

# A nitrogen-ligated nickel-catalyst enables selective intermolecular cyclisation of $\beta$ - and $\gamma$ -amino alcohols with ketones: access to five and six-membered N-heterocycles

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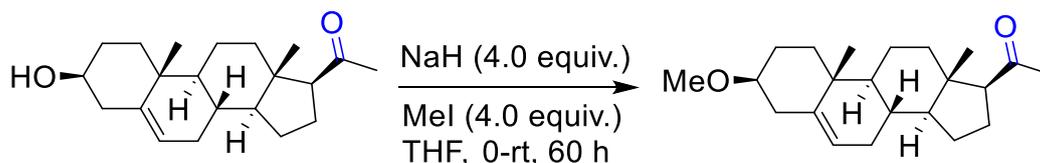
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## 1.1 General Experimental Details:

All solvents and reagents were used, as received from the suppliers. TLC was performed on Merck Kiesel gel 60, F<sub>254</sub> plates with the layer thickness of 0.25 mm. Column chromatography was performed on silica gel (100-200 mesh) using a gradient of ethyl acetate and hexane as mobile phase. <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectral data were collected at, 400 (JEOL), 500 (Bruker) MHz, while <sup>13</sup>C NMR were recorded at 100, 125 MHz. <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectral data are given as chemical shifts in ppm followed by multiplicity (s- singlet; d- doublet; t- triplet; q- quartet; m- multiplet), number of protons and coupling constants. <sup>13</sup>C NMR chemical shifts are expressed in ppm. HRMS (ESI) spectral data were collected using Bruker High Resolution Mass. GC-MS were recorded using Perkin-Elmer Mass Spectrometer. All the reactions were performed in a closed system using Schlenk tube. All nickel salts were purchased from Sigma Aldrich. Potassium *tert*-butoxide was purchased from Avra Synthesis Pvt. Ltd., India. (Purity-98%, CAS No: 865-47-4, Catalog No- ASP2012).

## 1.2 Preparation of starting materials:



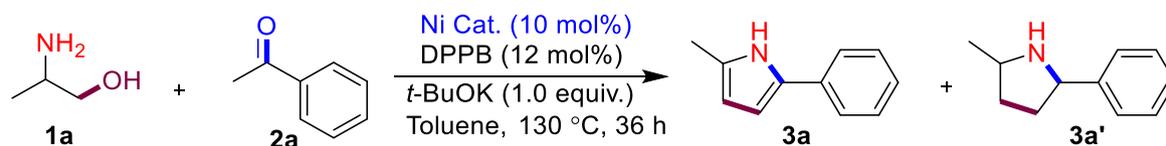
### Procedure:

In a 50 mL oven dried RB flask, 5-pregnen-3β-ol-20-one (633 mg, 2.0 mmol), NaH (4.0 equiv.) in THF 10 mL were taken under an atmosphere of N<sub>2</sub> at 0 °C and stirred for 1 h. Then MeI (4.0 equiv.) was added to the reaction mixture at 0 °C and continued reaction at RT for 60 h. The reaction mixture was quenched with NH<sub>4</sub>Cl solution and was partitioned between ethyl acetate (25.0 mL) and water (25.0 mL) in a separatory funnel. The organic layer was washed with water, brine and dried over anhydrous Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> (s) and concentrated *in vacuo*. The residue was purified by column chromatography using a gradient of hexane and ethyl acetate (eluent system) to afford the pure product as colourless solid (430 mg, 65% yield). **NMR DATA:** <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 5.35 – 5.31 (m, 1H), 3.33 (d, *J* = 0.8 Hz, 3H), 3.09 – 2.99 (m, 1H), 2.51 (t, *J* = 8.9 Hz, 1H), 2.37 (ddd, *J* = 13.1, 4.6, 2.1 Hz, 1H), 2.16 (ddd, *J* = 12.9, 10.3, 7.8 Hz, 2H), 2.10 (s, 3H), 2.06-1.82 (m, 4H), 1.69 – 1.36 (m, 8H), 1.26 -1.01 (m, 3H), 1.01 – 0.95 (m, 4H), 0.61 (s, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 209.70, 140.93, 121.37, 80.30, 63.78, 56.99,

55.72, 50.09, 44.09, 38.91, 38.70, 37.24, 36.96, 31.91, 31.87, 31.66, 28.04, 24.56, 22.86, 21.15, 19.44, 13.31.

### 1.3 Nickel catalysed synthesis of pyrroles, quinolines and pyridines from amino alcohols with ketones.

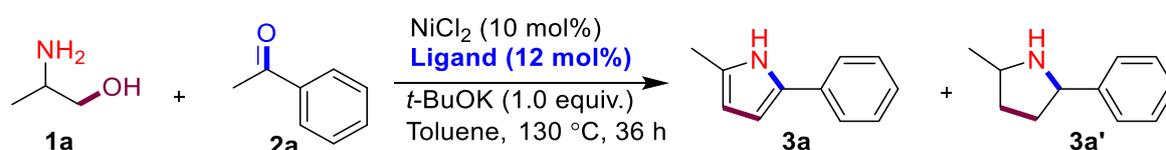
**Table S1:** Screening of Nickel catalysts



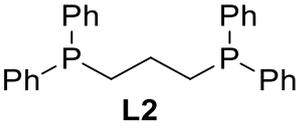
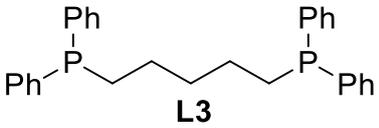
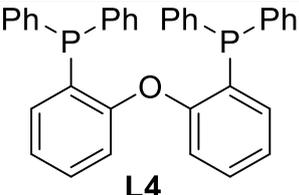
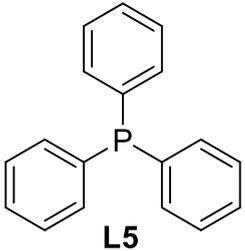
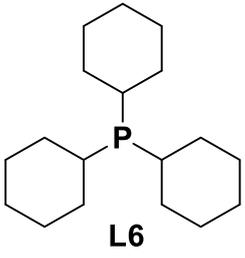
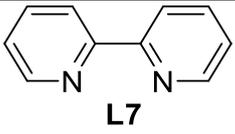
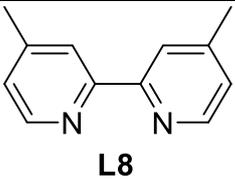
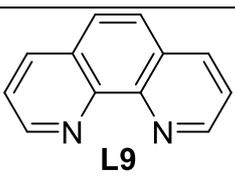
Entry	Ni-catalyst	Base	GC-MS Conversion	
			<b>3a</b>	<b>3a'</b>
1.	NiBr <sub>2</sub>	<i>t</i> -BuOK	12	13
<b>2.</b>	<b>NiCl<sub>2</sub></b>	<b><i>t</i>-BuOK</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>8</b>
3.	NiCl <sub>2</sub> .DME	<i>t</i> -BuOK	25	0
4.	Ni(acac) <sub>2</sub>	<i>t</i> -BuOK	18	9
5.	Ni(COD) <sub>2</sub>	<i>t</i> -BuOK	17	12
6 <sup>b</sup> .	NiBr <sub>2</sub>	<i>t</i> -BuOK	28	20

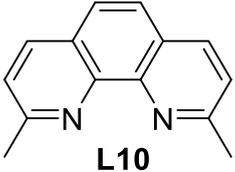
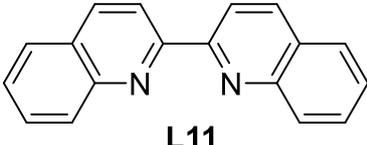
*Reaction condition:* [a] DL-Alaninol (0.5 mmol), Acetophenone (1.0 mmol), **Ni-cat (10 mol%)**, DPPPB (12 mol%), *t*-BuOK (0.5 mmol), toluene (2.0 mL), Schlenk tube under nitrogen atmosphere, 130 °C oil bath, 36 h reaction time. DPPPB = 1,4-Bis(diphenylphosphino)butane. [b] 1,10-phenanthroline was used as ligand.

**Table S2:** Screening of Ligands



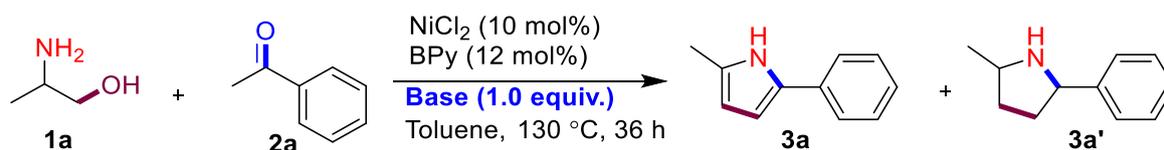
Entry	Ligand	GC-MS Conversion	
		<b>3a</b>	<b>3a'</b>
1.	<p><b>L1</b></p>	30 %	8%

2.	 <p style="text-align: center;"><b>L2</b></p>	28 %	19 %
3.	 <p style="text-align: center;"><b>L3</b></p>	15 %	2 %
4.	 <p style="text-align: center;"><b>L4</b></p>	0 %	0 %
5.	 <p style="text-align: center;"><b>L5</b></p>	15 %	0 %
6.	 <p style="text-align: center;"><b>L6</b></p>	24 %	0 %
7.	 <p style="text-align: center;"><b>L7</b></p>	72 (64) <sup>[b]</sup> %	0%
8.	 <p style="text-align: center;"><b>L8</b></p>	10 %	25 %
9.	 <p style="text-align: center;"><b>L9</b></p>	15 %	0 %

10.	 <b>L10</b>	24 %	0 %
11.	 <b>L11</b>	0 %	0 %
12.	No Ligand	15 %	18 %

Reaction condition: [a] DL-Alaninol (0.5 mmol), Acetophenone (1.0 mmol), NiCl<sub>2</sub> (10 mol%), **Ligand (12 mol%)**, *t*-BuOK (0.5 mmol), toluene (2.0 mL), Schlenk tube under nitrogen atmosphere, 130 °C in oil bath, 36 h reaction time. [b] Isolated yield

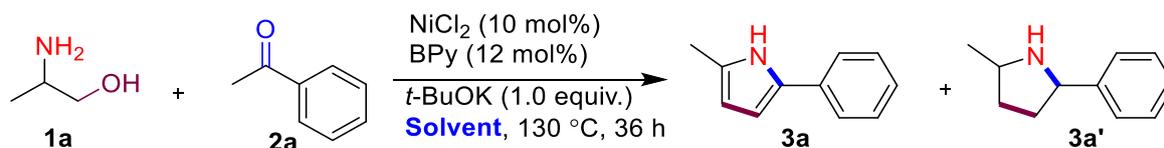
**Table S3:** Screening of Base



Entry	Base	GC-MS Conversion	
		<b>3a</b>	<b>3a'</b>
1.	<i>t</i> -BuONa	50 %	0%
<b>2.</b>	<b><i>t</i>-BuOK</b>	<b>72 (64)<sup>[b]</sup> %</b>	<b>0%</b>
3.	K <sub>2</sub> CO <sub>3</sub>	0 %	0 %
4.	Na <sub>2</sub> CO <sub>3</sub>	0 %	0 %
5.	K <sub>3</sub> PO <sub>4</sub>	0%	0 %
6.	Cs <sub>2</sub> CO <sub>3</sub>	0 %	0 %

Reaction condition: [a] DL-Alaninol (0.5 mmol), Acetophenone (1.0 mmol), NiCl<sub>2</sub> (10 mol%), BPy (12 mol%), **Base (0.5 mmol)**, Toluene (2.0 mL), Schlenk tube under nitrogen atmosphere, 130 °C in oil bath, 36 h reaction time. [b] Isolated yield

**Table S4:** Screening of Solvents



Entry	Solvents	Base	GC-MS Conversion	
			3a	3a'
1.	Toluene	<i>t</i> -BuOK	72 (64) <sup>[b]</sup> %	0%
2.	Xylene	<i>t</i> -BuOK	31 %	3%
3.	Dioxane	<i>t</i> -BuOK	39 %	8 %
4.	DMA	<i>t</i> -BuOK	14 %	10 %
5.	DMF	<i>t</i> -BuOK	9 %	10 %

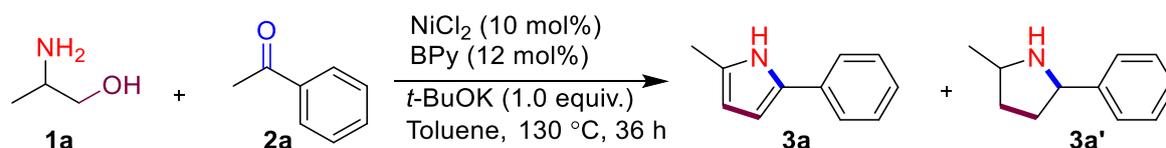
Reaction condition: [a] DL-Alaninol (0.5 mmol), Acetophenone (1.0 mmol), NiCl<sub>2</sub> (10 mol%), BPy (12 mol%), *t*-BuOK (0.5 mmol), Solvent (2.0 mL), Schlenk tube under nitrogen atmosphere, 130 °C in oil bath, 36 h reaction time. [b] Isolated yield

**Table S5:** Screening of base equivalents <sup>[a]</sup>

Entry	Base equivalents	GC-MS Conversion	
		3a	3a'
1.	<i>t</i> -BuOK (1.0 equiv.)	72 (64) <sup>[b]</sup> %	0%
2.	<i>t</i> -BuOK (0.75 equiv.)	41 %	0%
3.	<i>t</i> -BuOK (0.50 equiv.)	29 %	0%
4.	-	0 %	0 %

Reaction condition: [a] DL-Alaninol (0.5 mmol), Acetophenone (1.0 mmol), NiCl<sub>2</sub> (10 mol%), BPy (12 mol%), *t*-BuOK (X equiv.), Toluene (2.0 mL), Schlenk tube under nitrogen atmosphere, 130 °C in oil bath, 36 h reaction time. [b] Isolated yield

**Table S6:** Screening of Alcohol and Ketone equivalents <sup>[a]</sup>



Entry	1a X mmol	2a Y mmol	GC-MS Conversion	
			3a	3a'
1.	0.5	1.0	72 (64) <sup>[b]</sup> %	0%
2.	0.5	0.5	46 %	8 %
3.	0.75	0.5	17 %	43 %
4.	1.0	0.5	14 %	55 %

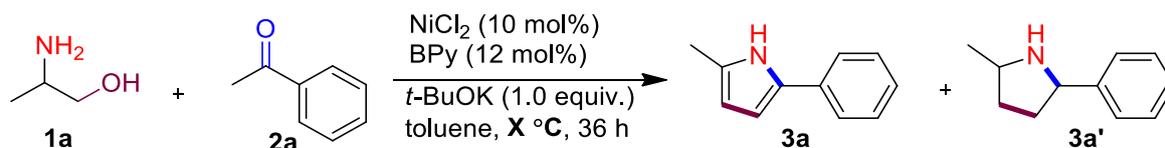
Reaction condition: [a] DL-Alaninol **1a** (**X mmol**), Acetophenone **2a** (**Y mmol**), NiCl<sub>2</sub> (10 mol%), BPy (12 mol%), *t*-BuOK (0.5 mmol), Toluene (2.0 mL), Schlenk tube under nitrogen atmosphere, 130 °C in oil bath, 36 h reaction time. [b] Isolated yield.

**Table S7:** Screening of catalyst/ligand loading <sup>[a]</sup>

Entry	Catalyst loading	Ligand Loading	GC-MS Conversion	
			<b>3a</b>	<b>3a'</b>
<b>1.</b>	<b>NiBr<sub>2</sub> (10 mol%)</b>	<b>BPy (12 mol%)</b>	<b>72 (64)<sup>[b]</sup> %</b>	<b>0%</b>
2.	NiBr <sub>2</sub> (7.5 mol%)	BPy (9 mol%)	54 %	0 %
3.	NiBr <sub>2</sub> (5.0 mol%)	BPy (6 mol%)	42 %	0 %
4.	-	-	5 %	0 %

Reaction condition: [a] DL-Alaninol (0.5 mmol), Acetophenone (1.0 mmol), NiCl<sub>2</sub> (**X mol%**), BPy (**Y mol%**), *t*-BuOK (0.5 mmol), Toluene (2.0 mL), Schlenk tube under nitrogen atmosphere, 130 °C in oil bath, 36 h reaction time. [b] Isolated yield.

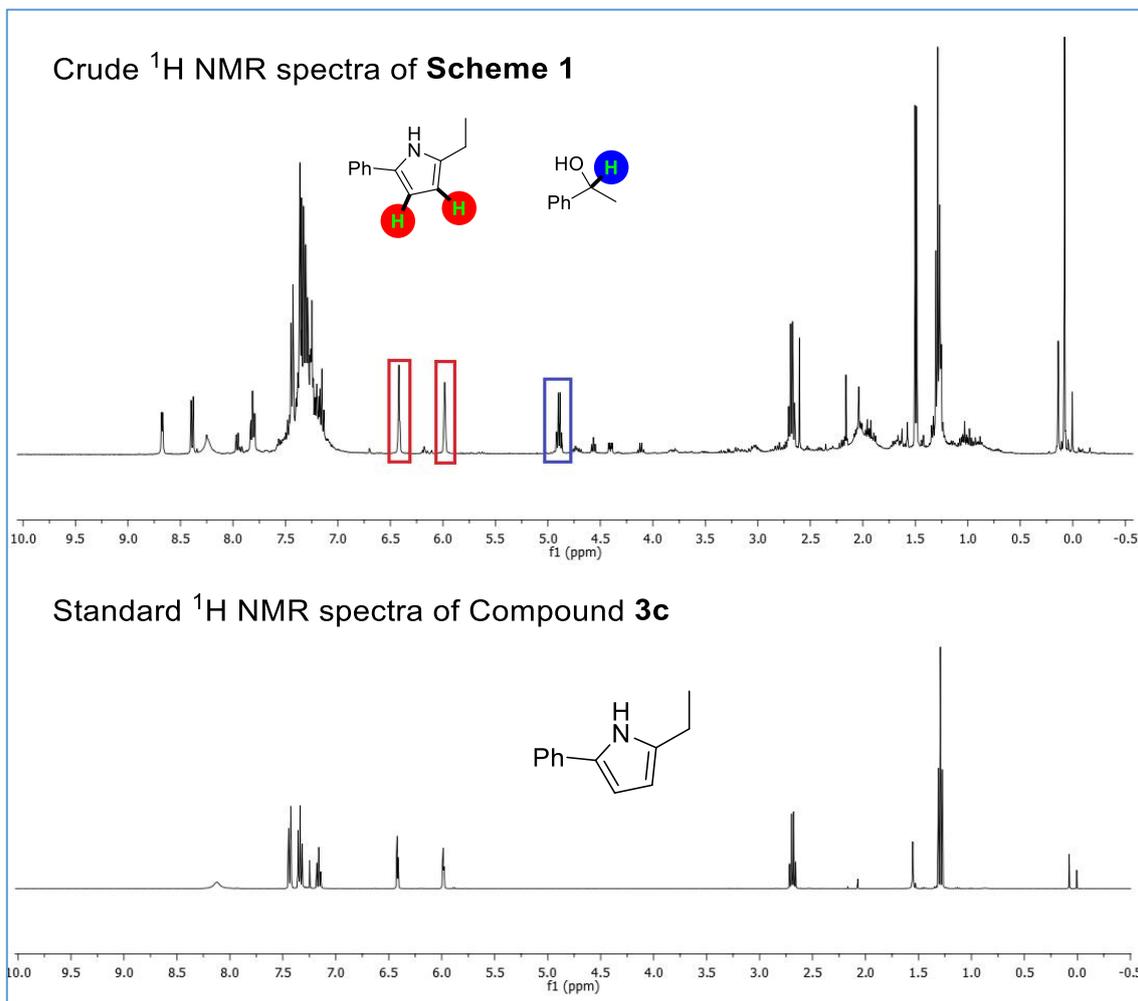
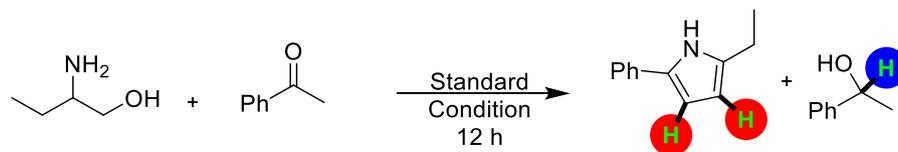
**Table S8:** Screening of temperature <sup>[a]</sup>



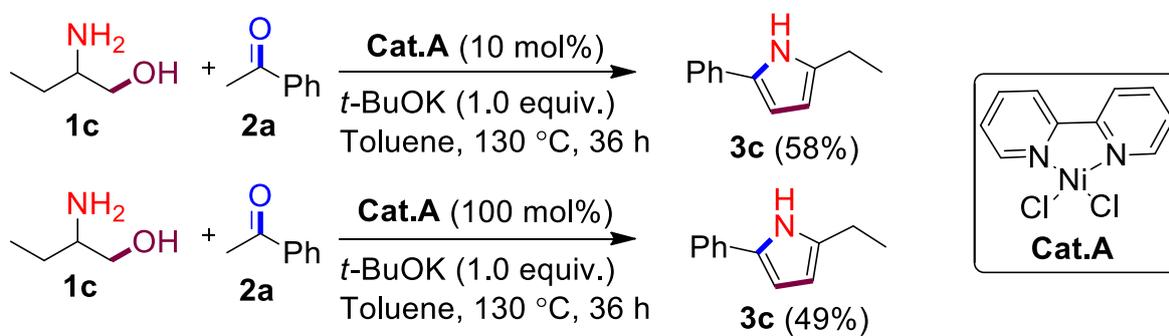
Entry	Temperature (X °C)	GC-MS Conversion	
		<b>3a</b>	<b>3a'</b>
<b>1.</b>	<b>130 °C</b>	<b>72 (64)<sup>[b]</sup> %</b>	<b>0%</b>
2.	120 °C	49 %	0%
3.	110 °C	36 %	0%
4.	100 °C	25 %	0 %
5.	80 °C	1 %	0 %

Reaction condition: [a] DL-Alaninol (0.5 mmol), Acetophenone (1.0 mmol), NiCl<sub>2</sub> (10 mol%), BPy (12 mol%), *t*-BuOK (0.5 mmol), Toluene (2.0 mL), Schlenk tube under nitrogen atmosphere, X °C oil bath, 36 h reaction time. [b] Isolated yield.

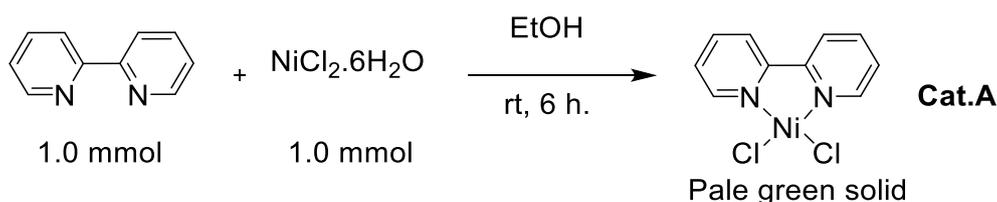
**Scheme S1 <sup>1</sup>:**



**Scheme S2: Stoichiometric and catalytic studies using Cat.A**



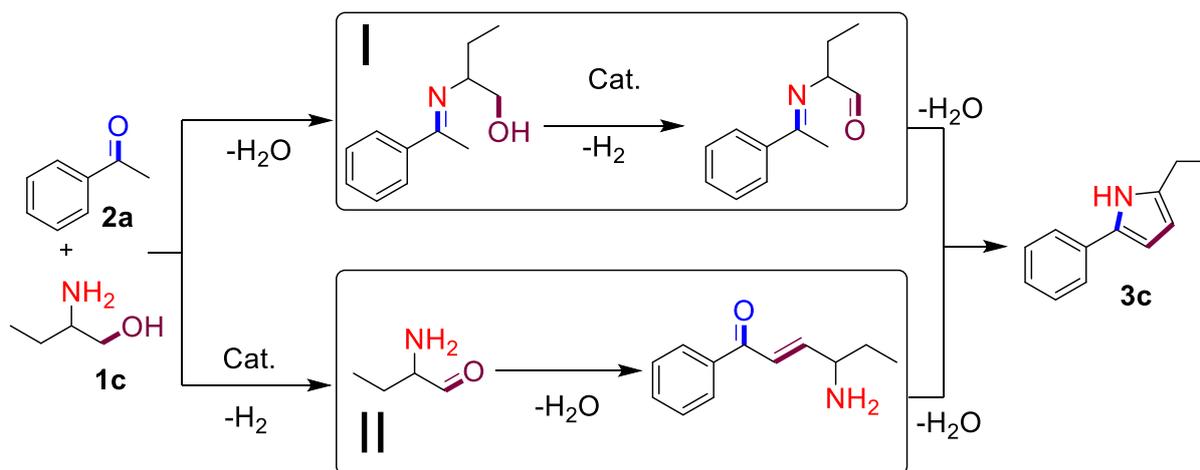
**Preparation:** Synthesis of [NiCl<sub>2</sub>(bpy)] complex:<sup>1</sup>



A solution of bpy (78 mg, 0.5 mmol) in EtOH (2 mL) was added to a solution of NiCl<sub>2</sub>·6H<sub>2</sub>O (119 mg, 0.5 mmol) in EtOH (2 mL) at rt, after stirring for 6 h, a pale green precipitate formed and was filtered off, washed with EtOH (3×3 mL), and dried *in vacuo* to afford pale green solid 114 mg (80%) yield. *Elemental Analysis* calculated: C, 42.03; H, 2.82; Cl, 24.81; N, 9.80; Ni, 20.54; Found: C, 41.75; H, 2.76; N, 9.61.

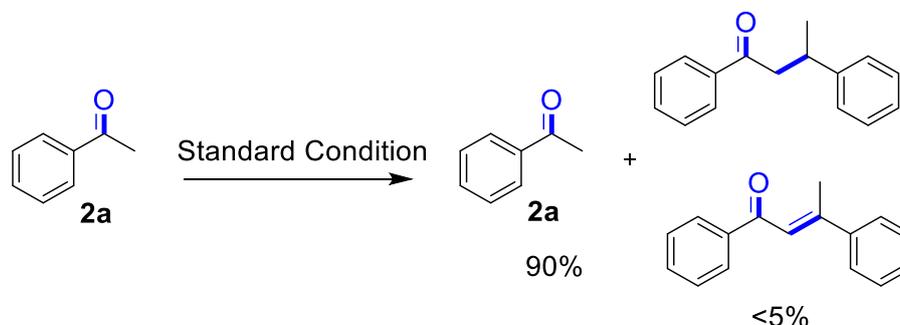
Reference: 1. D. G. Yakhvarov, E. H. Hawkins, R. M. Kagirov, Y. H. Budnikova, Y. S. Ganushevich, O. G. Sinyashin, *Russian Chemical Bulletin, Int. Ed.*, **2007**, 56, 935 - 942.

### Scheme S3: Possible reaction pathways



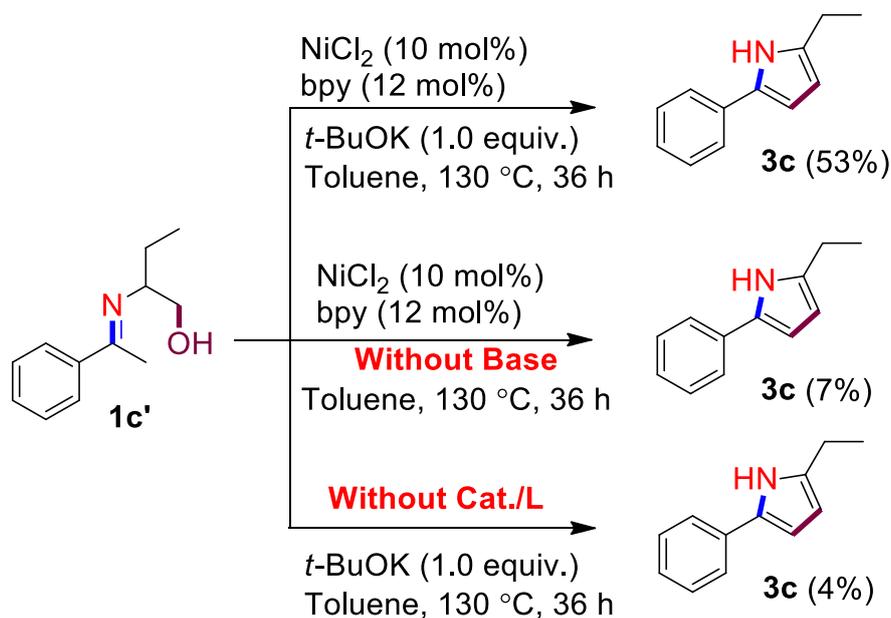
### Reactions which confirm Pathway I:

#### Scheme S4:



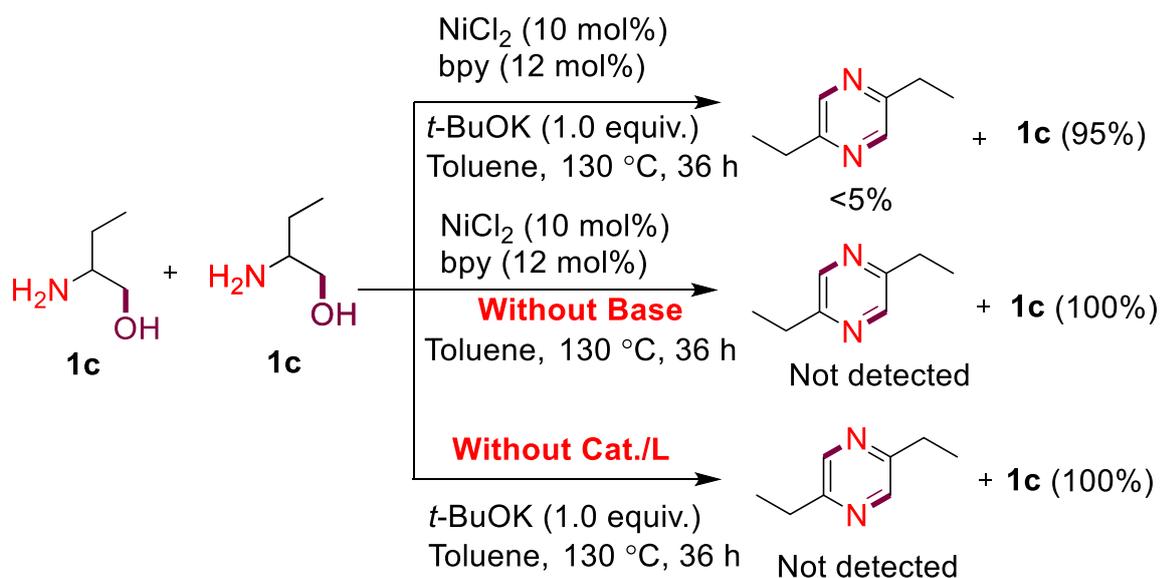
Acetophenone was treated with standard conditions and we observed <5% of aldol condensation product.

**Scheme S5:** Conversion of 2-(1-phenylethylideneamino)butan-1-ol to 2-ethyl-5-phenyl-1*H*-pyrrole (**3c**)



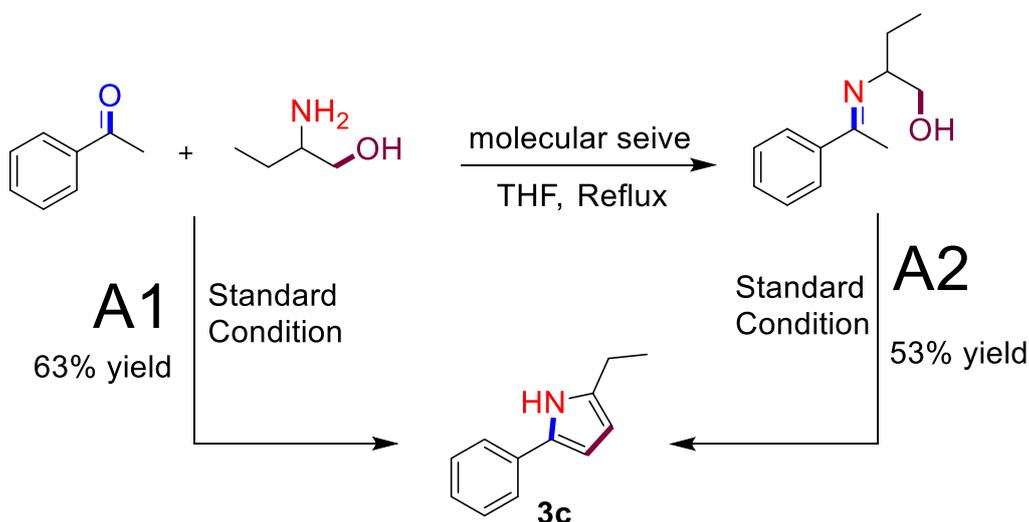
Under standard conditions 2-(1-phenylethylideneamino)butan-1-ol **1c'** is converted to 2-ethyl-5-phenyl-1*H*-pyrrole in 53% yield. If no catalyst or base was used under standard conditions, we observed only 4-7% of product conversion and unreacted imine. These experiments evident the potential role of catalyst and base for intramolecular cyclization to pyrrole.

**Scheme S6:** Dehydrogenation and condensation reaction of 2-amino-1-butanol to 2,5-diethylpyrazine



Dehydrogenation and condensation reaction of amino alcohol to 2,5-diethylpyrazine is very slow under the standard reaction conditions. In absence of catalyst or base following standard conditions, we did not observe any product conversion.

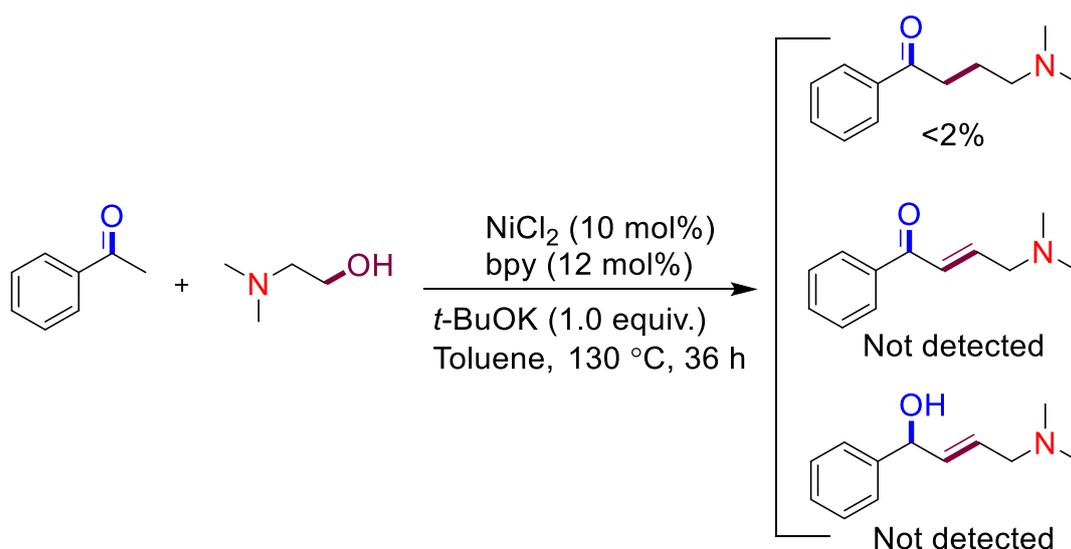
**Scheme S7:**



Under standard catalytic conditions, the reaction of ketone and amino alcohol (path **A1**), or the reaction of preformed Schiff base (path **A2**), resulted similar efficiency.

### Reactions which contradict Pathway II:

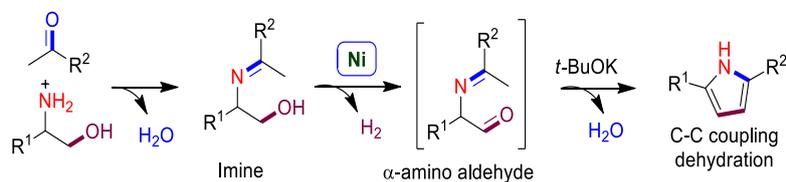
**Scheme S8:**



The reaction between acetophenone and the N-protected amino alcohol using standard catalytic conditions, we observed only <2% of the  $\alpha$ -alkylation product. This experiment indicated that

the  $\alpha$ -alkylation is very slow and unlikely be first step during pyrrole synthesis (pathway B, Scheme S3).

### Scheme S9. Proposed mechanism for synthesis of pyrroles



### [1.4] General Procedure for synthesis of pyrroles, quinolines and pyridines:

#### Procedure A:

In a 15 mL oven dried Schlenk tube amino alcohols (0.5 mmol), *t*-BuOK (0.5 mmol), NiCl<sub>2</sub> (0.05 mmol), BPy (0.06 mmol) and ketones (1.0 mmol) were added followed by toluene 2.0 mL under an atmosphere of N<sub>2</sub> and after sealing the Schlenk tube the reaction mixture was heated at 130 °C for 36 h. The reaction mixture was cooled to room temperature and 3.0 mL of ethyl acetate was added and concentrated *in vacuo*. The residue was purified by column chromatography using a gradient of hexane and ethyl acetate (eluent system) to afford the pure products.

#### Procedure B:

In a 15 mL oven dried Schlenk tube, amino alcohols (0.5 mmol), *t*-BuOK (0.75 mmol), NiCl<sub>2</sub> (0.05 mmol), BPy (0.06 mmol) and ketones (1.0 mmol) were added followed by toluene 2.0 mL under an atmosphere of N<sub>2</sub> and after sealing the Schlenk tube the reaction mixture was heated at 130 °C for 36 h. The reaction mixture was cooled to room temperature and 3.0 mL of ethyl acetate was added and concentrated *in vacuo*. The residue was purified by column chromatography using a gradient of hexane and ethyl acetate (eluent system) to afford the pure products.

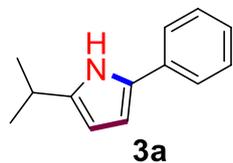
#### Procedure C:

In a 15 mL oven dried Schlenk tube, amino alcohol (0.2 mmol), *t*-BuOK (0.2 mmol), NiCl<sub>2</sub> (0.02 mmol), BPy (0.024 mmol), ketone (0.25 mmol) were added followed by toluene 1.5 mL under an atmosphere of N<sub>2</sub> and after sealing the Schlenk tube the reaction mixture was heated at 130 °C for 36 h. The reaction mixture was cooled to room temperature and 3.0 mL of ethyl acetate was added and concentrated *in vacuo*. The residue was purified by column

chromatography using a gradient of hexane and ethyl acetate (eluent system) to afford the pure product.

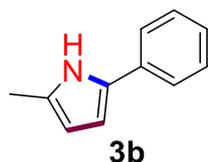
### [1.5] Analytical Data:

#### 2-Isopropyl-5-phenyl-1H-pyrrole (3a) <sup>1</sup>:



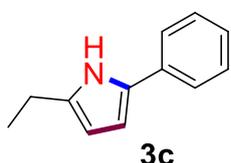
Following the general procedure A, the title product was obtained as a colourless solid (70% yield); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 8.12 (br s, 1H), 7.44 (dd, *J* = 8.2, 0.8 Hz, 2H), 7.33 (t, *J* = 7.7 Hz, 2H), 7.16 (t, *J* = 7.4 Hz, 1H), 6.41 (t, *J* = 3.1 Hz, 1H), 5.98 (t, *J* = 3.0 Hz, 1H), 2.97 (dt, *J* = 13.8, 6.9 Hz, 1H), 1.30 (d, *J* = 7.0 Hz, 6H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 135.90, 133.18, 131.00, 128.94, 125.82, 123.56, 106.47, 105.93, 27.29, 22.76.

#### 2-Methyl-5-phenyl-1H-pyrrole (3b) <sup>1</sup>:



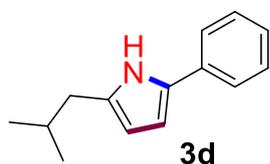
Following the general procedure A, the title product was obtained as a colourless oil (64% yield); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 8.13 (br s, 1H), 7.43 (dd, *J* = 8.2, 1.1 Hz, 2H), 7.36 – 7.32 (m, 2H), 7.19 – 7.13 (m, 1H), 6.40 (t, *J* = 3.0 Hz, 1H), 5.96 (t, *J* = 2.5 Hz, 1H), 2.33 (s, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 133.05, 130.88, 128.91, 128.60, 125.74, 123.44, 108.03, 106.27, 29.82.

#### 2-Ethyl-5-phenyl-1H-pyrrole (3c) <sup>1</sup>:



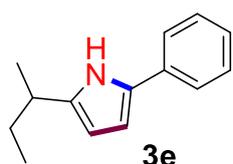
Following the general procedure A, the title product was obtained as a colourless oil (63% yield); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 8.12 (br s, 1H), 7.46 – 7.42 (m, 2H), 7.36 – 7.31 (m, 2H), 7.16 (t, *J* = 7.3 Hz, 1H), 6.42 (t, *J* = 3.0 Hz, 1H), 5.99 (t, *J* = 3.0 Hz, 1H), 2.69 (q, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 1.29 (t, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 135.71, 133.10, 130.68, 128.89, 125.75, 123.49, 106.32, 106.10, 21.09, 13.68.

#### 2-Isobutyl-5-phenyl-1H-pyrrole (3d) <sup>1</sup>:



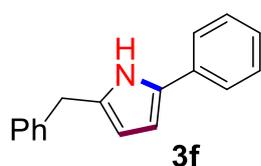
Following the general procedure A, the title product was obtained as a colourless solid (65% yield); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 8.08 (br s, 1H), 7.46 – 7.42 (m, 2H), 7.35 (dd, *J* = 10.6, 5.0 Hz, 2H), 7.20 – 7.13 (m, 1H), 6.44 (t, *J* = 3.0 Hz, 1H), 5.98 (t, *J* = 3.0 Hz, 1H), 2.51 (d, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 1.90 (dp, *J* = 13.5, 6.7 Hz, 1H), 0.98 (d, *J* = 6.6 Hz, 6H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 133.35, 133.09, 130.54, 128.92, 125.70, 123.42, 108.10, 106.15, 37.48, 29.40, 22.59.

#### 2-(*sec*-Butyl)-5-phenyl-1H-pyrrole (3e) <sup>1</sup>:



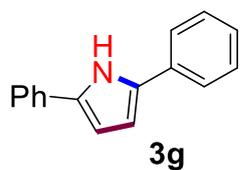
Following the general procedure A, the title product was obtained as a colourless oil (58% yield);  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  8.12 (br s, 1H), 7.46 (d,  $J = 7.7$  Hz, 2H), 7.35 (t,  $J = 7.7$  Hz, 2H), 7.17 (t,  $J = 7.3$  Hz, 1H), 6.45 (t,  $J = 2.9$  Hz, 1H), 6.00 (t,  $J = 2.7$  Hz, 1H), 2.79 – 2.69 (m, 1H), 1.66 (tdd,  $J = 20.7, 13.7, 7.1$  Hz, 2H), 1.31 (d,  $J = 7.0$  Hz, 3H), 0.95 (t,  $J = 7.4$  Hz, 3H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  139.30, 133.13, 130.35, 128.91, 125.72, 123.46, 105.93, 105.75, 34.52, 30.36, 20.19, 11.97.

### 2-Benzyl-5-phenyl-1H-pyrrole (3f)<sup>1</sup>:



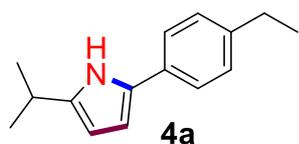
Following the general procedure A, the title product was obtained as a colourless solid (46% yield);  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  8.03 (br s, 1H), 7.41 – 7.37 (m, 2H), 7.36 – 7.29 (m, 4H), 7.28 – 7.23 (m, 3H), 7.16 (t,  $J = 7.3$  Hz, 1H), 6.45 (t,  $J = 3.0$  Hz, 1H), 6.06 (t,  $J = 3.0$  Hz, 1H), 4.03 (s, 2H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  139.38, 132.92, 132.10, 131.61, 128.89, 128.80, 128.76, 126.65, 125.92, 123.56, 108.72, 106.21, 34.35.

### 2,5-Diphenyl-1H-pyrrole (3g)<sup>1</sup>:



Following the general procedure A, the title product was obtained as a colourless solid (37% yield);  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  8.59 (br s, 1H), 7.56 – 7.51 (m, 4H), 7.42 – 7.36 (m, 4H), 7.23 (dd,  $J = 10.7, 4.3$  Hz, 2H), 6.59 (d,  $J = 2.6$  Hz, 2H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  133.21, 132.57, 129.05, 126.48, 123.88, 108.01.

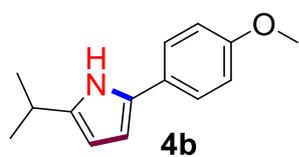
### 2-(4-Ethylphenyl)-5-isopropyl-1H-pyrrole (4a):



Following the general procedure A, the title product was obtained as a pale brown oil (47% yield);  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  8.12 (br s, 1H), 7.37 (d,  $J = 8.3$  Hz, 2H), 7.18 (d,  $J = 8.2$  Hz, 2H), 6.39 – 6.35 (m, 1H), 5.98 (t,  $J = 3.4$  Hz, 1H), 3.03 – 2.92 (m, 1H), 2.65 (q,  $J = 7.6$  Hz, 2H), 1.31 (d,  $J = 6.9$  Hz, 6H), 1.25 (t,  $J = 7.6$  Hz, 3H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  141.89, 140.00, 130.79, 130.70, 128.38, 123.68, 105.32, 104.84, 28.60, 27.31, 22.80, 15.68; HRMS (ESI): Calculated for  $[\text{C}_{15}\text{H}_{19}\text{N}]^+$  213.1512; Found 213.1534.

### 2-Isopropyl-5-(4-methoxyphenyl)-1H-pyrrole (4b)<sup>5</sup>:

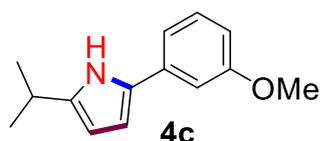
Following the general procedure A, the title product was obtained as a white solid (49% yield);



$^1\text{H NMR}$  (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  8.04 (br s, 1H), 7.37 (d,  $J = 8.8$  Hz, 2H), 6.89 (d,  $J = 8.7$  Hz, 2H), 6.29 (t,  $J = 3.0$  Hz, 1H), 5.96 (t,  $J = 2.8$  Hz, 1H), 3.81 (s, 3H), 3.01 – 2.88 (m, 1H), 1.30 (d,  $J = 6.9$  Hz, 6H);

$^{13}\text{C NMR}$  (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  158.00, 139.70, 130.59, 126.32, 125.03, 124.96, 114.31, 104.77, 55.45, 27.38, 22.79.

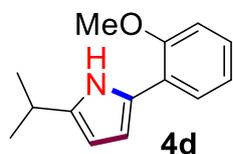
#### 2-Isopropyl-5-(3-methoxyphenyl)-1H-pyrrole (4c) <sup>2b</sup>:



Following the general procedure A, the title product was obtained as a pale brown oil (68% yield);  $^1\text{H NMR}$  (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  8.10 (br s, 1H), 7.24 – 7.21 (m, 1H), 7.02 (d,  $J = 7.6$  Hz, 1H), 6.98 – 6.95 (m, 1H), 6.73 – 6.70 (m, 1H), 6.40 (t,  $J = 3.4$  Hz, 1H), 5.97 (t,  $J = 3.4$  Hz, 1H), 3.83 (s, 3H), 2.96 (dt,  $J = 13.8, 6.8$  Hz, 1H), 1.29 (d,  $J = 6.9$  Hz, 6H);  $^{13}\text{C NMR}$

(100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  160.14, 140.51, 134.58, 130.44, 129.95, 116.19, 111.13, 109.52, 106.24, 105.06, 55.40, 27.33, 22.79.

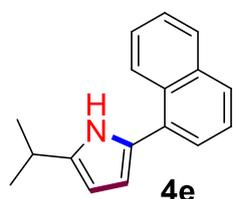
#### 2-Isopropyl-5-(2-methoxyphenyl)-1H-pyrrole (4d):



Following the general procedure A, the title product was obtained as a pale brown oil (35% yield);  $^1\text{H NMR}$  (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  9.49 (br s, 1H), 7.61 (dd,  $J = 7.7, 1.6$  Hz, 1H), 7.14 – 7.07 (m, 1H), 6.95 (ddd,  $J = 10.7, 5.9, 2.1$  Hz, 2H), 6.52 – 6.48 (m, 1H), 5.97 (t,  $J = 3.5$  Hz, 1H), 3.95 (s, 3H), 3.03 –

2.93 (m, 1H), 1.30 (d,  $J = 6.9$  Hz, 6H);  $^{13}\text{C NMR}$  (125 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  154.45, 139.13, 128.02, 126.20, 126.09, 121.49, 111.75, 106.13, 103.81, 55.79, 27.23, 22.61; HRMS (ESI): Calculated for  $[\text{C}_{14}\text{H}_{17}\text{NONa}]^+$  238.1202; Found 238.1204.

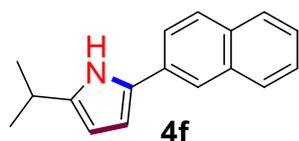
#### 2-Isopropyl-5-(naphthalen-1-yl)-1H-pyrrole (4e) <sup>5</sup>:



Following the general procedure A, the title product was obtained as a colourless solid (43% yield);  $^1\text{H NMR}$  (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  8.28 (br s, 1H), 7.81 – 7.76 (m, 4H), 7.64 (dd,  $J = 8.5, 1.8$  Hz, 1H), 7.47 – 7.36 (m, 2H), 6.54 (t,  $J = 3.1$  Hz, 1H), 6.03 (t,  $J = 3.0$  Hz, 1H), 3.07 – 2.95 (m, 1H), 1.34

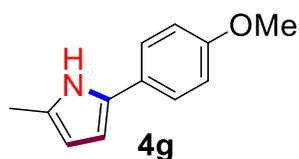
(d,  $J = 6.9$  Hz, 6H);  $^{13}\text{C NMR}$  (125 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  140.83, 133.88, 131.90, 130.46, 128.48, 127.73, 127.55, 126.38, 125.11, 123.16, 120.21, 106.65, 105.25, 27.32, 22.71.

#### 2-Isopropyl-5-(naphthalen-2-yl)-1H-pyrrole (4f) <sup>2b</sup>:



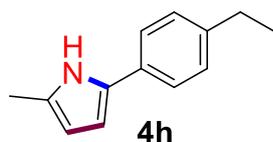
Following the general procedure A, the title product was obtained as a colourless solid (55% yield);  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  8.35 (dt,  $J = 7.3, 3.3$  Hz, 1H), 8.14 (br s, 1H), 7.92 – 7.83 (m, 1H), 7.77 (dd,  $J = 7.0, 3.2$  Hz, 1H), 7.49 (dt,  $J = 7.2, 4.0$  Hz, 4H), 6.43 – 6.39 (m, 1H), 6.12 – 6.07 (m, 1H), 3.10 – 2.96 (m, 1H), 1.35 (d,  $J = 7.1$  Hz, 6H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  139.93, 134.19, 131.93, 131.37, 128.99, 128.48, 127.15, 126.29, 125.96, 125.93, 125.72, 125.55, 109.43, 104.42, 27.27, 22.76.

#### 2-(4-Methoxyphenyl)-5-methyl-1H-pyrrole (4g) <sup>2a</sup>:



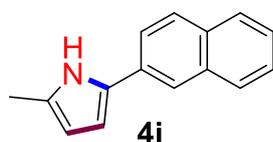
Following the general procedure A, the title product was obtained as a pale brown oil (48% yield);  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  8.04 (br s, 1H), 7.35 (d,  $J = 9.1$  Hz, 2H), 6.88 (d,  $J = 9.0$  Hz, 2H), 6.30 – 6.24 (m, 1H), 5.95 – 5.88 (m, 1H), 3.81 (s, 3H), 2.32 (s, 3H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  157.97, 130.90, 128.39, 126.26, 124.88, 114.35, 107.69, 105.09, 55.38, 13.30.

#### 2-(4-Ethylphenyl)-5-methyl-1H-pyrrole (4h):



Following the general procedure A, the title product was obtained as a light brown oil (54% yield);  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  8.06 (br s, 1H), 7.34 (d,  $J = 8.2$  Hz, 2H), 7.16 (d,  $J = 8.2$  Hz, 2H), 6.34 (t,  $J = 3.0$  Hz, 1H), 5.93 (t,  $J = 3.3$  Hz, 1H), 2.63 (q,  $J = 7.6$  Hz, 2H), 2.32 (s, 3H), 1.23 (t,  $J = 7.6$  Hz, 3H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  141.84, 131.06, 130.59, 128.66, 128.37, 123.52, 107.82, 105.70, 28.56, 15.62, 13.27; HRMS (ESI): Calculated for  $[\text{C}_{13}\text{H}_{16}\text{N}]^+$  185.1199; Found 185.1206.

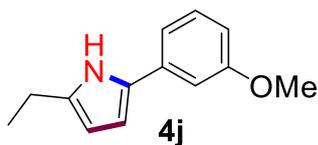
#### 2-Methyl-5-(naphthalen-2-yl)-1H-pyrrole (4i) <sup>2a</sup>:



Following the general procedure A, the title product was obtained as a colourless solid (52% yield);  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  8.29 (br s, 1H), 7.81 – 7.76 (m, 4H), 7.62 (dd,  $J = 8.6, 1.7$  Hz, 1H), 7.46 – 7.35 (m, 2H), 6.52 (t,  $J = 3.0$  Hz, 1H), 6.00 (t,  $J = 5.8$  Hz, 1H), 2.37 (s, 3H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (125 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  133.88, 131.88, 130.79, 130.35, 129.55, 128.48, 127.72, 127.55, 126.38, 125.11, 123.06, 120.13, 108.20, 106.99, 13.27.

#### 2-Ethyl-5-(3-methoxyphenyl)-1H-pyrrole (4j):

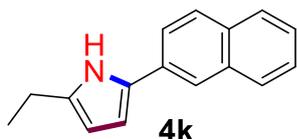
Following the general procedure A, the title product was obtained as a pale brown oil (61% yield);  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  8.12 (br s, 1H), 7.25 (t,  $J = 8.0$  Hz, 1H), 7.02 (d,  $J = 7.7$  Hz, 1H), 6.99 – 6.95 (m, 1H), 6.72 (dd,  $J = 8.2, 2.5$  Hz, 1H), 6.41 (t,  $J = 3.0$  Hz, 1H), 5.98 (t,  $J$



= 2.9 Hz, 1H), 3.83 (s, 3H), 2.68 (q,  $J = 7.6$  Hz, 2H), 1.29 (t,  $J = 7.6$  Hz, 3H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  160.11, 135.77, 134.49, 130.53, 129.91, 116.10, 111.09, 109.39, 106.36, 106.31, 55.32, 21.09, 13.68; HRMS (ESI): Calculated for  $[\text{C}_{13}\text{H}_{16}\text{NO}]^+$  202.1226;

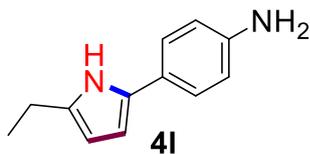
Found 202.1219.

#### 2-Ethyl-5-(naphthalen-2-yl)-1H-pyrrole (4k) <sup>2a</sup>:



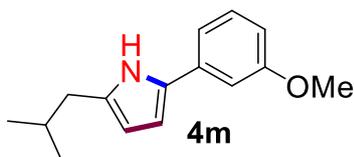
Following the general procedure A, the title product was obtained as a colourless solid (71% yield);  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  8.28 (br s, 1H), 7.83 – 7.76 (m, 4H), 7.64 (dd,  $J = 8.6, 1.8$  Hz, 1H), 7.48 – 7.36 (m, 2H), 6.55 (t,  $J = 3.1$  Hz, 1H), 6.04 (t,  $J = 3.0$  Hz, 1H), 2.73 (q,  $J = 7.6$  Hz, 2H), 1.33 (t,  $J = 7.6$  Hz, 3H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  136.21, 133.96, 131.97, 130.68, 130.48, 128.56, 127.81, 127.63, 126.46, 125.19, 123.20, 120.25, 106.90, 106.57, 21.16, 13.69.

#### 4-(5-Ethyl-1H-pyrrol-2-yl)aniline (4l) <sup>5</sup>:



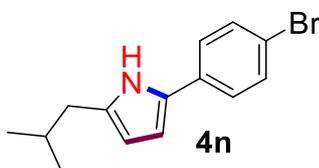
Following the general procedure A, the title product was obtained as a brown oil (42% yield);  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (500 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  8.17 (br s, 1H), 7.29 (d,  $J = 8.5$  Hz, 2H), 6.70 (d,  $J = 8.5$  Hz, 2H), 6.28 (t,  $J = 3.0$  Hz, 1H), 5.97 (t,  $J = 2.9$  Hz, 1H), 3.66 (s, 2H), 2.69 (q,  $J = 7.5$  Hz, 2H), 1.30 (t,  $J = 7.6$  Hz, 3H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (125 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  144.51, 134.49, 130.88, 124.92, 124.30, 115.63, 105.77, 104.08, 26.03, 21.00.

#### 2-Isobutyl-5-(3-methoxyphenyl)-1H-pyrrole (4m) <sup>2b</sup>:



Following the general procedure A, the title product was obtained as a pale brown oil (63% yield);  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (500 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  8.11 (br s, 1H), 7.16 – 7.09 (m, 1H), 7.08 – 7.03 (m, 1H), 7.01 – 6.99 (m, 1H), 6.75 (dd,  $J = 8.2, 1.9$  Hz, 1H), 6.45 (t,  $J = 3.0$  Hz, 1H), 5.99 (t,  $J = 2.9$  Hz, 1H), 3.87 (s, 3H), 2.53 (d,  $J = 7.1$  Hz, 2H), 1.92 (dp,  $J = 13.5, 6.8$  Hz, 1H), 0.99 (d,  $J = 6.6$  Hz, 6H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (125 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  160.04, 136.70, 134.41, 130.30, 129.85, 115.93, 110.98, 109.23, 106.40, 106.29, 55.28, 37.39, 29.31, 22.49.

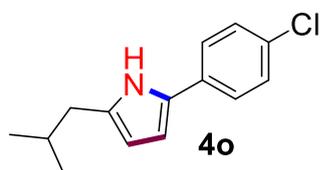
#### 2-(4-Bromophenyl)-5-isobutyl-1H-pyrrole (4n):



Following the general procedure A, the title product was obtained as a colourless oil (30% yield);  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  8.04 (br s, 1H), 7.43 (d,  $J = 8.6$  Hz, 2H), 7.28 (d,  $J = 8.6$  Hz, 2H), 6.42 – 6.38 (m, 1H), 5.95 (t,  $J = 3.0$  Hz, 1H), 2.48 (d,  $J = 7.1$  Hz, 2H), 1.94

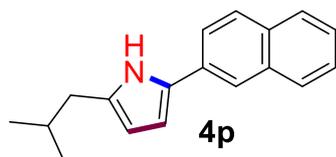
- 1.82 (m, 1H), 0.95 (d,  $J = 6.6$  Hz, 6H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  133.90, 131.92, 128.90, 124.83, 123.38, 118.99, 108.35, 106.74, 37.43, 29.34, 22.56; HRMS (ESI): Calculated for  $[\text{C}_{14}\text{H}_{17}\text{NBr}]^+$  278.0539; Found 278.0546.

#### 2-(4-Chlorophenyl)-5-isobutyl-1H-pyrrole (4o):



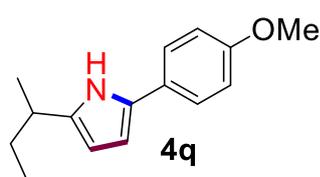
Following the general procedure A, the title product was obtained as a colourless oil (35% yield);  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  8.02 (br s, 1H), 7.34 (d,  $J = 8.7$  Hz, 2H), 7.28 (d,  $J = 8.7$  Hz, 2H), 6.39 (t,  $J = 3.1$  Hz, 1H), 5.95 (t,  $J = 3.0$  Hz, 1H), 2.49 (d,  $J = 7.1$  Hz, 2H), 1.94 – 1.82 (m, 1H), 0.95 (d,  $J = 6.6$  Hz, 6H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  133.79, 131.59, 131.09, 129.00, 128.31, 124.52, 108.30, 106.68, 37.44, 29.33, 22.54; HRMS (ESI): Calculated for  $[\text{C}_{14}\text{H}_{17}\text{NCl}]^+$  234.1044; Found 234.1041.

#### 2-Isobutyl-5-(naphthalen-2-yl)-1H-pyrrole (4p):



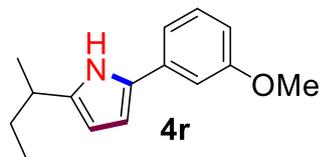
Following the general procedure A, the title product was obtained as a colourless solid (53% yield);  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  8.25 (br s, 1H), 7.79 (dd,  $J = 10.7, 6.5$  Hz, 4H), 7.67 – 7.60 (m, 1H), 7.49 – 7.35 (m, 2H), 6.58 – 6.53 (m, 1H), 6.05 – 6.00 (m, 1H), 2.55 (d,  $J = 7.5$  Hz, 2H), 2.00 – 1.88 (m, 1H), 1.00 (d,  $J = 6.8$  Hz, 6H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  133.97, 133.85, 131.93, 130.55, 130.50, 128.55, 127.80, 127.60, 126.47, 125.16, 123.17, 120.14, 108.32, 106.96, 37.54, 29.39, 22.60.

#### 2-(sec-Butyl)-5-(4-methoxyphenyl)-1H-pyrrole (4q):



Following the general procedure A, the title product was obtained as a pale brown oil (50% yield);  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  8.01 (br s, 1H), 7.37 (d,  $J = 8.8$  Hz, 2H), 6.90 (d,  $J = 8.8$  Hz, 2H), 6.30 (t,  $J = 3.0$  Hz, 1H), 5.95 (t,  $J = 3.0$  Hz, 1H), 3.82 (s, 3H), 2.77 – 2.66 (m, 1H), 1.72 – 1.57 (m, 2H), 1.28 (d,  $J = 7.0$  Hz, 3H), 0.93 (t,  $J = 7.4$  Hz, 3H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (125 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  157.89, 138.50, 130.31, 126.31, 124.84, 114.30, 105.38, 104.68, 55.34, 34.42, 30.28, 20.10, 11.87; HRMS (ESI): Calculated for  $[\text{C}_{15}\text{H}_{19}\text{NONa}]^+$  252.1359; Found 252.1363.

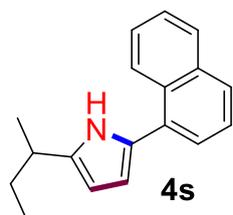
#### 2-(sec-Butyl)-5-(3-methoxyphenyl)-1H-pyrrole (4r):



Following the general procedure A, the title product was obtained as a light brown oil (65% yield);  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  8.08 (br s, 1H), 7.25 (t,  $J = 8.0$  Hz, 1H), 7.02 (ddd,  $J = 7.7, 1.5, 0.9$  Hz, 1H), 6.98 – 6.95 (m, 1H), 6.71 (ddd,  $J = 8.2, 2.5, 0.6$  Hz, 1H), 6.43 – 6.38 (m, 1H), 5.96 (t,  $J = 2.9$  Hz, 1H), 3.83 (s, 3H), 2.75 – 2.66 (m, 1H), 1.71 – 1.56 (m, 2H),

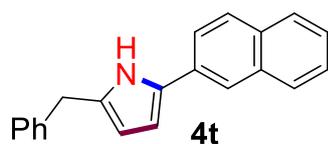
1.28 (d,  $J = 7.0$  Hz, 3H), 0.92 (t,  $J = 7.4$  Hz, 3H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  160.12, 139.33, 134.56, 130.19, 129.90, 116.07, 110.98, 109.44, 106.22, 105.71, 55.35, 34.50, 30.31, 20.14, 11.90; HRMS (ESI): Calculated for  $[\text{C}_{15}\text{H}_{19}\text{NONa}]^+$  252.1359; Found 252.1351.

#### 2-(*sec*-Butyl)-5-(naphthalen-1-yl)-1*H*-pyrrole (4s):



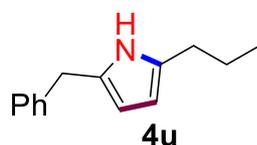
Following the general procedure A, the title product was obtained as a colourless solid (63% yield);  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  8.39 – 8.34 (m, 1H), 8.12 (br s, 1H), 7.88 (dd,  $J = 6.1, 3.4$  Hz, 1H), 7.78 (dd,  $J = 6.0, 3.4$  Hz, 1H), 7.53 – 7.47 (m, 4H), 6.44 (t,  $J = 3.0$  Hz, 1H), 6.10 (t,  $J = 3.0$  Hz, 1H), 2.84 – 2.73 (m, 1H), 1.79 – 1.58 (m, 2H), 1.34 (d,  $J = 7.0$  Hz, 3H), 0.98 (t,  $J = 7.4$  Hz, 3H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  138.82, 134.19, 131.98, 131.36, 128.79, 128.48, 127.09, 126.27, 125.94, 125.70, 125.55, 109.44, 105.08, 34.43, 30.43, 20.11, 12.00; HRMS (ESI): Calculated for  $[\text{C}_{18}\text{H}_{20}\text{N}]^+$  250.1590; Found 250.1598.

#### 2-Benzyl-5-(naphthalen-2-yl)-1*H*-pyrrole (4t):



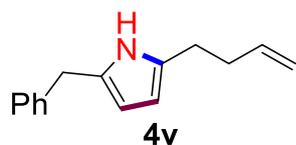
Following the general procedure A, the title product was obtained as a colourless solid (61% yield);  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (500 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  8.25 (br s, 1H), 7.81 (dd,  $J = 13.1, 5.7$  Hz, 3H), 7.76 (s, 1H), 7.64 (dd,  $J = 8.5, 1.7$  Hz, 1H), 7.49 (d,  $J = 6.8$  Hz, 1H), 7.45 – 7.42 (m, 1H), 7.39 (t,  $J = 7.4$  Hz, 2H), 7.34 – 7.30 (m, 3H), 6.61 (t,  $J = 3.0$  Hz, 1H), 6.14 (t,  $J = 2.9$  Hz, 1H), 4.10 (s, 2H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (125 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  139.28, 133.81, 132.52, 131.94, 131.56, 130.19, 128.76, 128.73, 128.52, 127.74, 127.59, 126.63, 126.43, 125.22, 123.09, 120.39, 108.95, 106.89, 34.34; HRMS (ESI): Calculated for  $[\text{C}_{21}\text{H}_{18}\text{N}]^+$  284.1434; Found 284.1442.

#### 2-Benzyl-5-propyl-1*H*-pyrrole (4u):



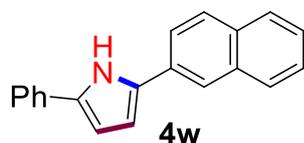
Following the general procedure A, the title product was obtained as a colourless oil (45% yield);  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  7.48 (br s, 1H), 7.32 – 7.26 (m, 2H), 7.21 (t,  $J = 6.7$  Hz, 3H), 5.85 (t,  $J = 2.9$  Hz, 1H), 5.79 (t,  $J = 2.9$  Hz, 1H), 3.93 (s, 2H), 2.50 – 2.45 (m, 2H), 1.59 (dt,  $J = 15.0, 7.4$  Hz, 2H), 0.93 (t,  $J = 7.4$  Hz, 3H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  139.93, 132.27, 129.00, 128.73, 128.62, 126.38, 106.45, 104.86, 34.28, 29.97, 22.99, 14.00; HRMS (ESI): Calculated for  $[\text{C}_{14}\text{H}_{17}\text{NNa}]^+$  222.1253; Found 222.1261.

### 2-Benzyl-5-(but-3-en-1-yl)-1H-pyrrole (4v)<sup>7</sup>:



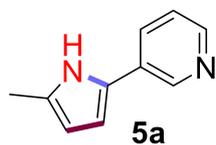
Following the general procedure A, the title product was obtained as a pale brown oil (48% yield); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 7.61 (br s, 1H), 7.32 (t, *J* = 7.4 Hz, 2H), 7.26 – 7.22 (m, 3H), 5.90 – 5.76 (m, 1H), 5.60 (dd, *J* = 16.0, 6.5 Hz, 1H), 5.51 – 5.34 (m, 1H), 5.08 – 4.93 (m, 2H), 3.96 (s, 2H), 2.64 – 2.58 (m, 2H), 2.36 (q, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 2H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 140.36, 138.86, 130.59, 129.75, 129.26, 129.23, 126.33, 115.00, 106.00, 105.04, 34.94, 34.44, 28.13.

### 2-(Naphthalen-2-yl)-5-phenyl-1H-pyrrole (4w)<sup>2a</sup>:



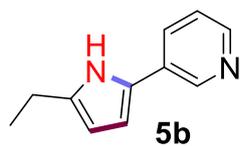
Following the general procedure A, the title product was obtained as a colourless solid (57% yield); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 8.34 (br s, 1H), 7.94 (s, 1H), 7.76 (d, *J* = 6.20 Hz, 1H), 7.56 (d, *J* = 8.5, 2H), 7.50 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 7.40 (d, *J* = 6.19 Hz, 2H), 7.38 (d, *J* = 6.6 Hz, 4H), 7.19 (t, *J* = 5.0 Hz, 1H), 6.66 (t, *J* = 3.1 Hz, 1H), 6.56 (t, *J* = 3.0 Hz, 1H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 143.48, 132.81, 132.20, 128.96, 128.13, 127.82, 127.74, 127.34, 127.14, 126.65, 125.42, 125.16, 124.62, 123.50, 123.12, 120.67, 107.77, 107.29.

### 3-(5-Methyl-1H-pyrrol-2-yl)pyridine (5a):



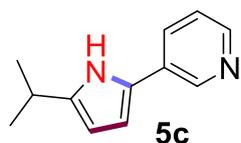
Following the general procedure B, the title product was obtained as a pale yellow solid (49% yield); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 8.72 (d, *J* = 2.0 Hz, 1H), 8.42 (s, 1H), 8.37 (dd, *J* = 4.8, 1.5 Hz, 1H), 7.72 – 7.67 (m, 1H), 7.26 – 7.22 (m, 1H), 6.46 (t, *J* = 3.0 Hz, 1H), 5.98 (t, *J* = 2.5 Hz, 1H), 2.34 (s, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 146.43, 144.75, 130.39, 128.99, 127.31, 123.64, 115.00, 108.44, 107.67, 13.14; HRMS (ESI): Calculated for [C<sub>10</sub>H<sub>10</sub>N<sub>2</sub>Na]<sup>+</sup> 181.0736; Found 181.0738.

### 3-(5-Ethyl-1H-pyrrol-2-yl)pyridine (5b):



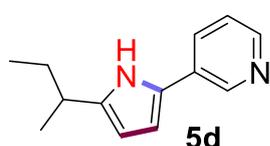
Following the general procedure B, the title product was obtained as a pale brown solid (53% yield); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 8.73 (d, *J* = 1.8 Hz, 1H), 8.48 (s, 1H), 8.37 (dd, *J* = 4.8, 1.3 Hz, 1H), 7.74 – 7.67 (m, 1H), 7.26 – 7.23 (m, 1H), 6.47 (t, *J* = 3.1 Hz, 1H), 6.01 (t, *J* = 3.0 Hz, 1H), 2.74 – 2.63 (m, 2H), 1.29 (t, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 146.52, 144.88, 137.08, 130.50, 129.08, 127.22, 123.72, 107.51, 106.77, 21.08, 13.67; HRMS (ESI): Calculated for [C<sub>11</sub>H<sub>13</sub>N<sub>2</sub>]<sup>+</sup> 173.1073; Found 173.1076.

### 3-(5-Isopropyl-1H-pyrrol-2-yl)pyridine (5c):



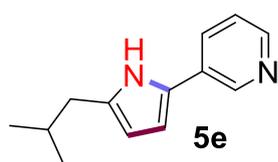
Following the general procedure B, the title product was obtained as a pale brown solid (52% yield);  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  8.74 (d,  $J = 2.3$  Hz, 1H), 8.47 (s, 1H), 8.37 (dd,  $J = 4.8, 1.5$  Hz, 1H), 7.73 – 7.68 (m, 1H), 7.27 – 7.22 (m, 1H), 6.49 – 6.45 (m, 1H), 6.01 (t,  $J = 3.0$  Hz, 1H), 3.03 – 2.92 (m, 1H), 1.30 (d,  $J = 6.9$  Hz, 6H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  146.51, 144.97, 141.82, 130.60, 129.14, 127.10, 123.73, 107.36, 105.48, 27.37, 22.75; HRMS (ESI): Calculated for  $[\text{C}_{12}\text{H}_{14}\text{N}_2]^+$  186.1151; Found 186.1116.

### 3-(5-(*sec*-Butyl)-1H-pyrrol-2-yl)pyridine (5d):



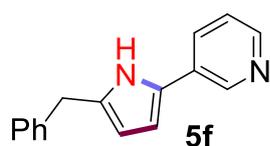
Following the general procedure B, the title product was obtained as a colourless solid (58% yield);  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  8.72 (d,  $J = 1.7$  Hz, 1H), 8.37 (dd,  $J = 4.8, 1.5$  Hz, 1H), 8.31 (s, 1H), 7.73 – 7.67 (m, 1H), 7.25 – 7.21 (m, 1H), 6.51 – 6.46 (m, 1H), 6.00 (t,  $J = 3.0$  Hz, 1H), 2.77 – 2.68 (m, 1H), 1.68 – 1.58 (m, 2H), 1.28 (d,  $J = 7.0$  Hz, 3H), 0.91 (d,  $J = 7.4$  Hz, 3H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  146.57, 144.90, 140.65, 130.47, 129.08, 126.91, 123.70, 107.37, 106.18, 34.54, 30.29, 20.16, 11.91; HRMS (ESI): Calculated for  $[\text{C}_{13}\text{H}_{17}\text{N}_2]^+$  201.1386; Found 201.1338.

### 3-(5-Isobutyl-1H-pyrrol-2-yl)pyridine (5e):



Following the general procedure B, the title product was obtained as a pale yellow solid (56% yield);  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  8.73 (d,  $J = 2.1$  Hz, 1H), 8.42 (s, 1H), 8.36 (dd,  $J = 4.8, 1.5$  Hz, 1H), 7.73 – 7.67 (m, 1H), 7.26 – 7.21 (m, 1H), 6.48 (t,  $J = 3.1$  Hz, 1H), 5.99 (t,  $J = 3.0$  Hz, 1H), 2.51 (d,  $J = 7.1$  Hz, 2H), 1.95 – 1.83 (m, 1H), 0.95 (d,  $J = 6.6$  Hz, 6H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  146.49, 144.89, 134.68, 130.42, 129.08, 127.11, 123.71, 108.50, 107.56, 37.41, 29.32, 22.52; HRMS (ESI): Calculated for  $[\text{C}_{13}\text{H}_{17}\text{N}_2]^+$  201.1386; Found 201.1354.

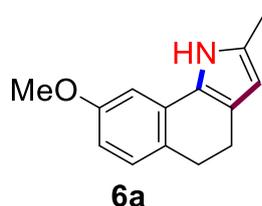
### 3-(5-Benzyl-1H-pyrrol-2-yl)pyridine (5f):



Following the general procedure B, the title product was obtained as a colourless solid (45% yield);  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  8.65 (ddd,  $J = 3.2, 2.4, 1.0$  Hz, 1H), 8.44 – 8.35 (m, 1H), 8.33 (dd,  $J = 2.7, 1.8$  Hz, 1H), 7.68 – 7.61 (m, 1H), 7.7734 – 7.28 (m, 2H), 7.25 – 7.18 (m, 4H), 6.51 – 6.46 (m, 1H), 6.10 – 6.04 (m, 1H), 4.02 (s, 2H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  146.79,

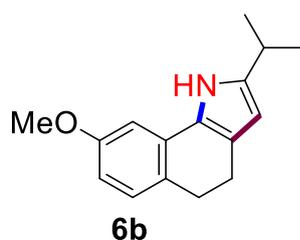
145.03, 139.06, 133.44, 130.55, 128.86, 128.83, 128.73, 128.16, 126.74, 123.68, 109.09, 107.56, 34.29; HRMS (ESI): Calculated for  $[C_{16}H_{15}N_2]^+$  235.1230; Found 235.1247.

#### 8-Methoxy-2-methyl-4,5-dihydro-1H-benzo[g]indole (6a):



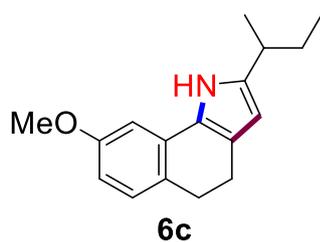
Following the general procedure A, the title product was obtained as a pale brown oil (69% yield);  $^1H$  NMR (400 MHz,  $CDCl_3$ )  $\delta$  8.01 (s, 1H), 7.09 (d,  $J = 8.2$  Hz, 1H), 6.67 (d,  $J = 2.5$  Hz, 1H), 6.57 (dd,  $J = 8.2, 2.5$  Hz, 1H), 5.81 (d,  $J = 1.4$  Hz, 1H), 3.81 (s, 3H), 2.84 (t,  $J = 7.6$  Hz, 2H), 2.67 (t,  $J = 7.6$  Hz, 2H), 2.32 (s, 3H);  $^{13}C$  NMR (100 MHz,  $CDCl_3$ )  $\delta$  158.58, 130.54, 128.95, 126.85, 126.54, 121.54, 108.88, 106.46, 106.43, 104.45, 55.44, 29.33, 22.24, 13.41; HRMS (ESI): Calculated for  $[C_{14}H_{16}NO]^+$  214.1226; Found 214.1243.

#### 2-Isopropyl-8-methoxy-4,5-dihydro-1H-benzo[g]indole (6b):



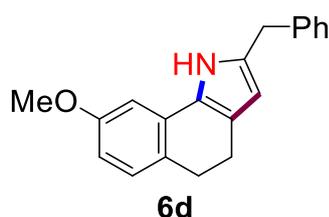
Following the general procedure A, the title product was obtained as a pale brown oil (70% yield);  $^1H$  NMR (400 MHz,  $CDCl_3$ )  $\delta$  7.98 (s, 1H), 7.06 (d,  $J = 8.1$  Hz, 1H), 6.66 (d,  $J = 2.5$  Hz, 1H), 6.54 (dd,  $J = 8.2, 2.6$  Hz, 1H), 5.83 (d,  $J = 2.4$  Hz, 1H), 3.81 (s, 3H), 2.83 (t,  $J = 7.6$  Hz, 2H), 2.66 (t,  $J = 7.6$  Hz, 2H), 2.17 – 2.01 (m, 1H), 1.29 (d,  $J = 6.9$  Hz, 6H);  $^{13}C$  NMR (100 MHz,  $CDCl_3$ )  $\delta$  158.56, 140.24, 130.51, 128.92, 126.87, 126.21, 121.00, 108.86, 104.42, 103.44, 55.46, 29.27, 27.46, 22.78, 22.24; HRMS (ESI): Calculated for  $[C_{16}H_{20}NO]^+$  242.1539; Found 242.1548.

#### 2-(*sec*-Butyl)-8-methoxy-4,5-dihydro-1H-benzo[g]indole (6c):



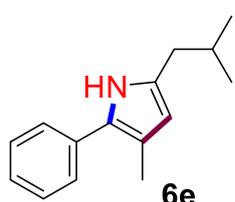
Following the general procedure A, the title product was obtained as a pale brown oil (65% yield);  $^1H$  NMR (400 MHz,  $CDCl_3$ )  $\delta$  7.92 (s, 1H), 7.06 (d,  $J = 8.2$  Hz, 1H), 6.64 (d,  $J = 2.5$  Hz, 1H), 6.53 (dd,  $J = 8.2, 2.5$  Hz, 1H), 5.81 (d,  $J = 2.3$  Hz, 1H), 3.80 (s, 3H), 2.83 (t,  $J = 7.6$  Hz, 2H), 2.72 – 2.62 (m, 3H), 1.70 – 1.57 (m, 2H), 1.27 (d,  $J = 7.0$  Hz, 3H), 0.92 (t,  $J = 7.4$  Hz, 3H);  $^{13}C$  NMR (125 MHz,  $CDCl_3$ )  $\delta$  158.51, 139.07, 130.50, 128.84, 126.75, 125.95, 120.99, 108.73, 104.31, 104.05, 55.38, 34.60, 30.29, 29.18, 22.20, 20.11, 11.90; HRMS (ESI): Calculated for  $[C_{17}H_{22}NO]^+$  256.1696; Found 256.1634.

### 2-Benzyl-8-methoxy-4,5-dihydro-1*H*-benzo[*g*]indole (6d):



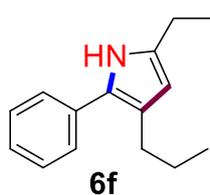
Following the general procedure A, the title product was obtained as a pale brown oil (64% yield);  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  7.89 (s, 1H), 7.36 – 7.28 (m, 2H), 7.28 – 7.23 (m, 3H), 7.06 (d,  $J$  = 8.1 Hz, 1H), 6.59 – 6.52 (m, 2H), 5.87 (d,  $J$  = 2.1 Hz, 1H), 4.00 (s, 2H), 3.77 (s, 3H), 2.83 (t,  $J$  = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 2.66 (t,  $J$  = 7.6 Hz, 2H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  167.17, 139.45, 131.84, 128.95, 128.80, 128.76, 126.88, 126.64, 121.25, 109.81, 109.06, 107.05, 107.02, 104.54, 55.41, 34.48, 29.21, 22.17; HRMS (ESI): Calculated for  $[\text{C}_{20}\text{H}_{19}\text{NONa}]^+$  312.1359; Found 312.1327.

### 5-Isobutyl-3-methyl-2-phenyl-1*H*-pyrrole (6e) <sup>3</sup>:



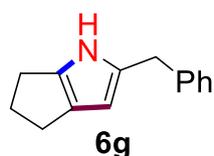
Following the general procedure A, the title product was obtained as a pale brown oil (53% yield);  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  7.76 (s, 1H), 7.41 – 7.34 (m, 4H), 7.21 – 7.16 (m, 1H), 5.83 (d,  $J$  = 2.8 Hz, 1H), 2.45 (d,  $J$  = 7.0 Hz, 2H), 2.24 (s, 3H), 1.92 – 1.80 (m, 1H), 0.96 (d,  $J$  = 6.6 Hz, 6H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  134.06, 131.74, 128.72, 126.49, 125.90, 125.43, 116.38, 110.40, 37.35, 29.34, 22.63, 12.72.

### 5-Ethyl-2-phenyl-3-propyl-1*H*-pyrrole (6f) <sup>6</sup>:



Following the general procedure A, the title product was obtained as a pale brown oil (48% yield);  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (500 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  7.74 (s, 1H), 7.43 – 7.35 (m, 4H), 7.25 – 7.17 (m, 1H), 5.92 (d,  $J$  = 2.7 Hz, 1H), 2.72 – 2.63 (m, 2H), 2.63 – 2.56 (m, 2H), 1.70 – 1.62 (m, 2H), 1.29 (t,  $J$  = 7.6 Hz, 3H), 0.89 (t,  $J$  = 7.1 Hz, 3H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (125 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  134.16, 134.13, 128.40, 126.53, 126.47, 125.51, 121.60, 106.83, 28.91, 24.40, 20.91, 14.37, 13.55.

### 2-Benzyl-1,4,5,6-tetrahydrocyclopenta[*b*]pyrrole (6g) <sup>4</sup>:



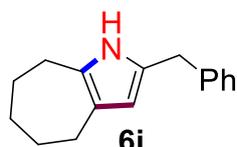
Following the general procedure A, the title product was obtained as a pale brown oil (45% yield);  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  7.42 (s, 1H), 7.33 – 7.18 (m, 5H), 5.70 (s, 1H), 3.92 (s, 2H), 2.79 – 2.67 (m, 4H), 2.34 – 2.21 (m, 2H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  141.43, 135.83, 134.59, 128.72, 126.38, 126.32, 102.35, 35.37, 29.43, 26.98, 25.03.

#### 2-Benzyl-4,5,6,7-tetrahydro-1*H*-indole (6h) <sup>4</sup>:



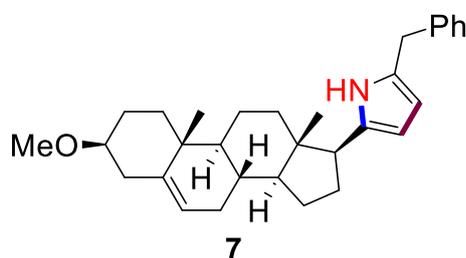
Following the general procedure A, the title product was obtained as a pale brown oil (30% yield); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 7.34 – 7.19 (m, 6H), 5.69 (s, 1H), 3.90 (s, *J* = 7.3 Hz, 2H), 2.53 – 2.36 (m, 4H), 2.05 – 1.99 (m, 4H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 140.14, 128.88, 128.61, 128.09, 126.37, 126.26, 116.93, 105.78, 34.41, 23.90, 22.92, 22.75, 22.56.

#### 2-Benzyl-1,4,5,6,7,8-hexahydrocyclohepta[*b*]pyrrole (6i) <sup>4</sup>:



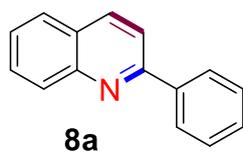
Following the general procedure A, the title product was obtained as a pale brown oil (35% yield); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 7.31 (s, 1H), 7.33 – 7.17 (m, 5H), 5.67 (d, *J* = 3.0 Hz, 1H), 3.86 (s, *J* = 7.4 Hz, 2H), 2.54 – 2.48 (m, 4H), 1.82 – 1.77 (m, 2H), 1.68 – 1.64 (m, 4H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 140.36, 129.89, 128.81, 128.76, 126.41, 126.34, 121.52, 108.60, 34.30, 32.91, 30.96, 29.53, 28.24, 28.13.

#### 2-Benzyl-5-((3*S*,8*S*,9*S*,10*R*,13*S*,14*S*,17*S*)-3-methoxy-10,13-dimethyl-2,3,4,7,8,9,10,11, 12,13,14,15,16,17-tetradecahydro-1*H*-cyclopenta[*a*]phenanthren-17-yl)-1*H*-pyrrole (7):



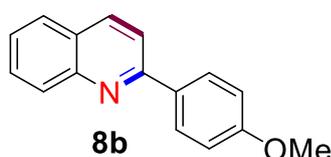
Following the general procedure C, the title product was obtained as a pale yellow oil (35% yield); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 7.53 (s, 1H), 7.33 (dd, *J* = 10.2, 4.6 Hz, 2H), 7.23 (dd, *J* = 15.3, 7.7 Hz, 3H), 5.90 (t, *J* = 2.8 Hz, 1H), 5.87 (t, *J* = 2.9 Hz, 1H), 5.40 – 5.37 (m, 1H), 3.97 (s, 2H), 3.38 (s, 3H), 3.09 (ddd, *J* = 11.3, 6.8, 4.6 Hz, 1H), 2.55 (t, *J* = 9.8 Hz, 1H), 2.44 – 2.40 (m, 1H), 2.22 – 2.15 (m, 2H), 2.04 – 1.94 (m, 3H), 1.92 – 1.87 (m, 2H), 1.76 – 1.70 (m, 2H), 1.61 – 1.56 (m, 2H), 1.47 (ddd, *J* = 12.4, 9.7, 4.8 Hz, 3H), 1.31 – 1.27 (m, 1H), 1.26 – 1.21 (m, 1H), 1.14 – 1.07 (m, 2H), 1.02 (s, 3H), 0.52 (s, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 140.95, 139.94, 132.28, 128.80, 128.55, 128.51, 126.27, 121.42, 106.23, 105.39, 80.31, 55.84, 55.61, 50.41, 50.15, 43.58, 38.70, 37.98, 37.23, 37.00, 34.17, 32.32, 31.89, 28.00, 26.26, 24.27, 20.92, 19.42, 12.97; HRMS (ESI): Calculated for [C<sub>31</sub>H<sub>42</sub>NO]<sup>+</sup> 444.3261; Found 444.3160.

### 2-Phenylquinoline (8a)<sup>5</sup>:



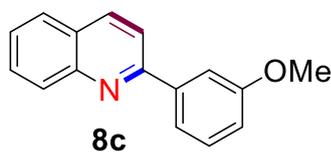
Following the general procedure A, the title product was obtained as a colourless solid (75% yield); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 8.26 (d, *J* = 8.6 Hz, 1H), 8.22 – 8.18 (m, 3H), 7.91 (d, *J* = 8.6 Hz, 1H), 7.86 (d, *J* = 7.9 Hz, 1H), 7.76 (t, *J* = 4.9 Hz, 1H), 7.58 – 7.54 (m, 3H), 7.50 (t, *J* = 2.1 Hz, 1H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 157.41, 148.31, 139.72, 136.75, 129.69, 129.34, 129.33, 128.87, 127.66, 127.49, 127.20, 126.31, 119.07.

### 2-(4-Methoxyphenyl)quinoline (8b)<sup>8</sup>:



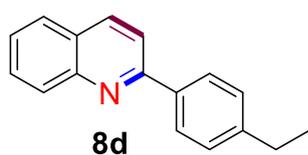
Following the general procedure A, the title product was obtained as a colourless solid (70% yield); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 8.20 – 8.11 (m, 4H), 7.81 (dd, *J* = 13.1, 8.4 Hz, 2H), 7.70 (t, *J* = 7.7 Hz, 1H), 7.49 (t, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 7.04 (d, *J* = 8.8 Hz, 2H), 3.88 (s, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 160.89, 157.00, 148.37, 136.71, 132.35, 129.64, 128.96, 127.51, 126.99, 125.97, 118.64, 114.26, 55.48.

### 2-(3-Methoxyphenyl)quinoline (8c)<sup>5</sup>:



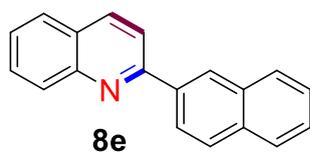
Following the general procedure A, the title product was obtained as a colourless oil (90% yield); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 8.23 (t, *J* = 8.5 Hz, 2H), 7.87 (dd, *J* = 18.2, 8.3 Hz, 2H), 7.81 (s, 1H), 7.75 (dd, *J* = 14.8, 7.9 Hz, 2H), 7.56 (t, *J* = 7.4 Hz, 1H), 7.47 (t, *J* = 7.9 Hz, 1H), 7.05 (dd, *J* = 8.1, 2.3 Hz, 1H), 3.96 (s, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 160.16, 157.17, 148.24, 141.19, 136.70, 129.69, 127.49, 127.29, 126.36, 120.04, 119.16, 119.11, 115.40, 112.76, 112.70, 55.48.

### 2-(4-Ethylphenyl)quinoline (8d)<sup>8</sup>:



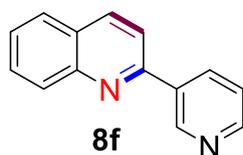
Following the general procedure A, the title product was obtained as a colourless solid (74% yield); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 8.17 (t, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 8.09 (d, *J* = 6.8 Hz, 2H), 7.85 (d, *J* = 8.7 Hz, 1H), 7.81 (d, *J* = 8.2 Hz, 1H), 7.71 (t, *J* = 7.7 Hz, 1H), 7.50 (t, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 7.36 (d, *J* = 7.8 Hz, 2H), 2.73 (q, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 1.29 (t, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 157.50, 148.41, 145.83, 137.26, 136.73, 129.77, 129.65, 128.45, 127.64, 127.53, 127.19, 126.15, 119.00, 28.82, 15.66.

### 2-(Naphthalen-2-yl)quinoline (8e)<sup>8</sup>:



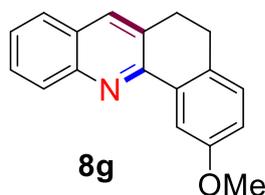
Following the general procedure A, the title product was obtained as a colourless solid (70% yield); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 8.65 (s, 1H), 8.41 (dd, *J* = 8.6, 1.7 Hz, 1H), 8.27 (dd, *J* = 12.5, 8.6 Hz, 2H), 8.05 (dd, *J* = 15.8, 8.2 Hz, 3H), 7.93 (dd, *J* = 5.9, 3.4 Hz, 1H), 7.88 (d, *J* = 7.9 Hz, 1H), 7.79 (ddd, *J* = 8.3, 6.9, 1.3 Hz, 1H), 7.57 (dd, *J* = 6.4, 2.9 Hz, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 157.20, 148.39, 136.99, 136.91, 133.88, 133.52, 129.78, 128.86, 128.62, 128.46, 127.76, 127.54, 127.25, 127.13, 126.75, 126.37, 119.19, 115.00.

### 2-(Pyridin-3-yl)quinoline (8f)<sup>9</sup>:



Following the general procedure A, the title product was obtained as a colourless solid (58% yield); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 9.34 (d, *J* = 1.6 Hz, 1H), 8.69 (dd, *J* = 4.8, 1.5 Hz, 1H), 8.53 – 8.48 (m, 1H), 8.26 (d, *J* = 8.5 Hz, 1H), 8.17 (d, *J* = 8.5 Hz, 1H), 7.86 (dd, *J* = 12.8, 8.4 Hz, 2H), 7.75 (ddd, *J* = 8.4, 6.9, 1.4 Hz, 1H), 7.55 (ddd, *J* = 8.1, 6.9, 1.1 Hz, 1H), 7.45 (dd, *J* = 7.3, 4.8 Hz, 1H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 154.72, 150.29, 148.90, 148.45, 137.29, 135.23, 135.07, 130.10, 129.83, 127.65, 127.46, 126.89, 123.76, 118.62.

### 2-Methoxy-5,6-dihydrobenzo[*c*]acridine (8g):



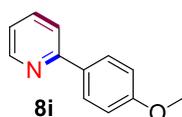
Following the general procedure A, the title product was obtained as a colourless solid (71% yield); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 8.17 – 8.11 (t, 2H), 7.90 (s, 1H), 7.73 (d, *J* = 8.1 Hz, 1H), 7.64 (dd, *J* = 8.2, 7.1 Hz, 1H), 7.47 (dd, *J* = 8.0, 7.0 Hz, 1H), 7.18 (d, *J* = 8.3 Hz, 1H), 6.94 (dd, *J* = 8.3, 2.8 Hz, 1H), 3.96 (s, 3H), 3.12 – 3.06 (t, 2H), 2.96 – 2.90 (t, 2H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 159.16, 153.37, 147.63, 135.76, 133.80, 131.96, 130.77, 129.50, 129.09, 128.71, 128.00, 127.00, 126.18, 117.03, 109.73, 55.67, 29.19, 27.64; HRMS (ESI): Calculated for [C<sub>18</sub>H<sub>16</sub>NO]<sup>+</sup> 262.1226; Found 262.1219.

### 2-phenylpyridine (8h)<sup>5</sup>:



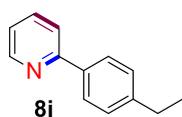
Following the general procedure A, the title product was obtained as a colourless oil (55% yield); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 8.73 (d, *J* = 4.5 Hz, 1H), 8.04 (dd, *J* = 6.1, 1.4 Hz, 2H), 7.77 (t, *J* = 8.6 Hz, 2H), 7.54 – 7.47 (m, 4H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 157.51, 145.19, 139.43, 136.79, 128.81, 128.54, 126.94, 122.13, 120.62.

### 2-(4-Methoxyphenyl)pyridine (8i)<sup>5</sup>:



Following the general procedure A, the title product was obtained as a colourless oil (49% yield); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 8.68 (d, *J* = 4.1 Hz, 1H), 8.00 – 7.95 (m, 2H), 7.73 (ddd, *J* = 20.6, 13.4, 4.9 Hz, 1H), 7.20 (ddd, *J* = 7.2, 4.8, 1.2 Hz, 1H), 7.03 (d, *J* = 8.9 Hz, 2H), 6.96 (d, *J* = 8.9 Hz, 1H), 3.89 (s, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 160.45, 157.14, 149.50, 136.71, 132.03, 128.18, 121.43, 119.85, 114.12, 55.36.

### 2-(4-Ethylphenyl)pyridine (8j)<sup>10</sup>:



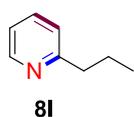
Following the general procedure A, the title product was obtained as a colourless oil (53% yield); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 8.70 (d, *J* = 4.6 Hz, 1H), 7.94 (d, *J* = 8.2 Hz, 1H), 7.79 – 7.72 (m, 1H), 7.34 (d, *J* = 8.2 Hz, 1H), 7.31 – 7.14 (m, 4H), 2.67 (dd, *J* = 15.6, 7.8 Hz, 2H), 1.32 – 1.29 (m, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 157.55, 145.30, 136.87, 128.31, 126.86, 125.93, 121.79, 120.32, 115.00, 28.66, 15.53.

### 2,2'-Bipyridine (8k)<sup>11</sup>:



Following the general procedure A, the title product was obtained as a colourless solid (48% yield); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 8.70 (d, *J* = 4.0 Hz, 2H), 8.41 (t, *J* = 6.5 Hz, 2H), 7.83 (td, *J* = 7.8, 1.8 Hz, 2H), 7.32 (ddd, *J* = 7.3, 4.7, 1.0 Hz, 2H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 156.17, 149.33, 136.97, 123.74, 121.12.

### 2-Propylpyridine (8l)<sup>12</sup>:

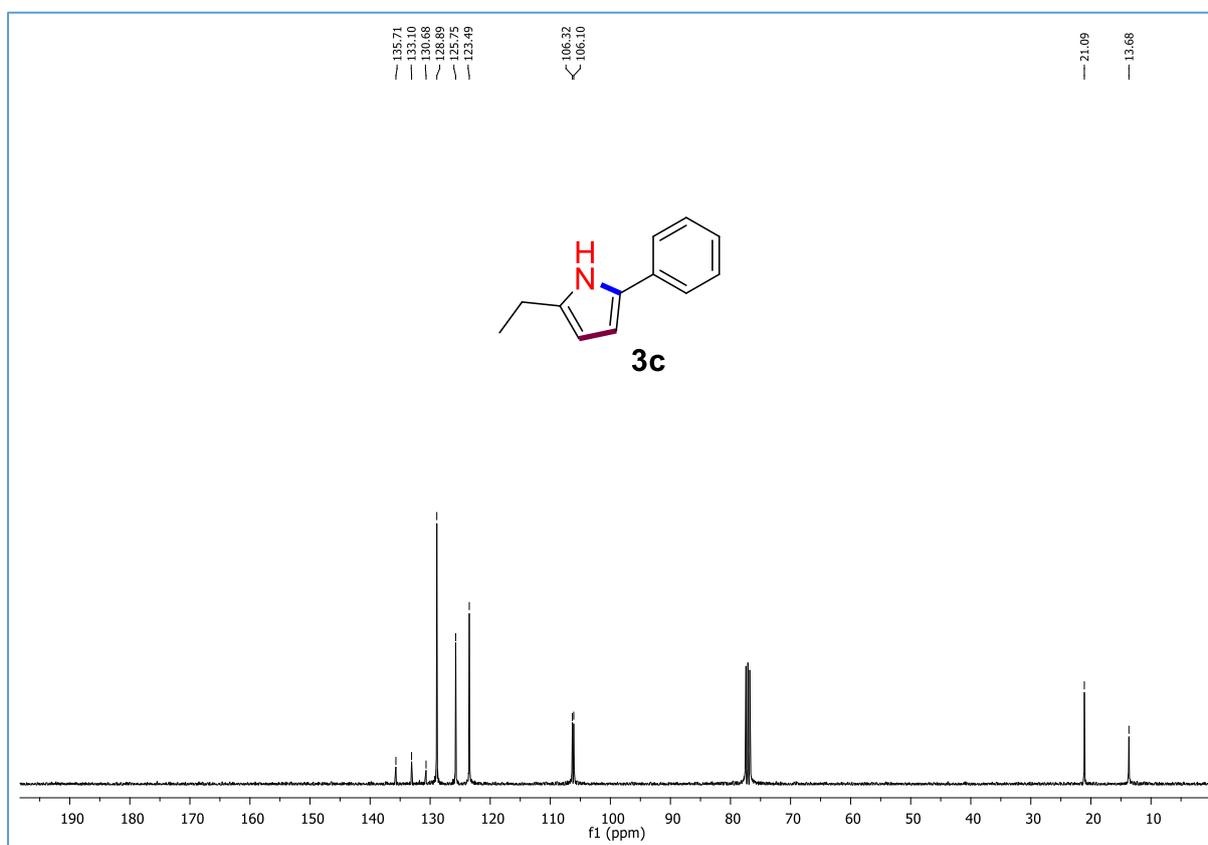
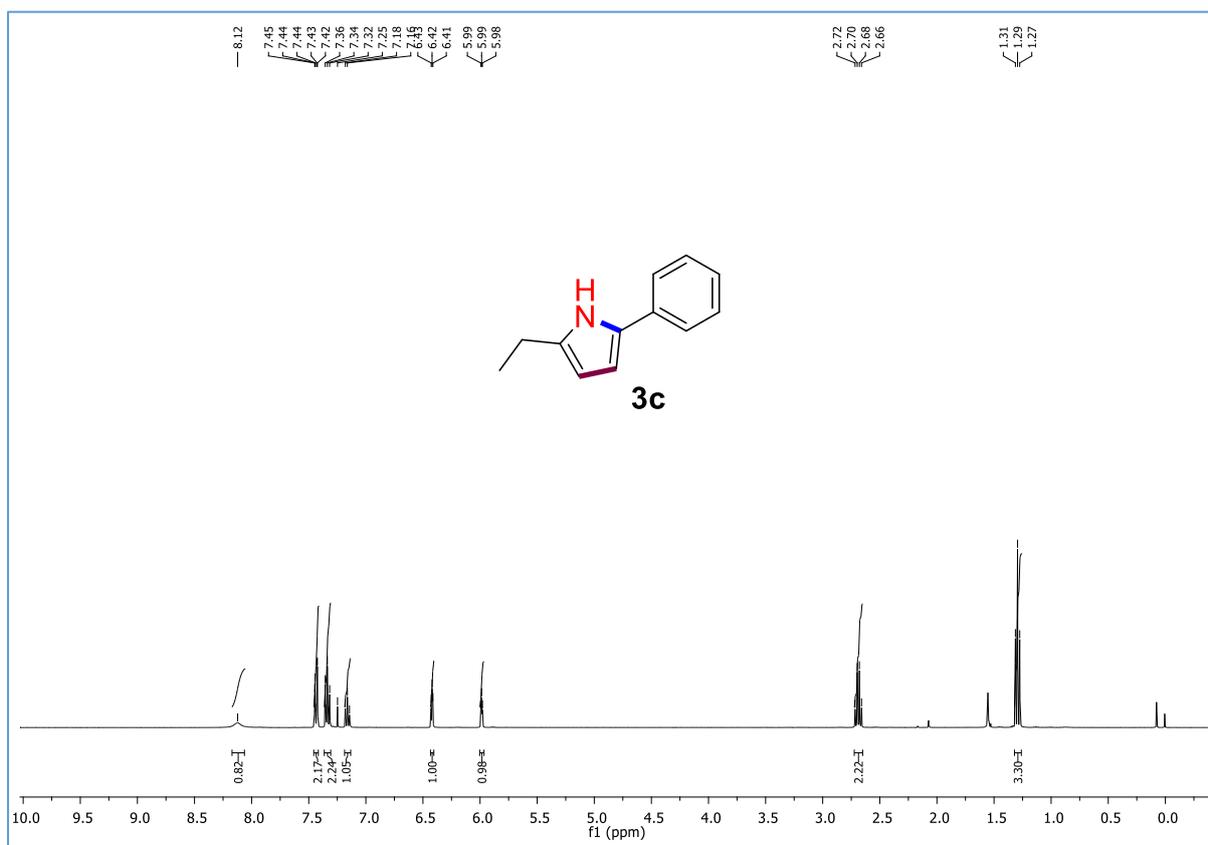


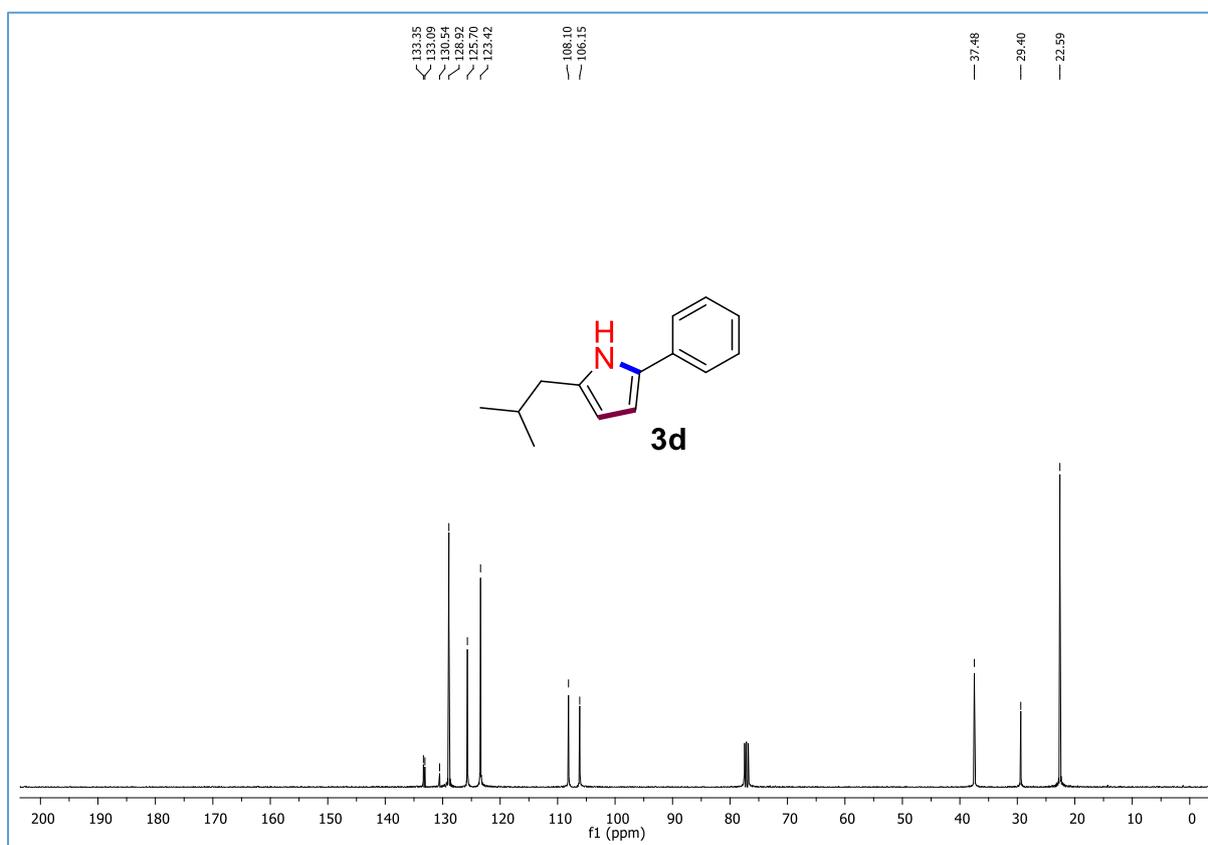
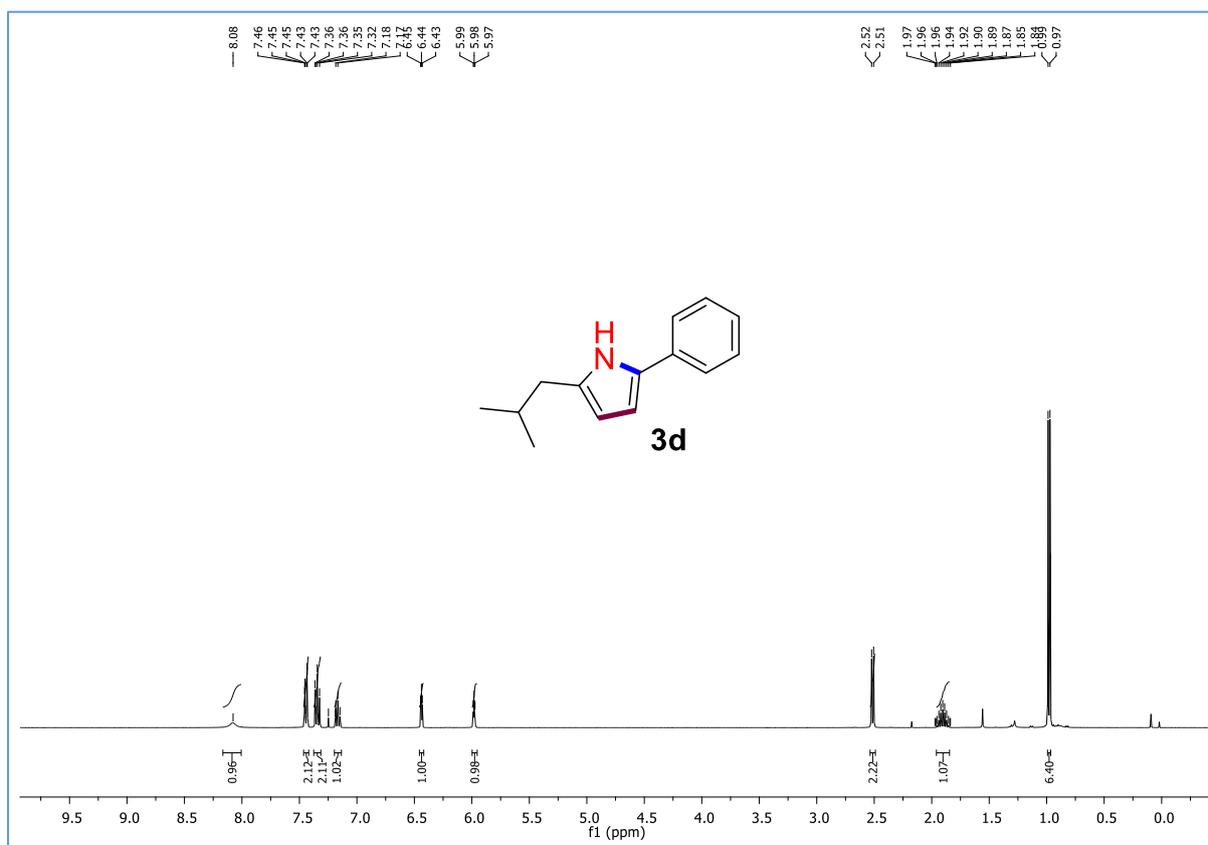
Following the general procedure A, the title product was obtained as a colourless oil (50% yield); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 8.54 (d, *J* = 4.1 Hz, 1H), 7.60 (td, *J* = 7.7, 1.8 Hz, 1H), 7.16 (d, *J* = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 7.11 (dd, *J* = 6.9, 5.4 Hz, 1H), 2.81 – 2.77 (m, 2H), 1.81 – 1.72 (m, 2H), 0.90 (t, *J* = 6.9 Hz, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 162.30, 149.17, 136.19, 122.75, 120.88, 40.40, 23.13, 13.84.

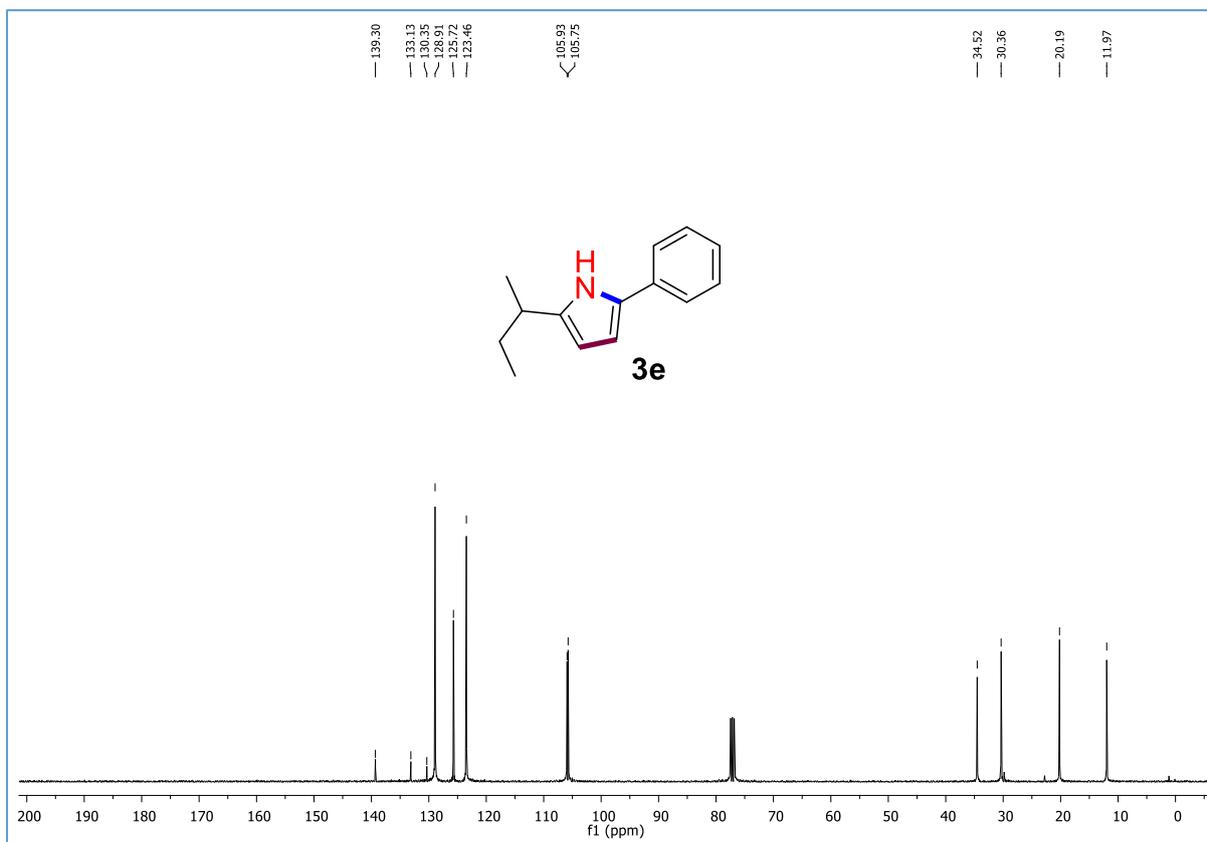
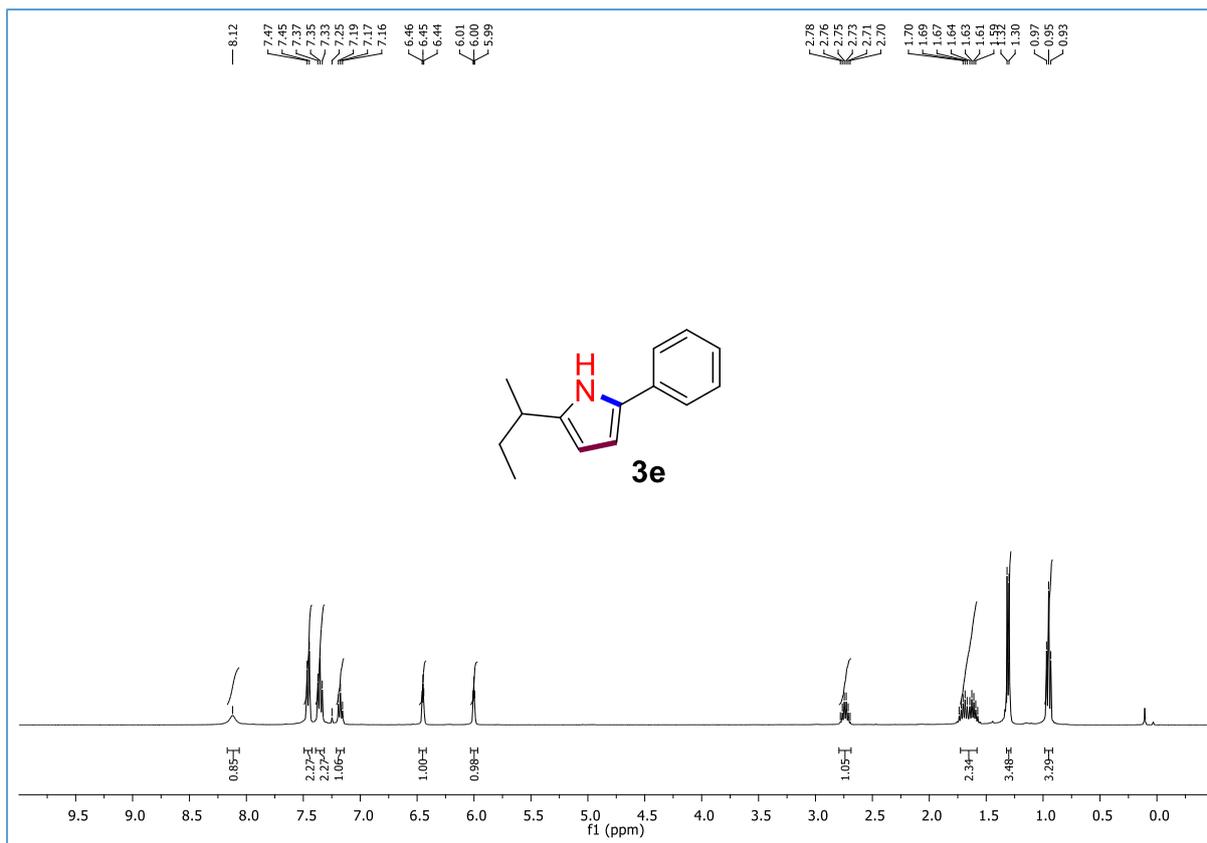
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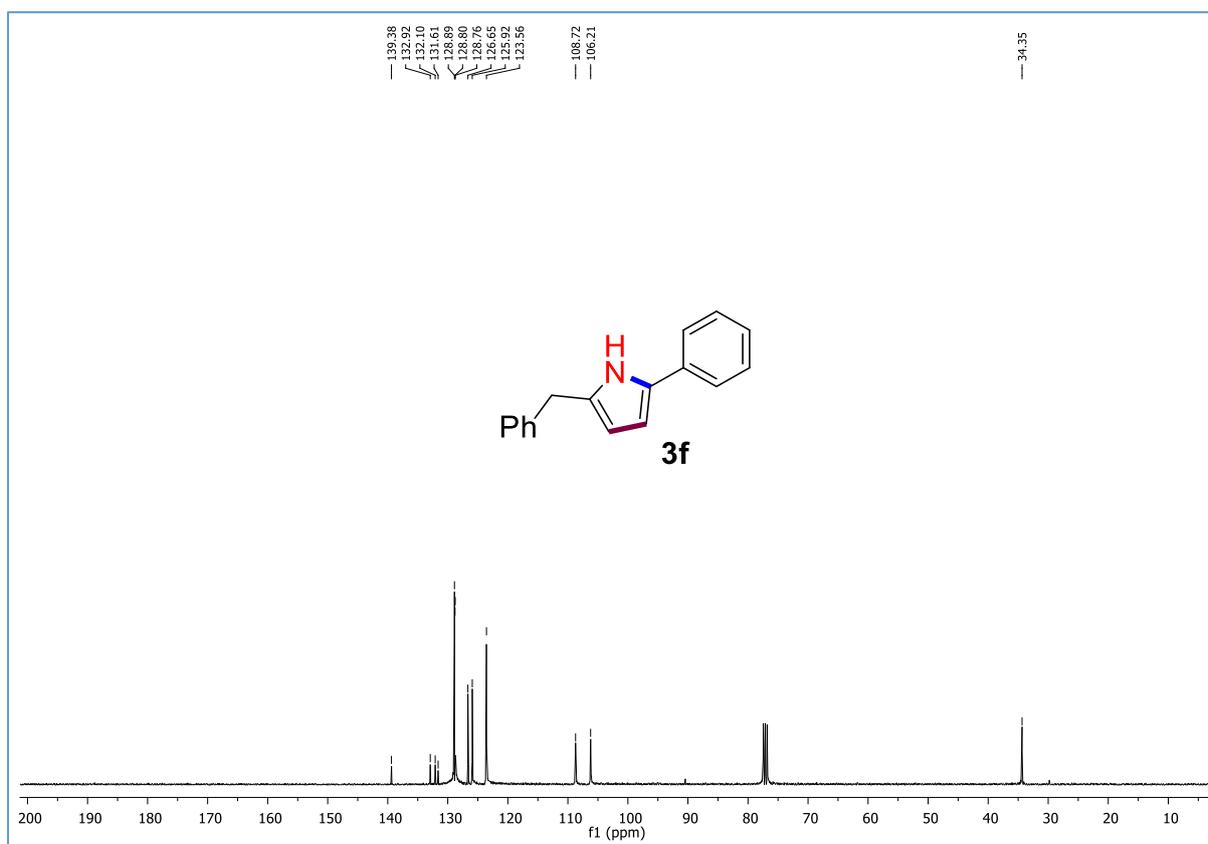
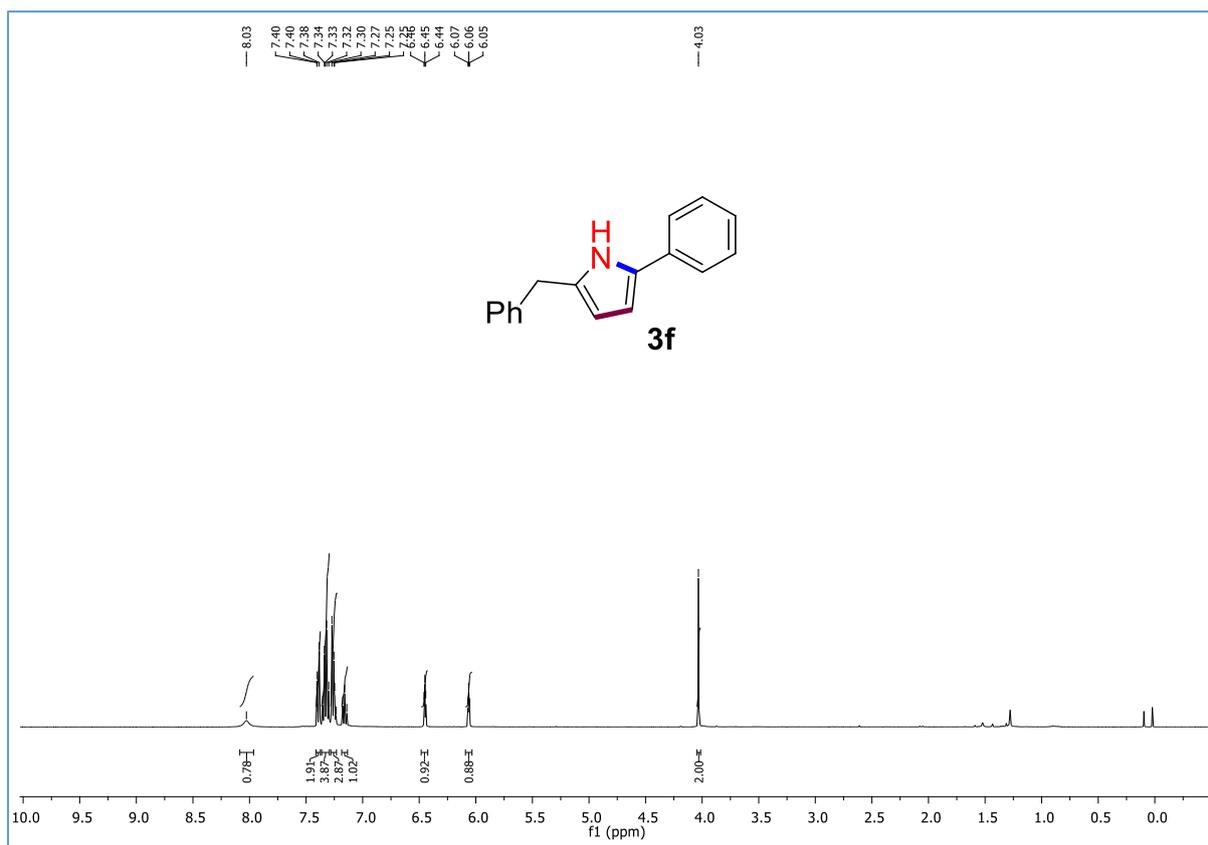
1. S. Michlik and R. Kempe, *Nature Chemistry*, 2013, **5**, 140.
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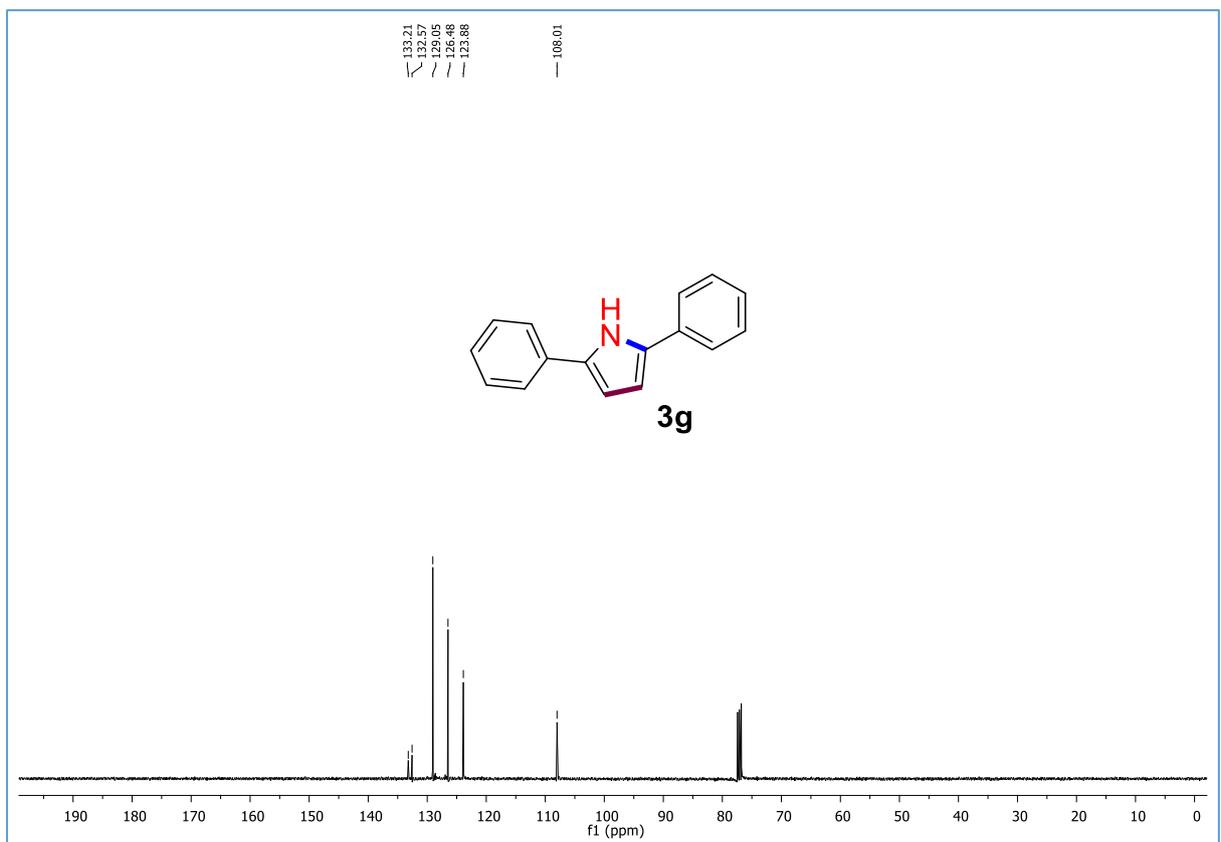
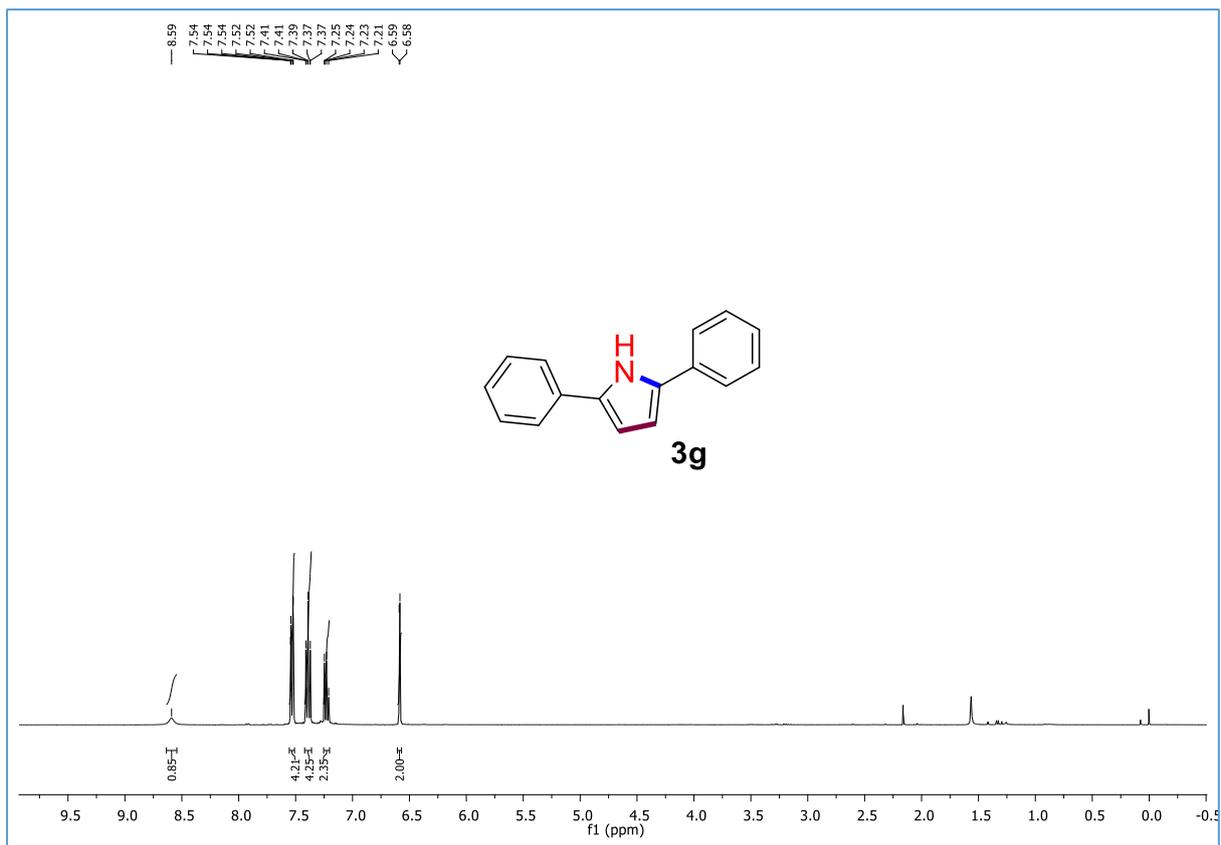
[1.7] Copies of  $^1\text{H}$  and  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR spectra for selected compounds.

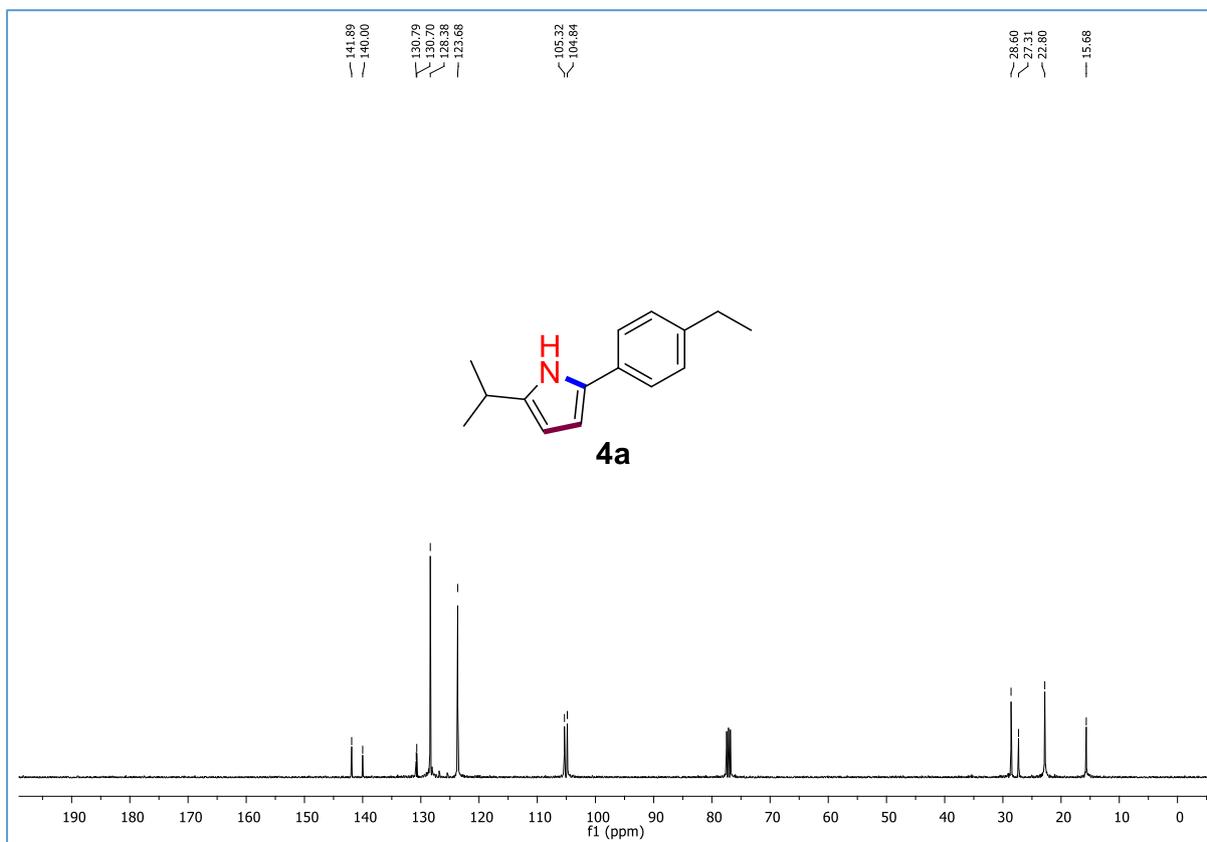
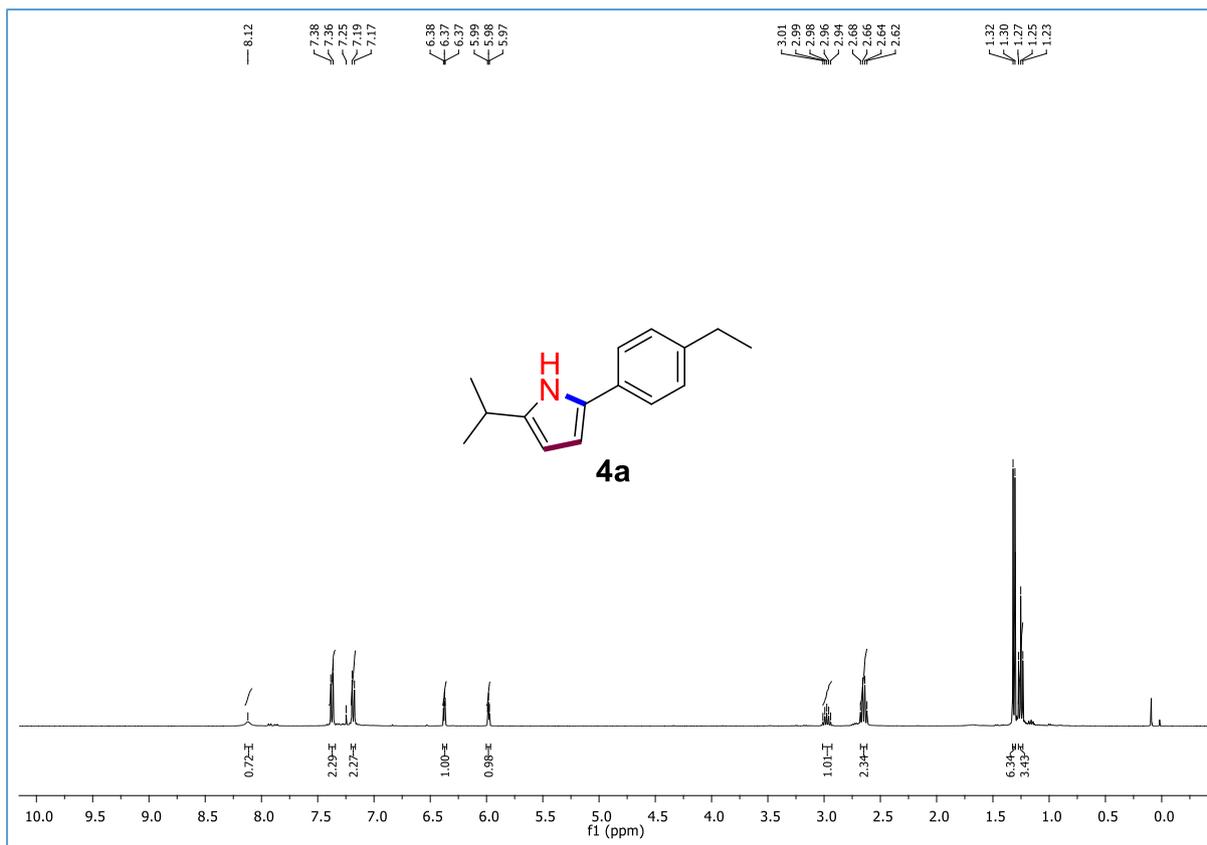


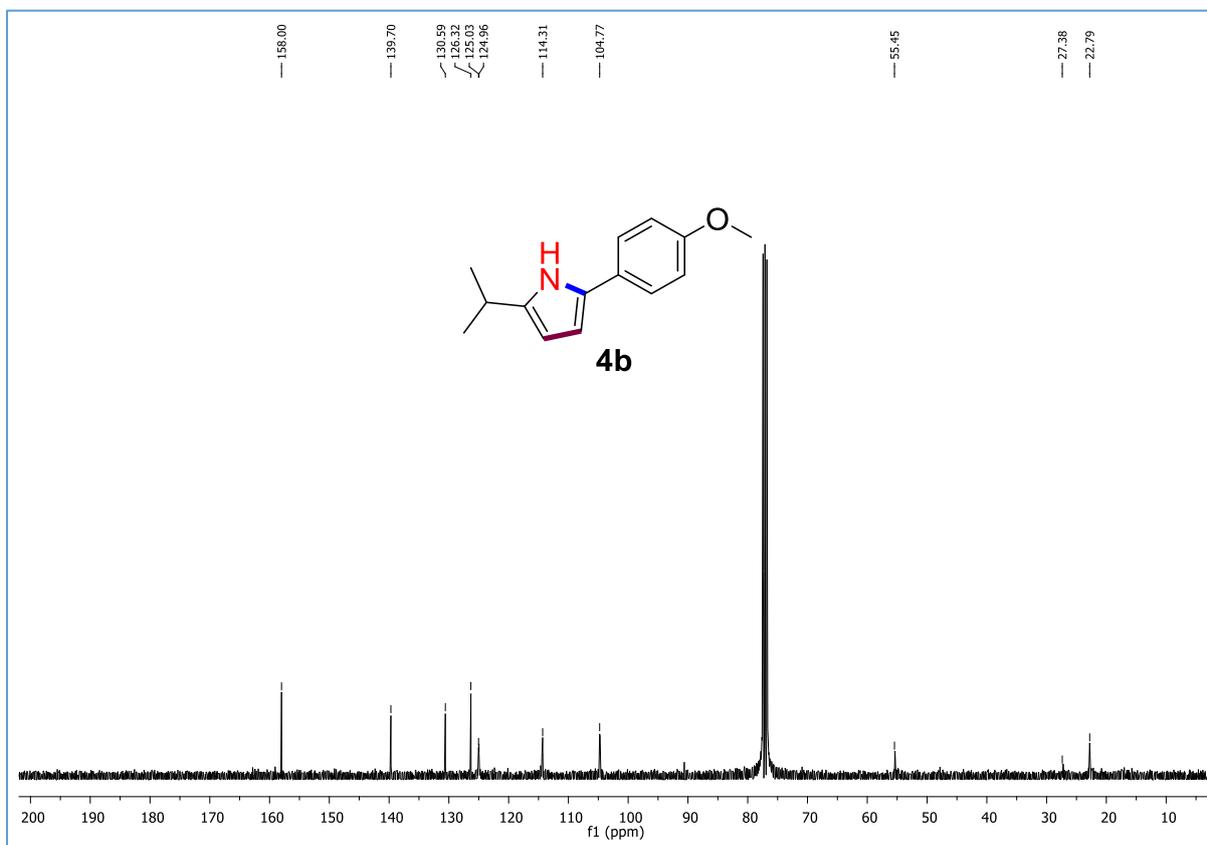
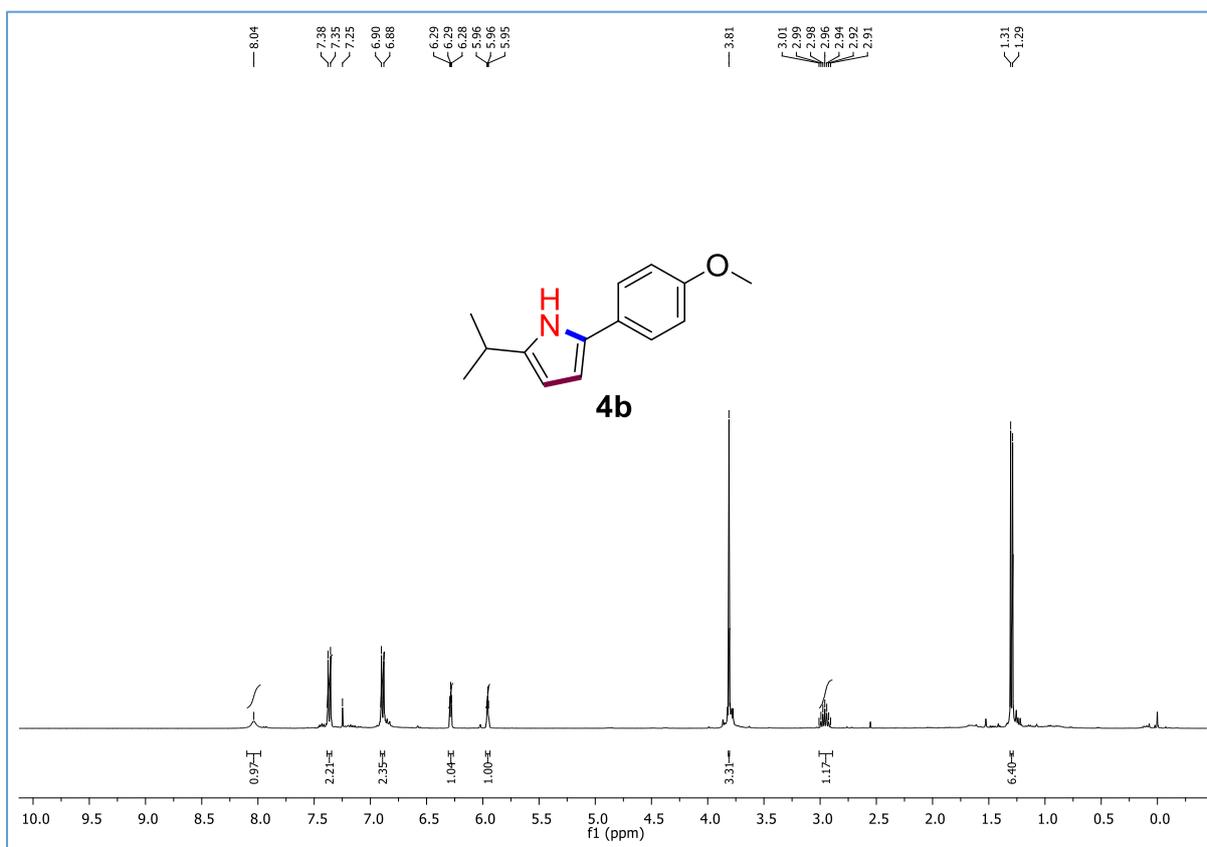


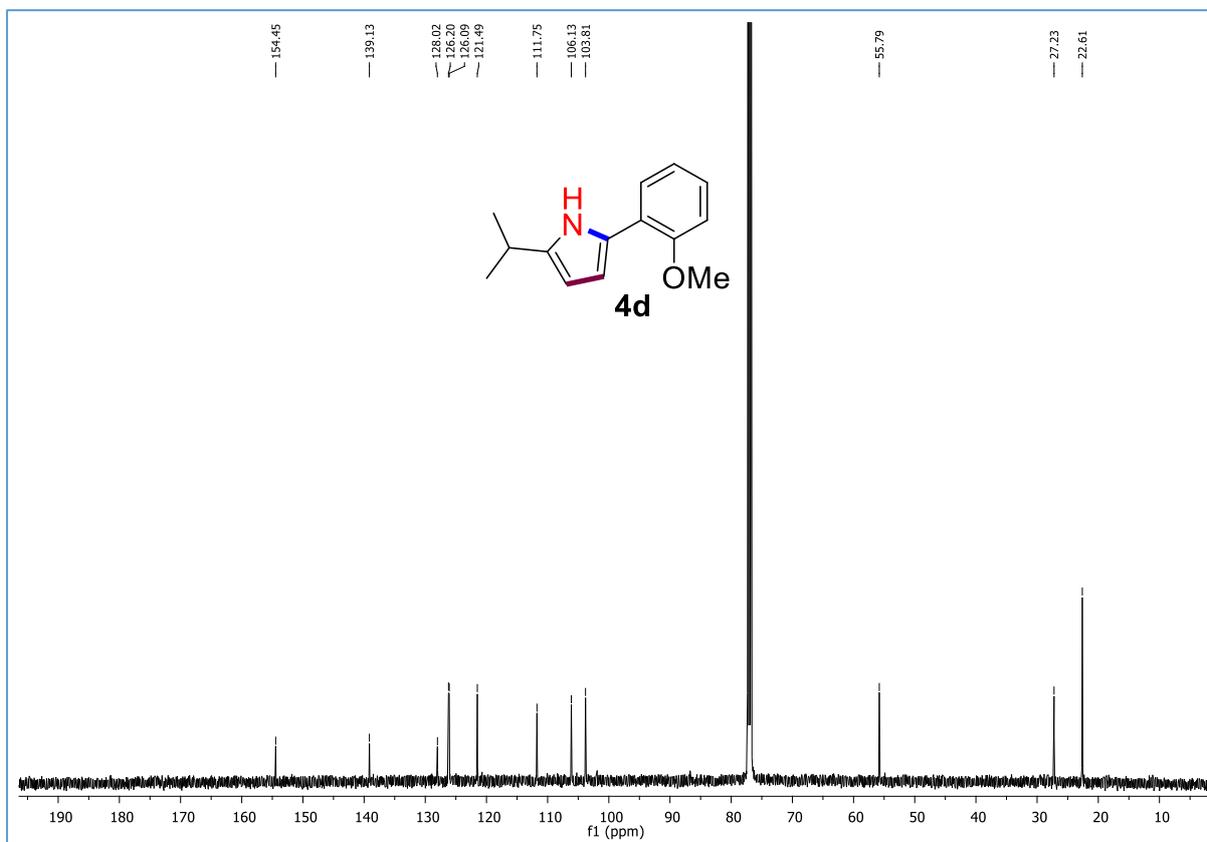
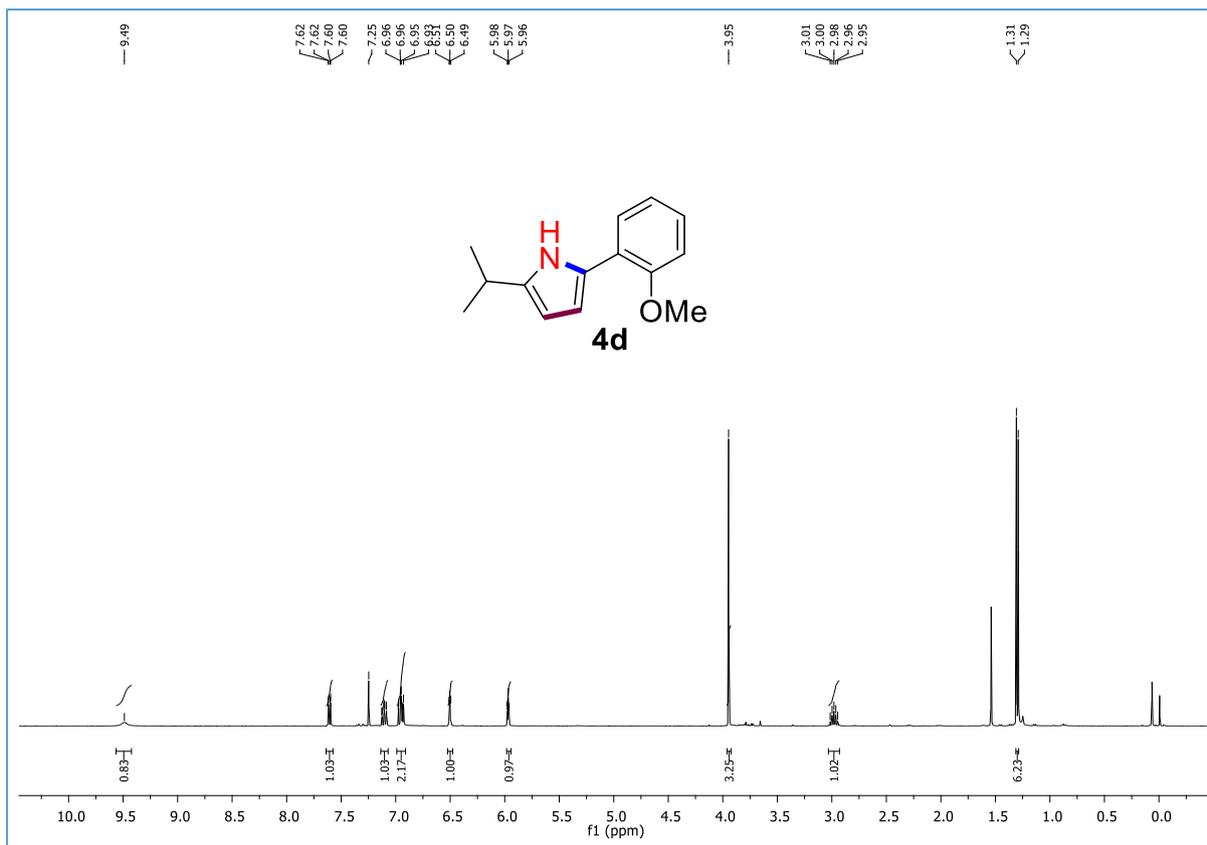


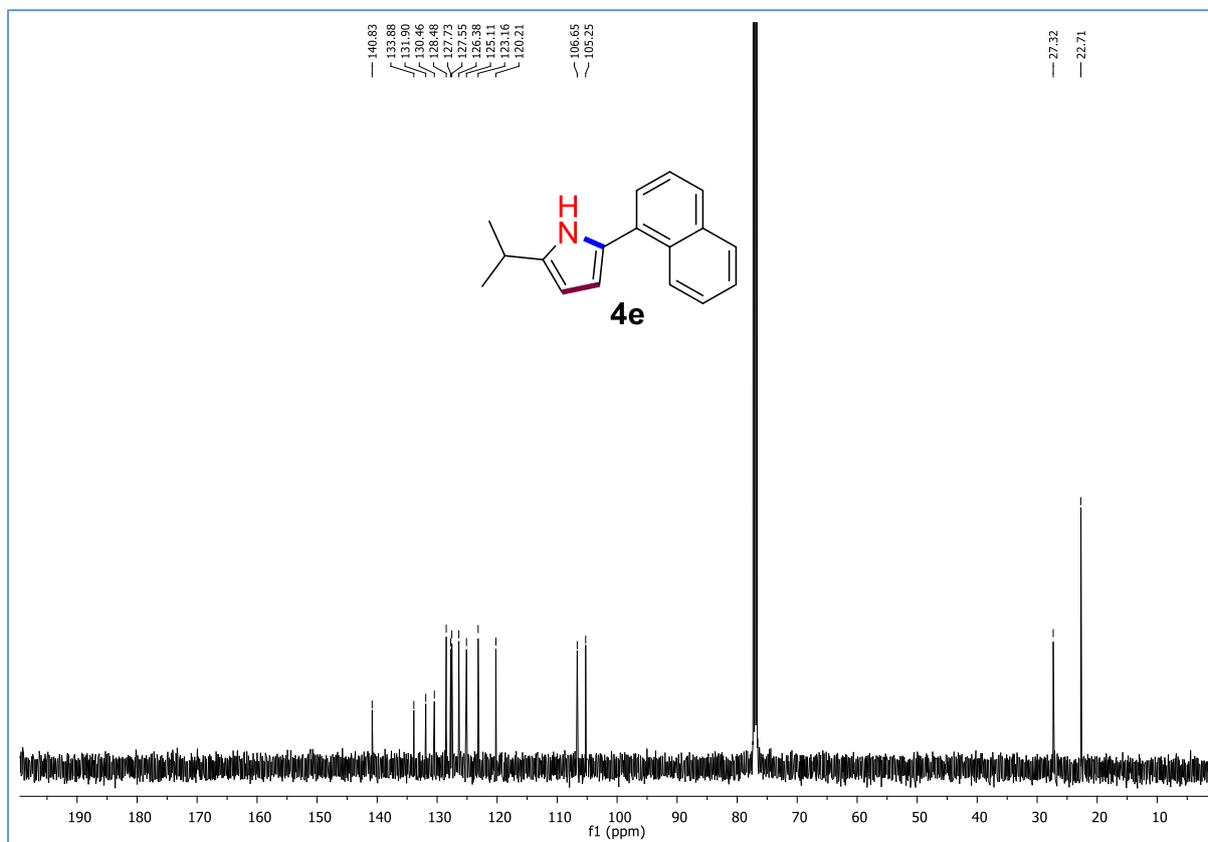
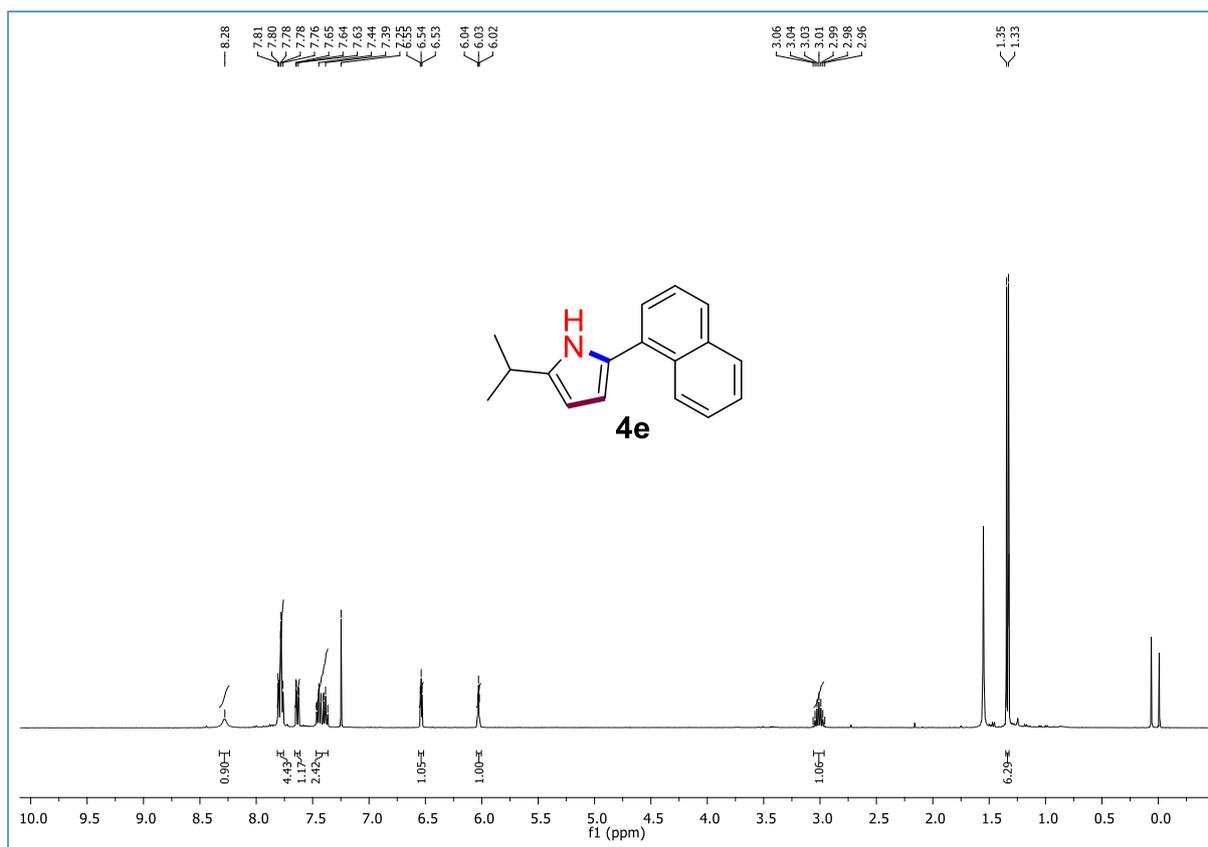


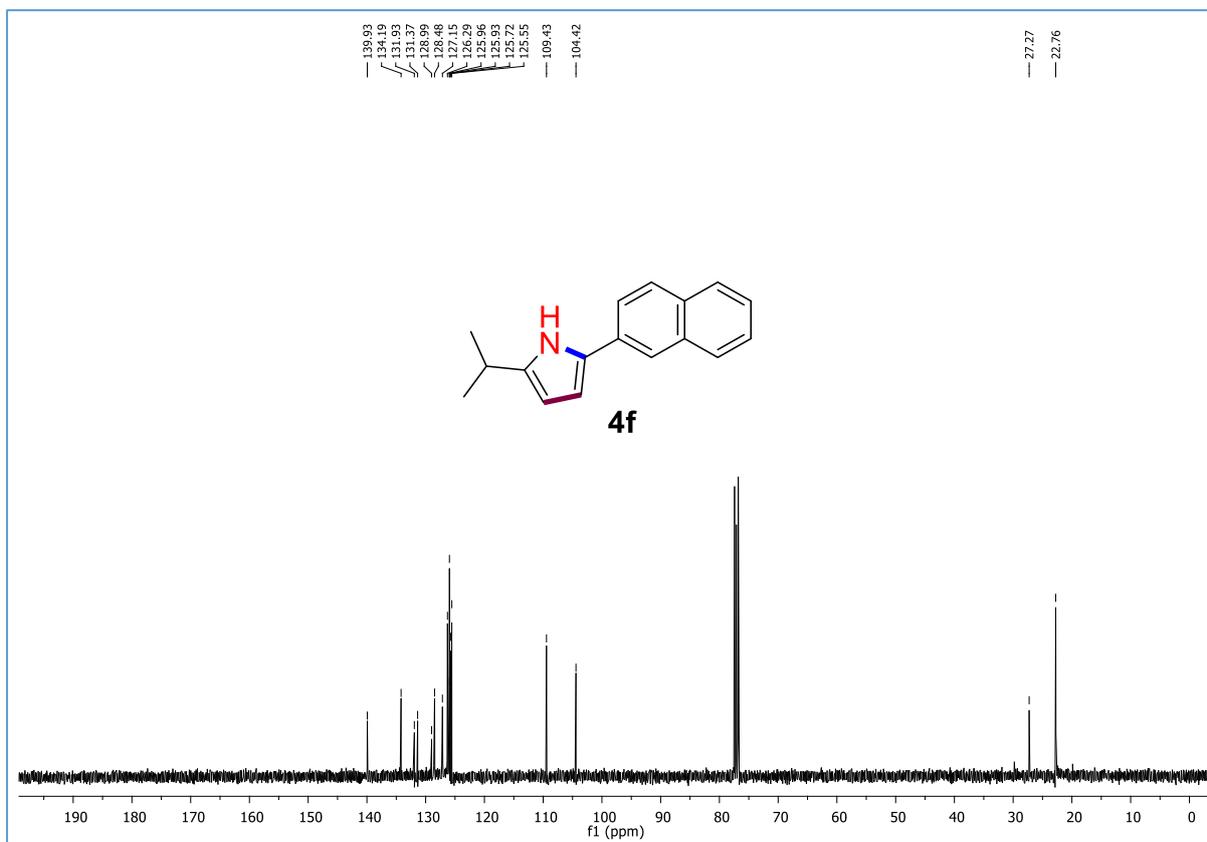
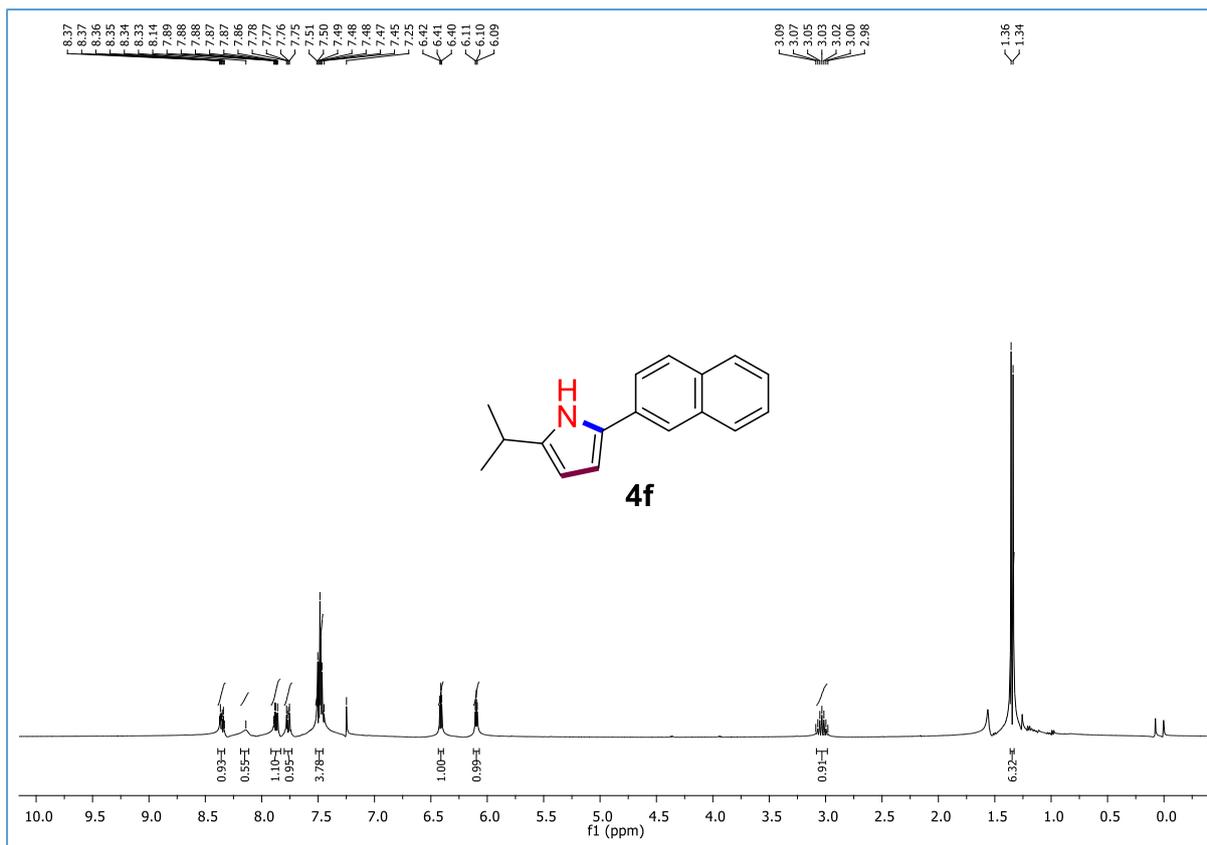


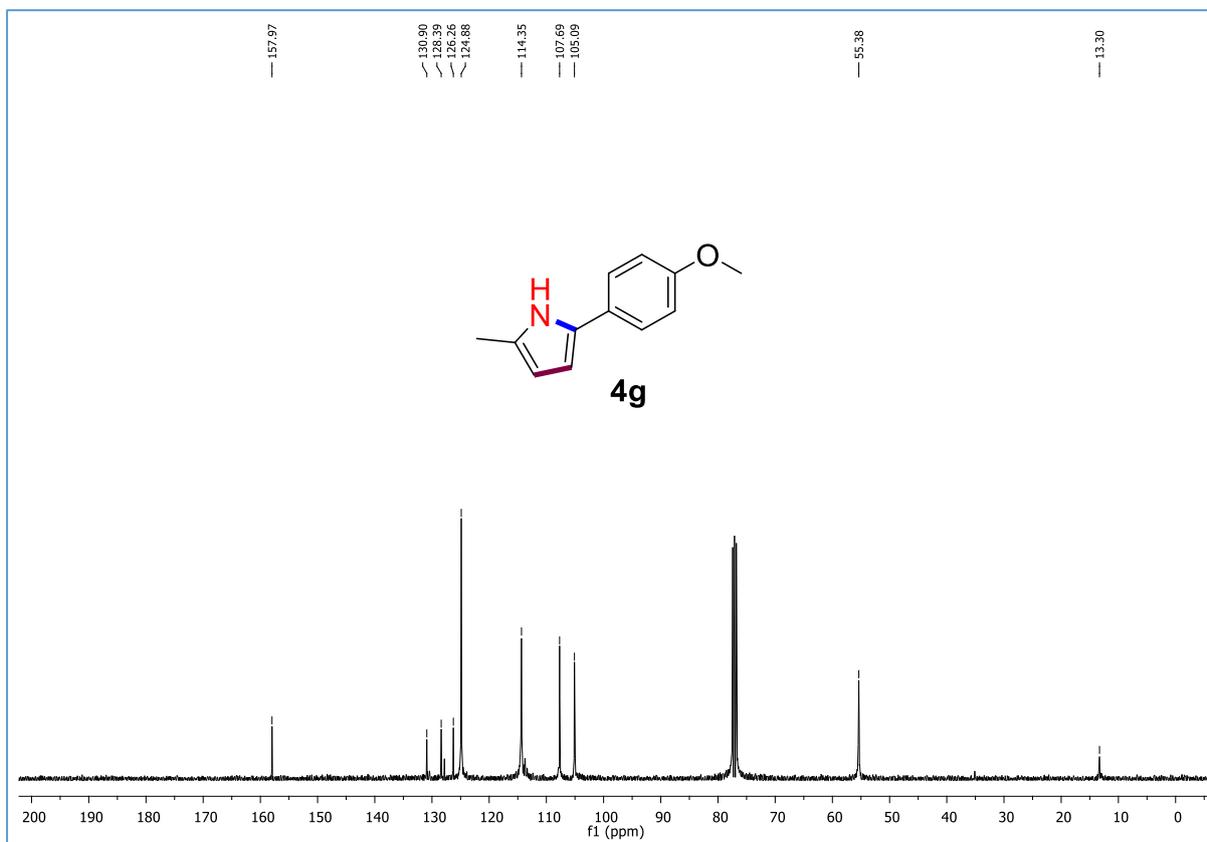
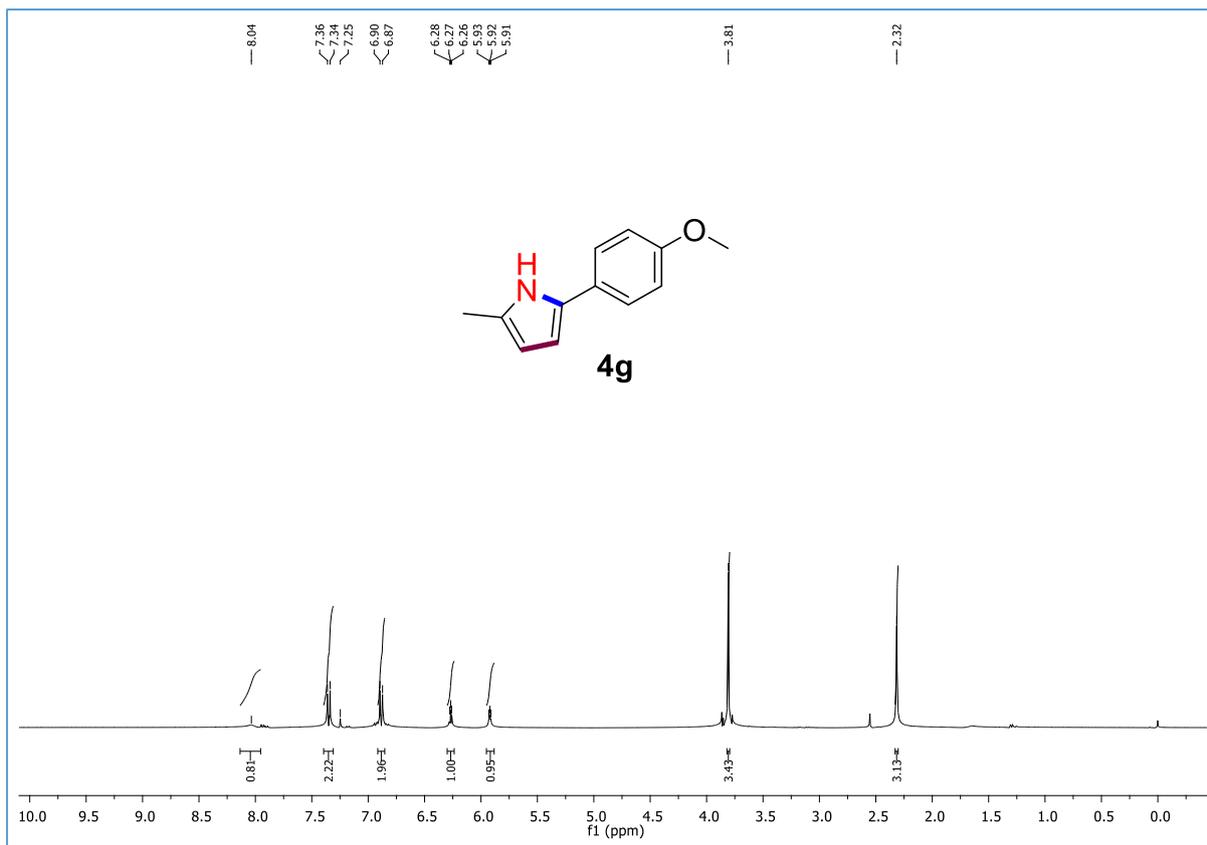


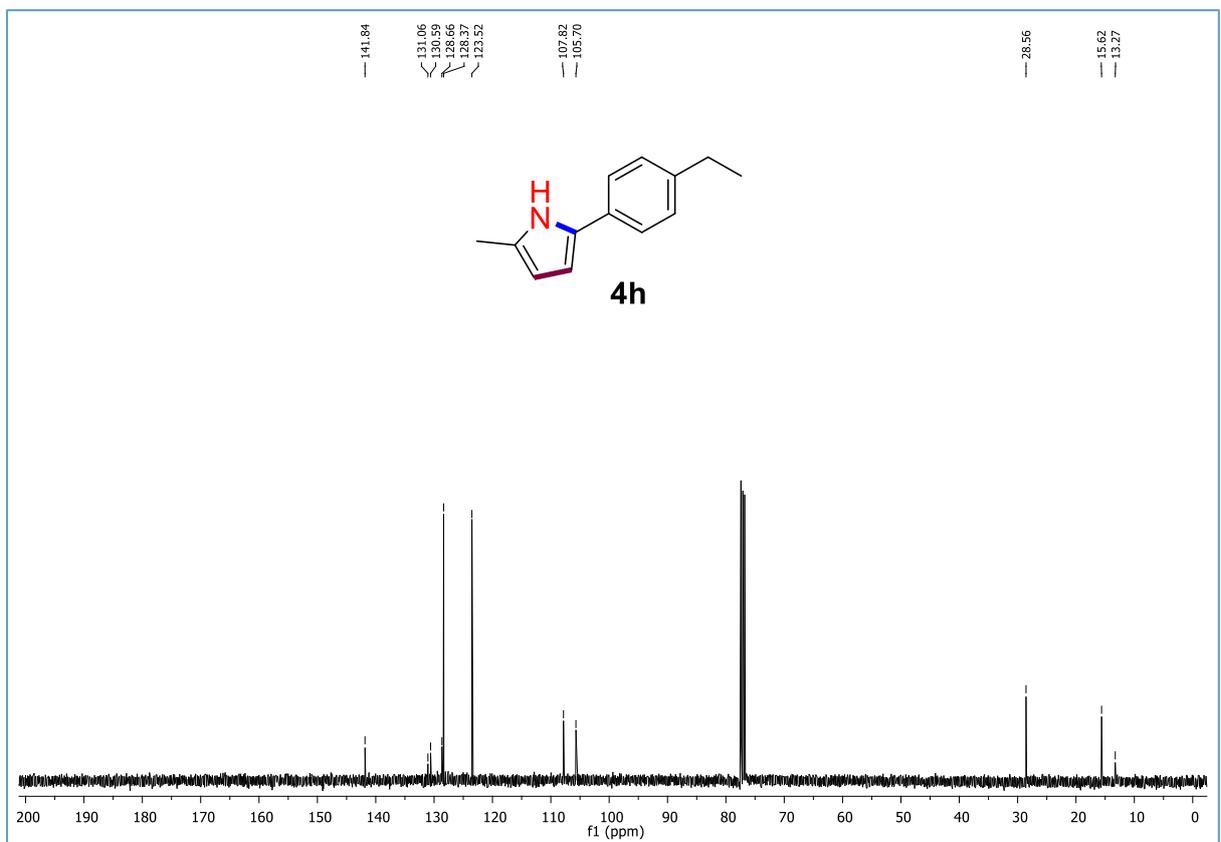
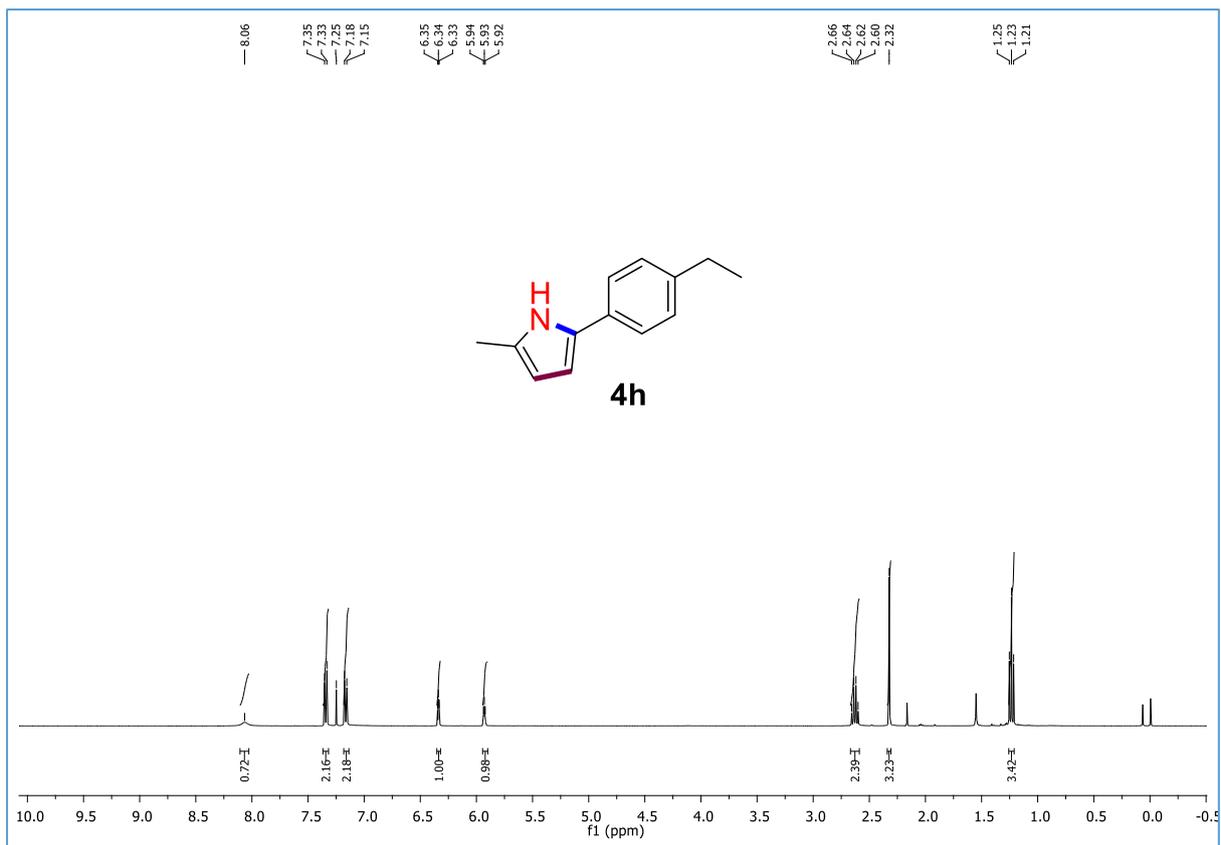


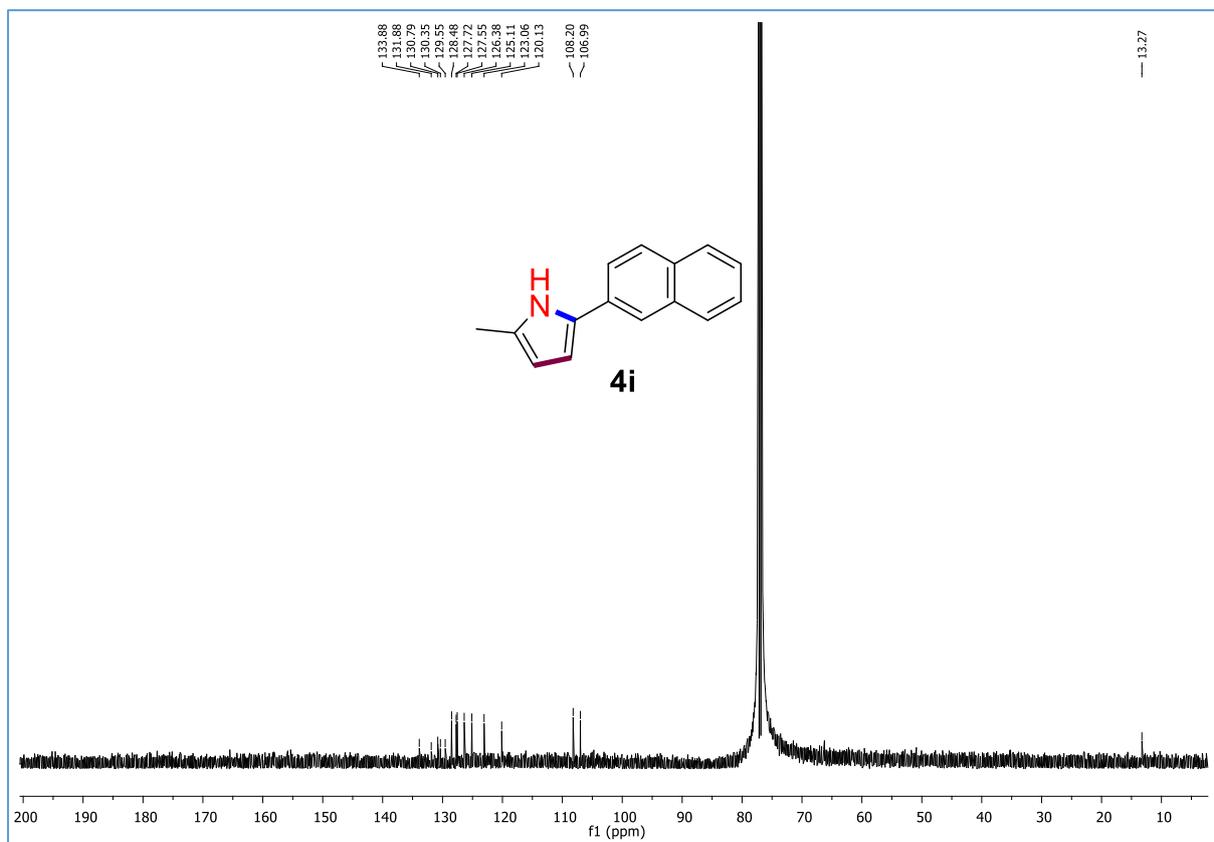
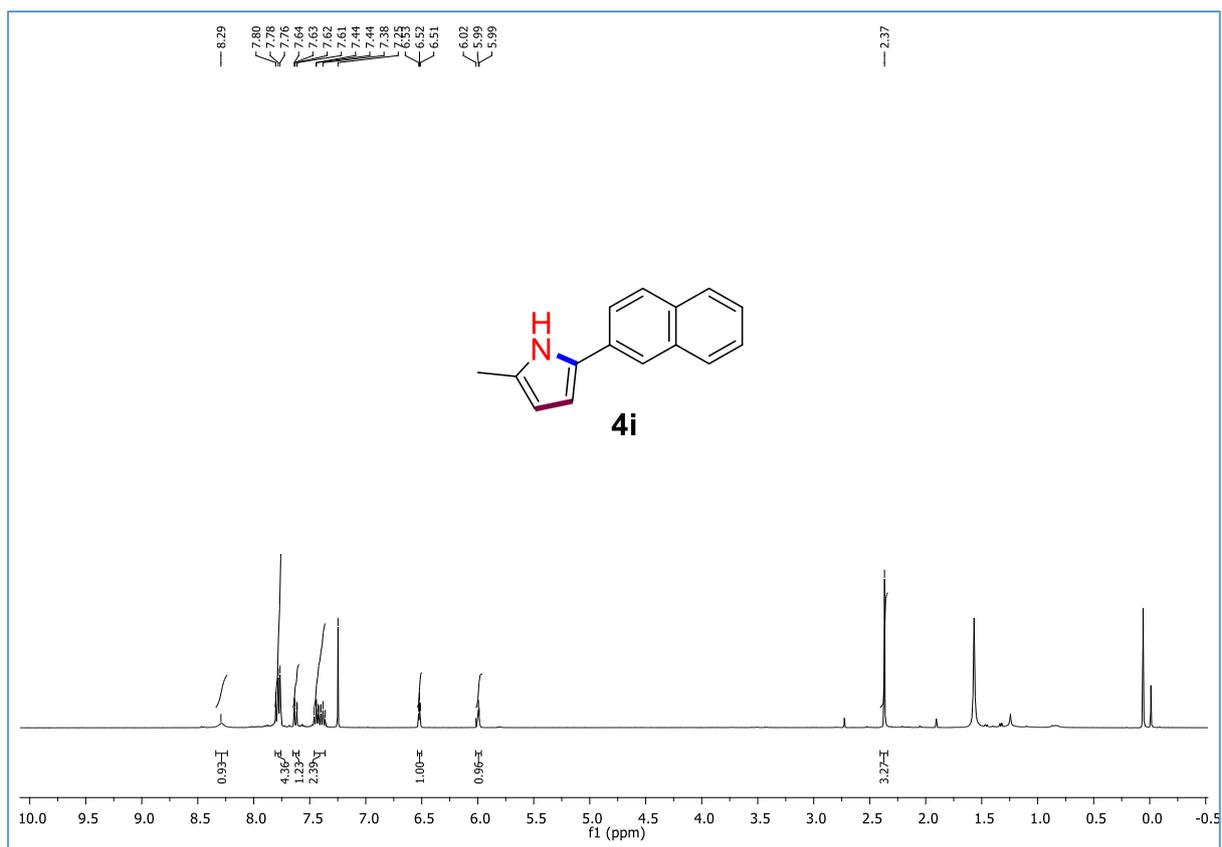












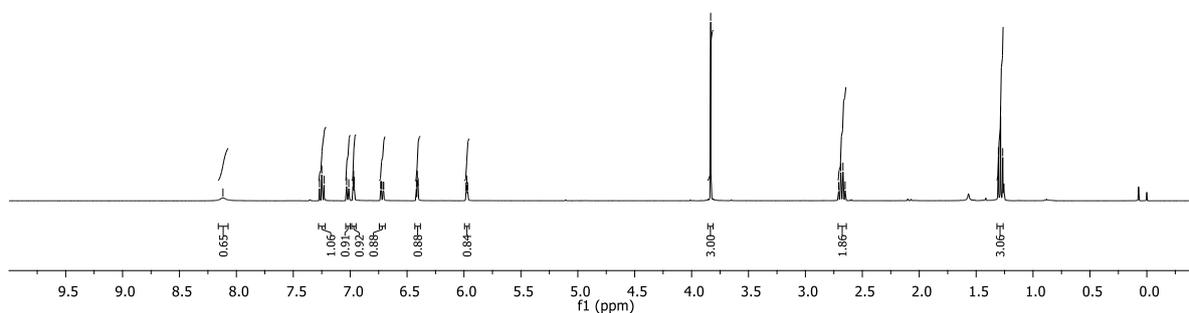
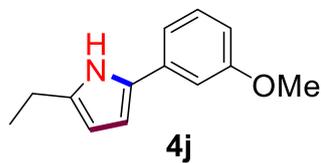
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single\_pulse

8.12  
7.27  
7.25  
7.23  
7.03  
7.01  
6.97  
6.96  
6.73  
6.71  
6.41  
6.40  
5.98  
5.97

3.83

2.71  
2.69  
2.67  
2.65

1.30  
1.29  
1.27



15\_MV-832-P  
single pulse decoupled gated NOE

160.11

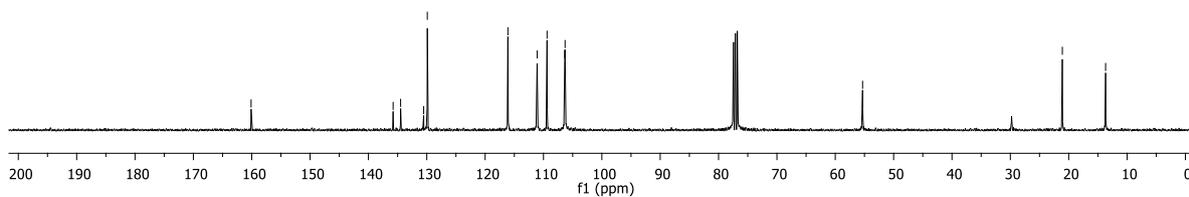
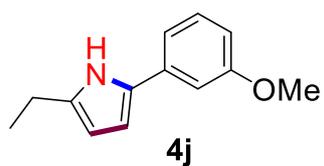
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134.49  
130.53  
129.91

116.10  
111.09  
109.39  
106.36  
106.31

55.32

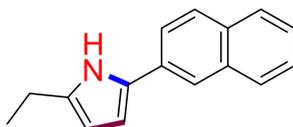
21.09

13.68

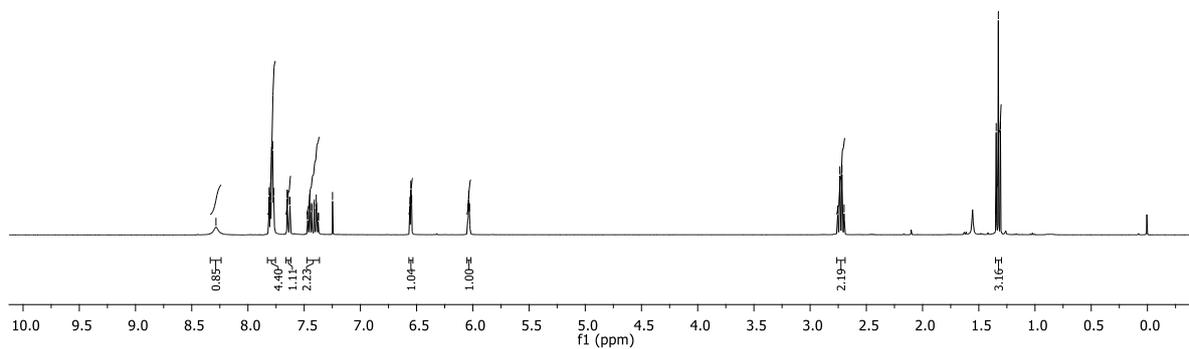


13\_MV-833-P  
single\_pulse

8.28  
7.81  
7.80  
7.79  
7.78  
7.77  
7.65  
7.63  
7.48  
7.29  
6.56  
6.54  
6.04  
6.03  
2.75  
2.74  
2.72  
2.70  
1.34  
1.33  
1.31

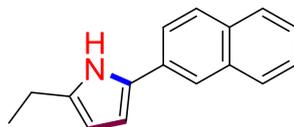


4k



13\_MV-833-P  
single pulse decoupled gated NOE

136.21  
133.96  
131.97  
130.68  
130.48  
128.56  
127.81  
127.63  
126.46  
123.20  
123.20  
120.25  
106.90  
106.57  
21.16  
13.69



4k

