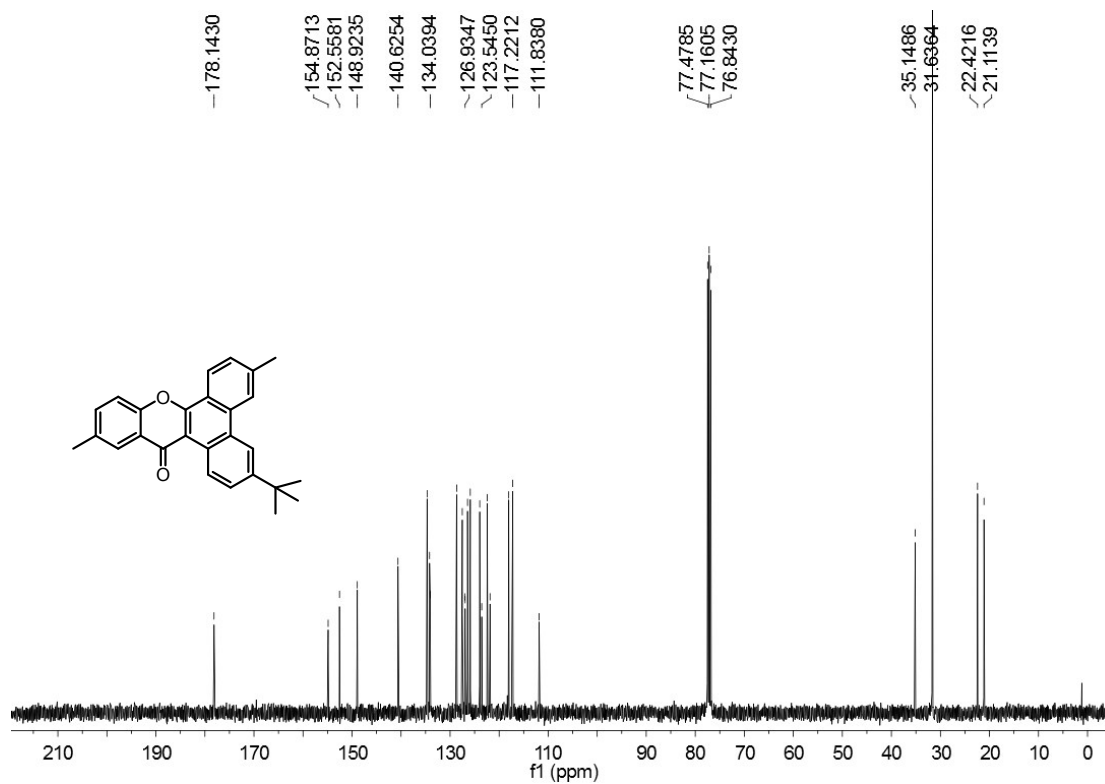
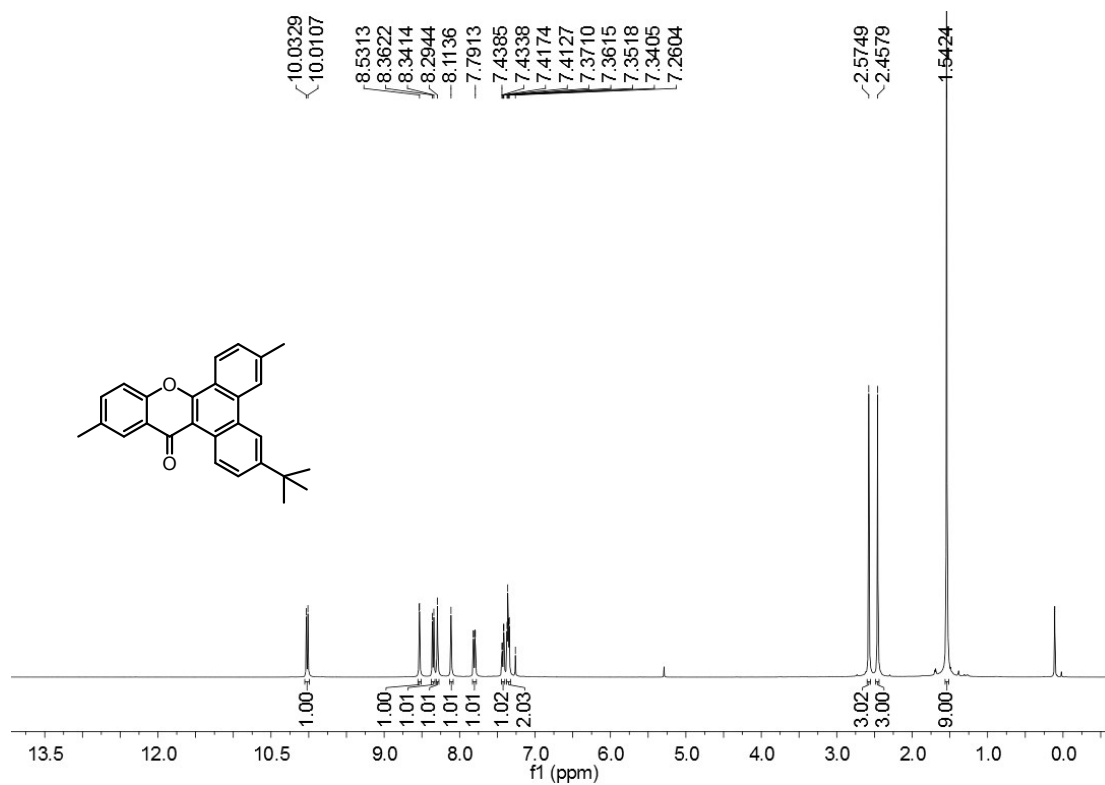




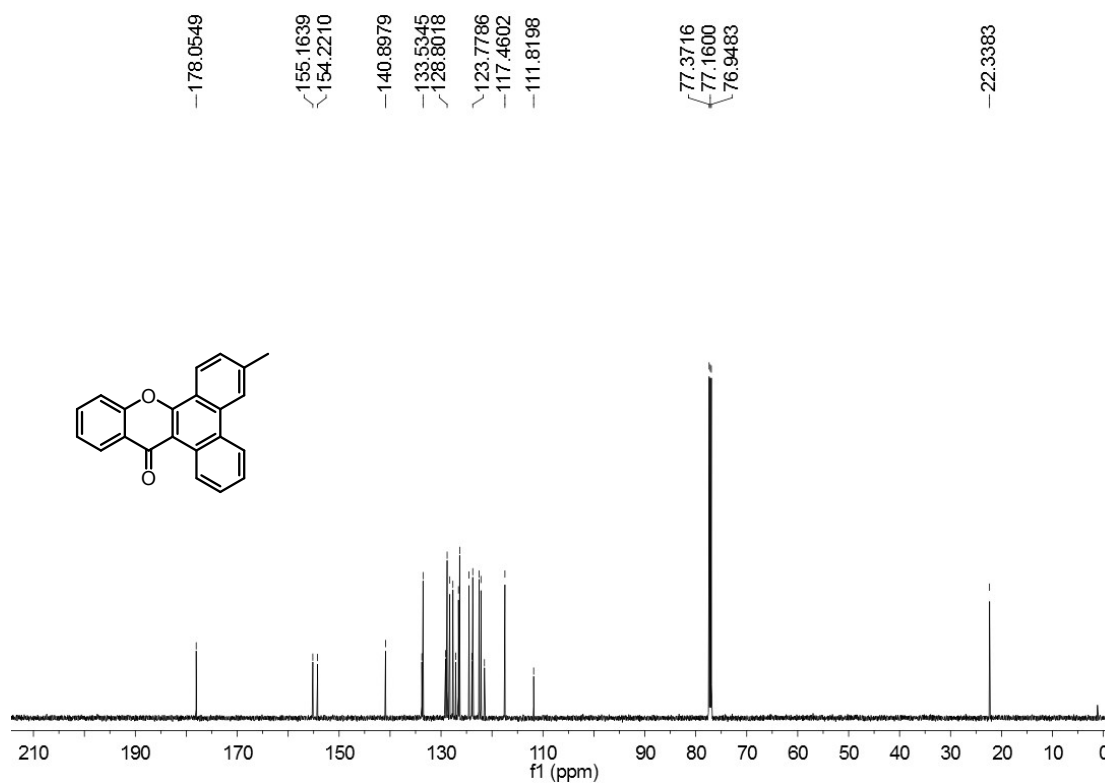
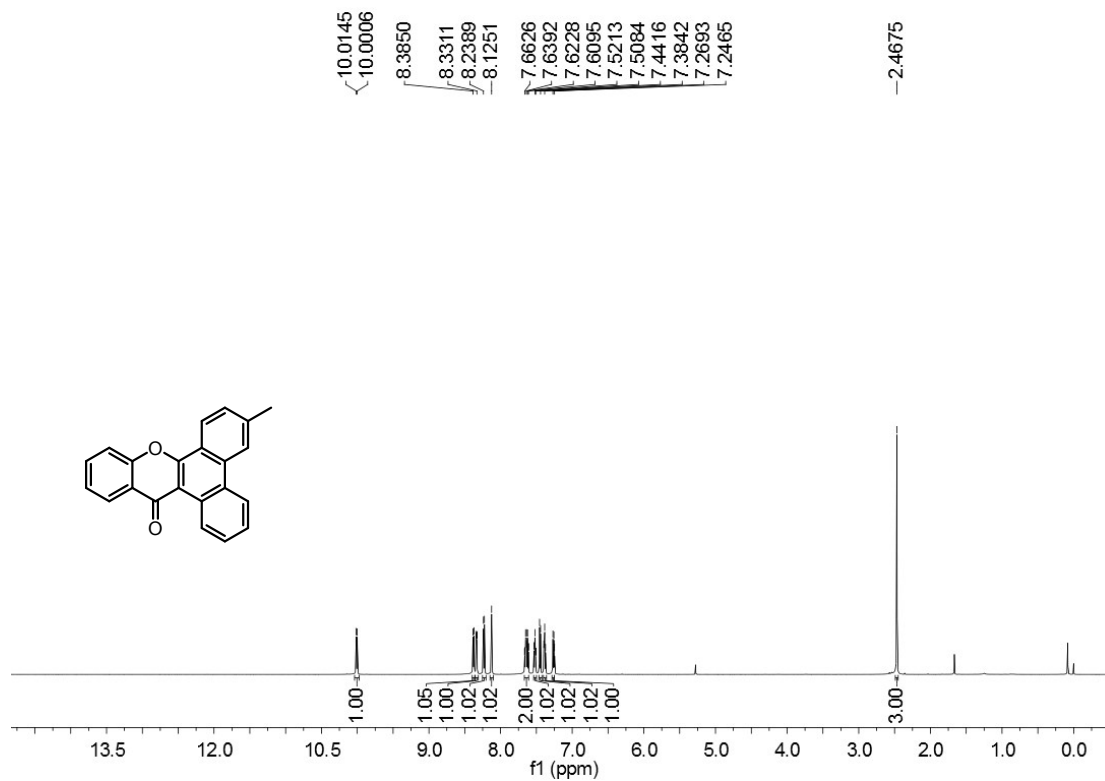
# 2i



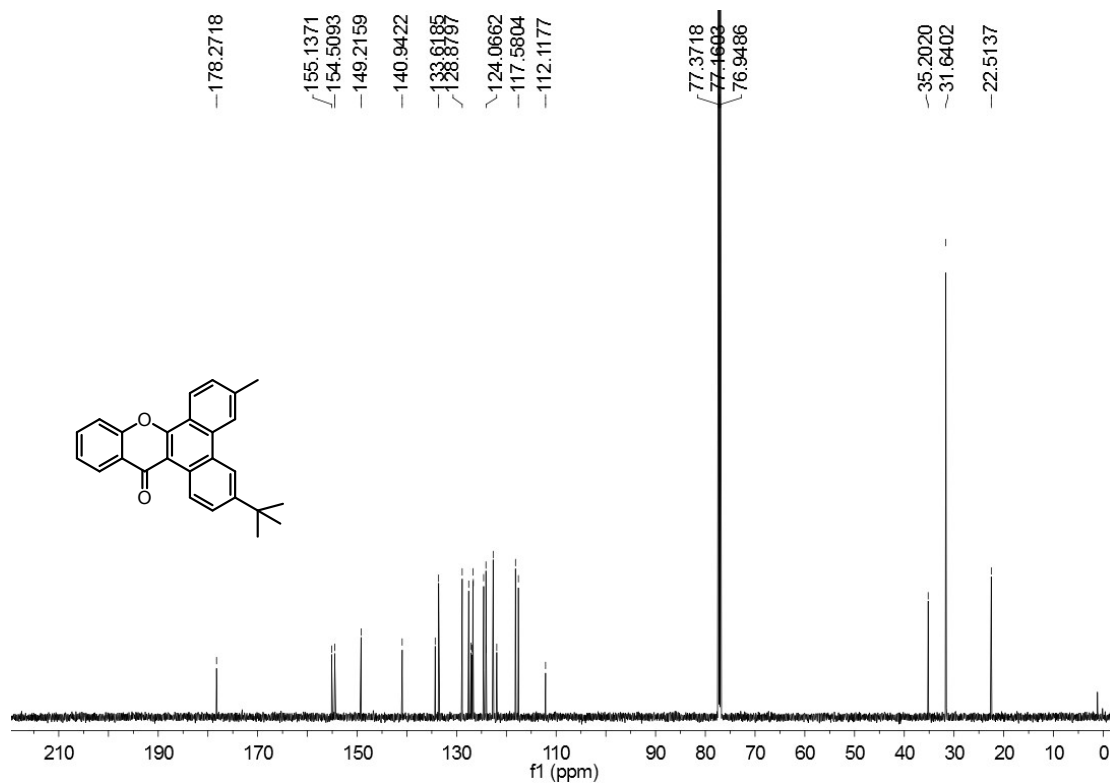
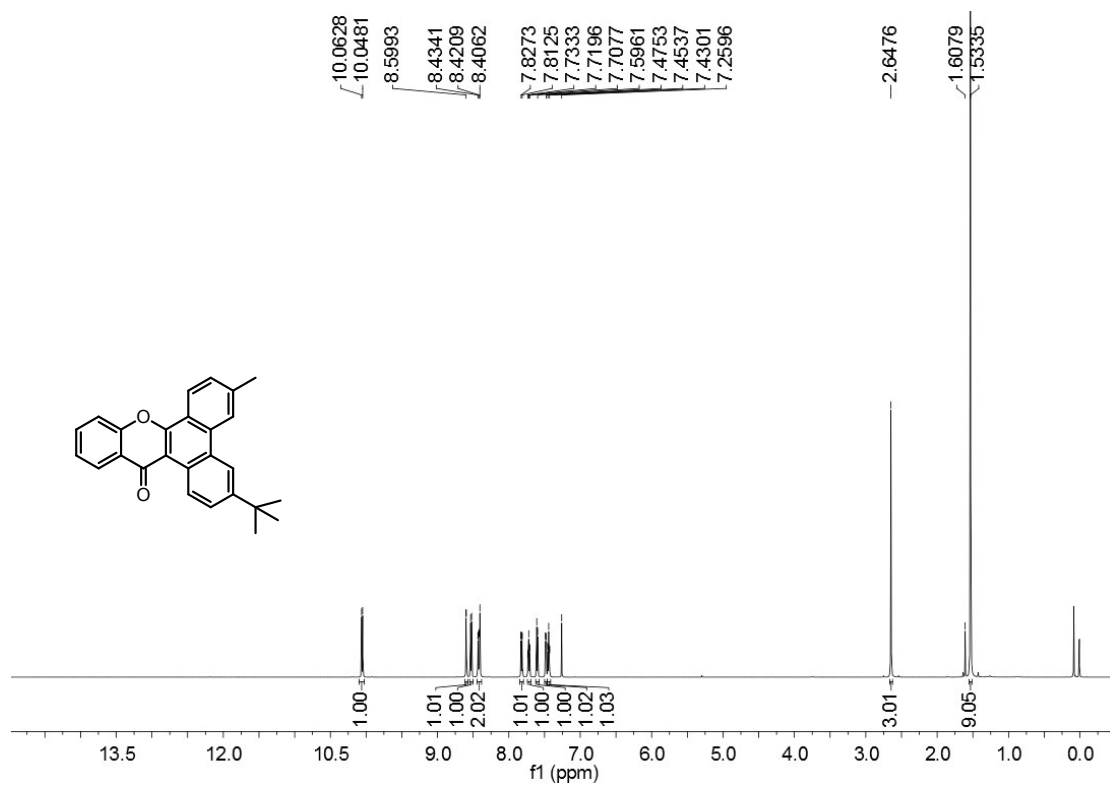
2j



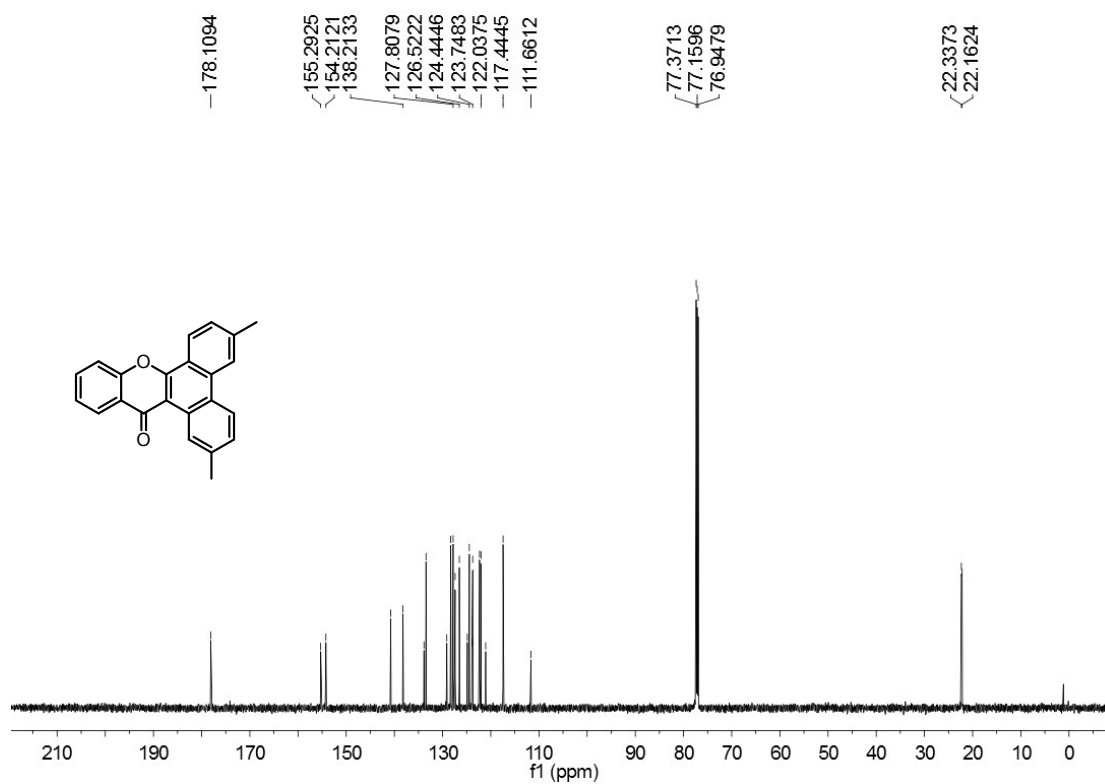
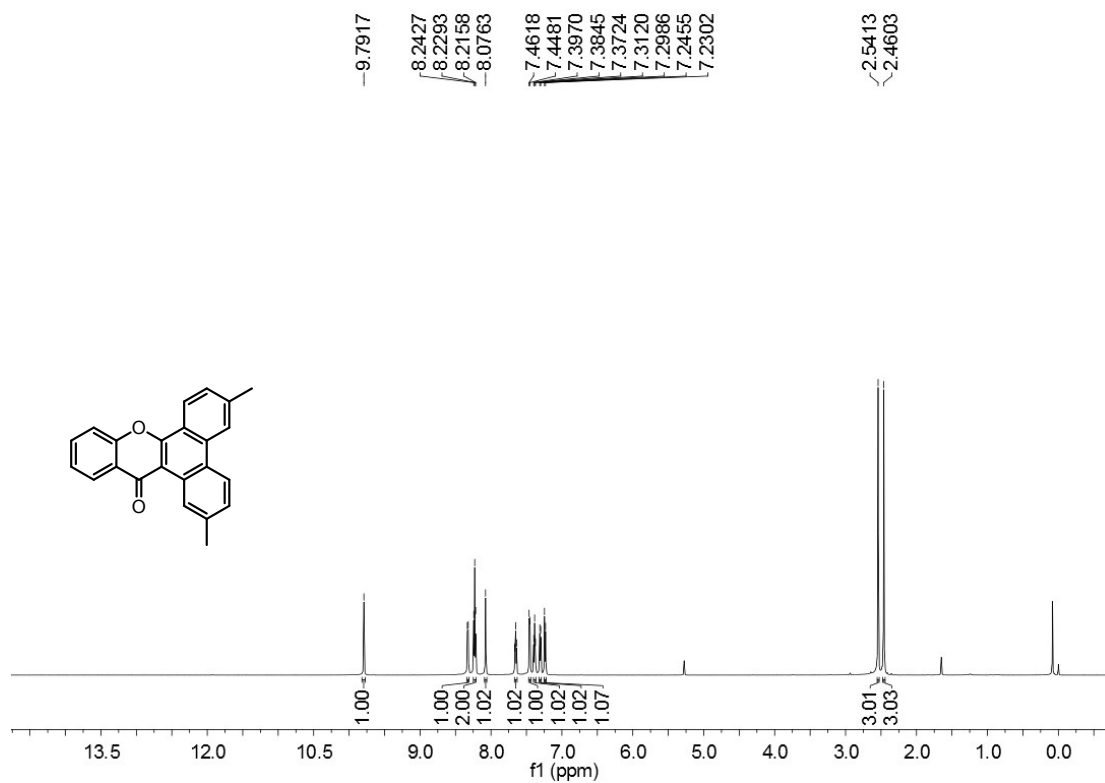
# 2k



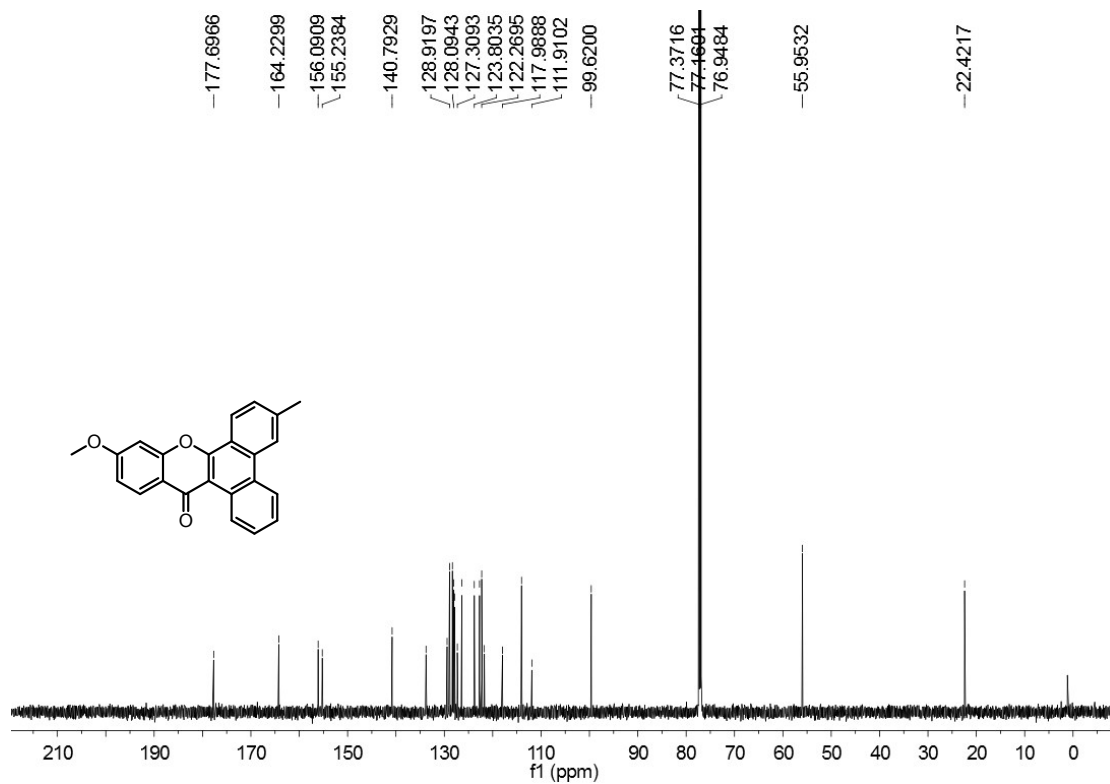
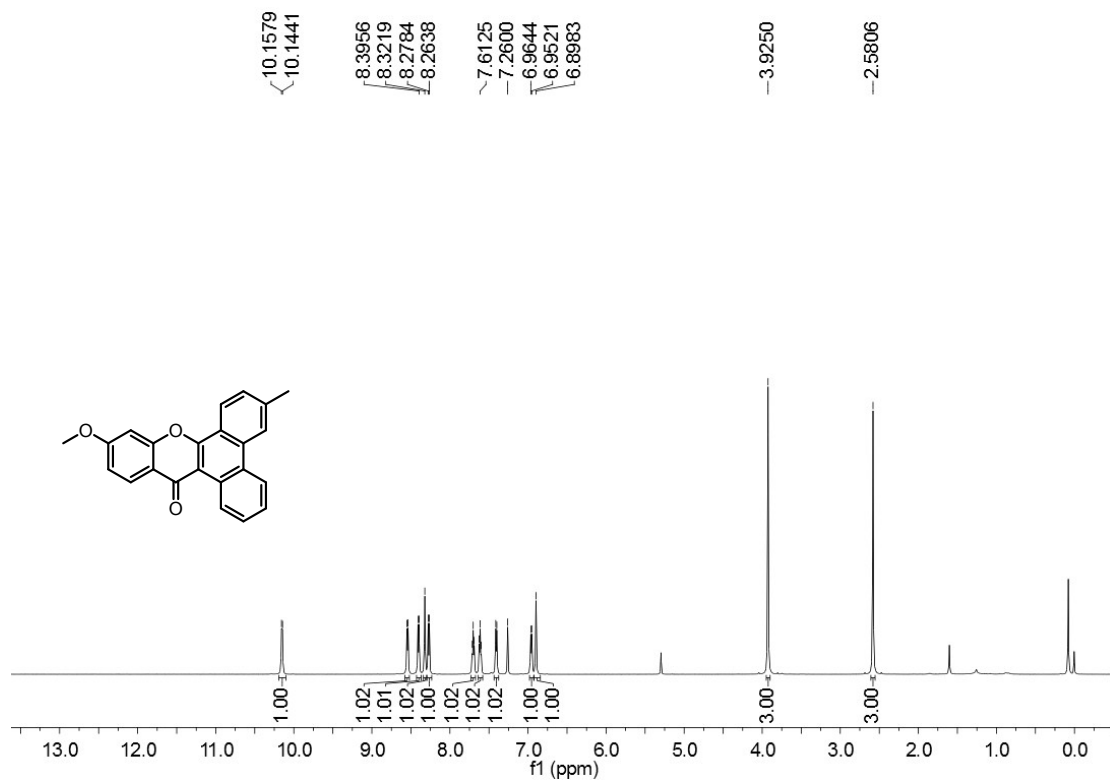
21



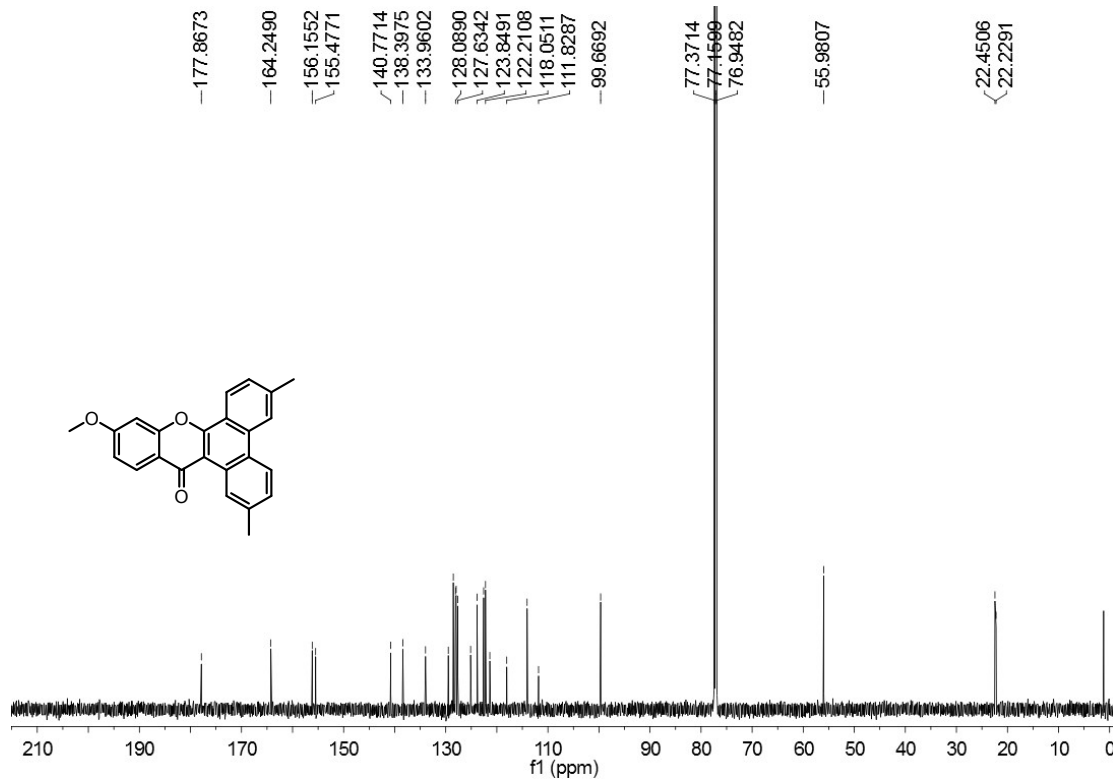
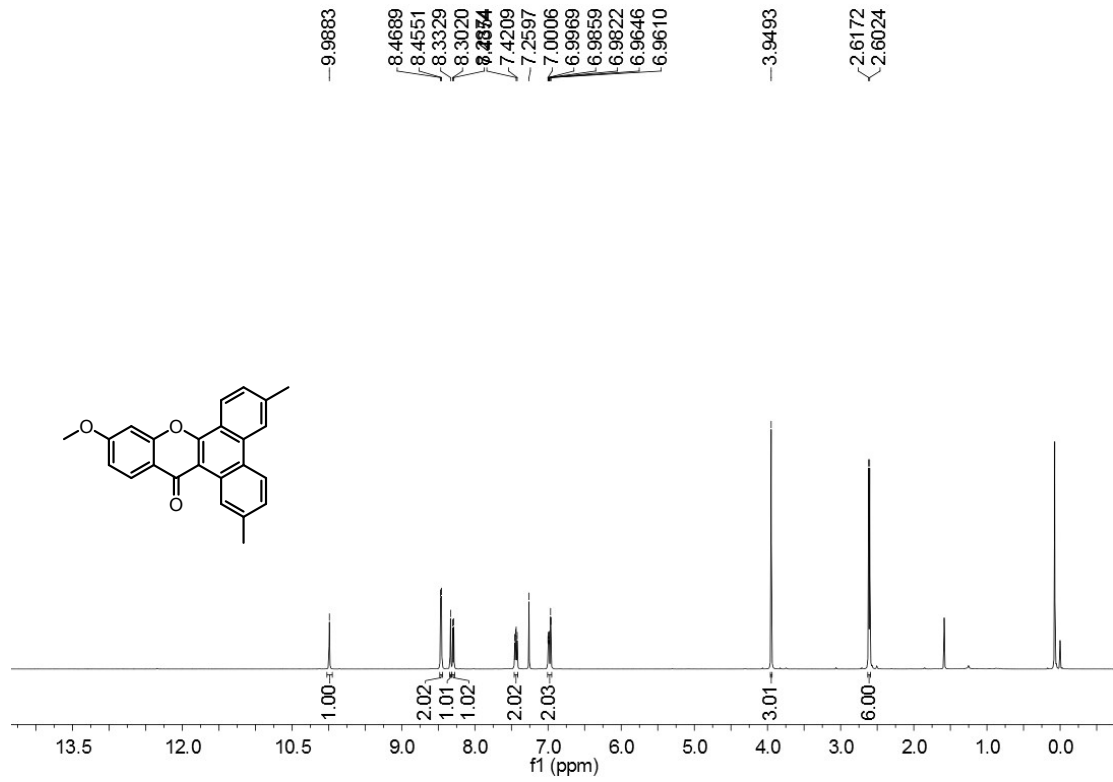
# 2m



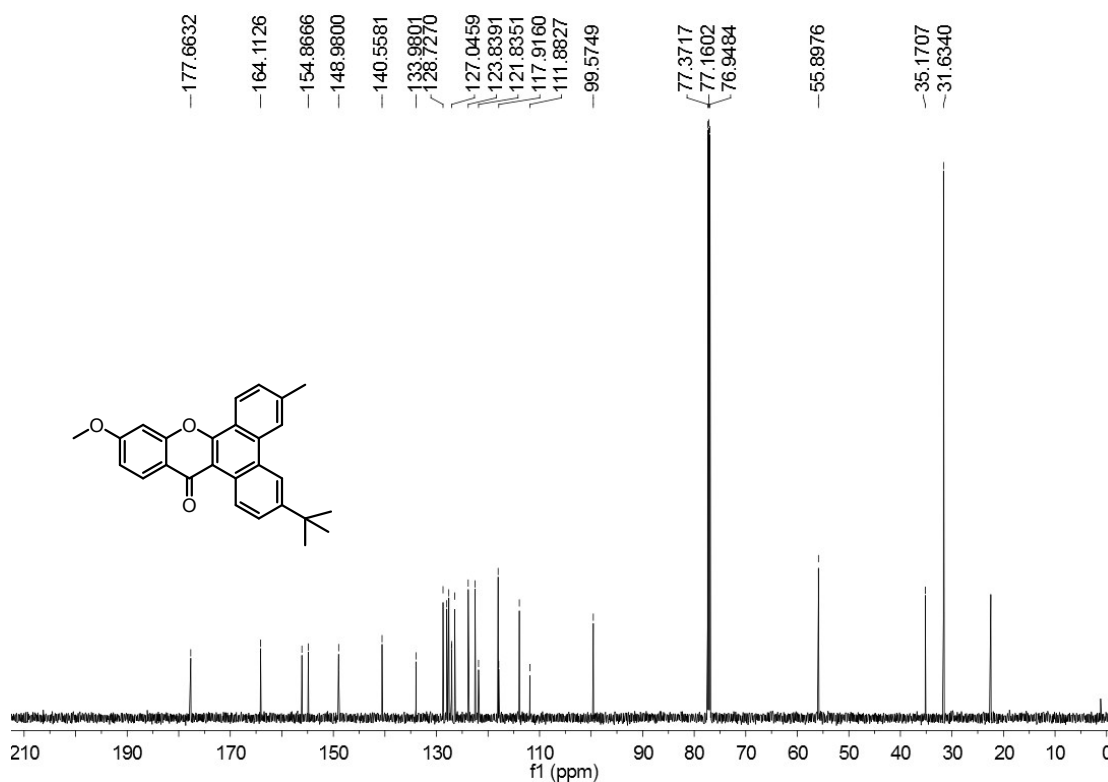
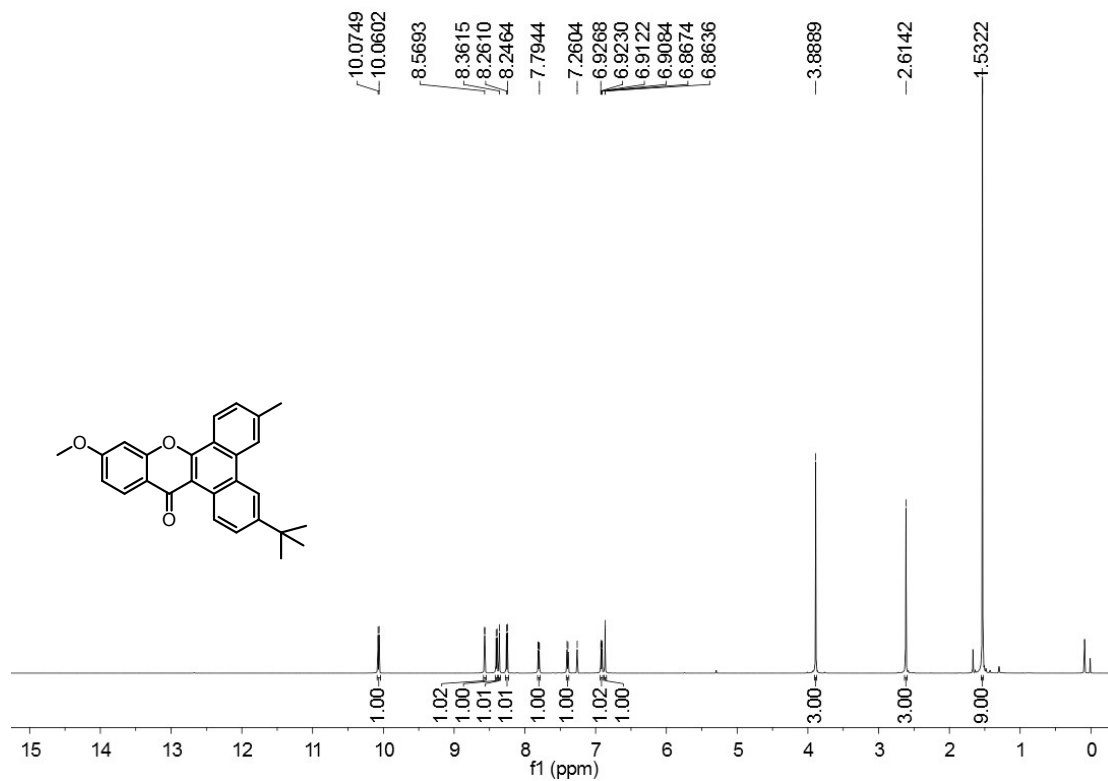
# 2n



2o

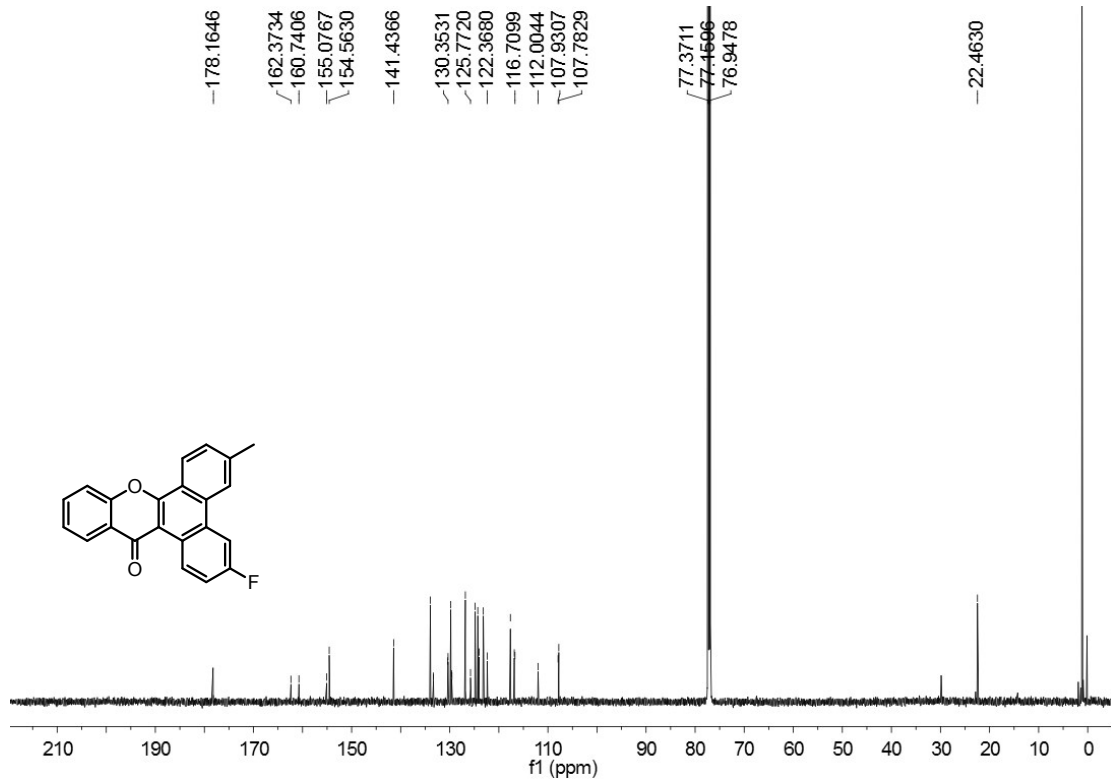
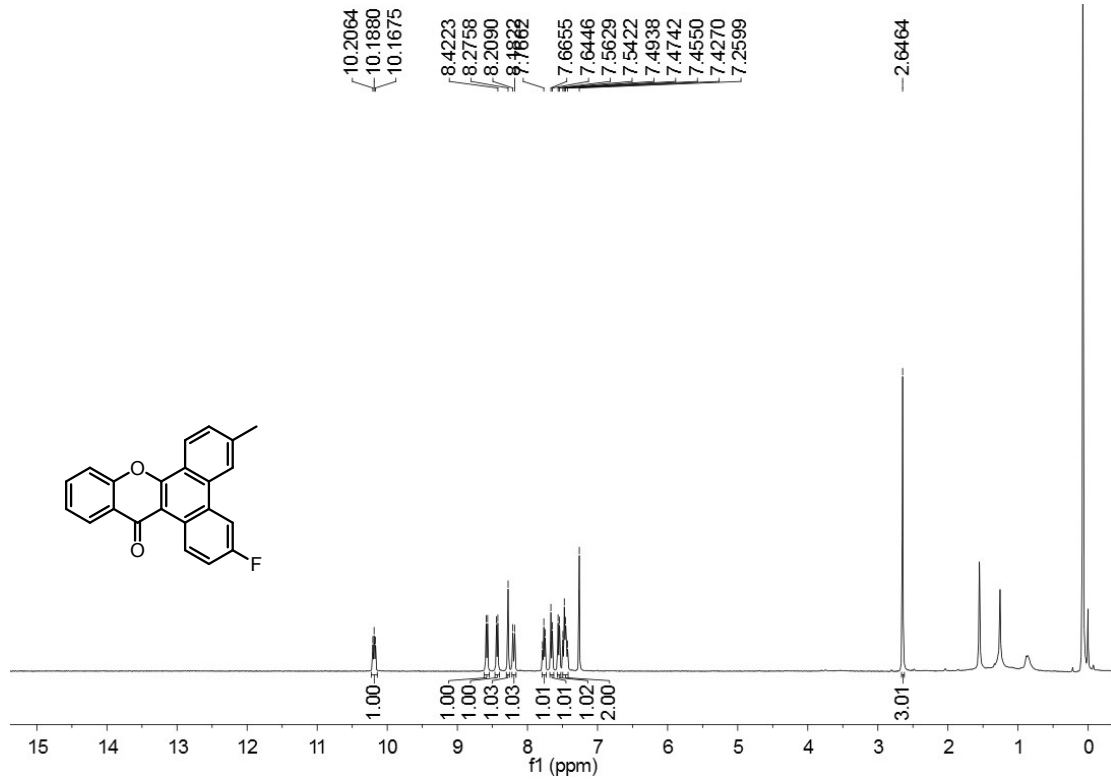


## 2p

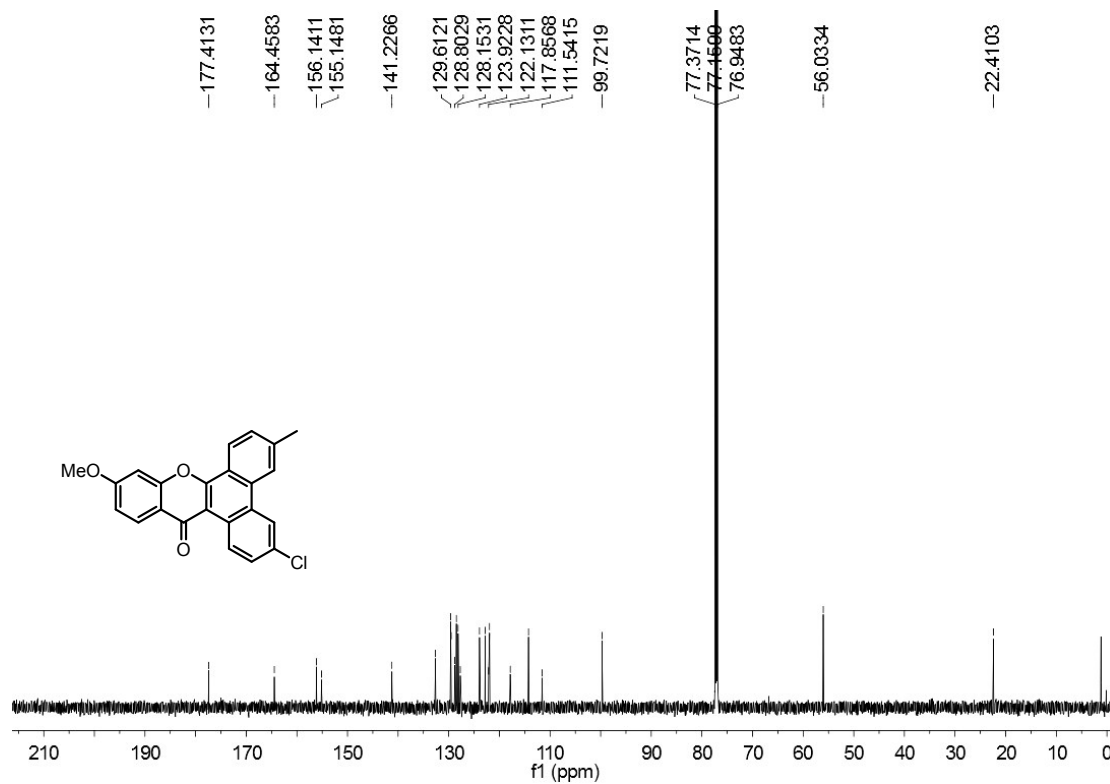
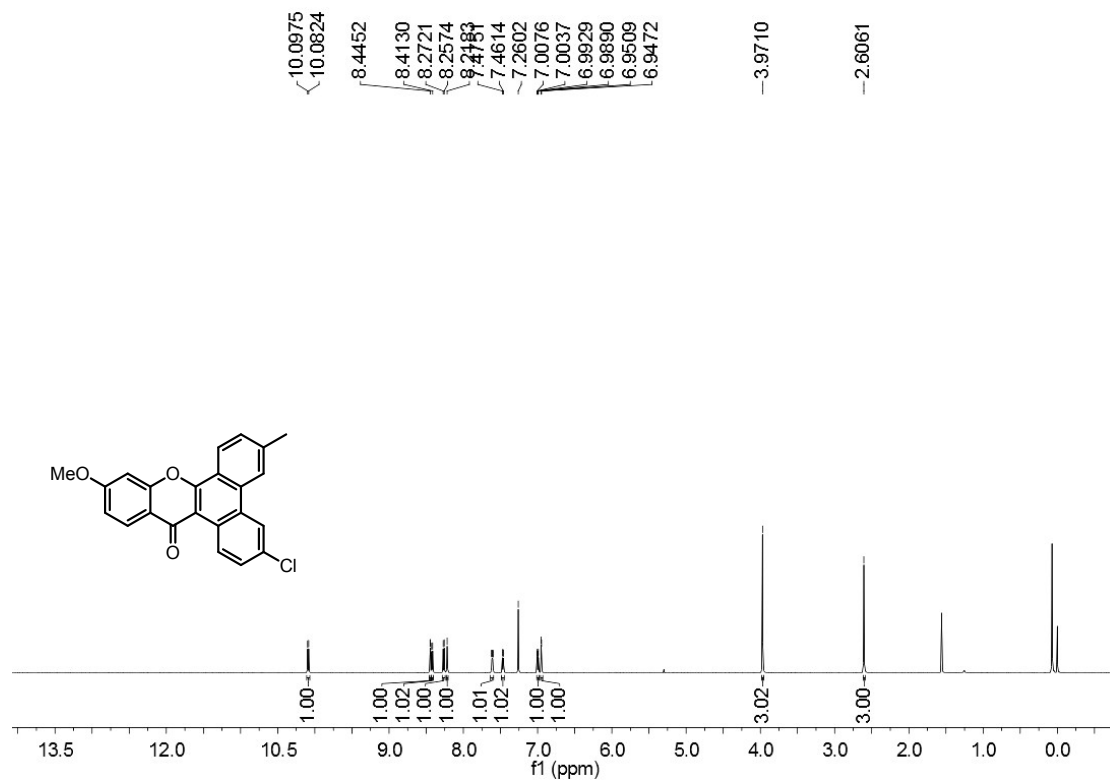




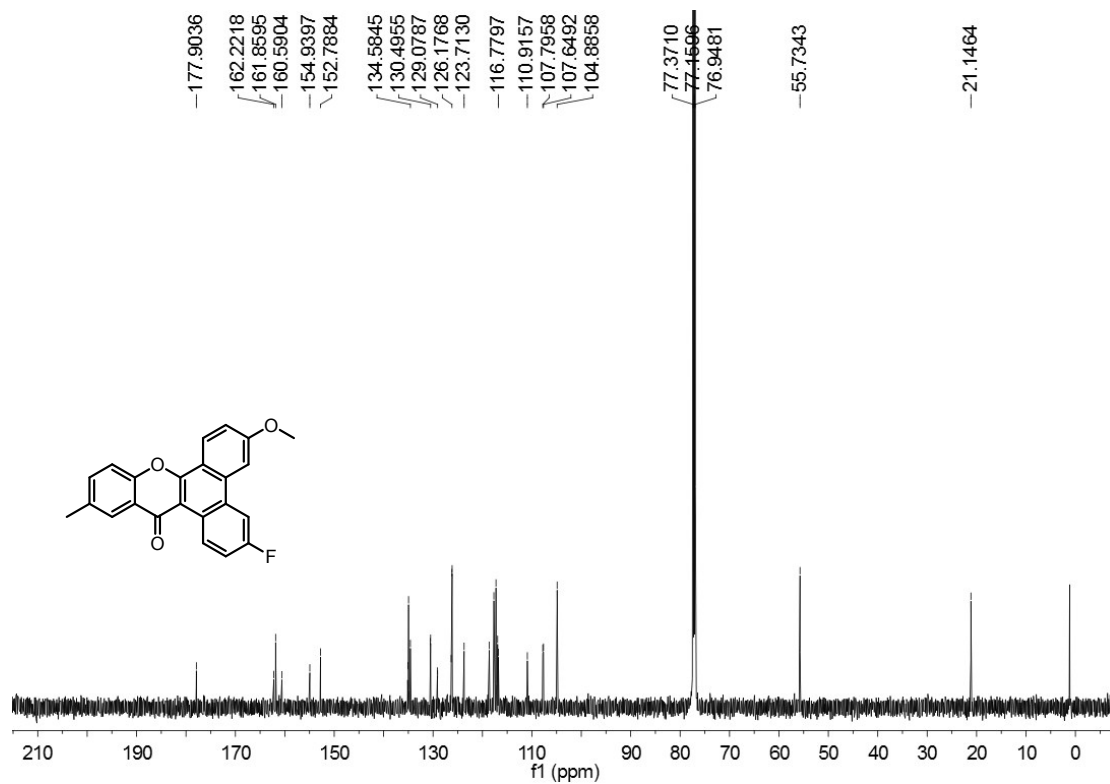
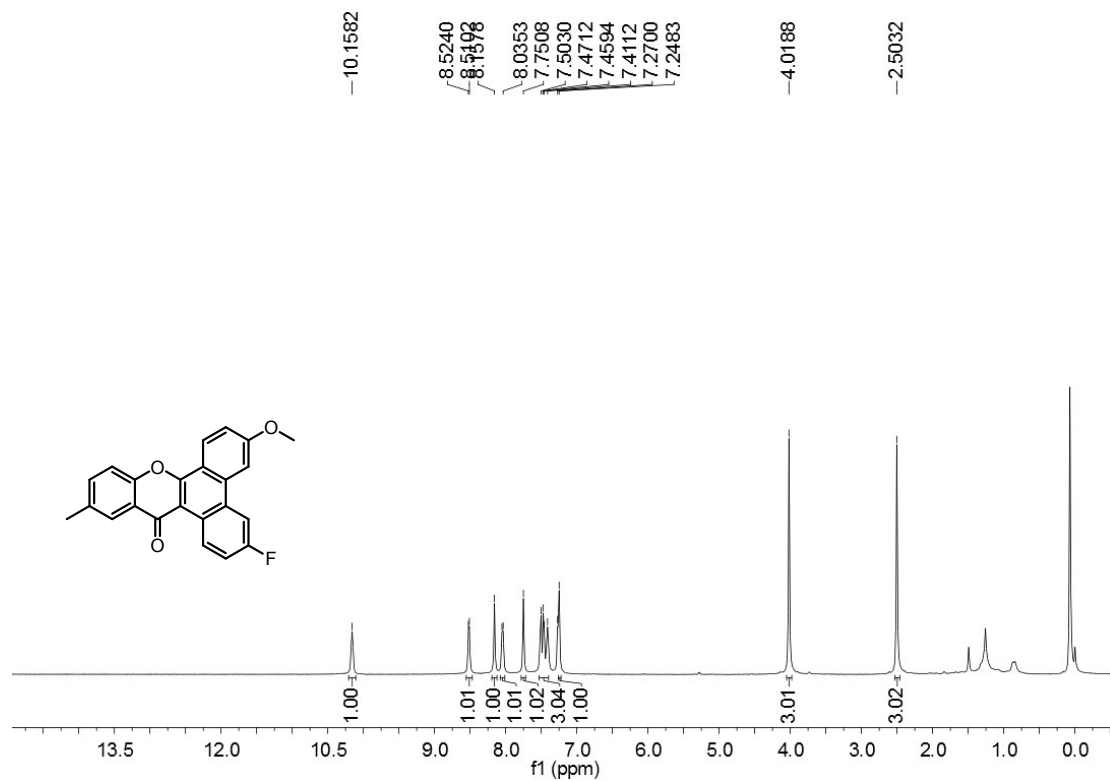
# 2q



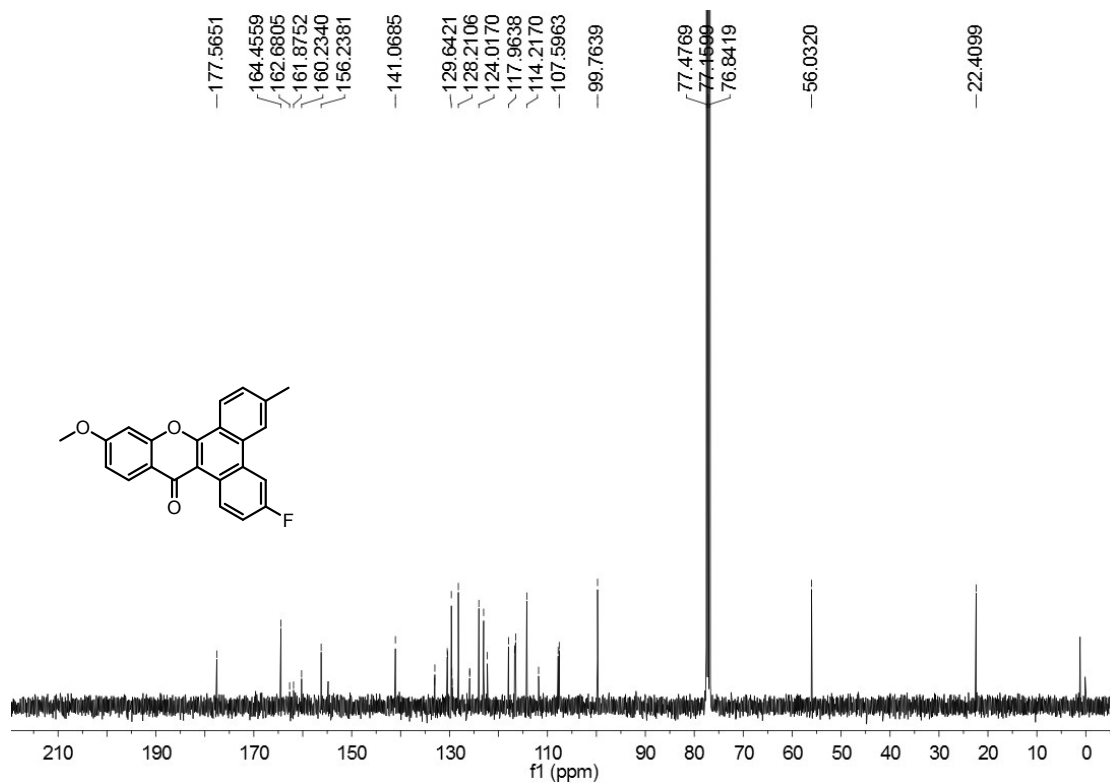
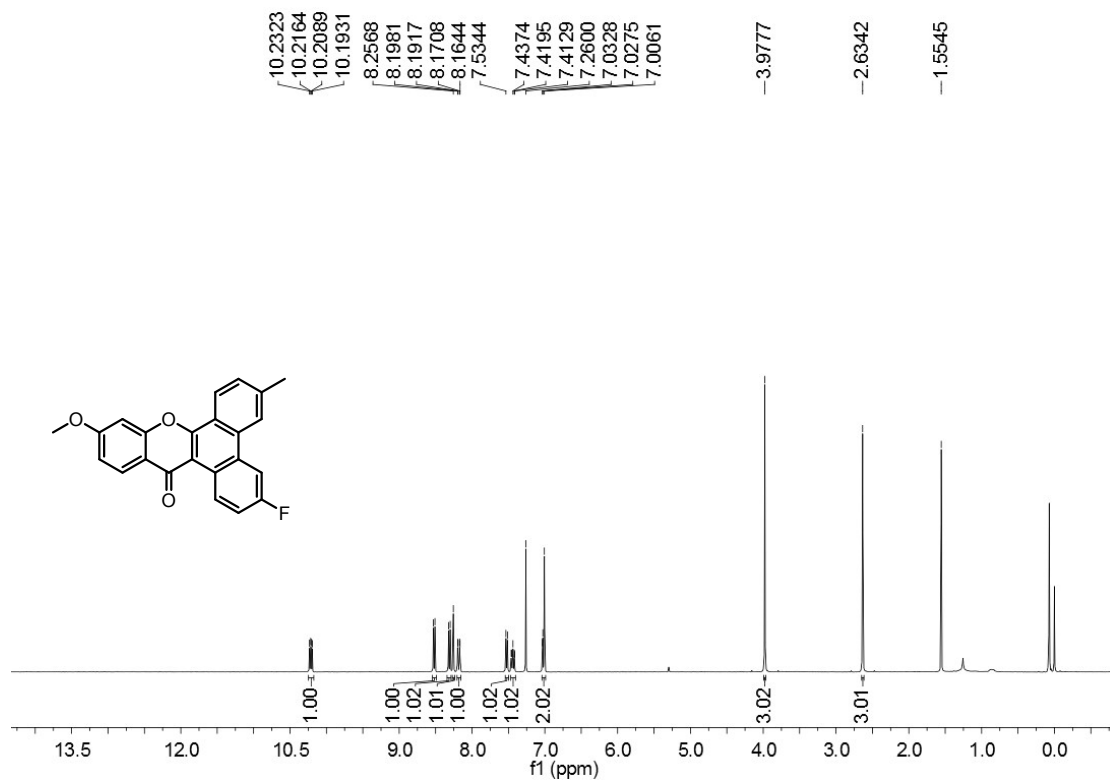
# 2r



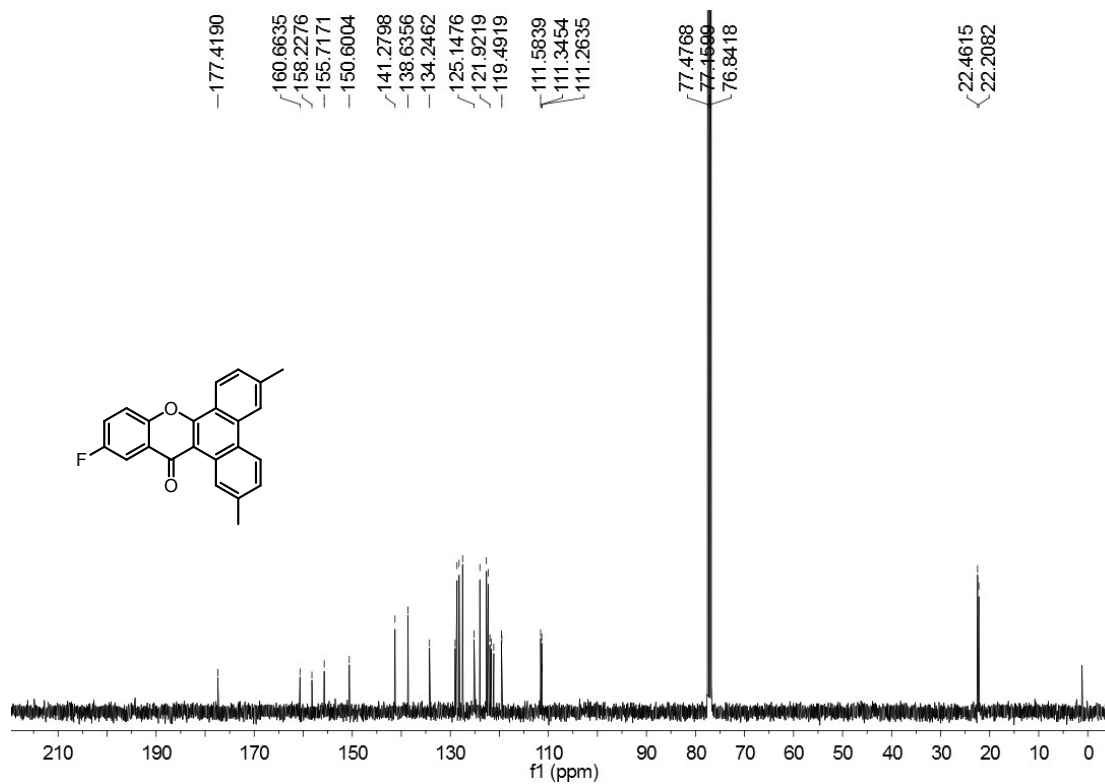
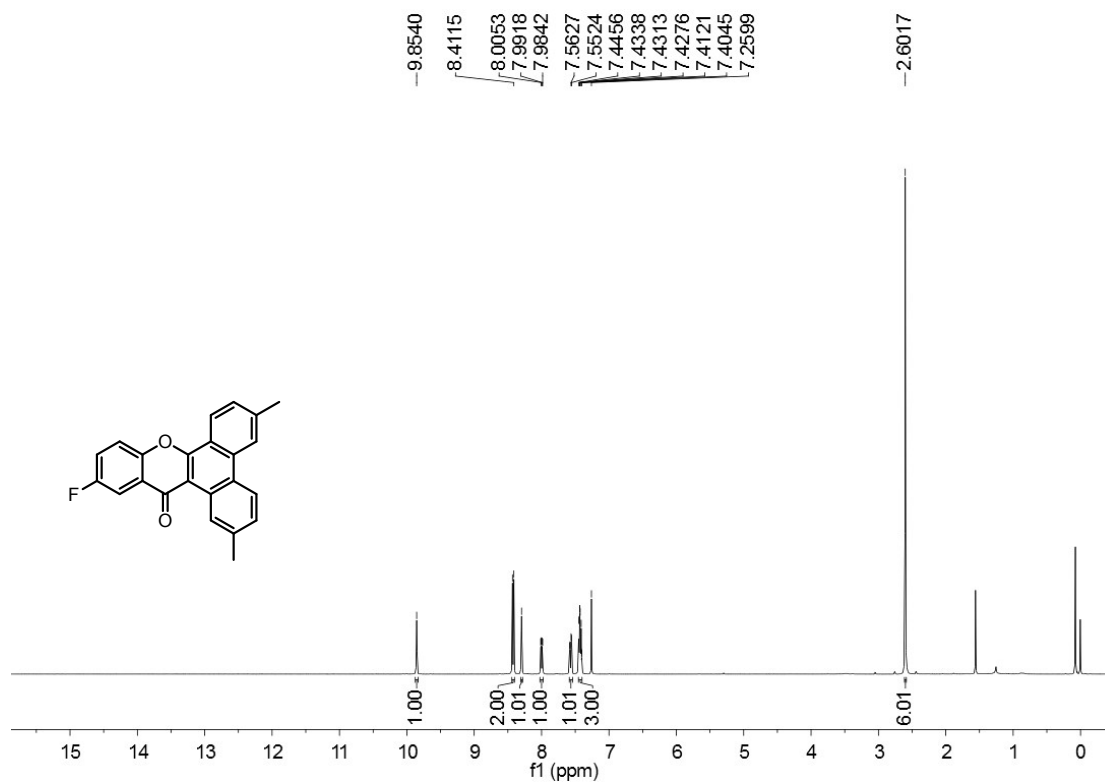
# 2s



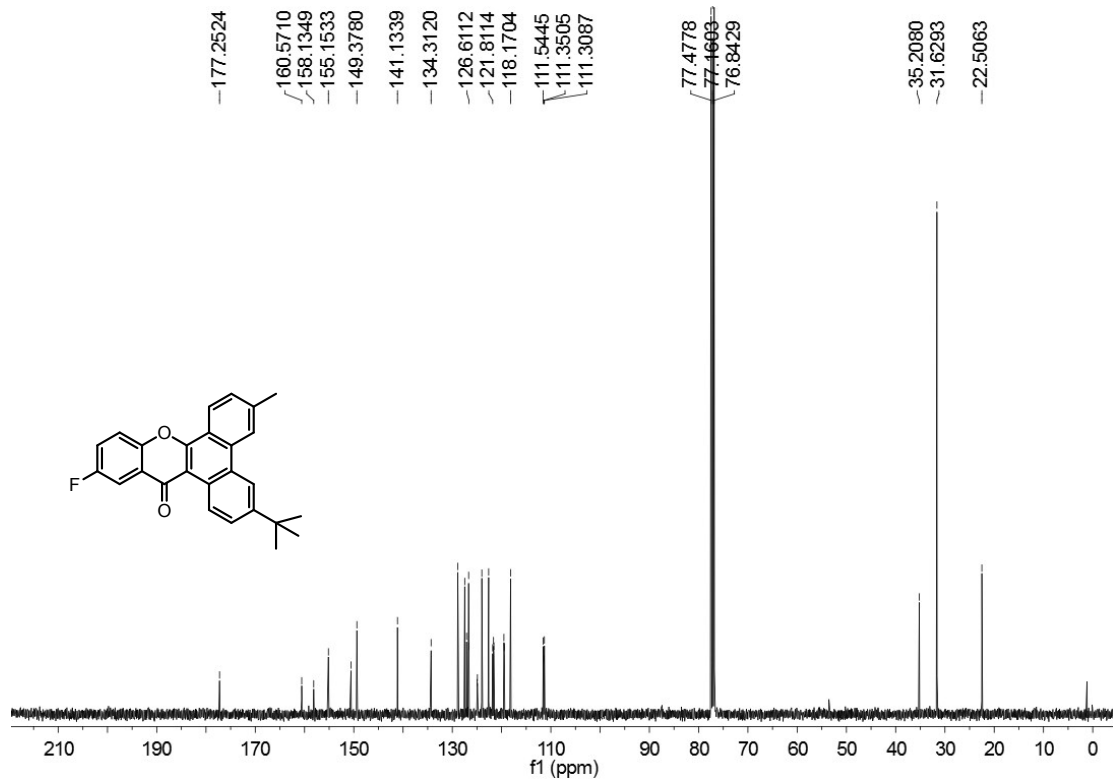
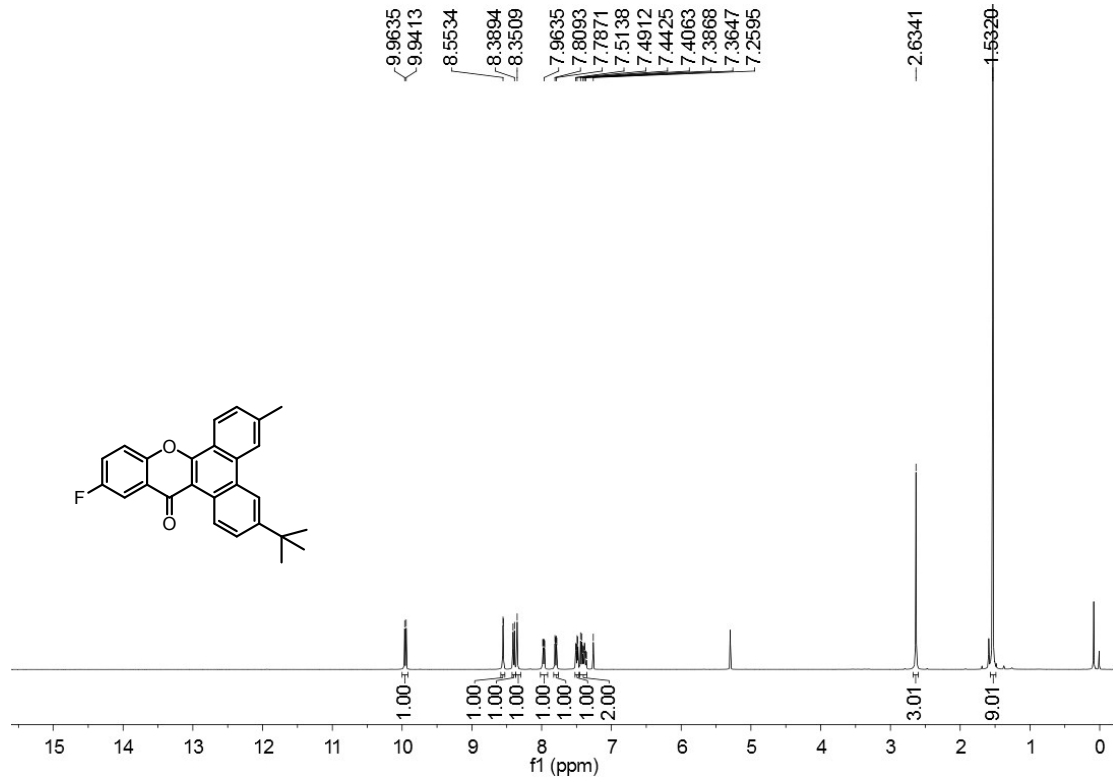
# 2t



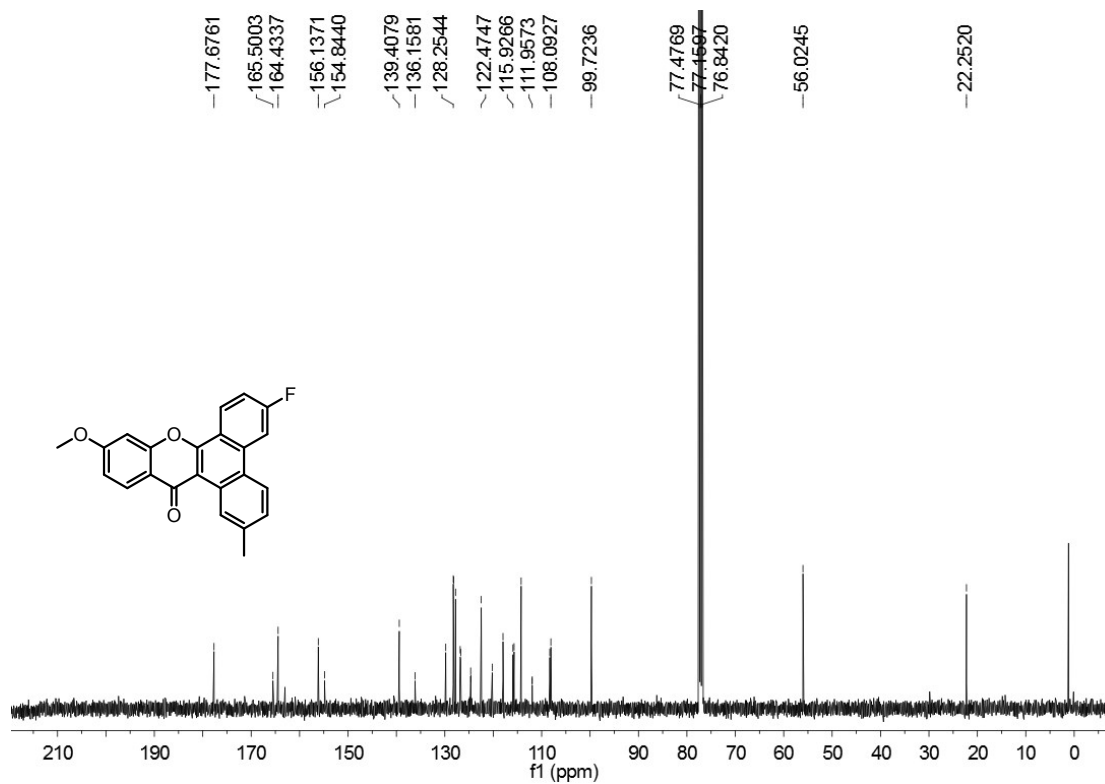
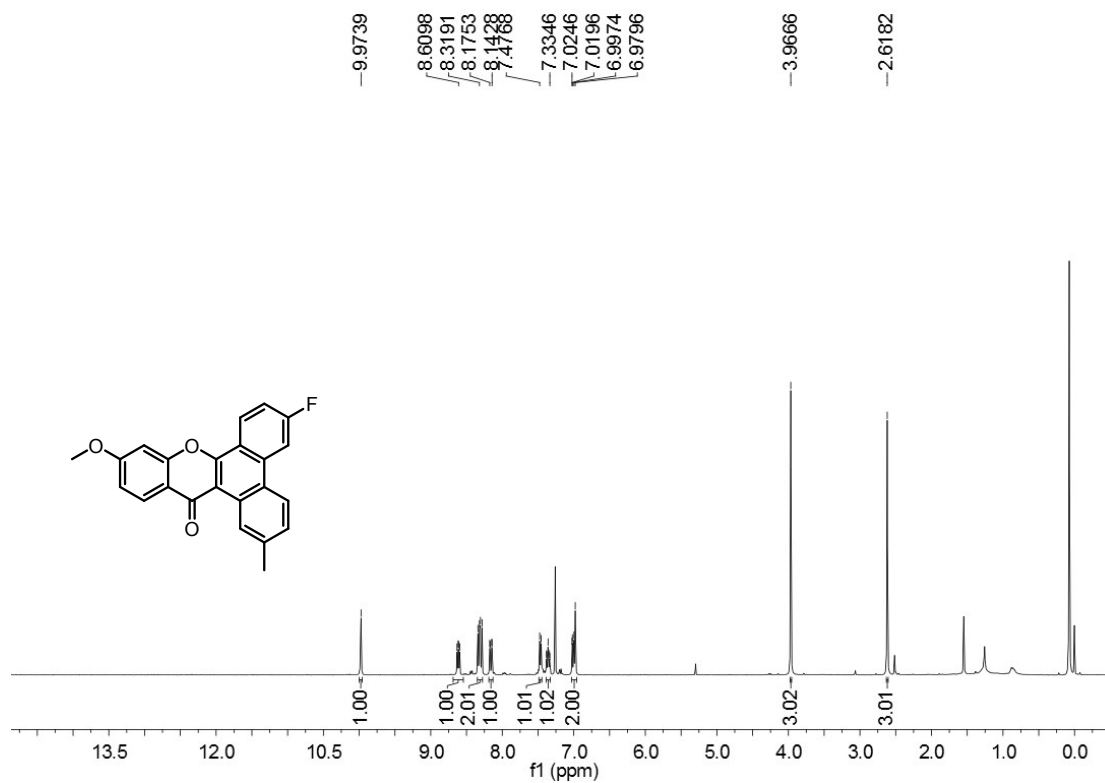
# 2u



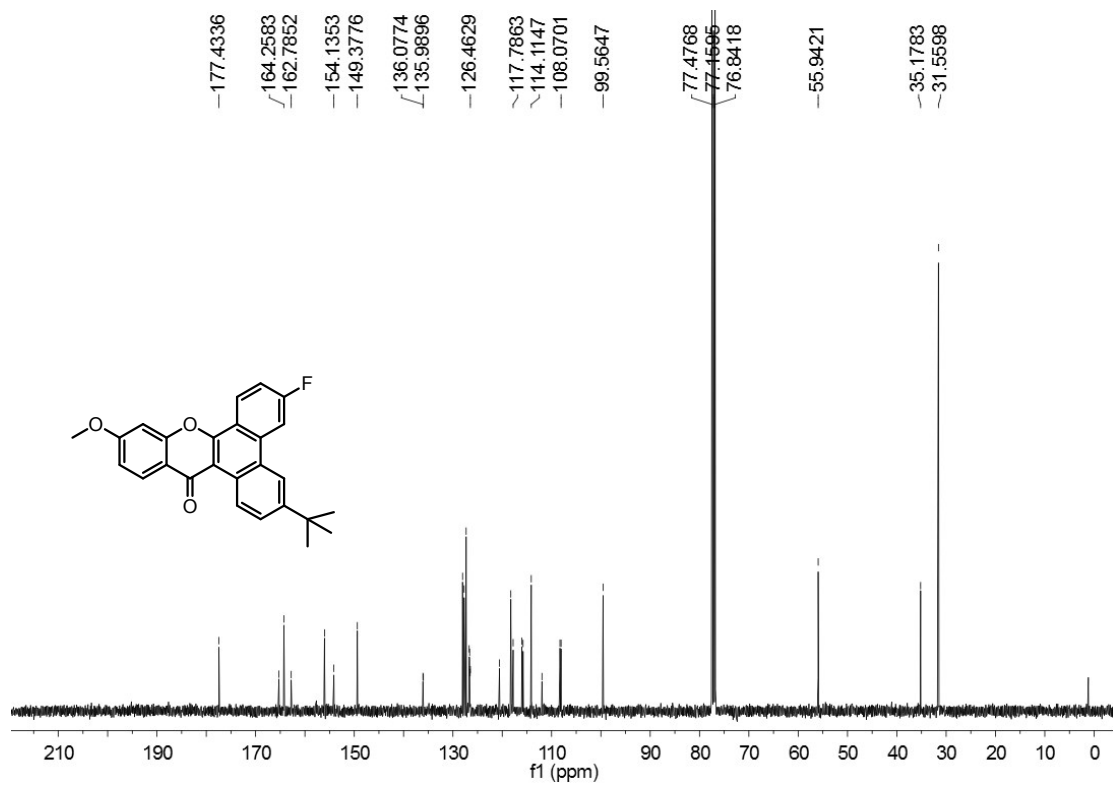
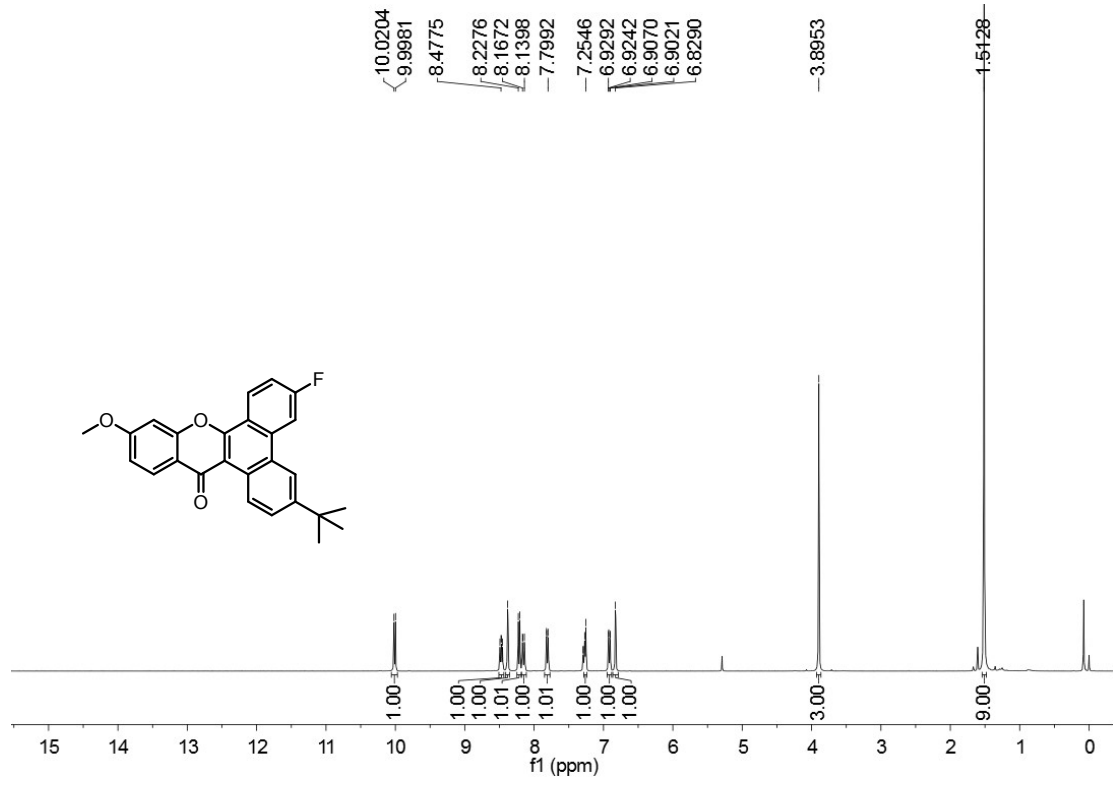
### 2v



2w

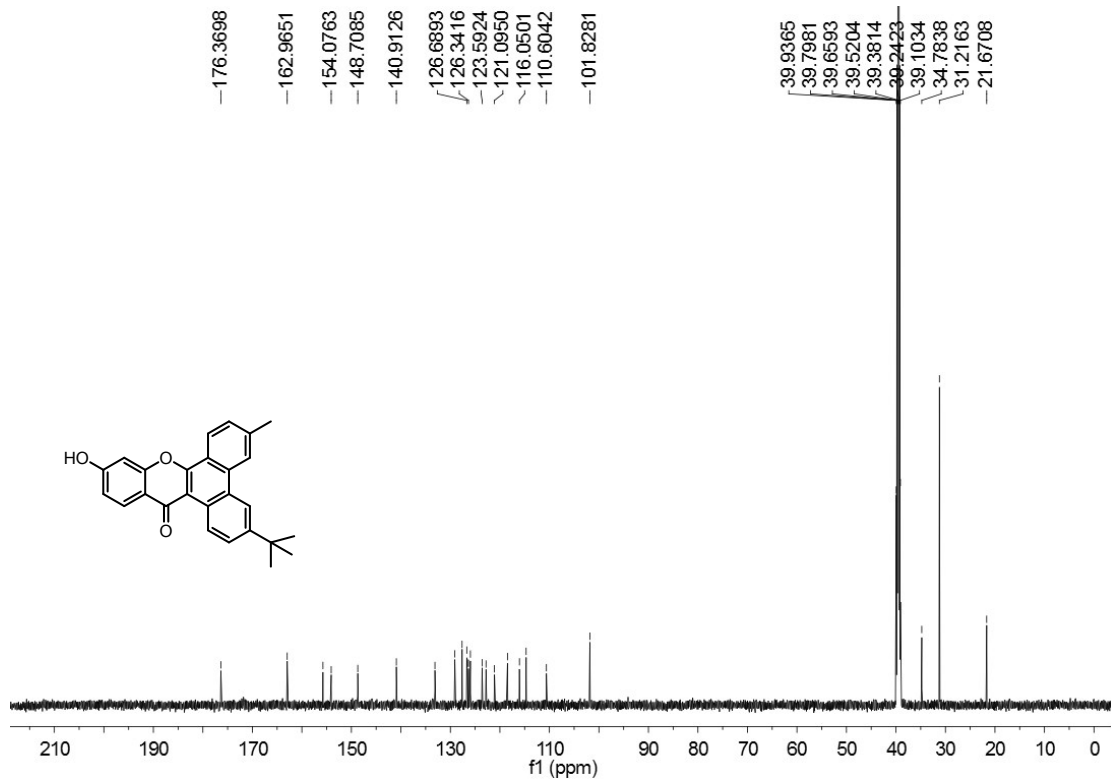
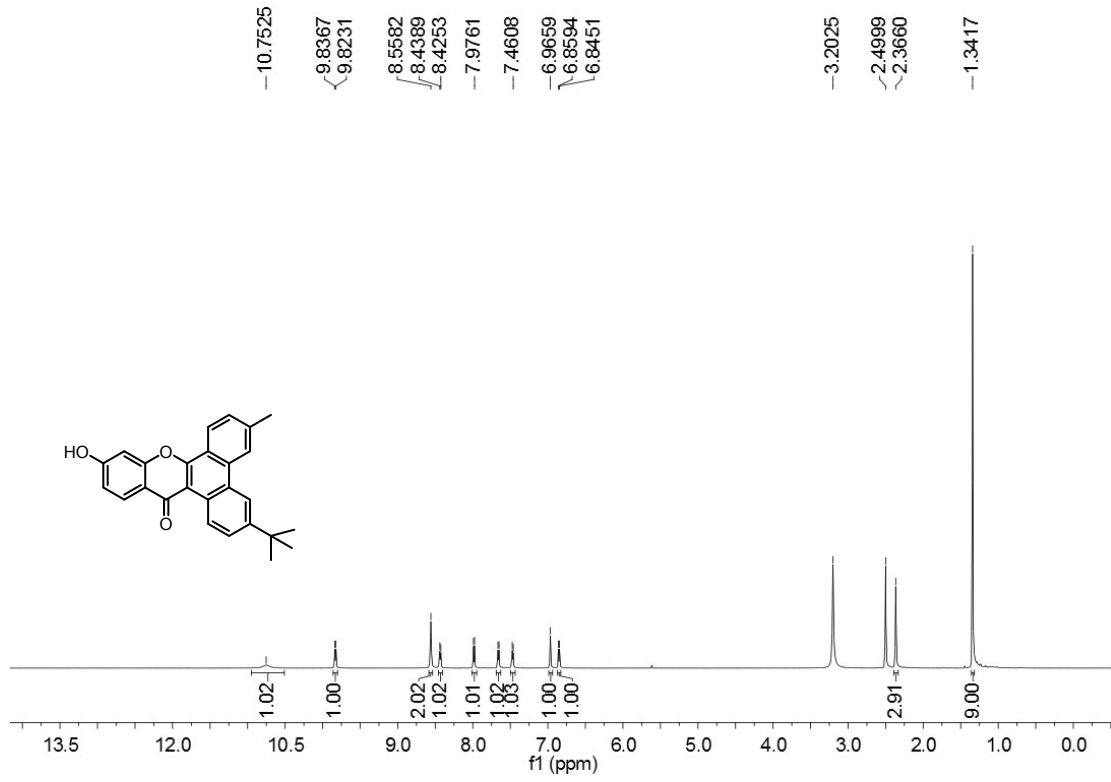


# 2x

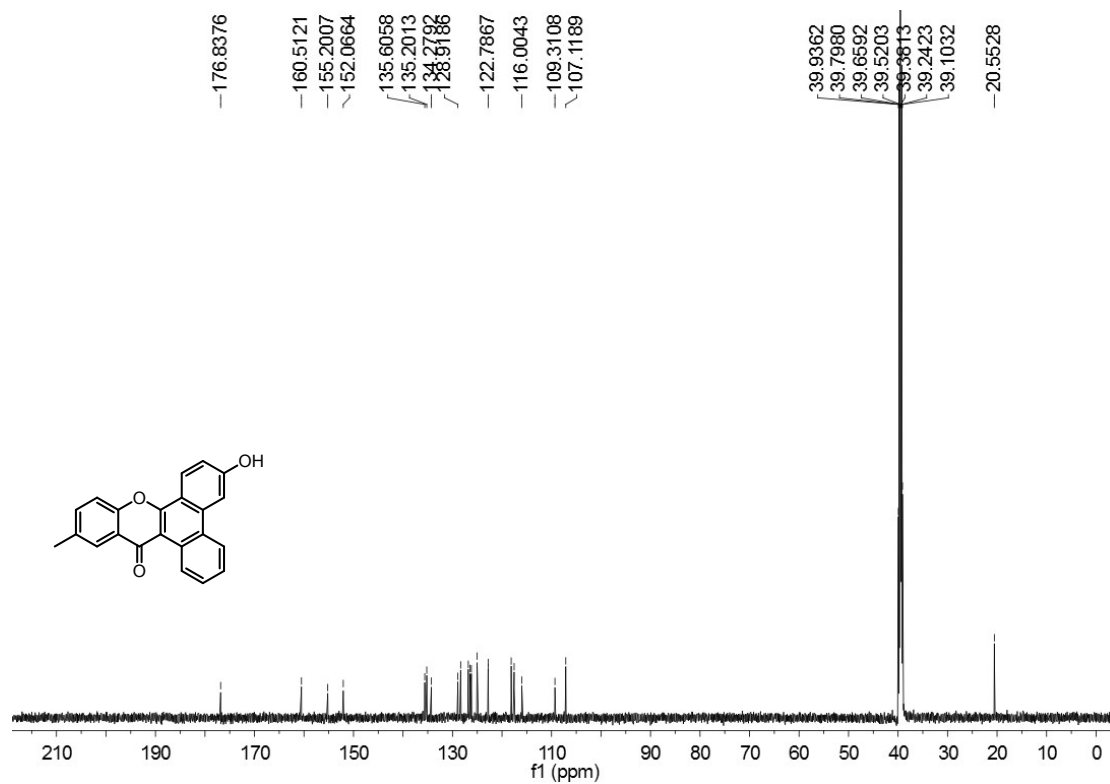
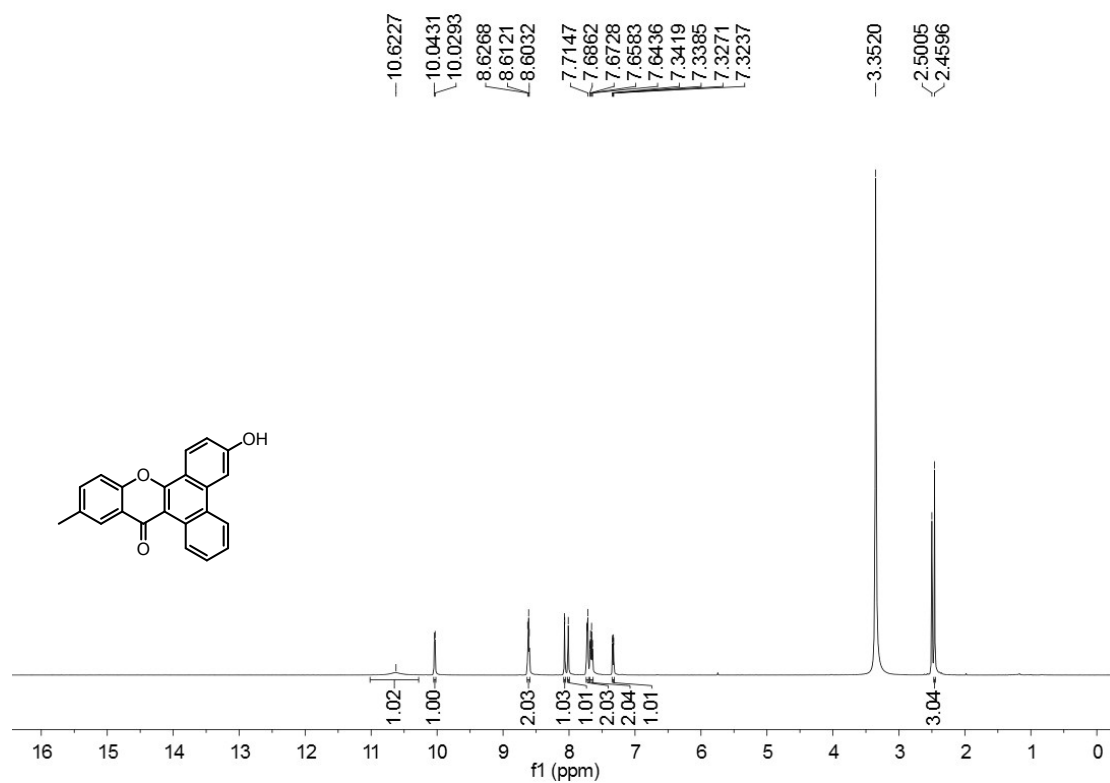




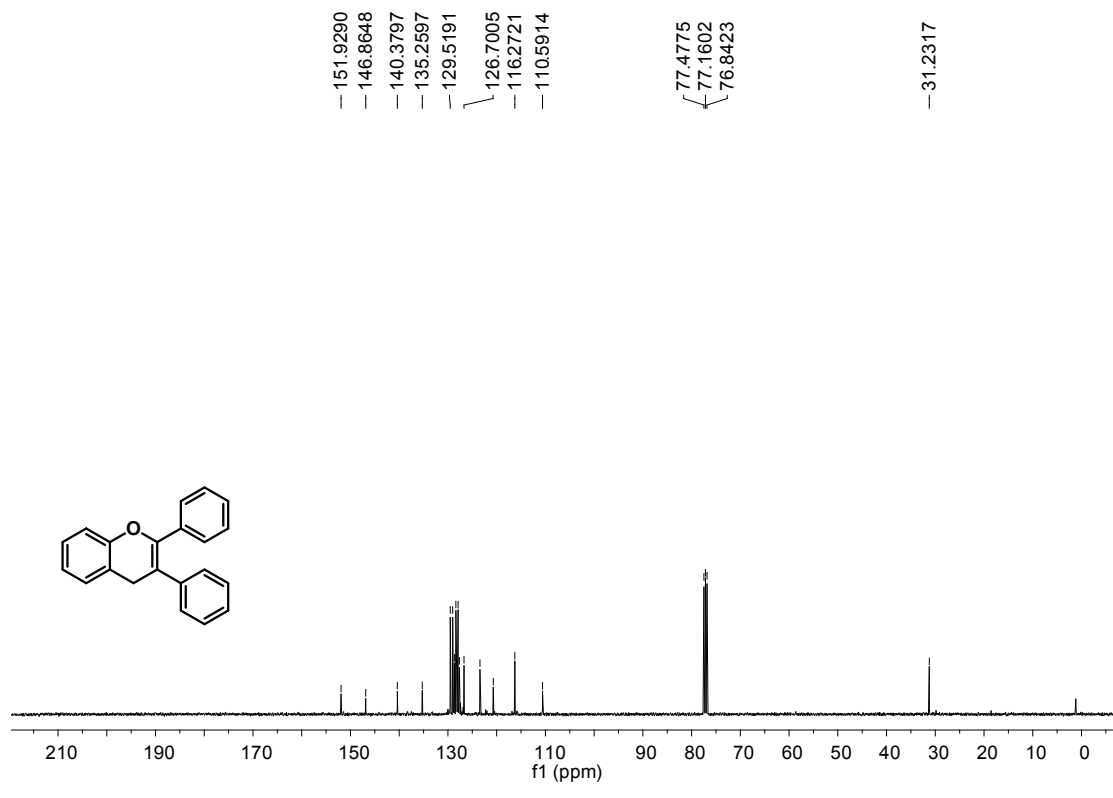
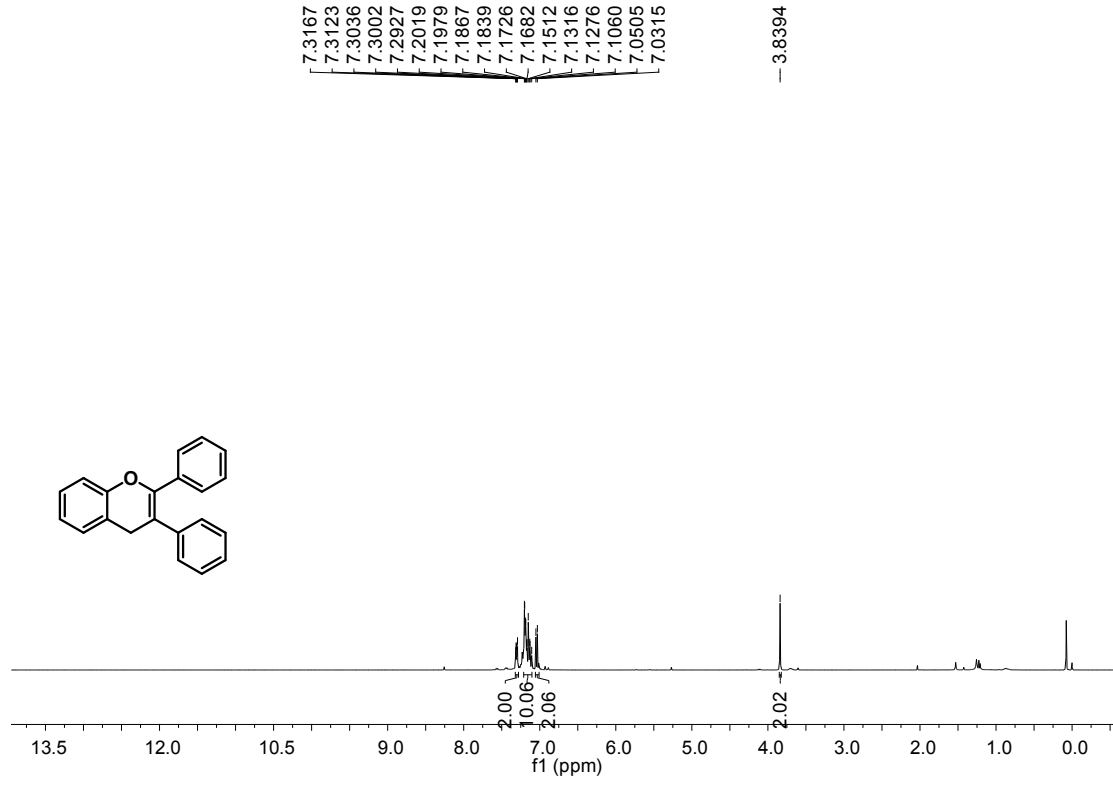
# 2y



# 2z



3



## 5. Detection the generation of H<sub>2</sub> by GC

### 5.1 The conditions of GC

Using Ar as carrier gas, thermal conductivity detector (TCD temperature was 120 °C) and stainless steel column (column length 2 m, column temperature at 40 °C, Tam TDS-01 60~80 mesh) were used for gas chromatography analysis. Under the conditions of gas velocity of 0.06 Mpa and the flow rate of 60 mL/min, gas was analyzed at room temperature with injection of 20 uL.

### 5.2 The experimental photo-induced hydrogen evolution of **1n**

The chromatographic ethanol (250 mL) was degassed for an hour by ultrasonic. Then, sodium sulfite (28 g) and hydroquinone (2.2 g) was added and the mixture was refluxed for 3 h to remove the solvent deoxidization. The compound of **1n** (171 mg, 0.5 mmol) was dissolved in 100 mL deoxidization chromatographic ethanol at room temperature in a quartz tube I. In the same conditions, quartz tube II without compound **1n** was prepared. All operations above were conducted in argon atmosphere. After strict sealing, quartz tube I and II were irradiated with a high-pressure mercury lamp (500 W) at room temperature for 3 hours and the yield of **2n** was 54%.

### 5.3 The results and discussion of detection H<sub>2</sub>

According to the experiment data, the reference substance H<sub>2</sub> retention time tR<sub>1</sub> was 1.4713 min (Figure 1); the retention time tR<sub>2</sub> in the quartz tube I was 1.4533 min (Figure 2). That is to say that there was generated H<sub>2</sub> in the tube I. The quartz tube II was not found H<sub>2</sub>. It is indicated that the annulation of **1n** was hydrogen evolution.

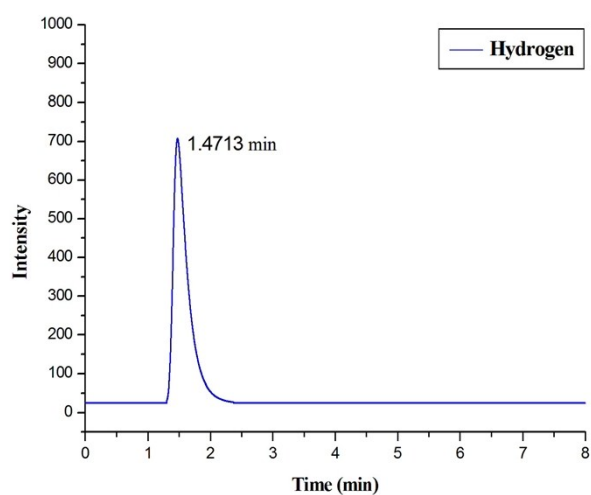


Figure 1 Chromatogram of reference substance H<sub>2</sub>

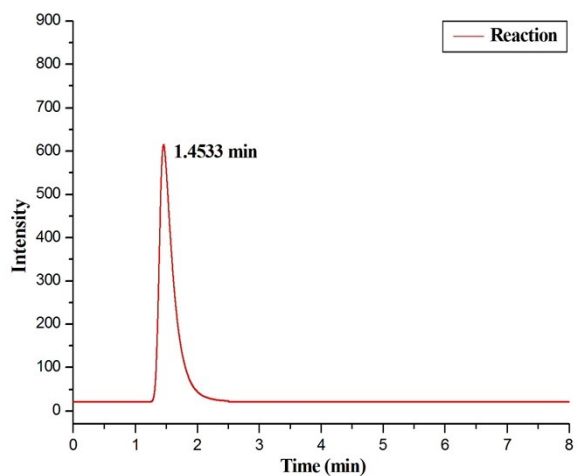


Figure 2 Chromatogram of gas in the tube I