Copper-catalyzed, silver-mediated formal [3+2] cycloaddition of simple alkynes with β -ketoesters though propargylic $C(sp^3)$ -H functionalization

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Supporting Information

General Information	S-2
General Procedure for Copper-Catalyzed Formal [3+2] Cycloaddition	S-2
Preparation of Cu-acetylide 6 and Ag-acetylide 7	S-9
Experimental procedure for control experiments eq.3 and eq.4	S-9
Transformation of cycloadduct via catalytic decarboxylative coupling	S-10
References	S-12
¹ H NMR and ¹³ C NMR Spectra	S-13

General Information

All reactions were carried out under a nitrogen atmosphere. Solvents were purified by standard procedure before use. Commercial reagents were used without further purification. Flash chromatography was performed on silica gel 60 (40-63µm, 60Å). Thin layer chromatography (TLC) was performed on glass plates coated with silica gel 60 with F254 indicator. Proton nuclear magnetic resonance (1 H NMR) spectra were recorded on a Bruker 400 MHz spectrometer. Chemical shifts for protons are reported in parts per million downfield from tetramethylsilane and are referenced to residual protium in the NMR solvent (CDCl₃ = δ 7.26). Carbon nuclear magnetic resonance (13 C NMR) spectra were recorded on a Bruker 100 MHz spectrometer. Chemical shifts for carbon are reported in parts per million downfield from tetramethylsilane and are referenced to the carbon resonances of the solvent (CDCl₃ = δ 77.07). Data are represented as follows: chemical shift, multiplicity (br = broad, s = singlet, d = doublet, t = triplet, q = quartet, m = multiplet), coupling constants in Hertz (Hz), integration. Only the most important and relevant frequencies are reported. ESI HRMS spectra were recorded on BioTOF Q. Aryl aryl propyne derivatives $\mathbf{1}^{1}$ and β -ketoesters $\mathbf{2}^{2}$ were prepared following the procedure described in the literature. $\mathbf{1}\mathbf{k}$ was purchased from commercial sources (CAS: 1823-14-9).

General procedure for Copper-Catalyzed Formal [3+2] Cycloaddition

A solution of CuI (1.9 mg, 0.01 mmol) and 1,10-Phenanthroline hydrate (2.2 mg, 0.011 mmol) in 1 mL of anhydrous ethanol placed in an oven-dried Schlenk flask was stirred at room temperature under a nitrogen atmosphere for 1 h. A solution of propynyl arenes 1 (0.44 mmol), β -ketoesters 2 (0.2 mmol) and Ag₂CO₃ (66.2 mg, 0.24 mmol) in 2 mL of anhydrous ethanol was added. The reaction mixture was allowed to stir for 24 h at 80 °C. Then the reaction mixture was cooled to room temperature, DBU (36.5 mg, 0.24 mmol) was added directly to the resulting reaction mixture without further purification and continued stirring at 80 °C being monitored by TLC. The reaction mixture was then filtered, washed with dichloromethane (10 mL) and concentrated under vacuum. The residue was purified by silica gel chromatography to afford highly functionalized furans 3.

Ethyl 5-methyl-2,4-diphenylfuran-3-carboxylate (3aa). Pale yellow oil was obtained in 93% yield after purification with column chromatography on silica gel (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate, 100/1). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.85–7.82 (m, 2H), 7.43–7.29 (m, 8H), 4.09 (q, J = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 2.32 (s, 3H), 0.97 (t, J = 7.1 Hz, 3H); ¹³C NMR (101

MHz, CDCl₃) δ 164.7, 154.0, 148.5, 133.0, 130.1, 129.6, 128.8, 128.2, 128.0, 127.6, 127.0, 123.0, 114.8, 60.5, 13.7, 12.1.The spectrum is in accordance with the literature³.

Ethyl 2-(2-chlorophenyl)-5-methyl-4-phenylfuran-3-carboxylate (3ab). Pale yellow oil was

obtained in 53% yield after purification with column chromatography on silica gel (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate, 100/1). 1 H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.55–7.53 (m, 1H), 7.48–7.46 (m, 1H), 7.42–7.31 (m, 7H), 4.02 (q, J = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 2.32 (s, 3H), 0.92 (t, J = 7.1 Hz, 3H); 13 C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 163.4, 152.8,

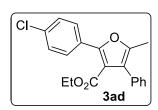
149.4, 134.1, 132.5, 131.9, 130.4, 130.3, 130.1, 129.7, 127.9, 127.1, 126.3, 122.2, 116.8, 60.2, 13.6, 12.1. HRMS calc. for C₂₀H₁₇ClO₃ [M+Na]⁺: 363.0764, found: 363.0764.

Ethyl 2-(3-chlorophenyl)-5-methyl-4-phenylfuran-3-carboxylate (3ac). Pale yellow oil was

obtained in 91% yield after purification with column chromatography on silica gel (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate, 100/1). 1 H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.86–7.85 (m, 1H), 7.77–7.74 (m, 1H), 7.41–7.24 (m, 8H), 4.11 (q, J = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 2.32 (s, 3H), 1.00 (t, J = 7.1 Hz, 3H); 13 C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 164.4, 152.2, 149.0, 134.2, 132.7, 131.7, 129.6, 129.5, 128.7, 128.1, 127.5, 127.2, 125.6, 123.3,

115.7, 60.7, 13.6, 12.1. HRMS calc. for C₂₀H₁₇ClO₃ [M+Na]⁺: 363.0764, found: 363.0768.

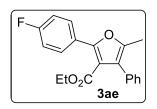
Ethyl 2-(4-chlorophenyl)-5-methyl-4-phenylfuran-3-carboxylate (3ad). Pale yellow solid was



obtained in 90% yield after purification with column chromatography on silica gel (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate, 100/1). M.p.: 66–68 °C. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.82–7.80 (m, 2H), 7.41–7.36 (m, 4H), 7.34–7.24 (m, 3H), 4.08 (q, J = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 2.31 (s, 3H), 0.97 (t, J = 7.1 Hz, 3H); ¹³C NMR

 $(101 \text{ MHz}, \text{CDCl}_3) \delta 164.5, 152.9, 148.8, 134.7, 132.9, 129.6, 128.9, 128.6, 128.4, 128.0, 127.1, 123.2, 115.2, 60.6, 13.6, 12.1. HRMS calc. for <math>C_{20}H_{17}ClO_3 [M+Na]^+: 363.0764$, found: 363.0766.

Ethyl 2-(4-fluorophenyl)-5-methyl-4-phenylfuran-3-carboxylate (3ae). Pale yellow solid was



obtained in 89% yield after purification with column chromatography on silica gel (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate, 100/1). M.p.: 66–68 °C. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.88–7.84 (m, 2H), 7.41–7.36 (m, 2H), 7.34–7.28 (m, 3H), 7.13–7.08 (m, 2H), 4.07 (q, J = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 2.31 (s, 3H), 0.96 (t, J = 7.1 Hz,

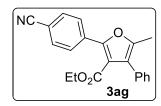
3H); 13 C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 164.5, 163.0 (d, J = 249.2 Hz), 153.5, 148.5, 133.0, 129.8 (d, J = 8.3 Hz),129.6, 128.0, 127.1, 126.4 (d, J = 3.4 Hz), 123.0, 115.2 (d, J = 21.7 Hz), 114.6, 60.5, 13.6, 12.0. HRMS calc. for C₂₀H₁₇FO₃ [M+Na]⁺: 347.1059, found: 347.1054.

Ethyl 2-(4-bromophenyl)-5-methyl-4-phenylfuran-3-carboxylate (3af). Pale yellow solid was

obtained in 82% yield after purification with column chromatography on silica gel (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate, 100/1). M.p.: 56–58 °C. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.67–7.64 (m, 2H), 7.46–7.43 (m, 2H), 7.31–7.27 (m, 2H), 7.25–7.18 (m, 3H), 3.99 (q, J = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 2.22 (s, 3H), 0.88 (t, J =

7.1 Hz, 3H); 13 C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 164.5, 152.9, 148.8, 132.9, 131.4, 129.6, 129.1, 129.0, 128.0, 127.1, 123.2, 123.0, 115.3, 60.6, 13.6, 12.1. HRMS calc. for $C_{20}H_{17}BrO_3$ [M+Na]⁺: 407.0259, found: 407.0265.

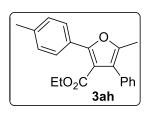
Ethyl 2-(4-cyanophenyl)-5-methyl-4-phenylfuran-3-carboxylate (3ag). Pale yellow solid was



obtained in 60% yield after purification with column chromatography on silica gel (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate, 20/1). M.p.: 113–115 °C. 1 H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.00 (d, J = 8.5 Hz, 2H), 7.69 (d, J = 8.5 Hz, 2H), 7.42–7.32 (m, 3H), 7.29–7.26 (m, 2H), 4.10 (q, J = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 2.35 (s, 3H), 0.97

(t, J = 7.1 Hz, 3H); ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 164.3, 151.1, 150.0, 134.0, 132.4, 132.0, 129.5, 128.1, 127.5, 127.3, 123.8, 118.8, 117.3, 111.7, 60.9, 13.6, 12.2. HRMS calc. for C₂₁H₁₇NO₃ [M+H]⁺: 332.1287, found: 332.1282.

Ethyl 5-methyl-4-phenyl-2-(p-tolyl)furan-3-carboxylate (3ah). Pale yellow oil was obtained in 94%



yield after purification with column chromatography on silica gel (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate, 100/1). 1 H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.74–7.72 (m, 2H), 7.40–7.36 (m, 2H), 7.3 –7.28 (m, 3H), 7.23–7.21 (m, 2H), 4.08 (q, J = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 2.38 (s, 3H), 2.31 (s, 3H), 0.98 (t, J = 7.1 Hz, 3H); 13 C NMR (101 MHz,

CDCl₃) δ 164.7, 154.4, 148.1, 138.8, 133.2, 129.6, 128.9, 128.0, 127.6, 127.4, 127.0, 122.9, 114.3, 60.4, 21.4, 13.7, 12.1. HRMS calc. for $C_{21}H_{20}O_3$ [M+Na]⁺: 343.1310, found: 343.1308.

Ethyl 2-(4-methoxyphenyl)-5-methyl-4-phenylfuran-3-carboxylate (3ai). White solid was

obtained in 88% yield after purification with column chromatography on silica gel (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate, 50/1). M.p.: 54-56 °C. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.82–7.80 (m, 2H), 7.40–7.36 (m, 2H), 7.33–7.28 (m, 3H), 6.96–6.94 (m, 2H), 4.07 (q, J = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 3.84 (s, 3H), 2.30 (s, 3H),

0.97 (t, J = 7.1 Hz, 3H); ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 164.7, 160.1, 154.6, 147.8, 133.3, 129.7, 129.3, 127.9, 126.9, 122.9, 122.8, 113.6, 60.3, 55.3, 13.7, 12.0. HRMS calc. for C₂₁H₂₀O₄ [M+Na]⁺: 359.1259, found: 359.1251.

Ethyl 2-(4-hydroxyphenyl)-5-methyl-4-phenylfuran-3-carboxylate (3aj). White solid was

obtained in 31% yield after purification with column chromatography on silica gel (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate, 5/1). M.p.: 140–142 °C. 1 H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.74 (d, J = 8.7 Hz, 2H), 7.50–7.15 (m, 6H), 6.85 (d, J = 8.7 Hz, 1H), 5.70 (s, 1H), 4.07 (q, J = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 2.30 (s, 3H), 0.95 (t, J

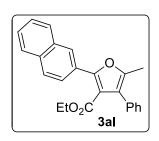
= 7.1 Hz, 3H); 13 C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 165.1, 156.5, 155.0, 147.8, 141.5, 133.3, 129.6, 129.6, 127.9, 126.9, 122.7, 115.2, 113.4, 60.5, 13.6, 12.0. HRMS calc. for $C_{20}H_{18}O_4$ [M+H]⁺: 323.1283, found: 323.1286.

Ethyl 2-(4-acetamidophenyl)-5-methyl-4-phenylfuran-3-carboxylate (3ak). Pale yellow solid was

obtained in 89% yield after purification with column chromatography on silica gel (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate, 1/1). M.p.: 144–146 °C. 1 H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.17 (s, 1H), 7.78 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 7.56 (d, J = 8.5 Hz, 2H), 7.39–7.35 (m, 2H), 7.32–7.25 (m, 3H), 4.09 (q, J = 7.1 Hz,

2H), 2.30 (s, 3H), 2.12 (s, 3H), 0.98 (t, J = 7.2 Hz, 3H); 13 C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 168.9, 165.0, 154.0, 148.3, 138.7, 133.0, 129.6, 128.3, 128.0, 127.0, 125.7, 122.9, 119.3, 114.2, 60.6, 24.5, 13.6, 12.0.HRMS calc. for $C_{22}H_{21}NO_4$ [M+H]⁺: 364.1549, found: 364.1544.

Ethyl 5-methyl-2-(naphthalen-2-yl)-4-phenylfuran-3-carboxylate (3al). Pale yellow solid was



obtained in 89% yield after purification with column chromatography on silica gel (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate, 100/1). M.p.: 106–108 °C. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.37 (s, 1H), 7.94–7.82 (m, 4H), 7.50 –7.46 (m, 2H), 7.42–7.38 (m, 2H), 7.34–7.30 (m, 3H), 4.12 (q, J = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 2.36 (s, 3H), 0.99 (t, J = 7.1 Hz, 3H); ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 164.8, 154.0, 148.7,

133.3, 133.1, 133.0, 129.6, 128.6, 128.0, 127.8, 127.7, 127.5, 127.1, 127.1, 126.7, 126.4, 125.1, 123.2, 115.2, 60.6, 13.7, 12.2. HRMS calc. for C₂₄H₂₀O₃ [M+Na]⁺: 379.1310, found: 379.1305.

Ethyl 5-methyl-4-phenyl-2-(thiophen-2-yl)furan-3-carboxylate (3am). Pale yellow oil was

obtained in 94% yield after purification with column chromatography on silica gel (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate, 100/1). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.89–7.88 (m, 1H), 7.29–7.25 (m, 6H), 7.10–7.08 (m, 1H), 4.11 (q, J = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 2.28 (s, 3H), 0.99 (t, J = 7.1 Hz, 3H); ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 164.1, 150.6, 148.1, 133.1,

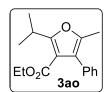
131.8, 129.8, 127.8, 127.8, 127.3, 127.2, 127.0, 123.0, 113.2, 60.4, 13.7, 12.0. HRMS calc. for $C_{18}H_{16}O_{3}S$ [M+Na]⁺: 335.0718, found: 335.0711.

Ethyl 2,5-dimethyl-4-phenylfuran-3-carboxylate (3an). Pale yellow oil was obtained in 92% yield

after purification with column chromatography on silica gel (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate, 100/1). 1 H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.37–7.33 (m, 2H), 7.31–7.23 (m, 3H), 4.11 (q, J = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 2.57 (s, 3H), 2.19 (s, 3H), 1.09 (t, J = 7.1 Hz, 3H); 13 C

NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 164.3, 157.4, 147.1, 133.3, 130.0, 127.6, 126.8, 121.4, 113.5, 59.8, 14.1, 14.0, 11.8. HRMS calc. for C₁₅H₁₆O₃ [M+H]⁺: 245.1178, found: 245.1140.

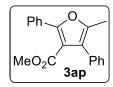
Ethyl 2-isopropyl-5-methyl-4-phenylfuran-3-carboxylate(3ao). Pale yellow oil was obtained in 81%



yield after purification with column chromatography on silica gel (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate, 100/1). 1 H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.37–7.32 (m, 2H), 7.30–7.23 (m, 3H), 4.09 (q, J = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 3.72 (p, J = 7.0 Hz, 1H), 2.20 (s, 3H), 1.30

(d, J = 7.0 Hz, 6H), 1.05 (t, J = 7.1 Hz, 3H); ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 165.2, 164.3, 146.9, 133.5, 130.0, 127.6, 126.7, 121.1, 111.7, 59.7, 27.3, 21.0, 13.8, 11.8. HRMS calc. for C₁₇H₂₀O₃ [M+Na]⁺: 295.1310, found: 295.1312.

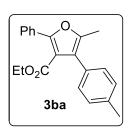
Methyl 5-methyl-2,4-diphenylfuran-3-carboxylate(3ap). White solid was obtained in 91% yield



after purification with column chromatography on silica gel (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate, 100/1). M.p.: 94–96 °C. 1 H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.73–7.71 (m, 2H), 7.36–7.29 (m, 5H), 7.27–7.21 (m, 3H), 3.52 (s, 3H), 2.25 (s, 3H); 13 C NMR (101

MHz, CDCl₃) δ 165.2, 154.1, 148.6, 132.8, 130.1, 129.5, 128.8, 128.3, 128.1, 127.6, 127.1, 122.9, 114.5, 51.5, 12.1.HRMS calc. for C₁₉H₁₆O₃ [M+H]⁺: 293.1178, found: 293.1176.

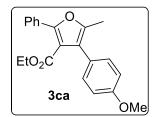
Ethyl 5-methyl-2-phenyl-4-(p-tolyl)furan-3-carboxylate (3ba). Pale yellow solid was obtained in



55% yield after purification with column chromatography on silica gel (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate, 100/1). M.p.: 66–68 °C. 1 H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.82–7.79 (m, 2H), 7.43–7.32 (m, 3H), 7.23–7.18 (m, 4H), 4.11 (q, J = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 2.38 (s, 3H), 2.31 (s, 3H), 1.02 (t, J = 7.1 Hz, 3H); 13 C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 164.8, 153.8, 148.4, 136.6, 130.2, 129.9, 129.5, 128.7, 128.7,

128.2, 127.6, 122.9, 114.9, 60.5, 21.3, 13.7, 12.1. HRMS calc. for $C_{21}H_{20}O_3$ [M+Na]⁺: 343.1310, found: 343.1305.

Ethyl 4-(4-methoxyphenyl)-5-methyl-2-phenylfuran-3-carboxylate (3ca). Pale yellow oil was



obtained in 72% yield after purification with column chromatography on silica gel (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate, 100/1). 1 H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.82–7.80 (m, 2H), 7.42–7.32 (m, 3H), 7.25–7.21 (m, 2H), 6.95–6.91 (m, 2H), 4.11 (q, J = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 3.82 (s, 3H), 2.30 (s, 3H), 1.03 (t, J = 7.1 Hz,

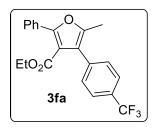
3H); 13 C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 164.8, 158.7, 153.8, 148.4, 130.8, 130.2, 128.7, 128.2, 127.6, 125.2, 122.5, 114.9, 113.5, 60.5, 55.3, 13.8, 12.1. HRMS calc. for $C_{21}H_{20}O_4$ [M+Na]⁺: 359.1259, found: 329.1251.

Ethyl 4-(4-hydroxyphenyl)-5-methyl-2-phenylfuran-3-carboxylate (3da). White solid was

obtained in 59% yield after purification with column chromatography on silica gel (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate, 5/1). M.p.: 115–117 °C. 1 H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.79–7.76 (m, 2H), 7.43–7.33 (m, 3H), 7.15–7.13 (m, 2H), 6.80– 6.78 (m, 2H), 5.84 (s, 1H), 4.14 (q, J = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 2.30 (s, 3H), 1.05

(t, J = 7.1 Hz, 3H).; ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 165.3, 155.0, 154.1, 148.5, 130.8, 130.2, 129.0, 128.8, 128.2, 127.7, 124.8, 122.6, 115.1, 60.8, 13.7, 12.0. HRMS calc. for C₂₀H₁₈O₄ [M+H]⁺: 323.1283, found: 323.1279.

Ethyl 5-methyl-2-phenyl-4-(4-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl)furan-3-carboxylate (3fa). Pale yellow oil



was obtained in 53% yield after purification with column chromatography on silica gel (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate, 100/1). 1 H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.85–7.82 (m, 2H), 7.66–7.64 (m, 2H), δ 7.45–7.36 (m, 5H), 4.09 (q, J = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 2.32 (s, 3H), 0.98 (t, J = 7.1 Hz, 3H); 13 C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 164.1, 154.9, 148.9, 137.0, 130.0, 129.8, 129.1, 128.2, 127.9, 124.9 (q, J =

3.7 Hz) , 121.9, 114.3, 100.0, 60.6, 13.6, 12.1. ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 164.1, 154.9, 149.0, 137.0, 130.0, 129.8, 129.2 (d, J = 32.4 Hz), 129.1, 128.2, 127.9, 124.90 (q, J = 3.8 Hz), 124.3 (d, J = 272.0 Hz), 121.9, 114.3, 60.6, 13.6, 12.0. HRMS calc. for C₂₁H₁₇F₃O₃ [M+Na]⁺: 397.1027, found: 397.1029.

Ethyl 4-(4-fluorophenyl)-5-methyl-2-phenylfuran-3-carboxylate (3ga). Pale yellow solid was

obtained in 96% yield after purification with column chromatography on silica gel (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate, 100/1). M.p.: 64–66 °C. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.83–7.81 (m, 2H), 7.44–7.36 (m, 3H), 7.29–7.24 (m, 3H), 7.10–7.06 (m, 2H), 4.10 (q, J = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 2.29 (s, 3H), 1.01 (t, J = 7.1 Hz, 3H); ¹³C

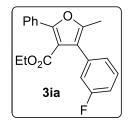
NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 164.4, 162.0 (d, J = 246.0 Hz), 154.4, 148.6, 131.3 (d, J = 8.0 Hz), 130.0, 129.0 (d, J = 3.4 Hz), 129.0, 128.2, 127.8, 122.0, 114.9 (d, J = 21.4 Hz), 114.6, 60.5, 13.7, 12.0. HRMS calc. for $C_{20}H_{17}FO_3$ [M+Na]⁺: 347.1059, found: 347.1060.

Ethyl 4-(2-fluorophenyl)-5-methyl-2-phenylfuran-3-carboxylate (3ha). Pale yellow oil was

obtained in 86% yield after purification with column chromatography on silica gel (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate, 100/1). 1 H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.89–7.87 (m, 2H), 7.44–7.35 (m, 3H), 7.34–7.24 (m, 3H), 7.19–7.09 (m, 2H), 4.08 (q, J=7.1 Hz, 2H), 2.29 (s, 3H), 0.97 (t, J=7.2 Hz, 3H); 13 C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃)

δ 164.0, 160.4 (d, J = 246.4 Hz), 155.1, 149.3, 131.7 (d, J = 3.3 Hz), 130.0, 129.2 (d, J = 8.1 Hz), 129.0, 128.1, 128.1, 123.7 (d, J = 3.6 Hz), 121.1 (d, J = 15.8 Hz), 116.8, 115.3 (d, J = 22.1 Hz), 114.8, 60.4, 13.6, 12.1. HRMS calc. for $C_{20}H_{17}FO_3$ [M+Na]⁺: 347.1059, found: 347.1058.

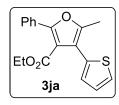
Ethyl 4-(3-fluorophenyl)-5-methyl-2-phenylfuran-3-carboxylate (3ia). Pale yellow oil was



obtained in 94% yield after purification with column chromatography on silica gel (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate, 100/1). 1 H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.85–7.82 (m, 2H), 7.44–7.32 (m, 4H), 7.09–7.00 (m, 3H), 4.11 (q, J = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 2.32 (s, 3H), 1.01 (t, J = 7.1 Hz, 3H); 13 C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 164.3, 162.5

 $(d, J = 245.2 \text{ Hz}), 154.4, 148.7, 135.3 (d, J = 8.4 \text{ Hz}), 129.9, 129.4 (d, J = 8.5 \text{ Hz}), 129.0, 128.2, 127.7, 125.4 (d, J = 2.8 \text{ Hz}), 122.0, 116.7 (d, J = 21.7 \text{ Hz}), 114.5, 113.9 (d, J = 21.0 \text{ Hz}), 60.6, 13.6, 12.1. HRMS calc. for <math>C_{20}H_{17}FO_3$ [M+Na]⁺: 347.1059, found: 347.1055.

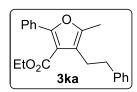
Ethyl 5-methyl-2-phenyl-4-(thiophen-2-yl)furan-3-carboxylate (3ja). Pale yellow oil was obtained



in 40% yield after purification with column chromatography on silica gel (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate, 100/1). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.80–7.78 (m, 2H), 7.43–7.33 (m, 4H), 7.08–7.02(m, 2H), 4.16 (q, J = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 2.39 (s, 3H), 1.09 (t, J = 7.1 Hz, 3H); ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 164.4, 153.9, 149.9,

133.3, 129.9, 128.9, 128.2, 127.5, 127.4, 126.8, 125.5, 115.9, 115.1, 60.8, 13.7, 12.4. HRMS calc. for $C_{18}H_{16}O_{3}S$ [M+H]⁺: 313.0898, found: 313.0896.

Ethyl 5-methyl-4-phenethyl-2-phenylfuran-3-carboxylate (3ka). Colorless oil was obtained in 60%



yield after purification with column chromatography on silica gel (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate, 100/1). 1 H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.76–7.74 (m, 2H), 7.42–7.33 (m, 3H), 7.29 –7.25 (m, 2H), 7.21–7.15 (m, 3H), 4.30 (q, J = 7.1 Hz,

2H), 2.85 (m, 4H), 1.99 (s, 3H), 1.30 (t, J = 7.2 Hz, 3H); ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 164.6, 155.3, 148.5, 141.9, 130.6, 128.7, 128.7, 128.3, 128.3, 127.9, 125.9, 119.9, 113.9, 60.3, 36.8, 26.8, 14.2, 11.0. HRMS calc. for $C_{22}H_{22}O_3$ [M+H]⁺: 335.1647, found: 335.1628.

Preparation of Cu-acetylide 64 and Ag-acetylide 75

To a solution of copper iodide (3.81 g, 20.0 mmol) in a mixture of ammonium hydroxide (25% NH₃ solution, 55 mL) and ethanol (30 mL) was added prop-2-yn-1-ylbenzene **1a** (1.16g, 10.0 mmol) dropwise. The deep blue reaction mixture was stirred overnight at room temperature under nitrogen and the yellow precipitate was collected by filtration and successively washed with ammonium hydroxide (25% NH₃ solution, 3x50 mL), water (3x50 mL), ethanol (3x50 mL), and diethyl ether (3x50 mL). The bright yellow solid was then dried under high vacuum overnight to afford 1.01g (3-phenylprop-1-yn-1-yl)copper **6**⁴ in 57% yield which was used without further purification.

Silver nitrate (1.70 g, 10 mmol) was dissolved in acetonitrile (50 mL). Then prop-2-yn-1-ylbenzene **1a** (1.16 g, 10 mmol) and triethylamine (1.4 mL, 10 mmol) were added successively with vigorous stirring and the mixture was stirred overnight under a nitrogen atmosphere in darkness. The white precipitate formed was collected by filtration, washed thoroughly with acetonitrile (2 × 10 mL). The white solid was then dried in darkness under high vacuum to afford 1.78g (3-phenylprop-1-yn-1-yl)silver **7**⁵ in 80% yield which was used immediately without further purification.

Experimental procedure for control experiments eq.3 and eq.4

Ethyl 3-oxo-3-phenylpropanoate **2a** (38.4 mg, 0.2 mmol), (3-phenylprop-1-yn-1-yl)copper **6** (78.6 mg, 0.44 mmol), 1,10-phenanthroline hydrate **L1** (95.1 mg, 0.48 mmol), and Ag₂CO₃ (66.2 mg, 0.24 mmol) were added to 3 mL anhydrous ethanol in an oven-dried Schlenk flask under a nitrogen atmosphere, the reaction stirred at 80 °C for 24 h. Then the reaction mixture was cooled to room temperature, DBU (36.5 mg, 0.24 mmol) was added directly to the resulting reaction mixture without further purification and continued stirring at 80 °C being monitored by TLC. The reaction mixture was then filtered, washed with dichloromethane (10 mL) and concentrated under vacuum. The residue was purified by silica gel chromatography (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate, 100/1) to afford pale yellow oil **3aa** in 89% yield.

A solution of CuI (1.9 mg, 0.01 mmol) and 1,10-phenanthroline hydrate **L1** (2.2 mg, 0.011 mmol) in 1 mL of anhydrous ethanol placed in an oven-dried Schlenk flask was stirred at room temperature under a nitrogen atmosphere for 1 h. A solution of ethyl 3-oxo-3-phenylpropanoate **2a** (38.4 mg, 0.2 mmol), (3-phenylprop-1-yn-1-yl)silver **7** (98.1 mg, 0.44 mmol) and ⁱPr₂NEt (42 μL, 0.24 mmol) in 2 mL of anhydrous ethanol was added. The reaction mixture was allowed to stir for 24 h at 80 °C. Then the reaction mixture was cooled to room temperature, DBU (36.5 mg, 0.24 mmol) was added directly to the resulting reaction mixture without further purification and continued stirring at 80 °C being monitored by TLC. The reaction mixture was then filtered, washed with dichloromethane (10 mL) and concentrated under vacuum. The residue was purified by silica gel chromatography (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate, 100/1) to afford pale yellow oil **3aa** in 31% yield.

Transformation of cycloadduct via catalytic decarboxylative coupling

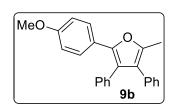
Transformation of cycloadduct proceeded according to the literature⁶. Cycloadduct **3** (0.25 mmol, 1 equiv) in 0.5 M aq. NaOH (2 equiv, 4 mL/mmol) and dioxane was stirred at 100 °C for 12 h. At this time, the mixture was acidified by concd aq HCl and extracted with EtOAc to afford the carboxylic acid without further purification. PdCl₂(dppf) (10 mol %), carboxylic acid **3** (0.25 mmol, 1 equiv), iodide (2 equiv), Cs₂CO₃ (3 equiv), 4Å MS (300 mg/mmol) and 4 mL mesitylene were added to an oven-dried Schlenk flask equipped with a stir bar under nitrogen atmosphere. The reaction mixture was stirred at 170 °C for 12 h. After the reaction was complete, the flask were filtered through the plug of silica gel, and then concentrated by rotary evaporation. The residue was purified by flash chromatography, eluting with hexane/EtOAc to afford the product **9**.

2-Methyl-3,4,5-triphenylfuran (9a). White solid was obtained in 84% yield after purification with

column chromatography on silica gel (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate, 100/1). M.p.: 130-132 °C. 1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.44–7.41 (m, 2H), 7.24–7.18 (m, 8H), 7.17–7.12 (m, 3H), 7.06–7.03 (m, 2H), 2.42 (s, 3H); ^{13}C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ

147.9, 146.9, 133.8, 133.1, 131.3, 130.4, 129.8, 128.5, 128.3, 128.1, 127.1, 127.0, 126.46, 125.7, 123.9, 123.0, 12.6. HRMS calc. for C₂₃H₁₈O [M+H]⁺: 311.1436, found: 311.1433.

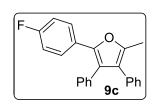
2-(4-Methoxyphenyl)-5-methyl-3,4-diphenylfuran (9b). White solid was obtained in 86% yield



after purification with column chromatography on silica gel (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate, 20/1). M.p.: 128–130 °C. 1 H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.37–7.34 (m, 2H), 7.25–7.13 (m, 8H), 7.06–7.04 (m, 2H), 6.78–6.76 (m, 2H), 3.76 (s, 3H), 2.42 (s, 3H); 13 C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 158.6, 147.2,

147.0, 133.9, 133.2, 130.4, 129.7, 128.4, 128.0, 127.2, 126.8, 126.3, 124.1, 123.6, 121.4, 113.8, 55.2, 12.6. HRMS calc. for C₂₄H₂₀O₂ [M+H]⁺: 341.1542, found: 341.1544.

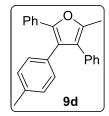
2-(4-Fluorophenyl)-5-methyl-3,4-diphenylfuran (9c). White solid was obtained in 87% yield after



purification with column chromatography on silica gel (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate, 100/1). M.p.: 144–146 °C. 1 H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.42–7.36 (m, 2H), 7.27–7.18 (m, 6H), 7.17–7.12 (m, 2H), 7.06–7.03 (m, 2H), 6.94–6.89 (m, 2H), 2.42 (s, 1H); 13 C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 161.78 (d, J = 246.9 Hz),

147.80, 146.10, 133.53, 132.94, 130.33, 129.71, 128.65, 128.52, 128.06, 127.41 (d, J = 7.9 Hz), 127.12, 126.45, 123.82, 122.59, 115.28 (d, J = 21.7 Hz), 12.56. HRMS calc. for $C_{23}H_{17}FO$ [M+H]⁺: 329.1342, found: 329.1336.

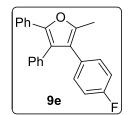
2-Methyl-3,5-diphenyl-4-(p-tolyl)furan (9d). White solid was obtained in 83% yield after



purification with column chromatography on silica gel (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate, 100/1). M.p.: 104–106 °C. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.45–7.41 (m, 2H), 7.25–7.12 (m, 8H), 7.07–7.04 (m, 6H), 2.41 (s, 3H), 2.31 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 147.8, 146.8, 136.6, 133.2, 131.4, 130.6, 130.2, 129.8, 129.2, 128.3,

128.0, 126.8, 126.4,125.6, 123.9, 122.9, 21.4, 12.6. HRMS calc. for $C_{24}H_{20}O$ [M+H]⁺: 325.1592, found: 325.1590.

3-(4-Fluorophenyl)-2-methyl-4,5-diphenylfuran (9e). White solid was obtained in 85% yield after

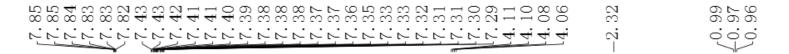


purification with column chromatography on silica gel (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate, 100/1). M.p.: 138–140 °C. 1 H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.43–7.41 (m, 2H), 7.27–7.12 (m, 8H), 7.02–6.98 (m, 2H), 6.95–6.90 (m, 2H), 2.41 (s, 3H); 13 C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 161.6 (d, J = 245.5 Hz), 147.8, 146.9, 133.6, 131.2 (d,

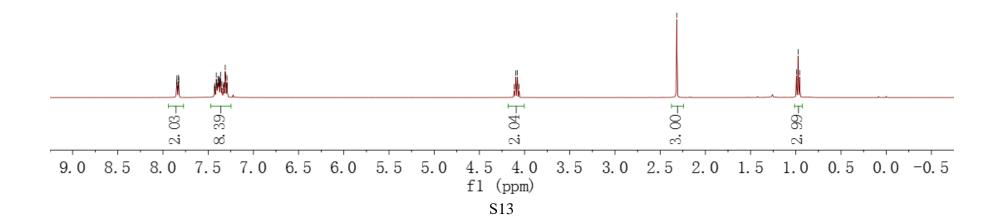
J = 7.9 Hz), 131.1, 130.3, 129.0 (d, J = 3.3 Hz), 128.5, 128.3, 127.1, 127.0, 125.6, 123.0, 122.8, 115.0 (d, J = 21.3 Hz), 12.5. HRMS calc. for $C_{23}H_{17}FO$ [M+H]⁺: 329.1342, found: 329.1346.

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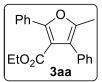


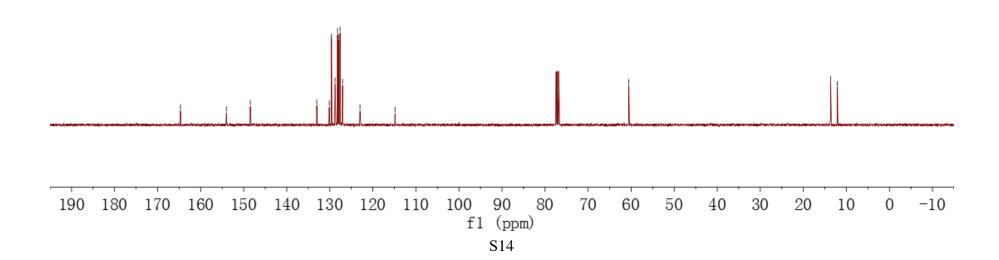
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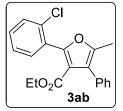


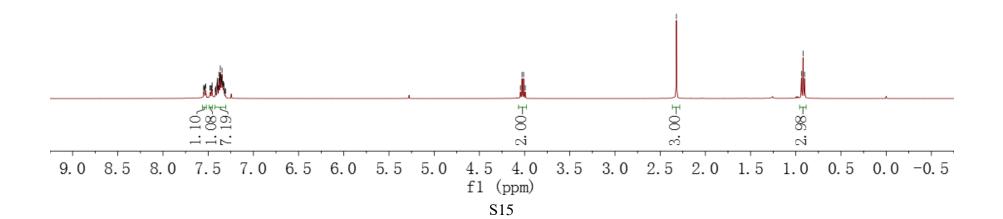
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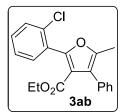
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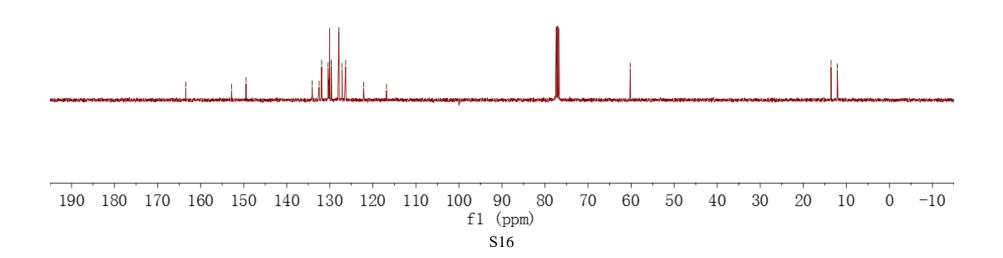




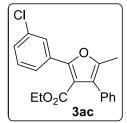


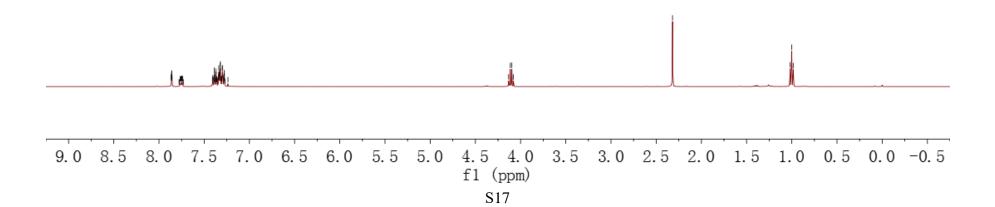
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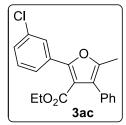
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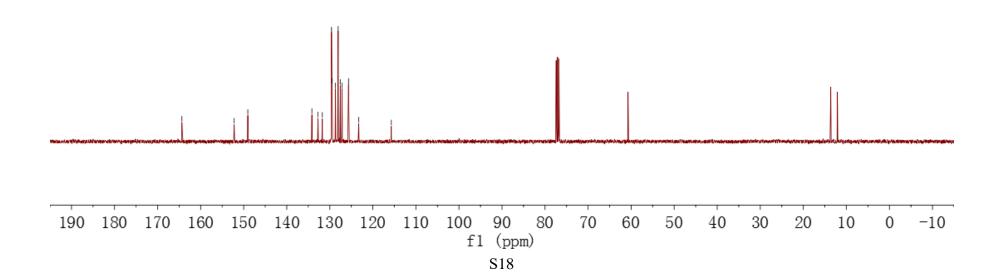




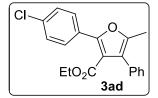


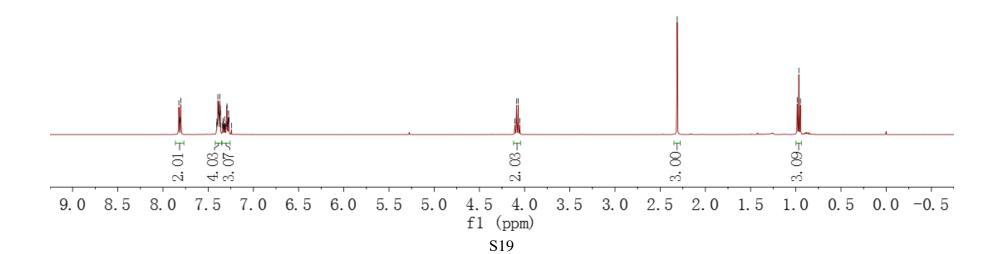
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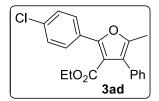
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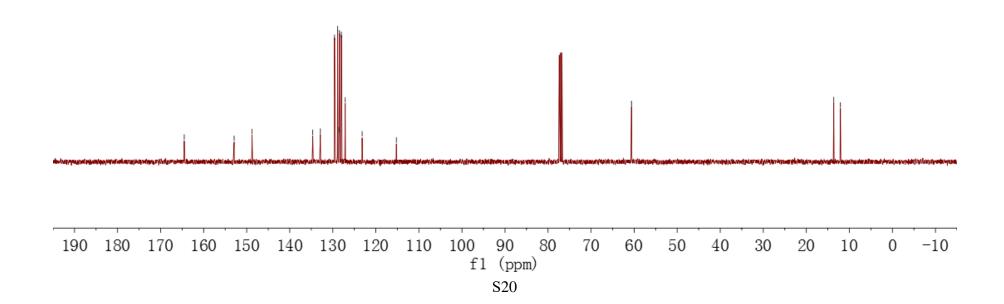




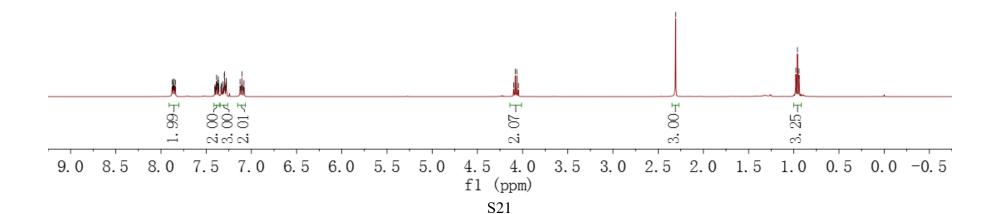


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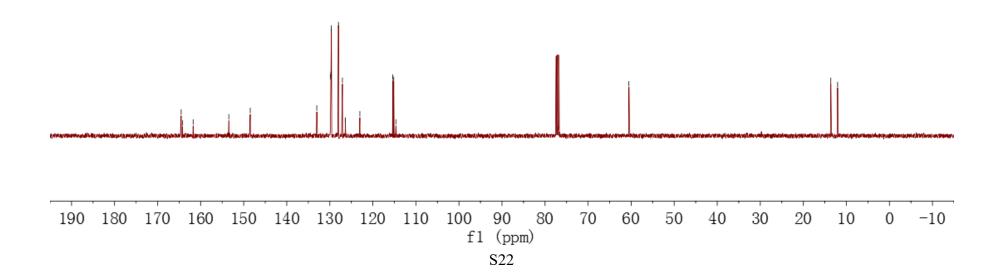


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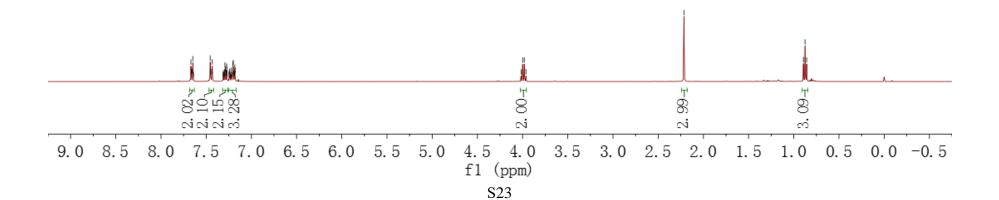




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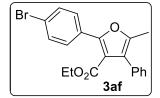


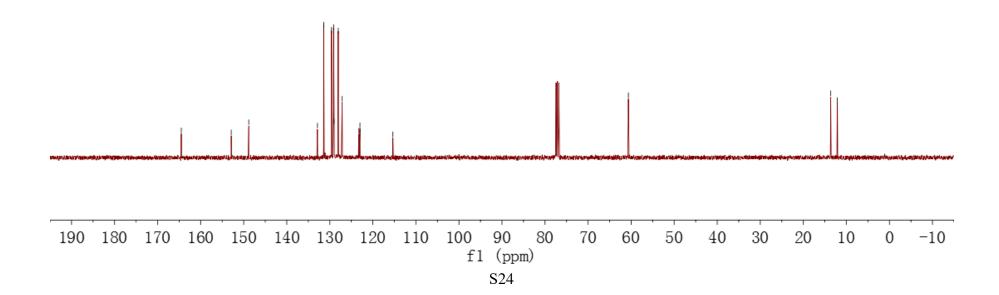
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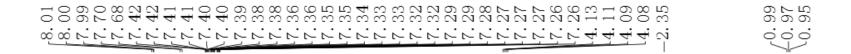




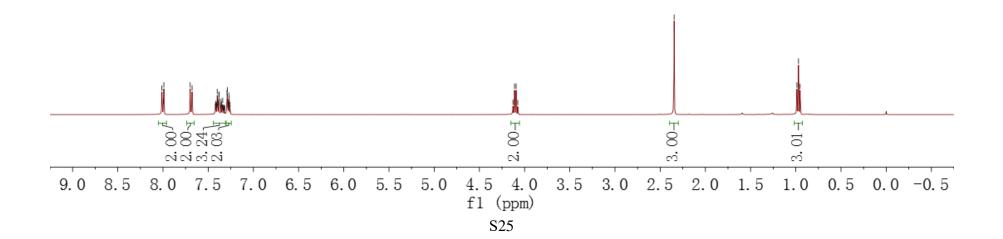
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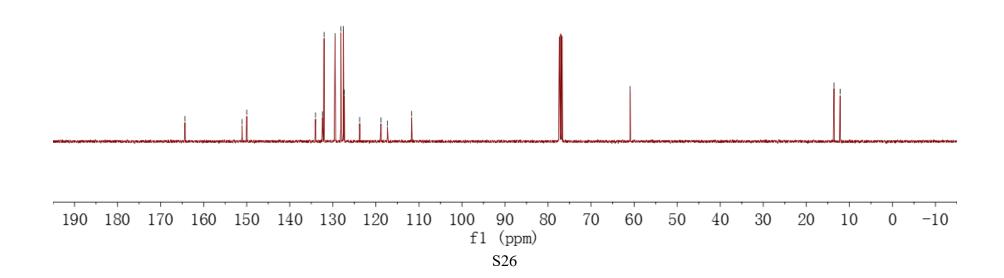


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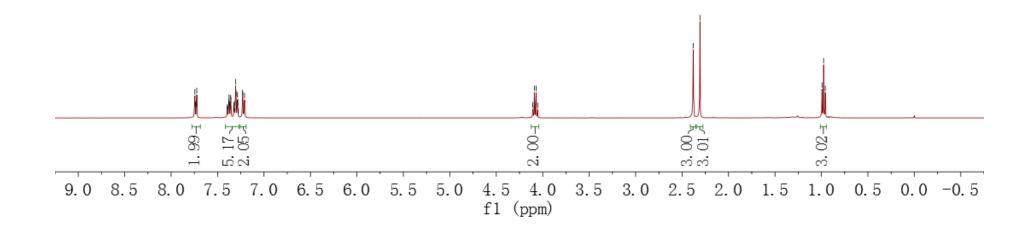


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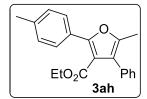
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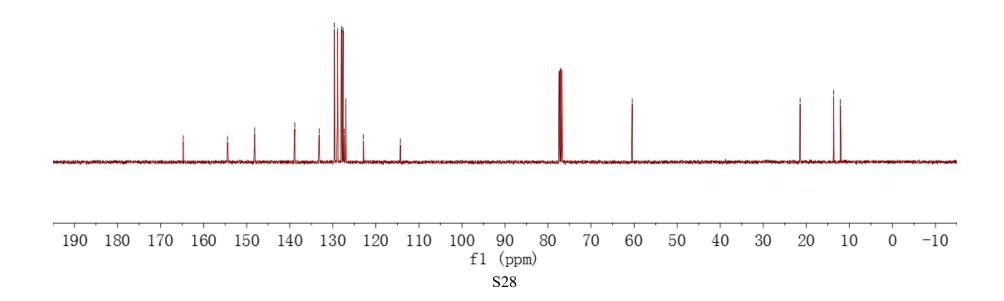


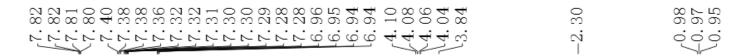


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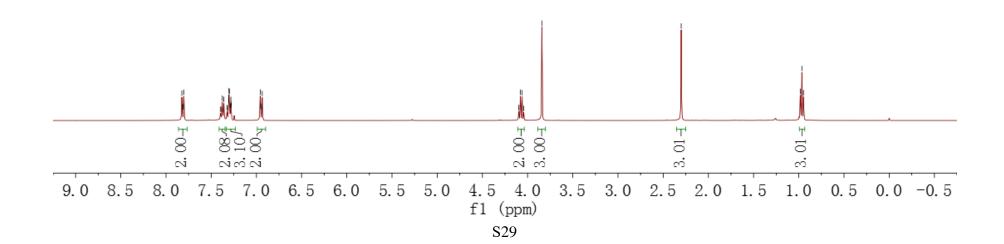
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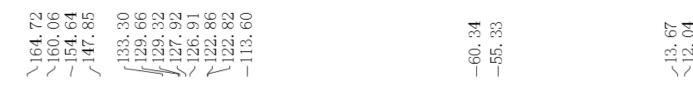




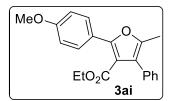


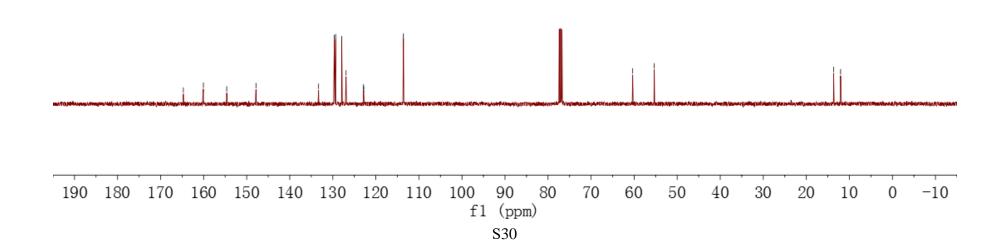
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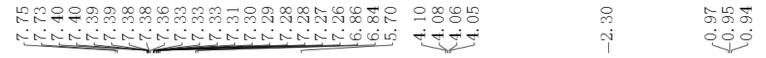




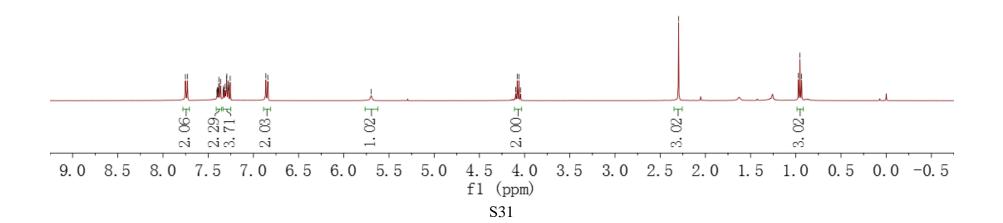
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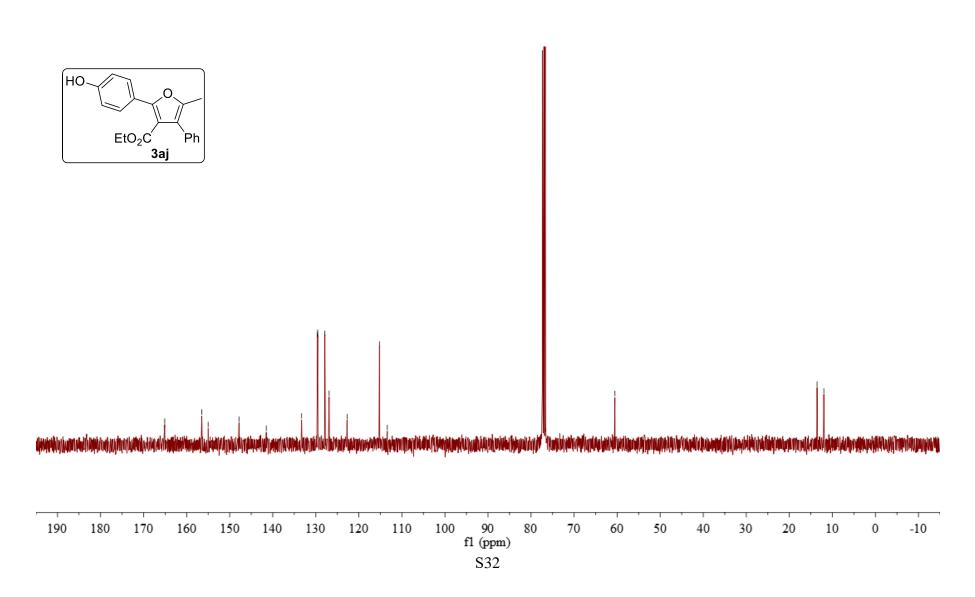
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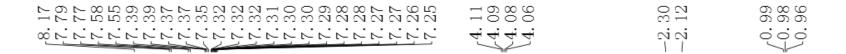




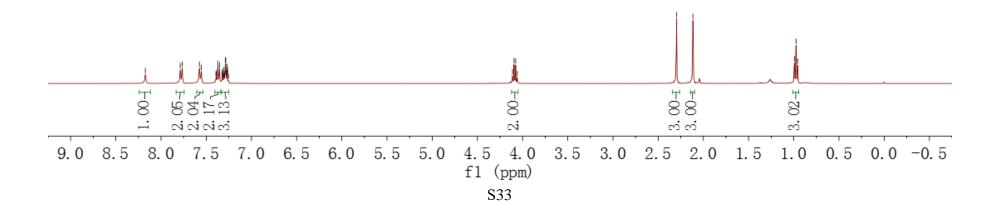
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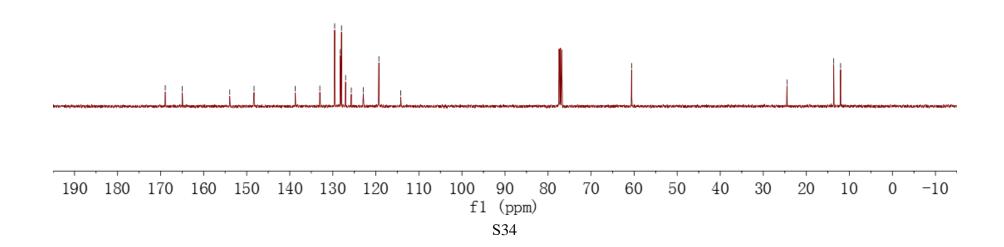


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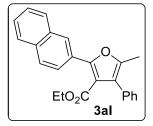


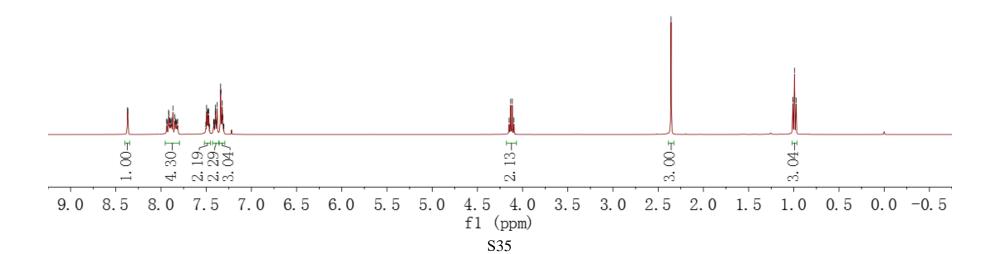


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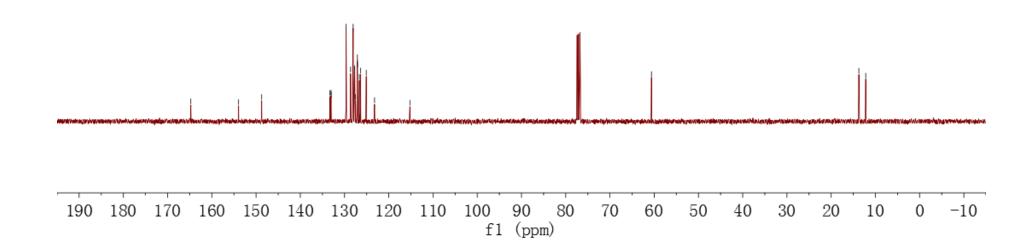
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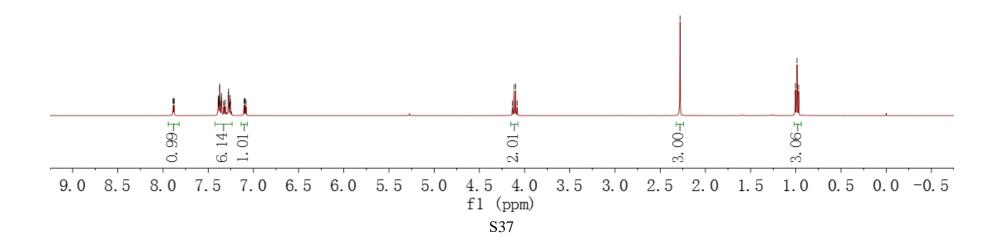


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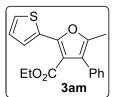
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PROTON CDC13 {D:\NMR400\02T2} nmr 27

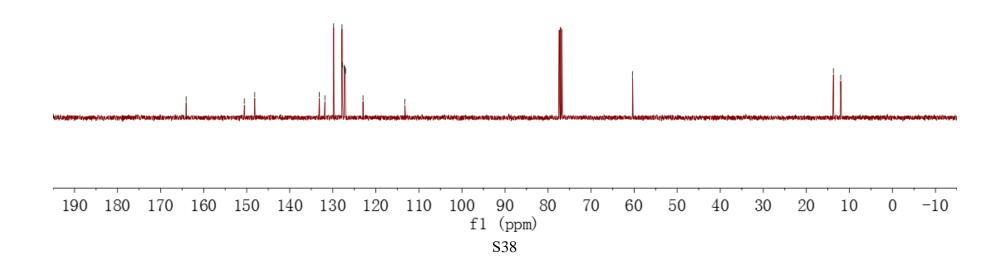




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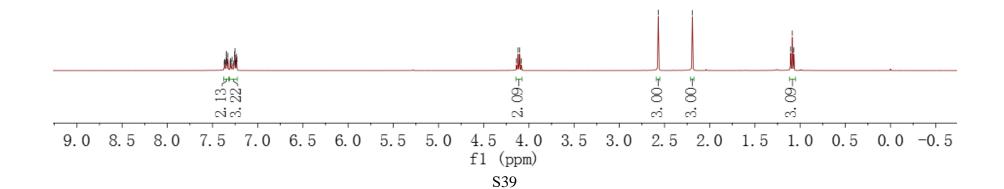
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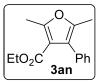
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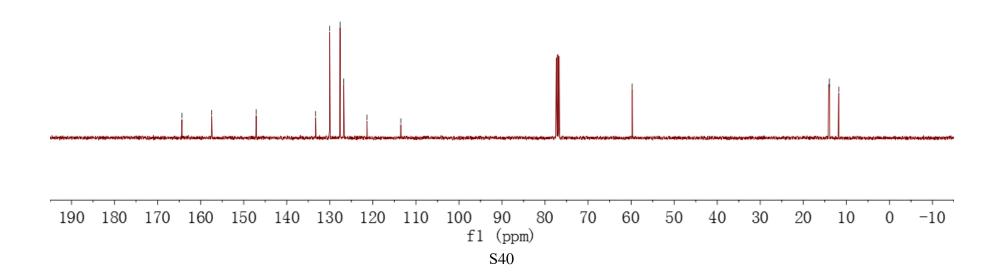


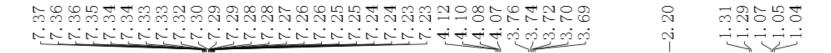


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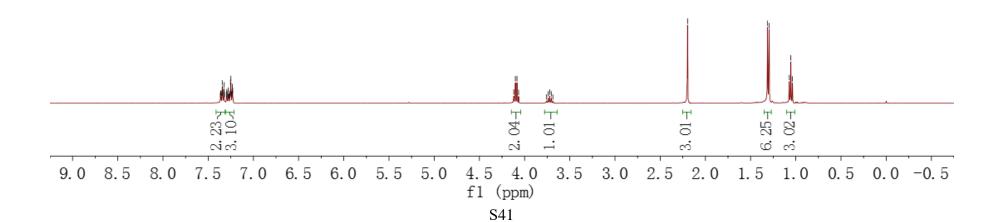
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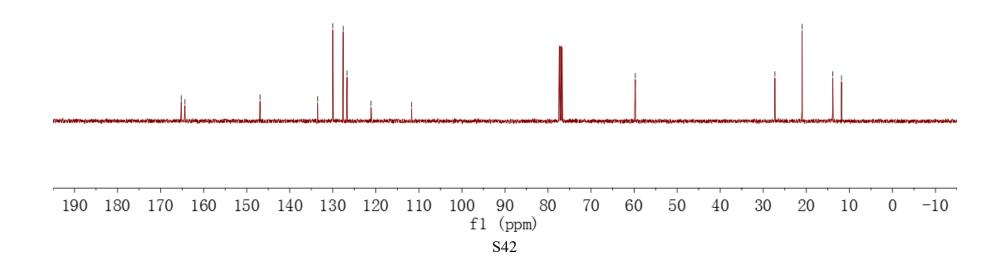




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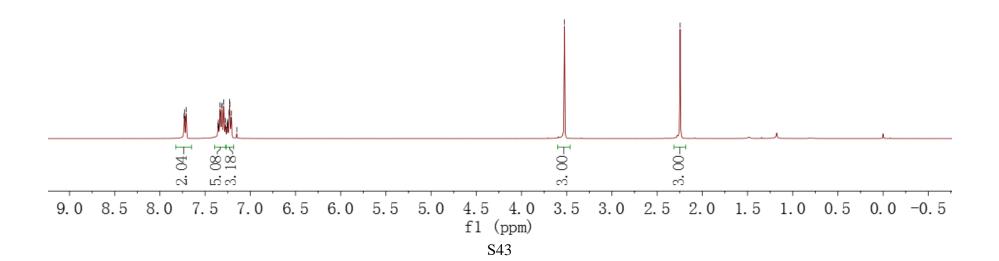
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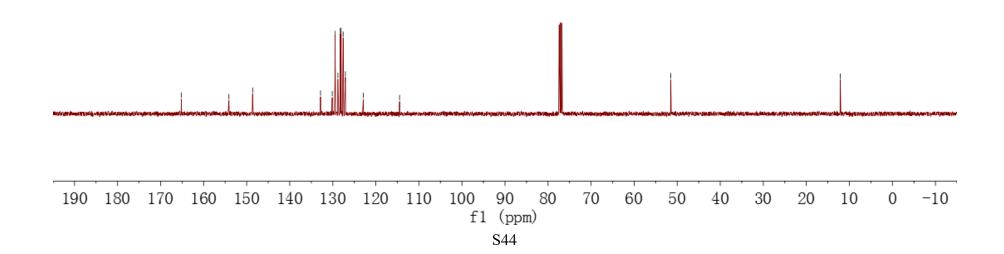
73333334 73333333333 73333333333 733333333	52	25
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LZT-1400
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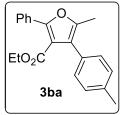


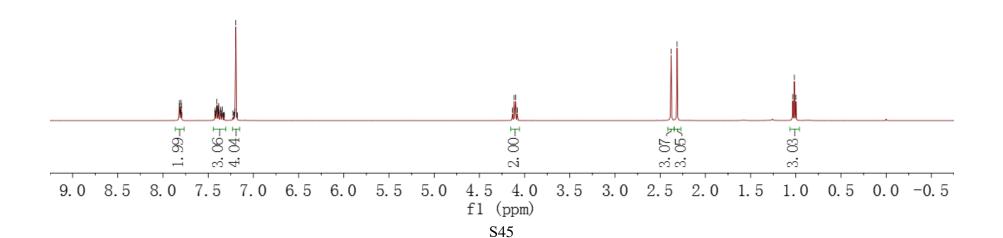


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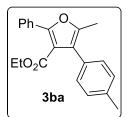
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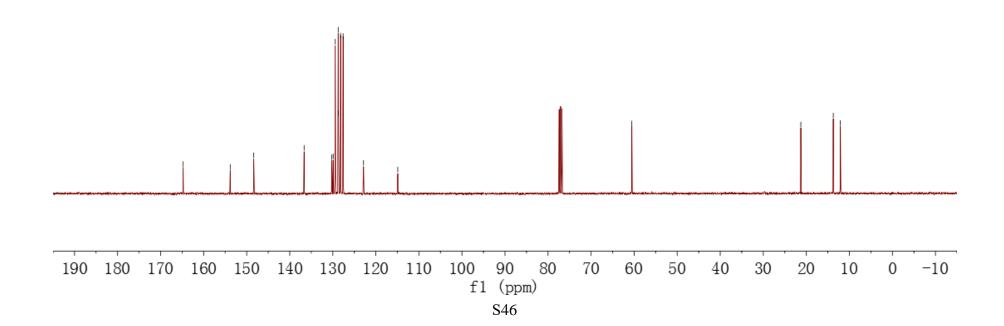




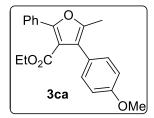


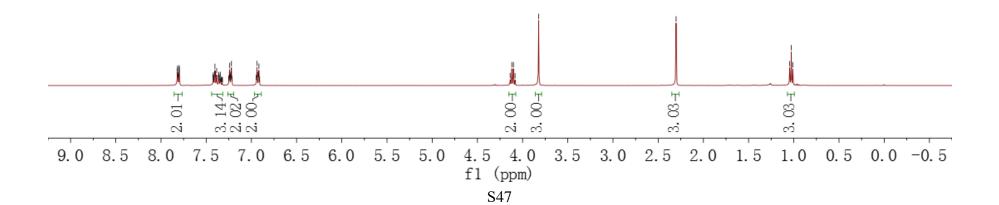
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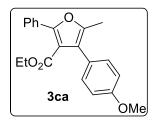
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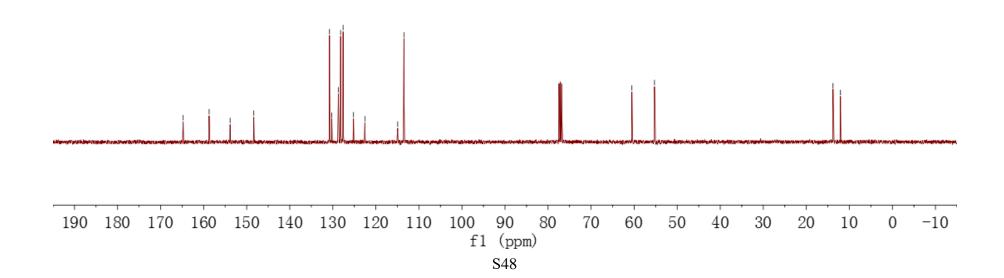




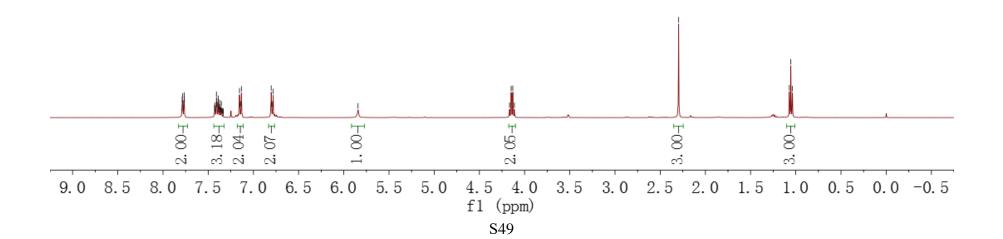


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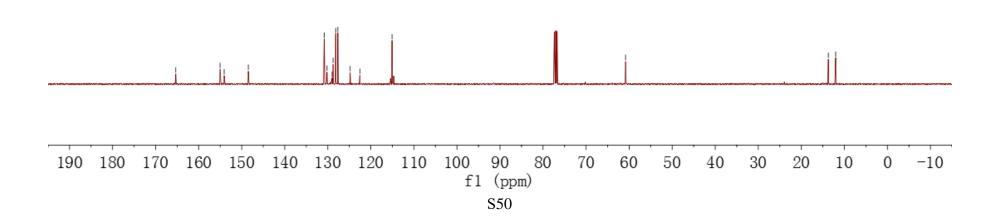


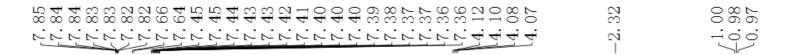
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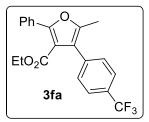


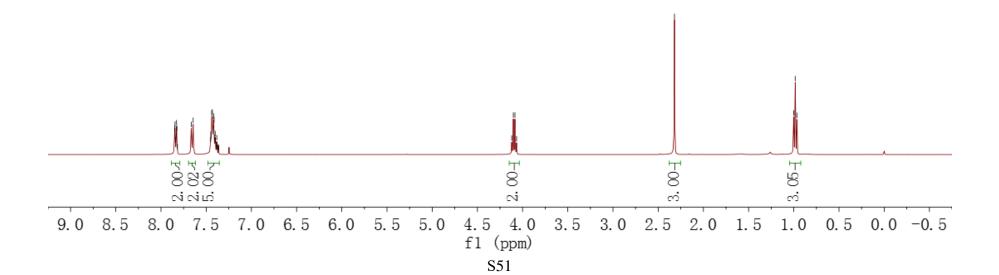
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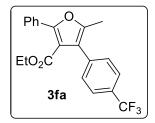
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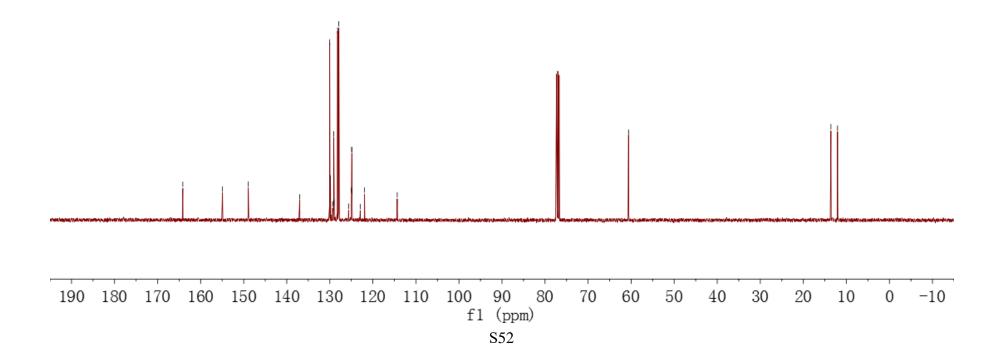




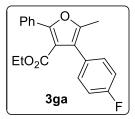


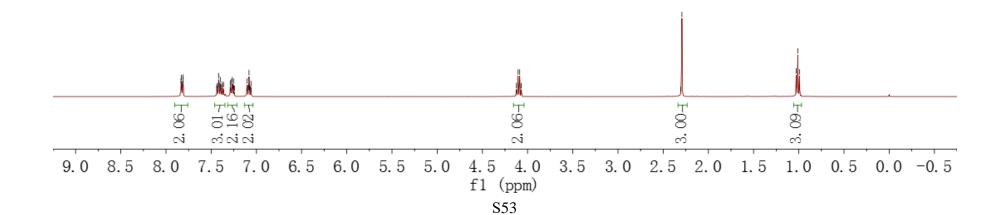
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LZT-2064.10.fid PROTON CDC13 {D:\NMR400\02T2} nmr 54

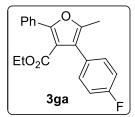


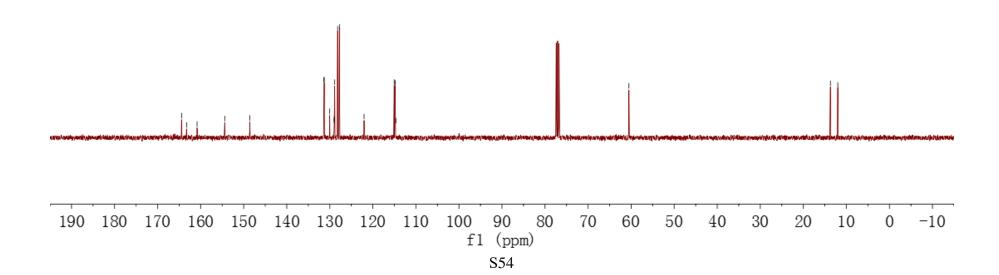




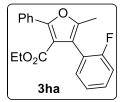
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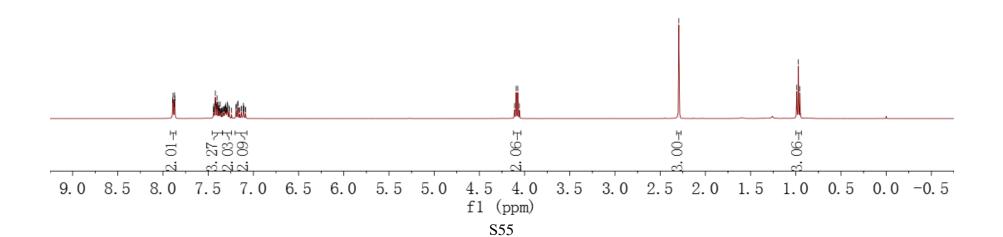
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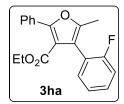
LZT-2099
PROTON CDC13 {D:\NMR400\02T2} nmr 10

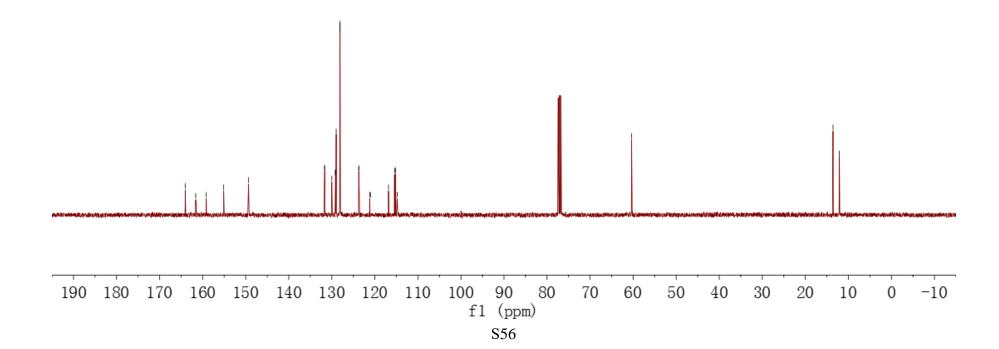




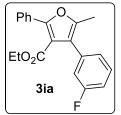


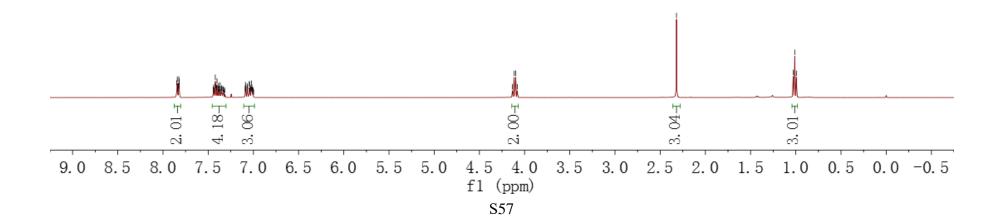
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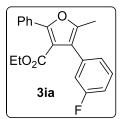
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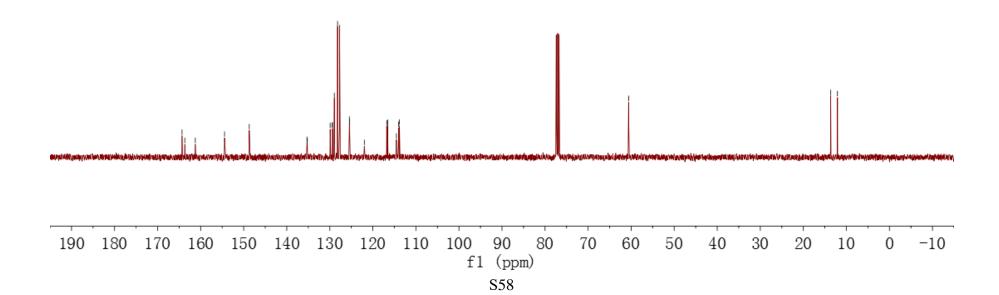




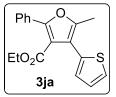


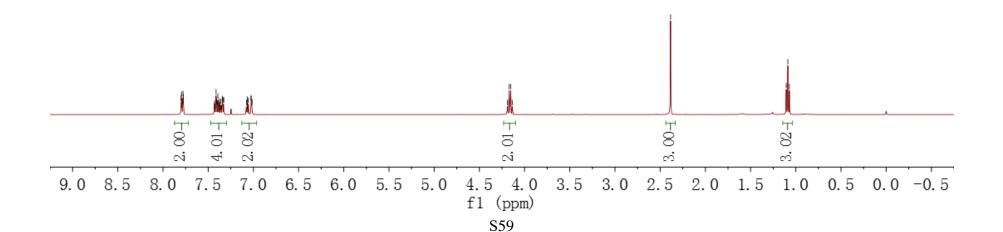
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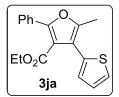
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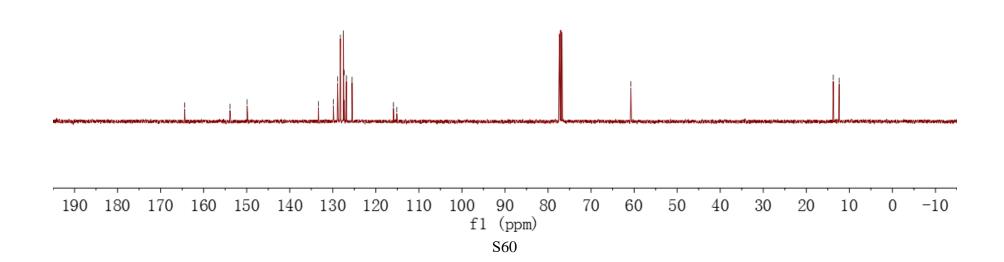




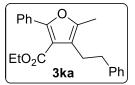


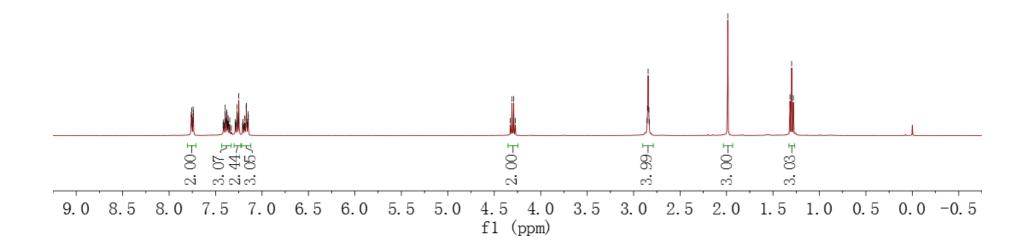
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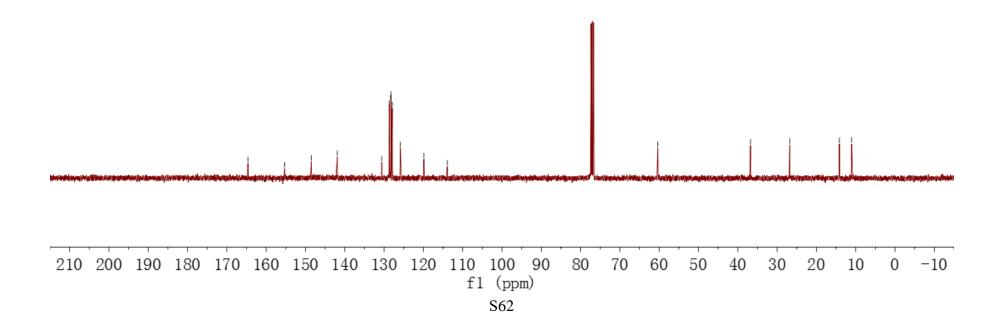






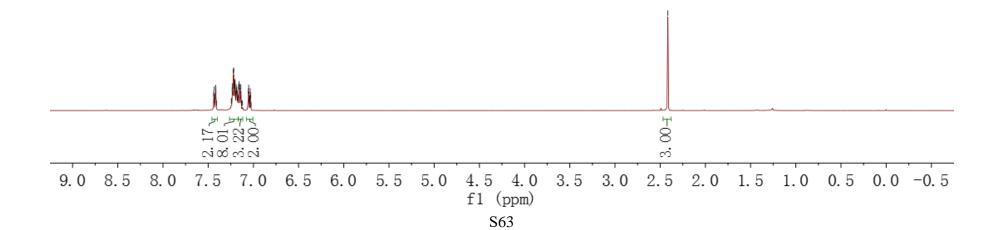
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LZT-2773.10.fidPROTON CDC13 {D:\NMR400\02T2} nmr 13



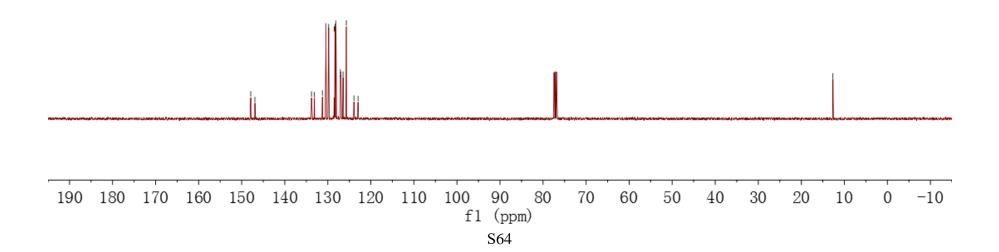




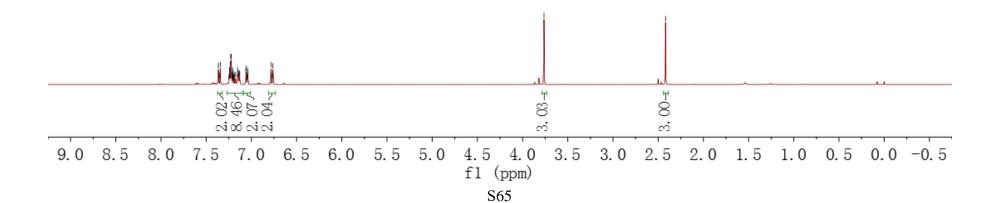
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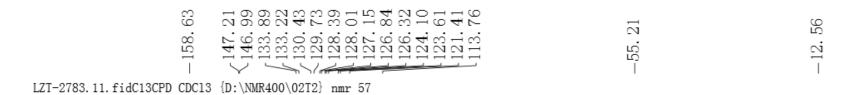
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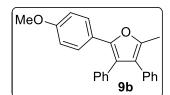


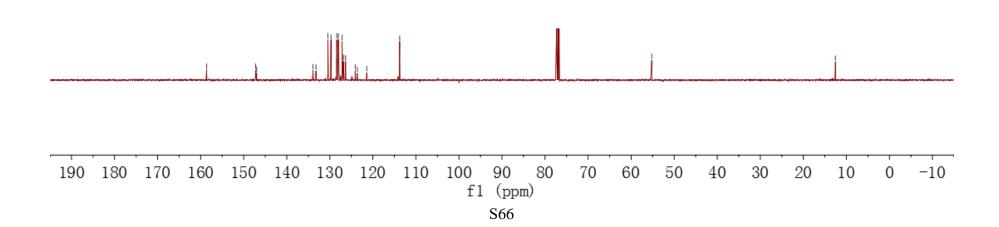


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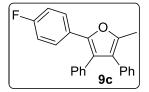


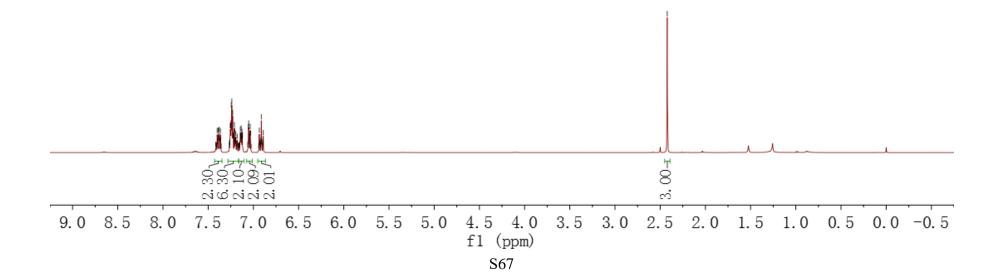






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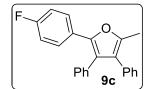


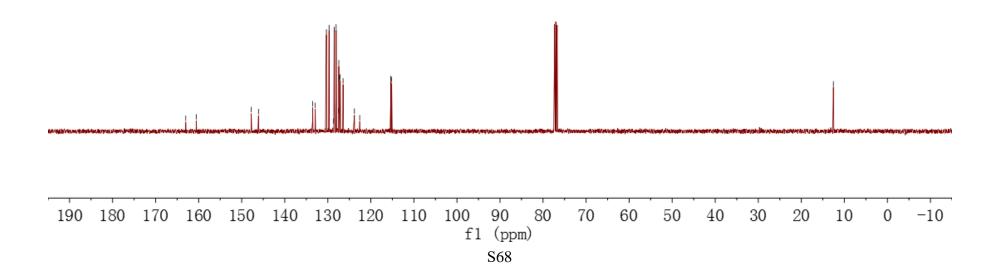




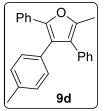
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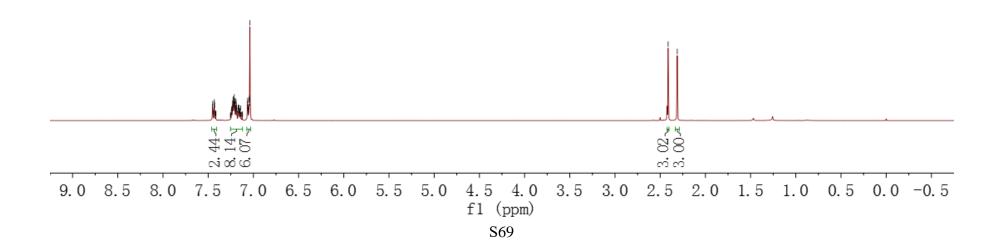
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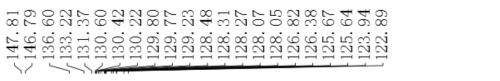




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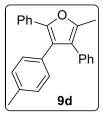


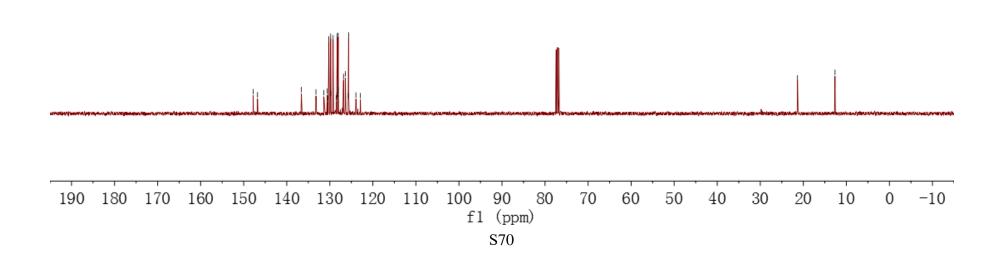


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-12.

LZT-2780.11.fidC13CPD CDC13 {D:\NMR400\02T2} nmr 36





LZT-2781.10.fidPROTON CDC13 {D:\NMR400\02T2} nmr 37

