

Supporting Information

Four-component thiazole formation from simple chemicals under metal-free conditions

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General information

All reactions were carried out under air atmosphere unless otherwise noted. Column chromatography was performed using silica gel (200-300 mesh). ^1H NMR and ^{13}C NMR spectra were recorded on Bruker-AV (400 and 100 MHz, respectively) instrument internally referenced to tetramethylsilane (TMS) or chloroform signals. Mass spectra were measured on Agilent 5975 GC-MS instrument (EI). High-resolution mass spectra were recorded with the Thermo Scientific LTQ Orbitrap XL mass spectrometer (ESI). The structures of known compounds were further corroborated by comparing their ^1H NMR, ^{13}C NMR data and MS data with those of literature. Ketoxime acetates were prepared according previously reported method. All other reagents were obtained from commercial suppliers and used without further purification. The molecular weight of S₈ is determined to be 32 g/mol unless otherwise noted.

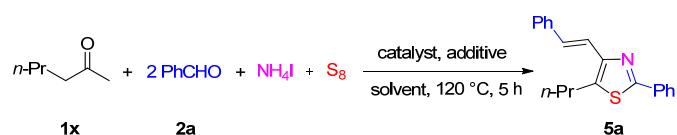
Optimization of reaction conditions

Table S1.^a

entry	“N” source	additive (x equiv)	solvent	yield(%) ^b
1	(NH ₄) ₂ S ₂ O ₈	—	pyridine	32
2	NH ₄ Cl	—	pyridine	17
3	NH ₄ PF ₆	—	pyridine	37
4	NH ₄ OAc	—	pyridine	trace
5	NH ₄ I	—	pyridine	47
6	NH ₄ I	—	DMF	20
7	NH ₄ I	—	DMSO	trace
8	NH ₄ I	—	<i>o</i> -DCB	trace
9	NH ₄ I	—	mesitylene	trace
10	NH ₄ I	—	1,4-dioxane	10
11	NH ₄ I	H ₂ O (3)	pyridine	60
12	NH ₄ I	H ₂ O (6)	pyridine	77
13	NH ₄ I	H ₂ O (9)	pyridine	75
14 ^c	NH ₄ I	H ₂ O (6)	pyridine	65
15 ^d	NH ₄ I	—	pyridine	n.d
16 ^e	NH ₄ I	H ₂ O (6)	pyridine	65

^a Reaction conditions: **1a** (0.2 mmol), **2a** (0.6 mmol), S₈ (0.4 mmol, 32 g/mol), NH₄I (0.4 mmol), pyridine (0.6 mL), under air at 150 °C for 20 h.

^b Isolated yields. ^c 120 °C, ^d Na₂S replace S₈, ^e 5 mmol gram-scale (1.063g).

Table S2.^a

entry	catalyst	additive (x mol%)	[O]	yield(%) ^b
1	Cu	—	—	35
2	CuBr	—	—	43
3	CuCl ₂	—	—	36
4	FeCl ₃	—	—	33
5	La(OTf) ₃	—	—	34
6	Sc(OTf) ₃	—	—	17
7	CuBr	BzOH	—	54 (50) ^c
8	CuBr	AcOH	—	31
9 ^d	CuBr	HCl (aq)	—	36
10	—	BzOH		44
11	—	BzOH (60)		54 (51) ^c
12	—	BzOH (70)		40 (36) ^c
13 ^e	—	—	H ₂ O ₂	22
14	—	—	TBHP	22
15	—	—	O ₂	34
16	—	—	Ar	32
17	—	—	—	37

^a Reaction conditions: **1x** (0.2 mmol), **2a** (0.6 mmol), NH₄I (0.4 mmol), S₈ (0.8 mmol, 32 g/mol), catalyst (50 mol%), additive (30 mol%), pyridine (0.6 mL), under air at 120 °C for 5 h. ^b GC yields. ^c Isolated yields, ^d HCl (12 mol/L), ^e H₂O₂ (30%, 9.8 mol/L).

General procedure for the synthesis of thiazoles

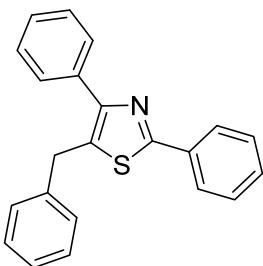
General procedure A: Aromatic ketone **1a-1p** (0.2 mmol), aromatic aldehyde **2** (0.6 mmol), NH₄I (58 mg, 0.4 mmol), S₈ (12.8 mg, 0.4 mmol), H₂O (6 equiv) and pyridine (0.6 mL) were added successfully to a 10 mL oven-dried reaction vessel. The sealed reaction vessel was stirred at 150 °C for 20 h. After cooling to room temperature, the reaction was diluted with ethyl acetate (10 mL) and water (10 mL). The organic layer was separated, and the aqueous layer was extracted with ethyl acetate (10 mL) for three times. The combined organic layer was washed with brine and dried over magnesium sulfate and the volatiles were removed under reduced pressure. The residue was purified by column chromatography on silica gel (petroleum ether/EtOAc) to yield the desired product **3**.

General procedure B: Aliphatic ketone **1q-1w** (0.2 mmol), aromatic aldehyde **2** (0.3 mmol), NH₄I (58 mg, 0.4 mmol), S₈ (12.8 mg, 0.4 mmol), H₂O (6 equiv) and pyridine (0.6 mL) were added successfully to a 10 mL oven-dried reaction vessel. The sealed reaction vessel was stirred at 150 °C for 15-20 h. After cooling to room temperature, the reaction was diluted with ethyl acetate (10 mL) and water (10 mL). The organic layer was separated, and the aqueous layer was extracted with ethyl acetate (10 mL) for three times. The combined organic layer was washed with brine and dried over magnesium sulfate and the volatiles were removed under reduced pressure. The residue was purified by column chromatography on silica gel (petroleum ether/EtOAc) to yield the desired product **4**.

General procedure C: Aliphatic ketone **1x-1ac** (0.2 mmol), aromatic aldehyde **2** (0.6 mmol), NH₄I (58 mg, 0.4 mmol), S₈ (25.6 mg, 0.8 mmol), PhCOOH (60 mol%) and pyridine (0.6 mL) were added successfully to a 10 mL oven-dried reaction vessel. The sealed reaction vessel was stirred at 120 °C for 5 h. After cooling to room temperature, the reaction was diluted with ethyl acetate (10 mL) and water (10 mL). The organic layer was separated, and the aqueous layer was extracted with ethyl acetate (10 mL) for three times. The combined organic layer was washed with brine and dried over magnesium sulfate and the volatiles were removed under reduced pressure. The residue was purified by column chromatography on silica gel (petroleum ether/DCM) to yield the desired product **5**.

5 mmol-scale reaction: Acetophenone **1a** (0.6 mL, 5 mmol), benzaldehyde **2a** (1.5 mL, 15 mmol), S₈ (0.32 g, 10 mmol), NH₄I (1.45 g, 10 mmol), H₂O (0.54 mL, 30 mmol) and pyridine (6 mL) were added successfully to a 100 mL round-bottom flask. The sealed round-bottom flask was stirred at 150 °C for 24 h. After cooling to room temperature, the reaction was diluted with ethyl acetate (30 mL) and filtered through a short column of silica gel with additional ethyl acetate (30 mL) as the eluent. The filtrate was washed with brine (90 mL), dried over MgSO₄, and concentrated under reduced pressure. The residue was purified by flash chromatography on silica gel (petroleum ether/EtOAc: 200/1) to afford **3a** as a white solid (1.063 g, 65%).

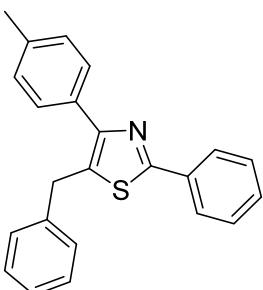
Characterization data of products



5-Benzyl-2,4-diphenylthiazole (3a)

The general procedure A was followed using acetophenone (**1a**, 24 μ L, 0.2 mmol), benzaldehyde (**2a**, 61 μ L, 0.6 mmol), NH₄I (58 mg, 0.4 mmol) and S₈ (12.8 mg, 0.4 mmol). Purification by column chromatography on silica gel (petroleum ether/EtOAc: 200/1) yielded **3a** (50.4 mg, 77%) as a white solid. mp: 123-124 °C.

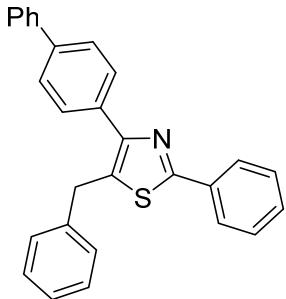
¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.94 (dd, *J* = 7.8, 2.5 Hz, 2H), 7.75 – 7.67 (m, 2H), 7.48 – 7.30 (m, 8H), 7.28 – 7.21 (m, 3H), 4.30 (s, 2H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 165.2, 152.5, 140.0, 134.9, 133.6, 133.0, 129.8, 128.8, 128.7, 128.5, 128.3, 127.9, 126.8, 126.3, 33.2. IR spectrum ($\nu_{\text{max}}(\text{KBr})/\text{cm}^{-1}$) 3059, 1600, 1483, 982, 758, 696, 518. HRMS (ESI) m/z calcd for C₂₂H₁₈NS⁺ (M+H)⁺ 328.1155, found 328.1158.



5-Benzyl-2-phenyl-4-(*p*-tolyl)thiazole (3b)

The general procedure A was followed using 1-(*p*-tolyl)ethan-1-one (**1b**, 28 μ L, 0.2 mmol), benzaldehyde (**2a**, 61 μ L, 0.6 mmol), NH₄I (58 mg, 0.4 mmol) and S₈ (12.8 mg, 0.4 mmol). Purification by column chromatography on silica gel (petroleum ether/EtOAc: 200/1) yielded **3b** (45.0 mg, 66%) as a white solid. mp: 147-148 °C.

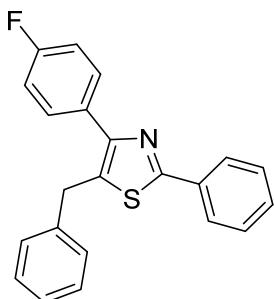
¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.95 (dd, *J* = 7.9, 2.6 Hz, 2H), 7.61 (d, *J* = 8.1 Hz, 2H), 7.46 – 7.37 (m, 3H), 7.33 (t, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 7.29 – 7.22 (m, 5H), 4.30 (s, 2H), 2.40 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 164.9, 159.4, 152.3, 140.1, 133.8, 131.8, 130.0, 129.7, 128.8, 128.7, 128.3, 127.6, 126.7, 126.3, 113.9, 55.3, 33.2. IR spectrum ($\nu_{\text{max}}(\text{KBr})/\text{cm}^{-1}$) 3060, 1489, 1242, 978, 823, 768, 694, 520. HRMS (ESI) m/z calcd for C₂₃H₂₀NS⁺ (M+H)⁺ 342.1311, found 342.1313.



4-([1,1'-Biphenyl]-4-yl)-5-benzyl-2-phenylthiazole (3c)

The general procedure A was followed using 1-([1,1'-biphenyl]-4-yl)ethan-1-one (**1c**, 40 mg, 0.2 mmol), benzaldehyde (**2a**, 61 μL, 0.6 mmol), NH₄I (58 mg, 0.4 mmol) and S₈ (12.8 mg, 0.4 mmol). Purification by column chromatography on silica gel (petroleum ether/EtOAc: 200/1) yielded **3c** (52.4 mg, 65%) as a white solid. mp: 149–150 °C.

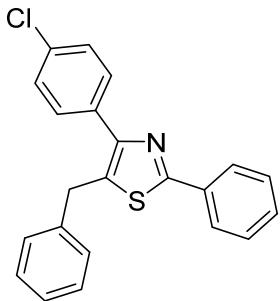
¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.96 (dd, *J* = 7.9, 2.0 Hz, 2H), 7.80 (d, *J* = 8.2 Hz, 2H), 7.67 (d, *J* = 8.2 Hz, 2H), 7.65 (d, *J* = 8.2 Hz, 2H), 7.48 – 7.31 (m, 8H), 7.29 – 7.24 (m, 3H), 4.35 (s, 2H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 165.2, 152.2, 140.7, 140.6, 140.0, 134.0, 133.7, 133.1, 129.8, 129.1, 128.8, 128.4, 127.4, 127.2, 127.1, 126.8, 126.3, 33.3. IR spectrum ($\nu_{\text{max}}(\text{KBr})/\text{cm}^{-1}$) 3029, 2917, 1601, 1481, 978, 847, 767, 694. HRMS (ESI) m/z calcd for C₂₈H₂₂NS⁺ (M+H)⁺ 404.1468, found 404.1471.



5-Benzyl-4-(4-fluorophenyl)-2-phenylthiazole (3d)

The general procedure A was followed using 1-(4-fluorophenyl)ethan-1-one (**1d**, 22 μ L, 0.2 mmol), benzaldehyde (**2a**, 61 μ L, 0.6 mmol), NH₄I (58 mg, 0.4 mmol) and S₈ (12.8 mg, 0.4 mmol). Purification by column chromatography on silica gel (petroleum ether/EtOAc: 200/1) yielded **3d** (44.9 mg, 65%) as a colorless solid. mp: 119-120 °C.

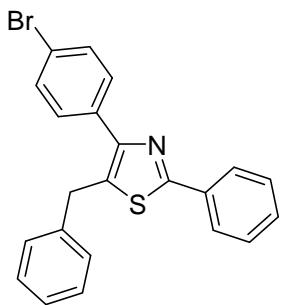
¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.94 (dd, *J* = 7.6, 4.0 Hz, 2H), 7.71 – 7.65 (m, 2H), 7.43 – 7.37 (m, 3H), 7.34 (t, *J* = 7.3 Hz, 2H), 7.29 – 7.22 (m, 3H), 7.14 (t, *J* = 8.7 Hz, 2H), 4.27 (s, 2H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 165.3, 162.5 (d, *J* = 246.0 Hz), 151.5, 139.8, 133.5, 132.8, 131.0 (d, *J* = 3.2 Hz), 130.5 (d, *J* = 8.8 Hz), 129.9, 128.8, 128.8, 128.3, 126.9, 126.3, 115.4 (d, *J* = 21.4 Hz), 33.2. IR spectrum ($\nu_{\text{max}}(\text{KBr})/\text{cm}^{-1}$) 3062, 1602, 1489, 1223, 841, 760, 696. HRMS (ESI) m/z calcd for C₂₂H₁₇FNS⁺ (M+H)⁺ 346.1060, found 346.1065.



5-Benzyl-4-(4-chlorophenyl)-2-phenylthiazole (3e)

The general procedure A was followed using 1-(4-chlorophenyl)ethan-1-one (**1e**, 27 μ L, 0.2 mmol), benzaldehyde (**2a**, 61 μ L, 0.6 mmol), NH₄I (58 mg, 0.4 mmol) and S₈ (12.8 mg, 0.4 mmol). Purification by column chromatography on silica gel (petroleum ether/EtOAc: 200/1) yielded **3e** (52.7 mg, 73%) as a white solid. mp: 159-160 °C.

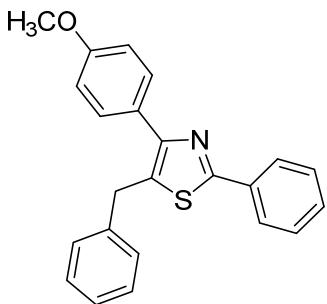
¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.95 – 7.90 (m, 2H), 7.65 (d, *J* = 8.5 Hz, 2H), 7.44 – 7.37 (m, 5H), 7.33 (t, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 7.29 – 7.21 (m, 3H), 4.27 (s, 2H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 165.4, 151.3, 139.7, 133.8, 133.5, 133.4, 133.3, 130.0, 129.9, 128.8, 128.8, 128.7, 128.3, 126.9, 126.3, 33.2. IR spectrum ($\nu_{\text{max}}(\text{KBr})/\text{cm}^{-1}$) 3059, 1601, 1481, 1089, 978, 835, 760, 702. HRMS (ESI) m/z calcd for C₂₂H₁₇ClNS⁺ (M+H)⁺ 362.0765, found 362.0768.



5-Benzyl-4-(4-bromophenyl)-2-phenylthiazole (3f)

The general procedure A was followed using 1-(4-bromophenyl)ethan-1-one (**1f**, 41 mg, 0.2 mmol), benzaldehyde (**2a**, 61 μ L, 0.6 mmol), NH₄I (58 mg, 0.4 mmol) and S₈ (12.8 mg, 0.4 mmol). Purification by column chromatography on silica gel (petroleum ether/EtOAc: 200/1) yielded **3f** (56.0 mg, 69%) as a white solid. mp: 167–168 °C.

¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.95 – 7.90 (m, 2H), 7.63 – 7.53 (m, 4H), 7.45 – 7.37 (m, 3H), 7.33 (t, *J* = 7.3 Hz, 2H), 7.29 – 7.20 (m, 3H), 4.26 (s, 2H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 165.4, 151.2, 139.7, 133.9, 133.5, 133.3, 131.6, 130.3, 129.9, 128.8, 128.8, 128.3, 126.9, 126.3, 122.0, 33.2. IR spectrum ($\nu_{\text{max}}(\text{KBr})/\text{cm}^{-1}$) 3062, 1600, 1477, 1070, 978, 833, 758, 694, 519. HRMS (ESI) m/z calcd for C₂₂H₁₇BrNS⁺ (M+H)⁺ 406.0260, found 406.0254.

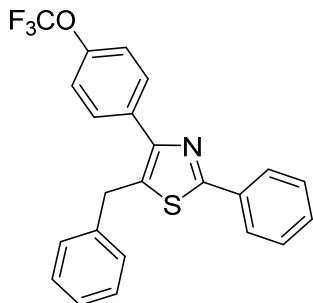


5-Benzyl-4-(4-methoxyphenyl)-2-phenylthiazole (3g)

The general procedure A was followed using 1-(4-methoxyphenyl)ethan-1-one (**1g**, 31 mg, 0.2 mmol), benzaldehyde (**2a**, 61 μ L, 0.6 mmol), NH₄I (58 mg, 0.4 mmol) and S₈ (12.8 mg, 0.4 mmol). Purification by column chromatography on silica gel (petroleum ether/EtOAc: 200/1) yielded **3g** (39.3 mg, 55%) as a white solid. mp: 91–92 °C.

¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.93 (dd, *J* = 7.8, 2.2 Hz, 2H), 7.64 (d, *J* = 8.6 Hz, 2H), 7.42 – 7.35 (m, 3H), 7.35 – 7.29 (m, 2H), 7.25 (t, *J* = 6.6 Hz, 3H), 7.01 – 6.94 (m, 2H), 4.27 (s, 2H), 3.83 (s,

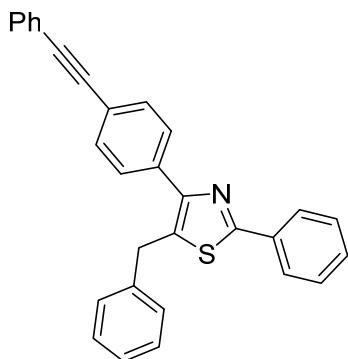
3H). ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 164.9, 159.4, 152.3, 140.1, 133.8, 131.8, 130.0, 129.7, 128.8, 128.7, 128.3, 127.6, 126.7, 126.3, 113.9, 55.3, 33.2. IR spectrum ($\nu_{\text{max}}(\text{KBr})/\text{cm}^{-1}$) 3020, 2933, 1606, 1486, 1254, 1173, 1037, 835, 771, 696. HRMS (ESI) m/z calcd for $\text{C}_{23}\text{H}_{20}\text{NOS}^+$ ($\text{M}+\text{H}$) $^+$ 358.1260, found 358.1262.



5-Benzyl-2-phenyl-4-(4-(trifluoromethoxy)phenyl)thiazole (3h)

The general procedure A was followed using 1-(4-(trifluoromethoxy)phenyl)ethan-1-one (**1h**, 33 μL , 0.2 mmol), benzaldehyde (**2a**, 61 μL , 0.6 mmol), NH_4I (58 mg, 0.4 mmol) and S_8 (12.8 mg, 0.4 mmol). Purification by column chromatography on silica gel (petroleum ether) yielded **3h** (61.7 mg, 75%) as a white solid. mp: 72–73 $^\circ\text{C}$.

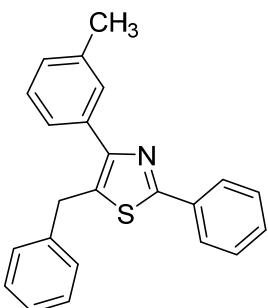
^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 7.94 (dd, $J = 7.7, 3.2$ Hz, 2H), 7.74 (d, $J = 8.6$ Hz, 2H), 7.43 – 7.38 (m, 3H), 7.36 – 7.22 (m, 7H), 4.29 (s, 2H). ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 165.5, 151.0, 148.8, 139.6, 133.6, 133.5, 133.4, 130.2, 130.0, 128.9, 128.8, 128.3, 127.0, 126.3, 120.5 (q, $J = 255.8$ Hz), 116.6, 33.2. IR spectrum ($\nu_{\text{max}}(\text{KBr})/\text{cm}^{-1}$) 3064, 1604, 1489, 1265, 1167, 762, 688. HRMS (ESI) m/z calcd for $\text{C}_{23}\text{H}_{17}\text{F}_3\text{NOS}^+$ ($\text{M}+\text{H}$) $^+$ 412.0977, found 412.0978.



5-Benzyl-2-phenyl-4-(4-(phenylethyynyl)phenyl)thiazole (3i)

The general procedure A was followed using 1-(4-(phenylethynyl)phenyl)ethan-1-one (**1i**, 46 mg, 0.2 mmol), benzaldehyde (**2a**, 61 μ L, 0.6 mmol), NH₄I (58 mg, 0.4 mmol) and S₈ (12.8 mg, 0.4 mmol). Purification by column chromatography on silica gel (petroleum ether/EtOAc: 200/1) yielded **3i** (64 mg, 75%) as a white solid. mp: 153–154 °C.

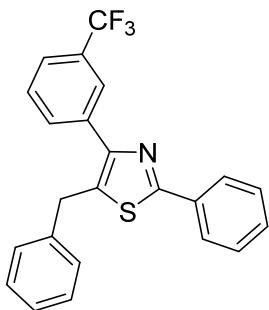
¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.94 (dd, *J* = 7.8, 2.8 Hz, 2H), 7.73 (d, *J* = 8.2 Hz, 2H), 7.61 (d, *J* = 8.1 Hz, 2H), 7.55 (dd, *J* = 7.8, 2.4 Hz, 2H), 7.43 – 7.38 (m, 3H), 7.38 – 7.32 (m, 5H), 7.30 – 7.24 (m, 3H), 4.32 (s, 2H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 165.3, 151.6, 139.8, 134.7, 133.6, 133.5, 131.7, 131.6, 129.9, 128.8, 128.6, 128.3, 128.3, 126.9, 126.3, 123.2, 122.7, 90.2, 89.3, 33.3. IR spectrum ($\nu_{\text{max}}(\text{KBr})/\text{cm}^{-1}$) 3062, 3022, 1600, 1492, 1452, 840, 760, 692. HRMS (ESI) m/z calcd for C₃₀H₂₂NS⁺ (M+H)⁺ 428.1468, found 428.1464.



5-Benzyl-2-phenyl-4-(*m*-tolyl)thiazole (**3j**)

The general procedure A was followed using 1-(*m*-tolyl)ethan-1-one (**1j**, 28 μ L, 0.2 mmol), benzaldehyde (**2a**, 61 μ L, 0.6 mmol), NH₄I (58 mg, 0.4 mmol) and S₈ (12.8 mg, 0.4 mmol). Purification by column chromatography on silica gel (petroleum ether/EtOAc: 200/1) yielded **3j** (49.8 mg, 73%) as a colorless liquid.

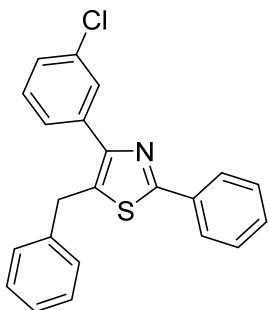
¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.94 (dd, *J* = 7.4, 2.0 Hz, 2H), 7.56 (s, 1H), 7.47 (d, *J* = 7.7 Hz, 1H), 7.42 – 7.37 (m, 3H), 7.33 (t, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 3H), 7.26 (t, *J* = 5.6 Hz, 3H), 7.19 (d, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 4.29 (s, 2H), 2.41 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 165.1, 152.7, 140.2, 138.1, 134.9, 133.8, 133.0, 129.7, 129.6, 128.8, 128.7, 128.7, 128.4, 128.3, 126.8, 126.4, 125.8, 33.3, 21.5. IR spectrum ($\nu_{\text{max}}(\text{KBr})/\text{cm}^{-1}$) 3025, 2921, 1602, 1495, 1250, 793, 760, 690. HRMS (ESI) m/z calcd for C₂₃H₂₀NS⁺ (M+H)⁺ 342.1311, found 342.1310.



5-Benzyl-2-phenyl-4-(3-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl)thiazole (3k)

The general procedure A was followed using 1-(3-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl)ethan-1-one (**1k**, 31 µL, 0.2 mmol), benzaldehyde (**2a**, 61 µL, 0.6 mmol), NH₄I (58 mg, 0.4 mmol) and S₈ (12.8 mg, 0.4 mmol). Purification by column chromatography on silica gel (petroleum ether/EtOAc: 200/1) yielded **3k** (55.3 mg, 70%) as a white solid. mp: 82-83 °C.

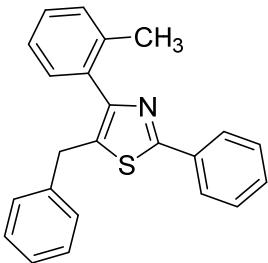
¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.01 (s, 1H), 7.98 – 7.91 (m, 2H), 7.88 (d, *J* = 7.7 Hz, 1H), 7.63 (d, *J* = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 7.55 (t, *J* = 7.7 Hz, 1H), 7.44 – 7.38 (m, 3H), 7.34 (t, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 7.29 – 7.22 (m, 3H), 4.29 (s, 2H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 165.6, 150.8, 139.5, 135.7, 134.1, 133.5, 131.8, 130.9 (q, *J* = 32.2 Hz), 130.0, 128.9, 128.9, 128.9, 128.3, 127.0, 126.3, 125.7 (q, *J* = 3.8 Hz), 124.6 (q, *J* = 3.7 Hz), 124.1 (q, *J* = 270.8 Hz), 33.2. IR spectrum ($\nu_{\text{max}}(\text{KBr})/\text{cm}^{-1}$) 3060, 3035, 1600, 1342, 1308, 1163, 1122, 1074, 760, 698. HRMS (ESI) m/z calcd for C₂₃H₁₇F₃NS⁺ (M+H)⁺ 396.1028, found 396.1032.



5-Benzyl-4-(3-chlorophenyl)-2-phenylthiazole (3l)

The general procedure A was followed using 1-(3-chlorophenyl)ethan-1-one (**1l**, 27 µL, 0.2 mmol), benzaldehyde (**2a**, 61 µL, 0.6 mmol), NH₄I (58 mg, 0.4 mmol) and S₈ (12.8 mg, 0.4 mmol). Purification by column chromatography on silica gel (petroleum ether/EtOAc: 200/1) yielded **3l** (45.5 mg, 63%) as a white solid. mp: 83-84 °C.

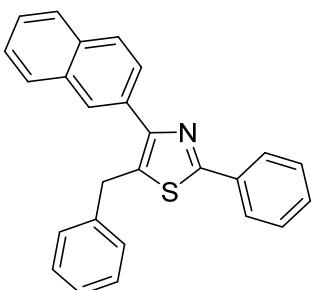
¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.96 – 7.90 (m, 2H), 7.75 (s, 1H), 7.58 – 7.53 (m, 1H), 7.42 – 7.38 (m, 3H), 7.36 – 7.30 (m, 4H), 7.29 – 7.22 (m, 3H), 4.28 (s, 2H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 165.4, 150.8, 139.6, 136.6, 134.4, 134.0, 133.4, 130.0, 129.7, 128.9, 128.8, 128.8, 128.3, 128.0, 126.9, 126.7, 126.3, 33.2. IR spectrum ($\nu_{\text{max}}(\text{KBr})/\text{cm}^{-1}$) 3064, 3026, 1595, 1564, 1477, 1263, 1078, 756, 696. HRMS (ESI) m/z calcd for C₂₂H₁₇ClNS⁺ (M+H)⁺ 362.0765, found 362.0769.



5-Benzyl-2-phenyl-4-(*o*-tolyl)thiazole (3m)

The general procedure A was followed using 1-(*o*-tolyl)ethan-1-one (**1m**, 27 μL, 0.2 mmol), benzaldehyde (**2a**, 61 μL, 0.6 mmol), NH₄I (58 mg, 0.4 mmol) and S₈ (12.8 mg, 0.4 mmol). Purification by column chromatography on silica gel (petroleum ether/EtOAc: 100/1) yielded **3m** (28.7 mg, 42%) as a yellow liquid.

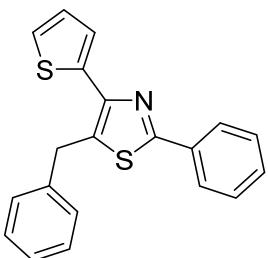
¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.92 (d, *J* = 5.5 Hz, 2H), 7.38 (d, *J* = 5.3 Hz, 3H), 7.35 – 7.19 (m, 7H), 7.14 (d, *J* = 7.4 Hz, 2H), 4.02 (s, 2H), 2.28 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 165.0, 152.9, 140.0, 137.8, 134.3, 134.2, 133.7, 130.5, 130.2, 129.7, 128.8, 128.6, 128.5, 128.3, 126.6, 126.3, 125.6, 32.9, 20.1. IR spectrum ($\nu_{\text{max}}(\text{KBr})/\text{cm}^{-1}$) 3061, 2924, 1681, 1600, 1479, 1248, 979, 761, 688. HRMS (ESI) m/z calcd for C₂₃H₂₀NS⁺ (M+H)⁺ 342.1311, found 342.1313.



5-Benzyl-4-(naphthalen-2-yl)-2-phenylthiazole (3n)

The general procedure A was followed using 1-(naphthalen-2-yl)ethan-1-one (**1n**, 35 mg, 0.2 mmol), benzaldehyde (**2a**, 61 μ L, 0.6 mmol), NH₄I (58 mg, 0.4 mmol) and S₈ (12.8 mg, 0.4 mmol). Purification by column chromatography on silica gel (petroleum ether/EtOAc: 200/1) yielded **3n** (52.8 mg, 70%) as a white solid. mp: 88-89 °C.

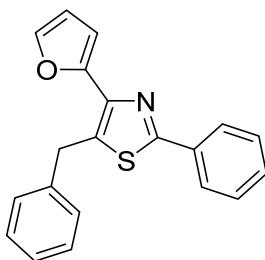
¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.12 (s, 1H), 7.97 (dd, *J* = 8.0, 2.1 Hz, 2H), 7.91 – 7.81 (m, 4H), 7.50 – 7.45 (m, 2H), 7.43 – 7.36 (m, 3H), 7.35 – 7.29 (m, 2H), 7.28 – 7.22 (m, 3H), 4.34 (s, 2H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 165.2, 152.4, 140.0, 133.7, 133.4, 133.2, 132.8, 132.3, 129.8, 128.8, 128.8, 128.4, 128.2, 128.1, 127.7, 127.6, 126.8, 126.8, 126.3, 126.2, 33.3. IR spectrum ($\nu_{\text{max}}(\text{KBr})/\text{cm}^{-1}$) 3055, 1601, 1493, 1454, 822, 756, 711, 698, 683. HRMS (ESI) m/z calcd for C₂₆H₂₀NS⁺ (M+H)⁺ 378.1311, found 378.1314.



5-Benzyl-2-phenyl-4-(thiophen-2-yl)thiazole (**3o**)

The general procedure A was followed using 1-(thiophen-2-yl)ethan-1-one (**1o**, 22 μ L, 0.2 mmol), benzaldehyde (**2a**, 61 μ L, 0.6 mmol), NH₄I (58 mg, 0.4 mmol) and S₈ (12.8 mg, 0.4 mmol). Purification by column chromatography on silica gel (petroleum ether/EtOAc: 200/1) yielded **3o** (40.6 mg, 61%) as a gray solid. mp: 101-102 °C.

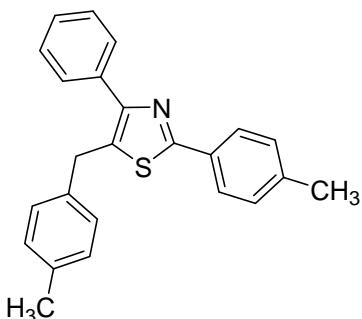
¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.97 – 7.89 (m, 2H), 7.42 – 7.31 (m, 7H), 7.30 – 7.25 (m, 3H), 7.11 – 7.06 (m, 1H), 4.38 (s, 2H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 164.9, 145.9, 139.2, 137.9, 133.3, 131.9, 129.9, 128.8, 128.4, 127.5, 126.9, 126.4, 125.7, 125.5, 33.3. IR spectrum ($\nu_{\text{max}}(\text{KBr})/\text{cm}^{-1}$) 3104, 1602, 1493, 1211, 970, 762, 708. HRMS (ESI) m/z calcd for C₂₀H₁₆NS₂⁺ (M+H)⁺ 334.0719, found 334.0721.



5-Benzyl-4-(furan-2-yl)-2-phenylthiazole (3p)

The general procedure A was followed using 1-(furan-2-yl)ethan-1-one (**1p**, 21 µL, 0.2 mmol), benzaldehyde (**2a**, 61 µL, 0.6 mmol), NH₄I (58 mg, 0.4 mmol) and S₈ (12.8 mg, 0.4 mmol). Purification by column chromatography on silica gel (petroleum ether/EtOAc: 200/1) yielded **3p** (25.4 mg, 40%) as a brown liquid.

¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.92 (dd, *J* = 7.5, 3.9 Hz, 2H), 7.52 (s, 1H), 7.42 – 7.38 (m, 3H), 7.34 – 7.25 (m, 5H), 6.88 (d, *J* = 3.3 Hz, 1H), 6.55 – 6.51 (m, 1H), 4.50 (s, 2H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 165.7, 150.4, 142.6, 142.1, 139.9, 133.3, 133.0, 130.0, 128.8, 128.7, 128.5, 126.8, 126.4, 111.3, 108.8, 32.9. IR spectrum (ν_{max}(KBr)/cm⁻¹) 3060, 2927, 1682, 1495, 1248, 762, 688. HRMS (ESI) m/z calcd for C₂₀H₁₆NOS⁺ (M+H)⁺ 318.0947, found 318.0948.

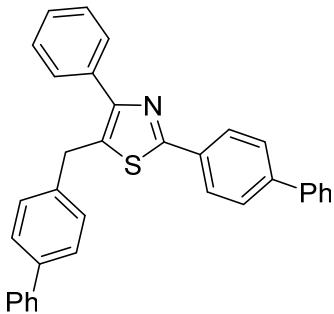


5-(4-Methylbenzyl)-4-phenyl-2-(*p*-tolyl)thiazole (3q)

The general procedure A was followed using acetophenone (**1a**, 24 µL, 0.2 mmol), 4-methylbenzaldehyde (**2b**, 73 µL, 0.6 mmol), NH₄I (58 mg, 0.4 mmol) and S₈ (12.8 mg, 0.4 mmol). Purification by column chromatography on silica gel (petroleum ether/EtOAc: 200/1) yielded **4a** (48.3 mg, 68%) as a white solid. mp: 110-111 °C.

¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.83 (d, *J* = 8.2 Hz, 2H), 7.73 – 7.69 (m, 2H), 7.44 (t, *J* = 7.4 Hz, 2H), 7.37 (t, *J* = 7.3 Hz, 1H), 7.20 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 7.14 (s, 4H), 4.25 (s, 2H), 2.37 (s, 3H), 2.34 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 165.3, 152.1, 140.0, 137.1, 136.4, 135.0, 133.0, 131.1,

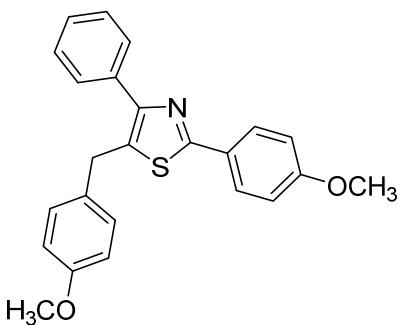
129.5, 129.4, 128.8, 128.4, 128.2, 127.8, 126.3, 32.9, 21.4, 21.0. IR spectrum ($\nu_{\text{max}}(\text{KBr})/\text{cm}^{-1}$) 3022, 1600, 1511, 1483, 978, 823, 771, 696, 482. HRMS (ESI) m/z calcd for $\text{C}_{24}\text{H}_{22}\text{NS}^+$ ($\text{M}+\text{H}$)⁺ 356.1468, found 356.1469.



2-([1,1'-Biphenyl]-4-yl)-5-([1,1'-biphenyl]-4-ylmethyl)-4-phenylthiazole (3r)

The general procedure A was followed using acetophenone (**1a**, 24 μL , 0.2 mmol), [1,1'-biphenyl]-4-carbaldehyde (**2c**, 113 mg, 0.6 mmol), NH_4I (58 mg, 0.4 mmol) and S_8 (12.8 mg, 0.4 mmol). Purification by column chromatography on silica gel (petroleum ether/EtOAc: 200/1) yielded **3r** (67.1 mg, 70%) as a white solid. mp: 147–148 $^\circ\text{C}$.

¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 8.04 (d, $J = 8.1$ Hz, 2H), 7.75 (d, $J = 7.4$ Hz, 2H), 7.69 – 7.54 (m, 8H), 7.52 – 7.29 (m, 11H), 4.36 (s, 2H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 164.9, 152.8, 142.5, 140.7, 140.3, 139.8, 139.1, 135.0, 132.9, 132.7, 128.9, 128.8, 128.8, 128.8, 128.5, 128.0, 127.7, 127.5, 127.4, 127.3, 127.0, 127.0, 126.8, 33.0. IR spectrum ($\nu_{\text{max}}(\text{KBr})/\text{cm}^{-1}$) 3030, 1600, 1487, 1261, 843, 766, 696. HRMS (ESI) m/z calcd for $\text{C}_{34}\text{H}_{26}\text{NS}^+$ ($\text{M}+\text{H}$)⁺ 480.1781, found 480.1783.

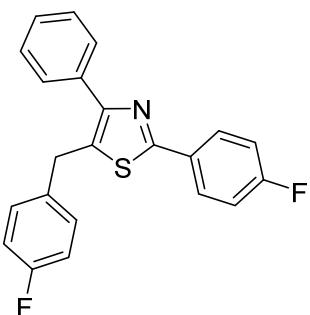


5-(4-Methoxybenzyl)-2-(4-methoxyphenyl)-4-phenylthiazole (3s)

The general procedure A was followed using acetophenone (**1a**, 24 μL , 0.2 mmol), 4-methoxybenzaldehyde (**2d**, 75 μL , 0.6 mmol), NH_4I (58 mg, 0.4 mmol) and S_8 (12.8 mg, 0.4

mmol). Purification by column chromatography on silica gel (petroleum ether/EtOAc: 20/1) yielded **3s** (55.0 mg, 71%) as a white solid. mp: 122-123 °C.

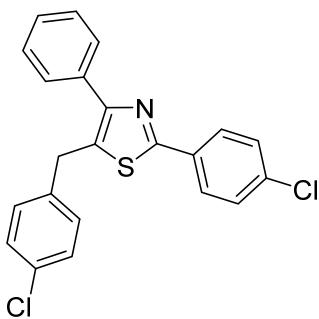
¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.88 (d, *J* = 8.8 Hz, 2H), 7.73 – 7.68 (m, 2H), 7.44 (t, *J* = 7.4 Hz, 2H), 7.36 (t, *J* = 7.3 Hz, 1H), 7.16 (d, *J* = 8.6 Hz, 2H), 6.91 (d, *J* = 8.8 Hz, 2H), 6.86 (d, *J* = 8.7 Hz, 2H), 4.22 (s, 2H), 3.83 (s, 3H), 3.79 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 165.0, 161.0, 158.4, 151.8, 135.0, 132.8, 132.3, 129.4, 128.8, 128.4, 127.8, 126.7, 114.1, 114.1, 55.3, 55.2, 32.4. IR spectrum ($\nu_{\text{max}}(\text{KBr})/\text{cm}^{-1}$) 3070, 2833, 1608, 1510, 1251, 1171, 1034, 825, 698. HRMS (ESI) m/z calcd for C₂₄H₂₂NO₂S⁺ (M+H)⁺ 388.1366, found 388.1365.



5-(4-Fluorobenzyl)-2-(4-fluorophenyl)-4-phenylthiazole (3t)

The general procedure A was followed using acetophenone (**1a**, 24 μL, 0.2 mmol), 4-fluorobenzaldehyde (**2e**, 66 μL, 0.6 mmol), NH₄I (58 mg, 0.4 mmol) and S₈ (12.8 mg, 0.4 mmol). Purification by column chromatography on silica gel (petroleum ether/EtOAc: 200/1) yielded **3t** (45.0 mg, 62%) as a white solid. mp: 108-109 °C.

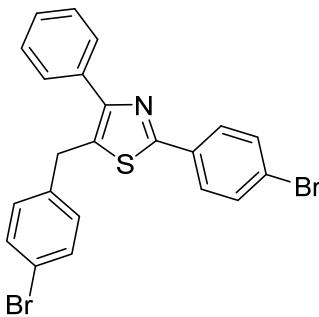
¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.96 – 7.90 (m, 2H), 7.68 (d, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 7.45 (t, *J* = 7.4 Hz, 2H), 7.41 – 7.36 (m, 1H), 7.22 – 7.16 (m, 2H), 7.12 – 7.06 (m, 2H), 7.04 – 6.98 (m, 2H), 4.26 (s, 2H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 164.1, 163.8 (d, *J* = 248.6 Hz), 161.7 (d, *J* = 243.8 Hz), 152.5, 135.6 (d, *J* = 3.1 Hz), 134.6, 132.9, 129.9, 129.8 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz), 128.7, 128.5, 128.3 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz), 128.1, 115.9 (d, *J* = 21.9 Hz), 115.6 (d, *J* = 21.3 Hz), 32.4. IR spectrum ($\nu_{\text{max}}(\text{KBr})/\text{cm}^{-1}$) 3060, 1599, 1504, 1223, 1155, 982, 839, 771, 696, 542. HRMS (ESI) m/z calcd for C₂₂H₁₆F₂NS⁺ (M+H)⁺ 364.0966, found 364.0968.



5-(4-Chlorobenzyl)-2-(4-chlorophenyl)-4-phenylthiazole (3u)

The general procedure A was followed using acetophenone (**1a**, 24 μ L, 0.2 mmol), 4-chlorobenzaldehyde (**2f**, 86 mg, 0.6 mmol), NH₄I (58 mg, 0.4 mmol) and S₈ (12.8 mg, 0.4 mmol). Purification by column chromatography on silica gel (petroleum ether/EtOAc: 200/1) yielded **3u** (56.1 mg, 71%) as a white solid. mp: 91–92 °C.

¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.87 (d, *J* = 8.5 Hz, 2H), 7.69 – 7.63 (m, 2H), 7.45 (t, *J* = 7.4 Hz, 2H), 7.39 (t, *J* = 8.5 Hz, 3H), 7.29 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 7.15 (d, *J* = 8.3 Hz, 2H), 4.26 (s, 2H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 164.0, 152.8, 138.3, 135.8, 134.5, 132.7, 132.7, 132.0, 129.7, 129.1, 128.9, 128.7, 128.6, 128.2, 127.5, 32.6. IR spectrum (ν_{max} (KBr)/cm⁻¹) 3057, 1599, 1479, 1092, 984, 825, 771, 696. HRMS (ESI) m/z calcd for C₂₂H₁₆Cl₂NS⁺ (M+H)⁺ 396.0375, found 396.0378.

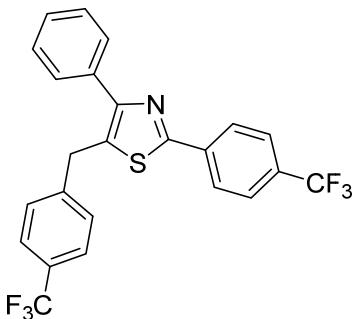


5-(4-Bromobenzyl)-2-(4-bromophenyl)-4-phenylthiazole (3v)

The general procedure A was followed using acetophenone (**1a**, 24 μ L, 0.2 mmol), 4-bromobenzaldehyde (**2g**, 112 mg, 0.6 mmol), NH₄I (58 mg, 0.4 mmol) and S₈ (12.8 mg, 0.4 mmol). Purification by column chromatography on silica gel (petroleum ether/EtOAc: 200/1) yielded **3v** (73.6 mg, 76%) as a white solid. mp: 87–88 °C.

¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.84 – 7.78 (m, 2H), 7.70 – 7.65 (m, 2H), 7.56 – 7.52 (m, 2H), 7.48 – 7.37 (m, 5H), 7.10 (d, *J* = 8.3 Hz, 2H), 4.24 (s, 2H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 164.0, 152.9,

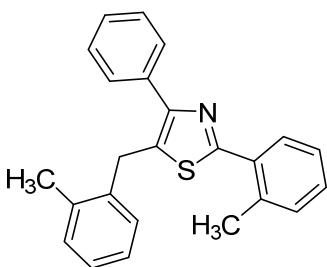
138.8, 133.4, 132.6, 132.6, 132.0, 131.9, 130.0, 128.7, 128.6, 128.2, 127.8, 124.1, 120.8, 32.7. IR spectrum ($\nu_{\text{max}}(\text{KBr})/\text{cm}^{-1}$) 3051, 2910, 1485, 1068, 1008, 978, 827, 771, 698. HRMS (ESI) m/z calcd for $\text{C}_{22}\text{H}_{16}\text{Br}_2\text{NS}^+$ ($\text{M}+\text{H}$)⁺ 483.9365, found 483.9367.



4-Phenyl-5-(4-(trifluoromethyl)benzyl)-2-(4-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl)thiazole (3w)

The general procedure A was followed using acetophenone (**1a**, 24 μL , 0.2 mmol), 4-(trifluoromethyl)benzaldehyde (**2h**, 84 μL , 0.6 mmol), NH₄I (58 mg, 0.4 mmol) and S₈ (12.8 mg, 0.4 mmol). Purification by column chromatography on silica gel (petroleum ether) yielded **3w** (37 mg, 40%) as a white solid. mp: 158–159 °C.

¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.05 (d, J = 8.2 Hz, 2H), 7.71 – 7.64 (m, 4H), 7.59 (d, J = 8.1 Hz, 2H), 7.50 – 7.32 (m, 5H), 4.37 (s, 2H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 163.6, 153.7, 143.7, 136.7, 134.4, 132.8, 131.6 (q, J = 32.4 Hz), 129.4 (q, J = 32.4 Hz), 128.7, 128.7, 128.4, 126.6, 126.0, 125.9 (q, J = 3.7 Hz), 125.8 (q, J = 3.7 Hz), 124.1 (q, J = 270.4 Hz), 123.9 (q, J = 270.5 Hz), 33.1. IR spectrum ($\nu_{\text{max}}(\text{KBr})/\text{cm}^{-1}$) 3070, 1616, 1490, 1331, 1130, 843, 700. HRMS (ESI) m/z calcd for $\text{C}_{24}\text{H}_{16}\text{F}_6\text{NS}^+$ ($\text{M}+\text{H}$)⁺ 464.0902, found 464.0904.

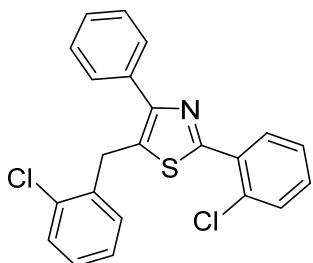


5-(2-Methylbenzyl)-4-phenyl-2-(o-tolyl)thiazole (3x)

The general procedure A was followed using acetophenone (**1a**, 24 μL , 0.2 mmol), 2-methylbenzaldehyde (**2i**, 71 μL , 0.6 mmol), NH₄I (58 mg, 0.4 mmol) and S₈ (12.8 mg, 0.4

mmol). Purification by column chromatography on silica gel (petroleum ether/EtOAc: 200/1) yielded **3x** (51.8 mg, 73%) as a colorless liquid.

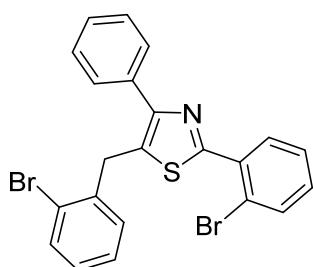
¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.76 – 7.68 (m, 3H), 7.44 (t, *J* = 7.4 Hz, 2H), 7.36 (t, *J* = 7.3 Hz, 1H), 7.28 – 7.17 (m, 7H), 4.28 (s, 2H), 2.64 (s, 3H), 2.22 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 164.9, 151.4, 138.5, 136.5, 136.1, 135.1, 133.3, 132.9, 131.4, 130.4, 129.7, 129.1, 128.7, 128.6, 128.4, 127.8, 127.1, 126.3, 125.9, 31.3, 21.7, 19.4. IR spectrum ($\nu_{\text{max}}(\text{KBr})/\text{cm}^{-1}$) 3062, 2925, 1602, 1489, 1230, 972, 763, 696, 445. HRMS (ESI) m/z calcd for C₂₄H₂₂NS⁺ (M+H)⁺ 356.1468, found 356.1469.



5-(2-Chlorobenzyl)-2-(2-chlorophenyl)-4-phenylthiazole (3y)

The general procedure A was followed using acetophenone (**1a**, 24 μL, 0.2 mmol), 2-chlorobenzaldehyde (**2j**, 69 μL, 0.6 mmol), NH₄I (58 mg, 0.4 mmol) and S₈ (12.8 mg, 0.4 mmol). Purification by column chromatography on silica gel (petroleum ether/EtOAc: 200/1) yielded **3y** (66.4 mg, 84%) as a white solid. mp: 123–124 °C.

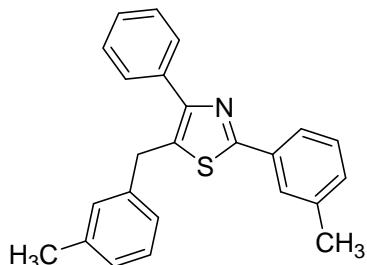
¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.38 – 8.29 (m, 1H), 7.69 (d, *J* = 7.3 Hz, 2H), 7.47 – 7.27 (m, 7H), 7.23 – 7.15 (m, 3H), 4.43 (s, 2H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 160.6, 151.8, 137.5, 134.8, 133.8, 132.7, 132.0, 131.8, 130.6, 130.5, 130.1, 130.0, 129.6, 128.6, 128.5, 128.3, 127.9, 127.1, 126.9, 30.8. IR spectrum ($\nu_{\text{max}}(\text{KBr})/\text{cm}^{-1}$) 3068, 1564, 1468, 1446, 1273, 1036, 978, 752, 700. HRMS (ESI) m/z calcd for C₂₂H₁₆Cl₂NS⁺ (M+H)⁺ 396.0375, found 396.0379.



5-(2-Bromobenzyl)-2-(2-bromophenyl)-4-phenylthiazole (3z)

The general procedure A was followed using acetophenone (**1a**, 24 μ L, 0.2 mmol), 2-bromobenzaldehyde (**2k**, 70 μ L, 0.6 mmol), NH₄I (58 mg, 0.4 mmol) and S₈ (12.8 mg, 0.4 mmol). Purification by column chromatography on silica gel (petroleum ether/EtOAc: 200/1) yielded **3z** (77.4 mg, 80%) as a white solid. mp: 116-117 °C.

¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.16 (dd, *J* = 7.9, 1.7 Hz, 1H), 7.78 – 7.64 (m, 3H), 7.60 (dd, *J* = 8.0, 1.0 Hz, 1H), 7.50 – 7.34 (m, 4H), 7.31 – 7.10 (m, 4H), 4.44 (s, 2H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 162.2, 152.0, 139.2, 139.2, 134.7, 134.1, 134.0, 133.0, 132.8, 131.4, 130.3, 130.1, 128.6, 128.5, 128.0, 127.8, 127.4, 124.3, 121.5, 33.6. IR spectrum ($\nu_{\text{max}}(\text{KBr})/\text{cm}^{-1}$) 3062, 1485, 1461, 1413, 1022, 760, 700. HRMS (ESI) m/z calcd for C₂₂H₁₆Br₂NS⁺ (M+H)⁺ 483.9365, found 483.9369.

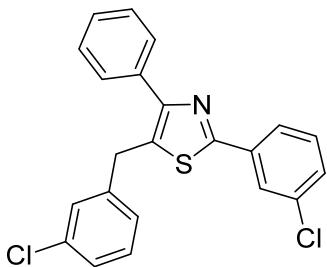


5-(3-Methylbenzyl)-4-phenyl-2-(*m*-tolyl)thiazole (3aa)

The general procedure A was followed using acetophenone (**1a**, 24 μ L, 0.2 mmol), 3-methylbenzaldehyde (**2l**, 73 μ L, 0.6 mmol), NH₄I (58 mg, 0.4 mmol) and S₈ (12.8 mg, 0.4 mmol). Purification by column chromatography on silica gel (petroleum ether/EtOAc: 200/1) yielded **3aa** (49.7 mg, 70%) as a colorless liquid.

¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.80 (s, 1H), 7.75 – 7.69 (m, 3H), 7.45 (t, *J* = 7.4 Hz, 2H), 7.37 (t, *J* = 7.3 Hz, 1H), 7.29 (t, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.25 – 7.18 (m, 2H), 7.06 (t, *J* = 8.3 Hz, 3H), 4.26 (s, 2H),

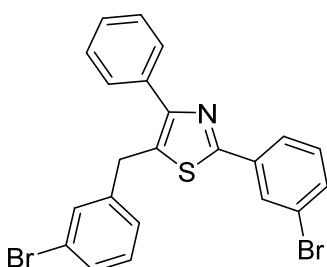
2.39 (s, 3H), 2.33 (s, 3H). ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 165.4, 152.3, 140.0, 138.5, 138.4, 135.0, 133.6, 133.1, 130.6, 129.1, 128.8, 128.7, 128.6, 128.5, 127.9, 127.5, 126.9, 125.4, 123.6, 33.2, 21.4, 21.3. IR spectrum ($\nu_{\text{max}}(\text{KBr})/\text{cm}^{-1}$) 3055, 2917, 1740, 1605, 1483, 787, 769, 692. HRMS (ESI) m/z calcd for $\text{C}_{24}\text{H}_{22}\text{NS}^+$ ($\text{M}+\text{H}$) $^+$ 356.1468, found 356.1471.



5-(3-Chlorobenzyl)-2-(3-chlorophenyl)-4-phenylthiazole (3ab)

The general procedure A was followed using acetophenone (**1a**, 24 μL , 0.2 mmol), 3-chlorobenzaldehyde (**2m**, 70 μL , 0.6 mmol), NH_4I (58 mg, 0.4 mmol) and S_8 (12.8 mg, 0.4 mmol). Purification by column chromatography on silica gel (petroleum ether) yielded **3ab** (45.8 mg, 58%) as a colorless liquid.

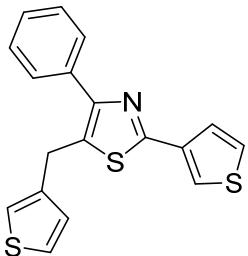
^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 7.98 (s, 1H), 7.78 (d, $J = 7.1$ Hz, 1H), 7.67 (d, $J = 7.4$ Hz, 2H), 7.46 (t, $J = 7.4$ Hz, 2H), 7.42 – 7.30 (m, 3H), 7.28 – 7.19 (m, 3H), 7.10 (t, $J = 6.2$ Hz, 1H), 4.27 (s, 2H). ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 163.7, 153.1, 141.7, 135.2, 134.9, 134.6, 134.5, 132.6, 130.1, 130.0, 129.8, 128.7, 128.6, 128.5, 128.2, 127.1, 126.5, 126.2, 124.5, 32.9. IR spectrum ($\nu_{\text{max}}(\text{KBr})/\text{cm}^{-1}$) 3062, 2925, 1595, 1475, 1246, 1076, 777, 698. HRMS (ESI) m/z calcd for $\text{C}_{22}\text{H}_{15}\text{Cl}_2\text{NS}^+$ ($\text{M}+\text{H}$) $^+$ 396.0375, found 396.0380.



5-(3-Bromobenzyl)-2-(3-bromophenyl)-4-phenylthiazole (3ac)

The general procedure A was followed using acetophenone (**1a**, 24 μ L, 0.2 mmol), 3-bromobenzaldehyde (**2n**, 72 μ L, 0.6 mmol), NH₄I (58 mg, 0.4 mmol) and S₈ (12.8 mg, 0.4 mmol). Purification by column chromatography on silica gel (petroleum ether) yielded **3ac** (55.2 mg, 57%) as a colorless liquid.

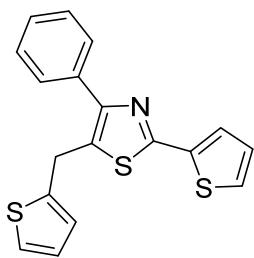
¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.14 (s, 1H), 7.83 (d, *J* = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 7.66 (d, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 7.53 – 7.36 (m, 6H), 7.27 (t, *J* = 8.1 Hz, 1H), 7.21 – 7.12 (m, 2H), 4.26 (s, 2H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 163.6, 153.2, 142.1, 135.5, 134.5, 132.7, 132.6, 131.4, 130.3, 130.1, 129.1, 128.7, 128.6, 128.2, 128.0, 127.0, 125.0, 123.0, 122.9, 32.8. IR spectrum ($\nu_{\text{max}}(\text{KBr})/\text{cm}^{-1}$) 3060, 2927, 1591, 1477, 1240, 1070, 993, 773, 698. HRMS (ESI) m/z calcd for C₂₂H₁₆Br₂NS⁺ (M+H)⁺ 483.9365, found 483.9370.



4-Phenyl-2-(thiophen-3-yl)-5-(thiophen-3-ylmethyl)thiazole (3ad)

The general procedure A was followed using acetophenone (**1a**, 24 μ L, 0.2 mmol), thiophene-3-carbaldehyde (**2o**, 54 μ L, 0.6 mmol), NH₄I (58 mg, 0.4 mmol) and S₈ (12.8 mg, 0.4 mmol). Purification by column chromatography on silica gel (petroleum ether/EtOAc: 200/1) yielded **3ad** (30.5 mg, 45%) as a brown solid. mp: 104–105 °C.

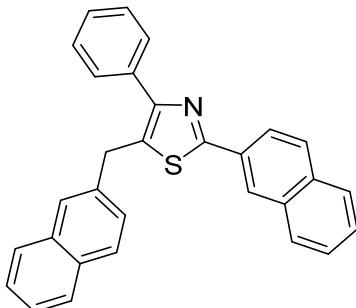
¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.82 (dd, *J* = 2.8, 0.9 Hz, 1H), 7.67 (d, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 7.56 (dd, *J* = 5.0, 1.1 Hz, 1H), 7.47 – 7.42 (m, 2H), 7.39 – 7.34 (m, 2H), 7.32 – 7.29 (m, 1H), 7.07 – 7.03 (m, 1H), 6.97 (dd, *J* = 5.0, 1.2 Hz, 1H), 4.27 (s, 2H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 160.2, 151.9, 140.3, 135.9, 134.8, 131.8, 128.7, 128.5, 128.0, 127.8, 126.5, 126.2, 126.2, 123.5, 121.7, 28.1. IR spectrum ($\nu_{\text{max}}(\text{KBr})/\text{cm}^{-1}$) 3089, 1481, 1248, 860, 781, 696, 648. HRMS (ESI) m/z calcd for C₁₈H₁₄NS₃⁺ (M+H)⁺ 340.0283, found 340.0287.



4-Phenyl-2-(thiophen-2-yl)-5-(thiophen-2-ylmethyl)thiazole (3ae)

The general procedure A was followed using acetophenone (**1a**, 24 μ L, 0.2 mmol), thiophene-2-carbaldehyde (**2p**, 57 μ L, 0.6 mmol), NH₄I (58 mg, 0.4 mmol) and S₈ (12.8 mg, 0.4 mmol). Purification by column chromatography on silica gel (petroleum ether/EtOAc: 200/1) yielded **3ae** (24.4 mg, 36%) as a brown solid. mp: 122-123 °C.

¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.71 – 7.66 (m, 2H), 7.47 – 7.41 (m, 3H), 7.40 – 7.34 (m, 2H), 7.20 (dd, *J* = 5.1, 1.0 Hz, 1H), 7.06 – 7.02 (m, 1H), 6.98 – 6.94 (m, 1H), 6.90 (d, *J* = 2.5 Hz, 1H), 4.42 (s, 2H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 159.1, 152.0, 142.6, 137.4, 134.4, 131.6, 128.8, 128.5, 128.1, 127.7, 127.5, 127.0, 126.4, 125.5, 124.5, 27.7. IR spectrum ($\nu_{\text{max}}(\text{KBr})/\text{cm}^{-1}$) 3077, 2925, 1483, 1413, 1259, 843, 775, 708. HRMS (ESI) m/z calcd for C₁₈H₁₄NS₃⁺ (M+H)⁺ 340.0283, found 340.0289.

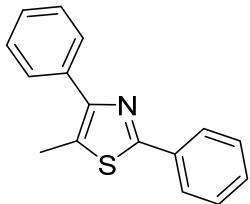


2-(Naphthalen-2-yl)-5-(naphthalen-2-ylmethyl)-4-phenylthiazole (3af)

The general procedure A was followed using acetophenone (**1a**, 24 μ L, 0.2 mmol), 2-naphthaldehyde (**2q**, 94 mg, 0.6 mmol), NH₄I (58 mg, 0.4 mmol) and S₈ (12.8 mg, 0.4 mmol). Purification by column chromatography on silica gel (petroleum ether/EtOAc: 200/1) yielded **3af** (64.1 mg, 75%) as a white solid. mp: 145-146 °C.

¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.41 (d, *J* = 0.8 Hz, 1H), 8.07 (dd, *J* = 8.6, 1.7 Hz, 1H), 7.88 – 7.77 (m, 8H), 7.70 (s, 1H), 7.50 – 7.44 (m, 6H), 7.41 – 7.22 (m, 2H), 4.48 (s, 2H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz,

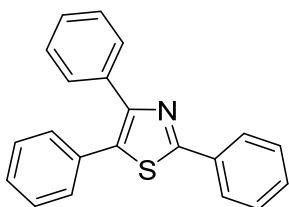
CDCl_3) δ 165.4, 152.8, 137.6, 134.9, 134.0, 133.6, 133.3, 133.2, 132.4, 131.1, 128.8, 128.6, 128.5, 128.0, 127.8, 127.7, 127.7, 126.8, 126.7, 126.6, 126.3, 125.8, 125.7, 123.9, 33.5. IR spectrum ($\nu_{\text{max}}(\text{KBr})/\text{cm}^{-1}$) 3055, 1595, 1493, 856, 812, 748, 698, 472. HRMS (ESI) m/z calcd for $\text{C}_{30}\text{H}_{22}\text{NS}^+ (\text{M}+\text{H})^+$ 428.1468, found 428.1466.



5-Methyl-2,4-diphenylthiazole (4a)

The general procedure B was followed using propiophenone (**1q**, 27 μL , 0.2 mmol), benzaldehyde (**2a**, 30 μL , 0.3 mmol), NH_4I (58 mg, 0.4 mmol) and S_8 (12.8 mg, 0.4 mmol). Purification by column chromatography on silica gel (petroleum ether/EtOAc: 200/1) yielded **4a** (25.1 mg, 50%) as a yellow liquid.

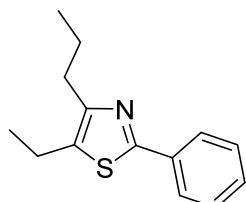
^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 7.98 (dd, $J = 8.1, 1.8 \text{ Hz}$, 2H), 7.76 – 7.69 (m, 2H), 7.49 – 7.38 (m, 6H), 2.61 (s, 3H). ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 187.1, 163.8, 151.8, 134.8, 133.6, 129.7, 128.8, 128.7, 128.4, 127.7, 126.4, 12.8. IR spectrum ($\nu_{\text{max}}(\text{KBr})/\text{cm}^{-1}$) 3060, 2925, 1666, 1483, 1248, 764, 698. HRMS (ESI) m/z calcd for $\text{C}_{16}\text{H}_{14}\text{NS}^+ (\text{M}+\text{H})^+$ 252.0842, found 252.0843.



2,4,5-Triphenylthiazole (4b)

The general procedure B was followed using 1,2-diphenylethan-1-one (**1r**, 40 mg, 0.2 mmol), benzaldehyde (**2a**, 30 μL , 0.3 mmol), NH_4I (58 mg, 0.4 mmol) and S_8 (12.8 mg, 0.4 mmol). Purification by column chromatography on silica gel (petroleum ether/EtOAc: 200/1) yielded **4b** (32.6 mg, 52%) as a yellow liquid.

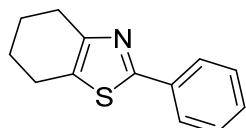
¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.02 (dd, *J* = 7.8, 1.9 Hz, 2H), 7.60 (dd, *J* = 7.8, 2.2 Hz, 2H), 7.48 – 7.42 (m, 3H), 7.41 – 7.37 (m, 2H), 7.35 – 7.28 (m, 6H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 165.5, 150.7, 134.9, 133.6, 133.1, 132.0, 130.0, 129.6, 129.1, 128.9, 128.7, 128.3, 128.2, 127.8, 126.4. IR spectrum ($\nu_{\text{max}}(\text{KBr})/\text{cm}^{-1}$) 3050, 1599, 1477, 978, 764, 692. HRMS (ESI) m/z calcd for C₂₁H₁₆NS⁺ (M+H)⁺ 314.0998, found 314.0998.



5-Ethyl-2-phenyl-4-propylthiazole (4c)

The general procedure B was followed using heptan-4-one (**1s**, 28 μL, 0.2 mmol), benzaldehyde (**2a**, 30 μL, 0.3 mmol), NH₄I (58 mg, 0.4 mmol) and S₈ (12.8 mg, 0.4 mmol). Purification by column chromatography on silica gel (petroleum ether/EtOAc: 200/1) yielded **4c** (22.7 mg, 49%) as a yellow liquid.

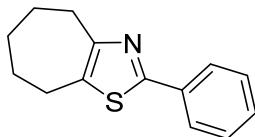
¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.93 – 7.86 (m, 2H), 7.41 – 7.36 (m, 3H), 2.80 (q, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 2H), 2.69 (t, 2H), 1.75 (q, *J* = 15.0, 7.5 Hz, 2H), 1.30 (t, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 3H), 0.98 (t, *J* = 7.4 Hz, 3H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 163.6, 152.7, 134.7, 134.1, 129.3, 128.8, 126.2, 31.1, 23.1, 19.9, 16.7, 13.9. IR spectrum ($\nu_{\text{max}}(\text{KBr})/\text{cm}^{-1}$) 3064, 2960, 1684, 1458, 760, 688. HRMS (ESI) m/z calcd for C₁₄H₁₈NS⁺ (M+H)⁺ 232.1155, found 232.1151.



2-Phenyl-4,5,6,7-tetrahydrobenzo[d]thiazole (4d)

The general procedure B was followed using cyclohexanone (**1t**, 21 μL, 0.2 mmol), benzaldehyde (**2a**, 30 μL, 0.3 mmol), NH₄I (58 mg, 0.4 mmol) and S₈ (12.8 mg, 0.4 mmol). Purification by column chromatography on silica gel (petroleum ether/EtOAc: 100/1) yielded **4d** (18.9 mg, 44%) as a yellow liquid.

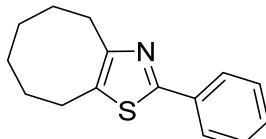
¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.96 – 7.80 (m, 2H), 7.41 – 7.29 (m, 3H), 2.86 – 2.72 (m, 4H), 1.90 – 1.79 (m, 4H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 164.3, 151.2, 133.9, 129.2, 129.0, 128.6, 126.0, 26.7, 23.5, 23.2, 22.8. IR spectrum (v_{max}(KBr)/cm⁻¹) 3062, 2937, 1541, 1458, 974, 760, 688. HRMS (ESI) m/z calcd for C₁₃H₁₄NS⁺ (M+H)⁺ 216.0842, found 216.0846.



2-Phenyl-5,6,7,8-tetrahydro-4H-cyclohepta[d]thiazole (4e)

The general procedure B was followed using cycloheptanone (**1u**, 24 μL, 0.2 mmol), benzaldehyde (**2a**, 30 μL, 0.3 mmol), NH₄I (58 mg, 0.4 mmol) and S₈ (12.8 mg, 0.4 mmol). Purification by column chromatography on silica gel (petroleum ether/EtOAc: 100/1) yielded **4e** (28.9 mg, 63%) as a yellow liquid.

¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.88 – 7.83 (m, 2H), 7.41 – 7.34 (m, 3H), 3.03 – 2.99 (m, 2H), 2.86 – 2.81 (m, 2H), 1.90 – 1.84 (m, 2H), 1.78 – 1.69 (m, 4H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 162.0, 156.4, 133.9, 133.0, 129.2, 128.7, 126.0, 31.9, 31.6, 28.0, 26.6. IR spectrum (v_{max}(KBr)/cm⁻¹) 3062, 2924, 1599, 1537, 1500, 1458, 1234, 760, 688. HRMS (ESI) m/z calcd for C₁₄H₁₆NS⁺ (M+H)⁺ 230.0998, found 230.1001.

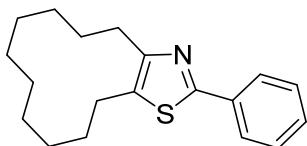


2-Phenyl-4,5,6,7,8,9-hexahydrocycloocta[d]thiazole (4f)

The general procedure B was followed using cyclooctanone (**1v**, 26 mg, 0.2 mmol), benzaldehyde (**2a**, 30 μL, 0.3 mmol), NH₄I (58 mg, 0.4 mmol) and S₈ (12.8 mg, 0.4 mmol). Purification by column chromatography on silica gel (petroleum ether/EtOAc: 100/1) yielded **4f** (33.0 mg, 68%) as a brown solid. mp: 61–62 °C.

¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.92 – 7.84 (m, 2H), 7.43 – 7.34 (m, 3H), 2.95 – 2.87 (m, 4H), 1.80 – 1.69 (m, 4H), 1.49 – 1.42 (m, 4H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 163.5, 154.4, 134.1, 131.6, 129.2, 128.7, 126.1, 31.5, 29.8, 28.3, 26.0, 25.4, 24.7. IR spectrum (v_{max}(KBr)/cm⁻¹) 3062, 2927,

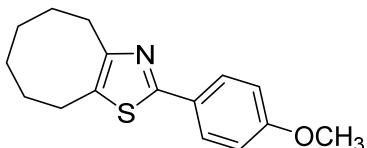
1539, 1458, 1238, 987, 758, 685. HRMS (ESI) m/z calcd for $C_{15}H_{18}NS^+$ ($M+H$)⁺ 244.1155, found 244.1159.



2-Phenyl-4,5,6,7,8,9,10,11,12,13-deahydrocyclododeca[d]thiazole (4g)

The general procedure B was followed using cyclododecanone (**1w**, 37 mg, 0.2 mmol), benzaldehyde (**2a**, 30 μ L, 0.3 mmol), NH₄I (58 mg, 0.4 mmol) and S₈ (12.8 mg, 0.4 mmol). Purification by column chromatography on silica gel (petroleum ether/EtOAc: 100/1) yielded **4g** (38.3 mg, 64%) as a yellow liquid.

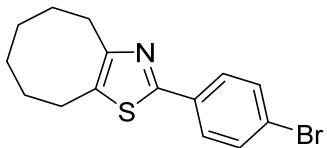
¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.90 (d, J = 6.8 Hz, 2H), 7.43 – 7.33 (m, 3H), 2.82 (t, J = 6.9 Hz, 2H), 2.74 (t, J = 6.7 Hz, 2H), 1.94 – 1.84 (m, 2H), 1.79 – 1.72 (m, 2H), 1.46 – 1.24 (m, 12H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 164.4, 153.4, 134.1, 134.0, 129.4, 128.7, 126.2, 30.1, 27.4, 25.8, 24.8, 24.6, 24.4, 24.1, 23.5, 22.6, 22.2. IR spectrum (ν_{max} (KBr)/cm⁻¹) 2929, 2856, 1664, 1468, 1250, 1051, 760, 687. HRMS (ESI) m/z calcd for $C_{19}H_{26}NS^+$ ($M+H$)⁺ 300.1781, found 300.1788.



2-(4-Methoxyphenyl)-5,6,7,8-tetrahydro-4H-cyclohepta[d]thiazole (4h)

The general procedure B was followed using cyclooctanone (**1v**, 26 mg, 0.2 mmol), 4-methoxybenzaldehyde (**2d**, 38 μ L, 0.3 mmol), NH₄I (58 mg, 0.4 mmol) and S₈ (12.8 mg, 0.4 mmol). Purification by column chromatography on silica gel (petroleum ether/EtOAc: 50/1) yielded **4h** (43.7 mg, 80%) as a white solid. mp: 66–67 °C.

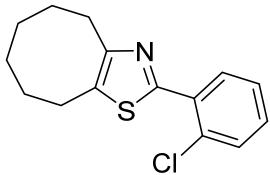
¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.81 (d, J = 8.6 Hz, 2H), 6.91 (d, J = 8.6 Hz, 2H), 3.83 (s, 3H), 2.93 – 2.84 (m, 4H), 1.73 (d, J = 24.6 Hz, 4H), 1.49 – 1.41 (m, 4H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 163.4, 160.5, 154.0, 130.5, 127.5, 127.1, 114.0, 55.3, 31.4, 29.8, 28.2, 26.0, 25.4, 24.6. IR spectrum (ν_{max} (KBr)/cm⁻¹) 2927, 1608, 1517, 1450, 1248, 1026, 820, 594. HRMS (ESI) m/z calcd for $C_{16}H_{20}NOS^+$ ($M+H$)⁺ 274.1260, found 274.1263.



2-(4-Bromophenyl)-5,6,7,8-tetrahydro-4H-cyclohepta[d]thiazole (4i)

The general procedure B was followed using cyclooctanone (**1v**, 26 mg, 0.2 mmol), 4-bromobenzaldehyde (**2g**, 56 mg, 0.3 mmol), NH₄I (58 mg, 0.4 mmol) and S₈ (12.8 mg, 0.4 mmol). Purification by column chromatography on silica gel (petroleum ether/EtOAc: 100/1) yielded **4i** (38.0 mg, 59%) as a yellow solid. mp: 89-90 °C.

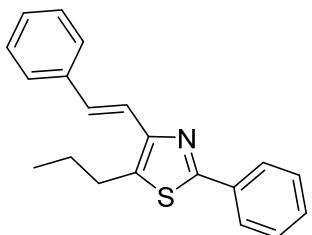
¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.74 (d, *J* = 8.2 Hz, 2H), 7.52 (d, *J* = 8.2 Hz, 2H), 2.95 – 2.86 (m, 4H), 1.74 (d, *J* = 19.7 Hz, 4H), 1.49 – 1.41 (m, 4H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 162.1, 154.7, 133.0, 132.2, 131.9, 127.5, 123.3, 31.4, 29.8, 28.3, 26.0, 25.4, 24.7. IR spectrum (ν_{max}(KBr)/cm⁻¹) 2920, 1537, 1493, 1440, 1240, 1068, 987, 829. HRMS (ESI) m/z calcd for C₁₅H₁₇BrNS⁺ (M+H)⁺ 322.0260, found 322.0259.



2-(2-Chlorophenyl)-5,6,7,8-tetrahydro-4H-cyclohepta[d]thiazole (4j)

The general procedure B was followed using cycloheptanone (**1v**, 26 mg, 0.2 mmol), 2-chlorobenzaldehyde (**2j**, 35 μL, 0.4 mmol), NH₄I (58 mg, 0.4 mmol) and S₈ (12.8 mg, 0.4 mmol). Purification by column chromatography on silica gel (petroleum ether/EtOAc: 100/1) yielded **4j** (36.1 mg, 65%) as a brown liquid.

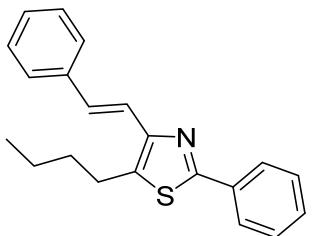
¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.18 (d, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.45 (d, *J* = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 7.35 – 7.25 (m, 2H), 2.97 – 2.91 (m, 4H), 1.80 – 1.71 (m, 4H), 1.49 – 1.42 (m, 4H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 158.6, 153.2, 133.7, 132.4, 131.5, 130.5, 129.5, 126.9, 31.5, 29.8, 28.1, 25.9, 25.4, 24.5. IR spectrum (ν_{max}(KBr)/cm⁻¹) 3066, 2929, 1703, 1539, 1479, 1271, 1065, 985, 754. HRMS (ESI) m/z calcd for C₁₅H₁₇ClNS⁺ (M+H)⁺ 278.0765, found 278.0767.



(E)-2-Phenyl-5-propyl-4-styrylthiazole (5a)

The general procedure C was followed using hexan-2-one (**1x**, 26 μ L, 0.2 mmol), benzaldehyde (**2a**, 61 μ L, 0.6 mmol), NH₄I (58 mg, 0.4 mmol) and S₈ (25.6 mg, 0.8 mmol). Purification by column chromatography on silica gel (petroleum ether/DCM: 4/3) yielded **5a** (31.1 mg, 51%) as a yellow liquid.

¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.99 (dd, *J* = 8.1, 1.6 Hz, 2H), 7.64 (d, *J* = 15.7 Hz, 1H), 7.57 (d, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 2H), 7.45 – 7.34 (m, 5H), 7.29 – 7.24 (m, 1H), 7.08 (d, *J* = 15.7 Hz, 1H), 2.91 (t, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 2H), 1.80 – 1.70 (m, 2H), 1.04 (t, *J* = 7.3 Hz, 3H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 164.4, 149.6, 137.6, 135.5, 133.8, 131.1, 129.8, 128.8, 128.6, 127.6, 126.6, 126.5, 119.1, 28.2, 25.2, 13.7. IR spectrum ($\nu_{\text{max}}(\text{KBr})/\text{cm}^{-1}$) 3061, 2962, 2871, 1470, 960, 756, 692. HRMS (ESI) m/z calcd for C₂₀H₂₀NS⁺ (M+H)⁺ 306.1311, found 306.1314.

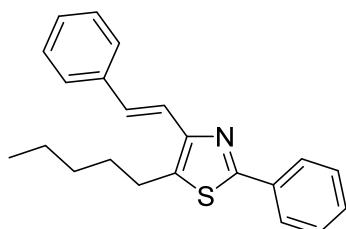


(E)-5-Butyl-2-phenyl-4-styrylthiazole (5b)

The general procedure C was followed using heptan-2-one (**1y**, 29 μ L, 0.2 mmol), benzaldehyde (**2a**, 61 μ L, 0.6 mmol), NH₄I (58 mg, 0.4 mmol) and S₈ (25.6 mg, 0.8 mmol). Purification by column chromatography on silica gel (petroleum ether/DCM: 4/3) yielded **5b** (35.7 mg, 56%) as a yellow liquid.

¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.99 (dd, *J* = 7.9, 1.5 Hz, 2H), 7.64 (d, *J* = 15.7 Hz, 1H), 7.57 (d, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 7.46 – 7.34 (m, 5H), 7.29 – 7.24 (m, 1H), 7.08 (d, *J* = 15.7 Hz, 1H), 2.94 (t, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 1.75 – 1.66 (m, 2H), 1.51 – 1.40 (m, 2H), 0.97 (t, *J* = 7.3 Hz, 3H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 164.4, 149.5, 137.5, 135.8, 133.8, 131.1, 129.8, 128.8, 128.6, 127.6, 126.6, 126.5, 119.1,

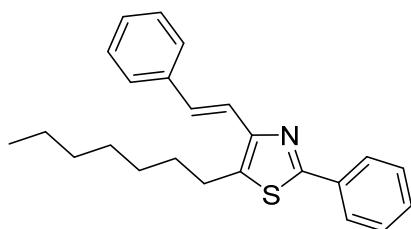
34.0, 25.9, 22.2, 13.8. IR spectrum ($\nu_{\text{max}}(\text{KBr})/\text{cm}^{-1}$) 3059, 2954, 1466, 1250, 960, 754, 692. HRMS (ESI) m/z calcd for $\text{C}_{21}\text{H}_{22}\text{NS}^+$ ($\text{M}+\text{H}$)⁺ 320.1468, found 320.1466.



(E)-5-Pentyl-2-phenyl-4-styrylthiazole (5c)

The general procedure C was followed using octan-2-one (**1z**, 32 μL , 0.2 mmol), benzaldehyde (**2a**, 61 μL , 0.6 mmol), NH_4I (58 mg, 0.4 mmol) and S_8 (25.6 mg, 0.8 mmol). Purification by column chromatography on silica gel (petroleum ether/DCM: 4/3) yielded **5c** (34.0 mg, 51%) as a yellow liquid.

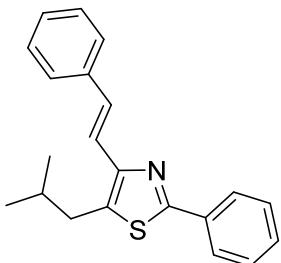
¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 7.99 (dd, $J = 8.0, 1.5$ Hz, 2H), 7.64 (d, $J = 15.7$ Hz, 1H), 7.57 (d, $J = 7.6$ Hz, 2H), 7.45 – 7.34 (m, 5H), 7.29 – 7.24 (m, 1H), 7.08 (d, $J = 15.7$ Hz, 1H), 2.93 (t, $J = 7.6$ Hz, 2H), 1.76 – 1.68 (m, 2H), 1.44 – 1.34 (m, 4H), 0.92 (t, $J = 6.9$ Hz, 3H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 164.3, 149.5, 137.6, 135.9, 133.8, 131.0, 129.8, 128.8, 128.6, 127.6, 126.6, 126.5, 119.1, 31.6, 31.3, 26.2, 22.4, 14.0. IR spectrum ($\nu_{\text{max}}(\text{KBr})/\text{cm}^{-1}$) 3062, 2926, 1470, 960, 754, 692. HRMS (ESI) m/z calcd for $\text{C}_{22}\text{H}_{24}\text{NS}^+$ ($\text{M}+\text{H}$)⁺ 334.1624, found 334.1621.



(E)-5-Heptyl-2-phenyl-4-styrylthiazole (5d)

The general procedure C was followed using decan-2-one (**1aa**, 39 μL , 0.2 mmol), benzaldehyde (**2a**, 61 μL , 0.6 mmol), NH_4I (58 mg, 0.4 mmol) and S_8 (25.6 mg, 0.8 mmol). Purification by column chromatography on silica gel (petroleum ether/DCM: 4/3) yielded **5d** (43.3 mg, 60%) as a yellow liquid.

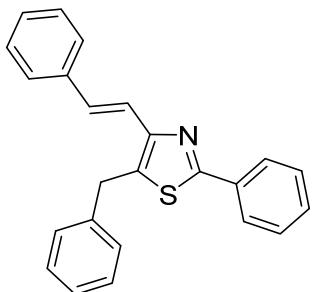
¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.98 (dd, *J* = 8.0, 1.6 Hz, 2H), 7.64 (d, *J* = 15.7 Hz, 1H), 7.57 (d, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 7.45 – 7.34 (m, 5H), 7.29 – 7.24 (m, 1H), 7.07 (d, *J* = 15.7 Hz, 1H), 2.92 (t, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 1.76 – 1.66 (m, 2H), 1.42 – 1.26 (m, 8H), 0.88 (t, *J* = 6.7 Hz, 3H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 164.3, 149.5, 137.6, 135.9, 133.8, 131.0, 129.8, 128.8, 128.6, 127.6, 126.6, 126.5, 119.1, 31.9, 31.7, 29.1, 29.0, 26.2, 22.6, 14.1. IR spectrum ($\nu_{\text{max}}(\text{KBr})/\text{cm}^{-1}$) 3062, 2927, 1500, 1460, 960, 754, 688. HRMS (ESI) m/z calcd for C₂₄H₂₈NS⁺ (M+H)⁺ 362.1937, found 362.1938.



(E)-5-Isobutyl-2-phenyl-4-styrylthiazole (5e)

The general procedure C was followed using 5-methylhexan-2-one (**1ab**, 29 μL, 0.2 mmol), benzaldehyde (**2a**, 61 μL, 0.6 mmol), NH₄I (58 mg, 0.4 mmol) and S₈ (25.6 mg, 0.8 mmol). Purification by column chromatography on silica gel (petroleum ether/DCM: 4/3) yielded **5e** (35.7 mg, 56%) as a yellow liquid.

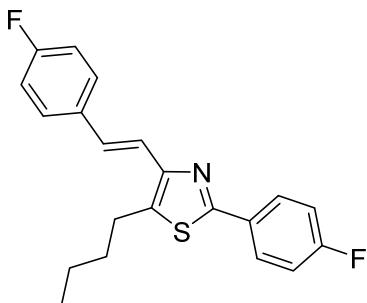
¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.99 (d, *J* = 7.3 Hz, 2H), 7.65 (d, *J* = 15.7 Hz, 1H), 7.56 (d, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 7.46 – 7.40 (m, 3H), 7.37 (t, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 7.29 – 7.24 (m, 1H), 7.07 (d, *J* = 15.7 Hz, 1H), 2.80 (d, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 2.01 – 1.90 (m, 1H), 1.02 (d, *J* = 6.6 Hz, 6H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 164.6, 150.2, 137.6, 134.4, 133.8, 131.0, 129.8, 128.8, 128.6, 127.6, 126.6, 126.4, 119.3, 35.2, 31.2, 22.3. IR spectrum ($\nu_{\text{max}}(\text{KBr})/\text{cm}^{-1}$) 3062, 2958, 1693, 1466, 962, 760, 692. HRMS (ESI) m/z calcd for C₂₁H₂₂NS⁺ (M+H)⁺ 320.1468, found 320.1469.



(E)-5-Benzyl-2-phenyl-4-styrylthiazole (5f)

The general procedure C was followed using 4-phenylbutan-2-one (**1ac**, 32 μ L, 0.2 mmol), benzaldehyde (**2a**, 61 μ L, 0.6 mmol), NH₄I (58 mg, 0.4 mmol) and S₈ (25.6 mg, 0.8 mmol). Purification by column chromatography on silica gel (petroleum ether/DCM: 4/3) yielded **5f** (41.0 mg, 58%) as a yellow solid. mp: 114–115 °C.

¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.01 – 7.94 (m, 2H), 7.70 (d, *J* = 15.7 Hz, 1H), 7.56 (d, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 7.44 – 7.31 (m, 7H), 7.30 – 7.25 (m, 4H), 7.17 (d, *J* = 15.7 Hz, 1H), 4.28 (s, 2H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 165.5, 149.9, 139.4, 137.3, 133.8, 133.4, 132.1, 130.1, 128.8, 128.8, 128.7, 128.4, 127.8, 126.9, 126.7, 126.5, 118.7, 32.2. IR spectrum ($\nu_{\text{max}}(\text{KBr})/\text{cm}^{-1}$) 3028, 1599, 1470, 960, 760, 706. HRMS (ESI) m/z calcd for C₂₄H₂₀NS⁺ (M+H)⁺ 354.1311, found 354.1315.

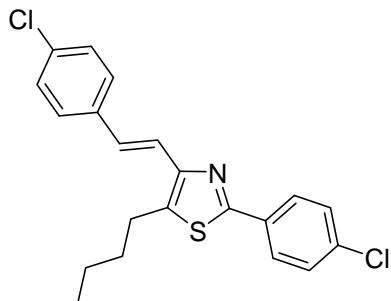


(E)-5-Butyl-2-(4-fluorophenyl)-4-(4-fluorostyryl)thiazole (5g)

The general procedure C was followed using heptan-2-one (**1y**, 29 μ L, 0.2 mmol), 4-fluorobenzaldehyde (**2e**, 66 μ L, 0.6 mmol), NH₄I (58 mg, 0.4 mmol) and S₈ (25.6 mg, 0.8 mmol). Purification by column chromatography on silica gel (petroleum ether/DCM: 4/3) yielded **5g** (36.9 mg, 52%) as a yellow solid. mp: 57–58 °C.

¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.02 – 7.92 (m, 2H), 7.62 – 7.49 (m, 3H), 7.13 (t, *J* = 8.5 Hz, 2H), 7.06 (t, *J* = 8.5 Hz, 2H), 6.98 (d, *J* = 15.7 Hz, 1H), 2.92 (t, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 2H), 1.74 – 1.66 (m, 2H), 1.49 – 1.42 (m, 2H), 0.97 (t, *J* = 7.3 Hz, 3H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 163.8 (d, *J* = 248.6 Hz), 163.2, 162.4 (d, *J* = 245.9 Hz), 149.2, 135.7, 133.6 (d, *J* = 3.3 Hz), 130.0 (d, *J* = 3.1 Hz), 129.9, 128.3 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz), 128.1 (d, *J* = 7.9 Hz), 118.7 (d, *J* = 2.1 Hz), 115.9 (d, *J* = 21.9 Hz), 115.6 (d, *J* = 21.5 Hz), 34.0, 25.9, 22.2, 13.8. IR spectrum ($\nu_{\text{max}}(\text{KBr})/\text{cm}^{-1}$) 3039, 2956, 1599,

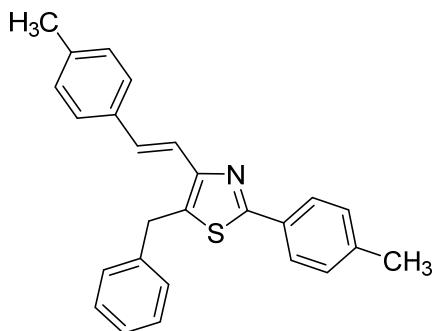
1512, 1230, 1155, 827, 494. HRMS (ESI) m/z calcd for $C_{21}H_{20}F_2NS^+$ ($M+H$)⁺ 356.1279, found 356.1287.



(E)-5-Butyl-2-(4-chlorophenyl)-4-(4-chlorostyryl)thiazole (5h)

The general procedure C was followed using heptan-2-one (**1y**, 29 μ L, 0.2 mmol), 4-chlorobenzaldehyde (**2f**, 86 mg, 0.6 mmol), NH₄I (58 mg, 0.4 mmol) and S₈ (25.6 mg, 0.8 mmol). Purification by column chromatography on silica gel (petroleum ether/DCM: 4/3) yielded **5h** (48.9 mg, 63%) as a yellow solid. mp: 53–54 °C.

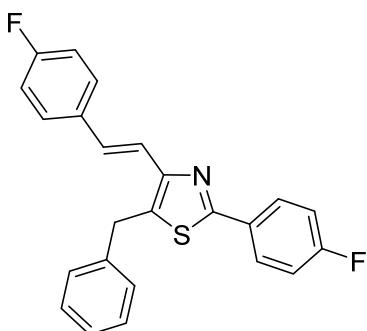
¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.91 (d, J = 8.3 Hz, 2H), 7.56 (d, J = 15.7 Hz, 1H), 7.48 (d, J = 8.2 Hz, 2H), 7.41 (d, J = 8.3 Hz, 2H), 7.33 (d, J = 8.3 Hz, 2H), 7.02 (d, J = 15.7 Hz, 1H), 2.92 (t, J = 7.5 Hz, 2H), 1.73 – 1.65 (m, 2H), 1.48 – 1.41 (m, 2H), 0.97 (t, J = 7.3 Hz, 3H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 163.0, 149.3, 136.6, 135.8, 135.7, 133.2, 132.1, 129.8, 129.0, 128.8, 127.8, 127.6, 119.3, 34.0, 25.9, 22.2, 13.8. IR spectrum ($\nu_{\text{max}}(\text{KBr})/\text{cm}^{-1}$) 3045, 2929, 1593, 1490, 1462, 1090, 833. HRMS (ESI) m/z calcd for $C_{21}H_{20}Cl_2NS^+$ ($M+H$)⁺ 388.0688, found 388.0691.



(E)-5-Benzyl-4-(4-methylstyryl)-2-(p-tolyl)thiazole (5i)

The general procedure C was followed using 4-phenylbutan-2-one (**1ac**, 32 μ L, 0.2 mmol), 4-methylbenzaldehyde (**2b**, 73 μ L, 0.6 mmol), NH₄I (58 mg, 0.4 mmol) and S₈ (25.6 mg, 0.8 mmol). Purification by column chromatography on silica gel (petroleum ether/DCM: 4/3) yielded **5i** (30.5 mg, 40%) as a yellow solid. mp: 153–154 °C.

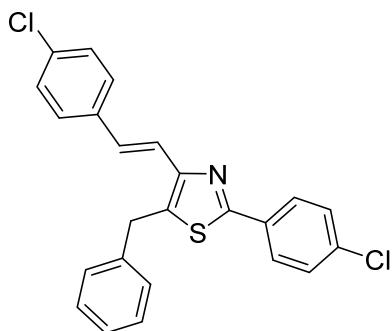
¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.84 (d, *J* = 7.9 Hz, 2H), 7.65 (d, *J* = 15.7 Hz, 1H), 7.45 (d, *J* = 7.9 Hz, 2H), 7.35 – 7.30 (m, 2H), 7.28 – 7.16 (m, 7H), 7.11 (d, *J* = 15.7 Hz, 1H), 4.25 (s, 2H), 2.37 (d, *J* = 7.0 Hz, 6H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 165.5, 150.0, 140.1, 139.6, 137.6, 134.5, 132.8, 131.7, 130.9, 129.5, 129.4, 128.7, 128.4, 126.8, 126.6, 126.3, 117.9, 32.1, 21.4, 21.3. IR spectrum ($\nu_{\text{max}}(\text{KBr})/\text{cm}^{-1}$) 3020, 1600, 1520, 1468, 970, 800, 702, 584. HRMS (ESI) m/z calcd for C₂₆H₂₄NS⁺ (M+H)⁺ 382.1624, found 382.1630.



(E)-5-Benzyl-2-(4-fluorophenyl)-4-(4-fluorostyryl)thiazole (5j)

The general procedure C was followed using 4-phenylbutan-2-one (**1ac**, 32 μ L, 0.2 mmol), 4-fluorobenzaldehyde (**2e**, 66 μ L, 0.6 mmol), NH₄I (58 mg, 0.4 mmol) and S₈ (25.6 mg, 0.8 mmol). Purification by column chromatography on silica gel (petroleum ether/DCM: 4/3) yielded **5j** (28.8 mg, 37%) as a yellow solid. mp: 137–138 °C.

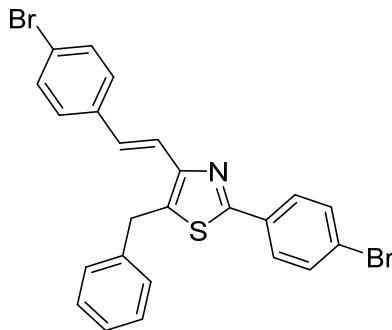
¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.99 – 7.90 (m, 2H), 7.63 (d, *J* = 15.7 Hz, 1H), 7.54 – 7.47 (m, 2H), 7.36 – 7.32 (m, 2H), 7.26 (d, *J* = 7.0 Hz, 3H), 7.14 – 7.03 (m, 5H), 4.26 (s, 2H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 164.3, 163.9 (d, *J* = 248.9 Hz), 162.5 (d, *J* = 246.0 Hz), 149.8, 139.3, 133.7, 133.4 (d, *J* = 3.3 Hz), 130.8, 129.8 (d, *J* = 3.0 Hz), 128.8, 128.4, 128.3, 128.2 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz), 127.0, 118.4 (d, *J* = 2.1 Hz), 115.9 (d, *J* = 21.9 Hz), 115.6 (d, *J* = 21.5 Hz), 32.1. IR spectrum ($\nu_{\text{max}}(\text{KBr})/\text{cm}^{-1}$) 3023, 1599, 1514, 1225, 965, 835, 694, 581, 497. HRMS (ESI) m/z calcd for C₂₄H₁₈F₂NS⁺ (M+H)⁺ 390.1123, found 390.1124.



(E)-5-Benzyl-2-(4-chlorophenyl)-4-(4-chlorostyryl)thiazole (5k)

The general procedure C was followed using 4-phenylbutan-2-one (**1ac**, 32 μ L, 0.2 mmol), 4-chlorobenzaldehyde (**2f**, 86 mg, 0.6 mmol), NH₄I (58 mg, 0.4 mmol) and S₈ (25.6 mg, 0.8 mmol). Purification by column chromatography on silica gel (petroleum ether/DCM: 4/3) yielded **5k** (44.7 mg, 53%) as a yellow solid. mp: 156-157 °C.

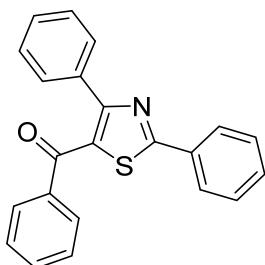
¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.87 (d, *J* = 8.2 Hz, 2H), 7.61 (d, *J* = 15.7 Hz, 1H), 7.46 (d, *J* = 8.2 Hz, 2H), 7.38 (d, *J* = 8.2 Hz, 2H), 7.32 (d, *J* = 7.9 Hz, 4H), 7.25 (d, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 3H), 7.09 (d, *J* = 15.7 Hz, 1H), 4.25 (s, 2H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 164.09, 149.9, 139.2, 135.9, 135.7, 134.5, 133.4, 132.0, 130.7, 129.0, 128.8, 128.7, 128.3, 127.8, 127.6, 127.0, 119.1, 32.1. IR spectrum ($\nu_{\text{max}}(\text{KBr})/\text{cm}^{-1}$) 3027, 1489, 1093, 1007, 966, 831, 808, 696. HRMS (ESI) m/z calcd for C₂₄H₁₈Cl₂NS⁺ (M+H)⁺ 422.0532, found 422.0530.



(E)-5-Benzyl-2-(4-bromophenyl)-4-(4-bromostyryl)thiazole (5l)

The general procedure C was followed using 4-phenylbutan-2-one (**1ac**, 32 μ L, 0.2 mmol), 4-bromobenzaldehyde (**2g**, 112 mg, 0.6 mmol), NH₄I (58 mg, 0.4 mmol) and S₈ (25.6 mg, 0.8 mmol). Purification by column chromatography on silica gel (petroleum ether/DCM: 4/3) yielded **5l** (42.9 mg, 42%) as a yellow solid. mp: 126-127 °C.

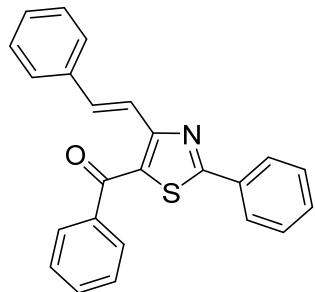
¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.84 (dd, *J* = 8.6, 1.8 Hz, 2H), 7.62 (d, *J* = 15.7 Hz, 1H), 7.56 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 7.49 (d, *J* = 8.5 Hz, 2H), 7.41 (d, *J* = 8.5 Hz, 2H), 7.36 – 7.32 (m, 2H), 7.29 – 7.25 (m, 4H), 7.13 (dd, *J* = 15.8, 1.6 Hz, 1H), 4.27 (s, 2H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 164.4, 149.7, 139.1, 136.1, 134.7, 132.1, 131.9, 131.2, 131.2, 128.9, 128.4, 128.3, 128.0, 127.1, 124.6, 121.7, 119.0, 32.4. IR spectrum ($\nu_{\text{max}}(\text{KBr})/\text{cm}^{-1}$) 3026, 1485, 1392, 1070, 966, 808, 698. HRMS (ESI) m/z calcd for C₂₄H₁₈Br₂NS⁺ (M+H)⁺ 509.9521, found 509.9522.



(2,4-Diphenylthiazol-5-yl)(phenyl)methanone (6a)

The mixture of 5-benzyl-2,4-diphenylthiazole (65.4 mg, 0.2 mmol), CuI (19.2 mg, 50 mol%), AcOH (40 μL, 3.5 equiv), TBHP (168 μL, 6 equiv) and DMSO (1.0 mL) was stirred at 100 °C under air for 12 h. Purification by column chromatography on silica gel (petroleum ether/EtOAc: 100/1) yielded **6a** (49.8 mg, 73%) as a yellow liquid.

¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.15 – 8.04 (m, 2H), 7.69 (d, *J* = 7.9 Hz, 2H), 7.57 – 7.47 (m, 5H), 7.40 (t, *J* = 7.3 Hz, 1H), 7.27 – 7.18 (m, 5H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 189.5, 170.0, 158.7, 137.0, 134.1, 132.9, 132.8, 131.4, 131.1, 129.7, 129.7, 129.1, 128.8, 128.1, 128.0, 127.0. IR spectrum ($\nu_{\text{max}}(\text{KBr})/\text{cm}^{-1}$) 3064, 1736, 1637, 1475, 1335, 1257, 764, 690. HRMS (ESI) m/z calcd for C₂₂H₁₆NOS⁺ (M+H)⁺ 342.0947, found 342.0949.



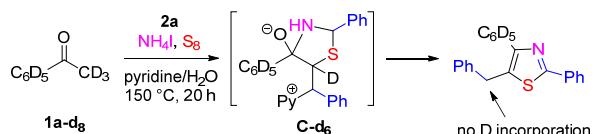
(E)-Phenyl(2-phenyl-4-styrylthiazol-5-yl)methanone (6b)

The mixture of (*E*)-5-benzyl-2-phenyl-4-styrylthiazole (70.6 mg, 0.2 mmol), CuI (19.2 mg, 50 mol%), AcOH (40 μ L, 3.5 equiv), TBHP (168 μ L, 6 equiv) and DMSO (1.0 mL) was stirred at 100 °C under air for 12 h. Purification by column chromatography on silica gel (petroleum ether/DCM: 4/3) yielded **6b** (38.9 mg, 53%) as a yellow liquid.

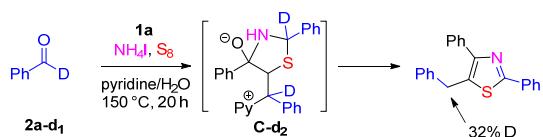
^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 8.12 – 8.05 (m, 2H), 7.96 (d, J = 15.8 Hz, 1H), 7.91 – 7.87 (m, 2H), 7.65 – 7.58 (m, 2H), 7.55 – 7.48 (m, 7H), 7.37 – 7.27 (m, 3H). ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 188.6, 170.3, 158.5, 140.1, 137.1, 136.6, 132.8, 132.8, 131.4, 129.5, 129.1, 129.1, 128.7, 128.7, 128.6, 127.4, 127.2, 121.0. IR spectrum ($\nu_{\text{max}}(\text{KBr})/\text{cm}^{-1}$) 3419, 2975, 1633, 1430, 1050, 758, 693. HRMS (ESI) m/z calcd for $\text{C}_{24}\text{H}_{18}\text{NOS}^+$ ($\text{M}+\text{H}$) $^+$ 368.1104, found 368.1104.

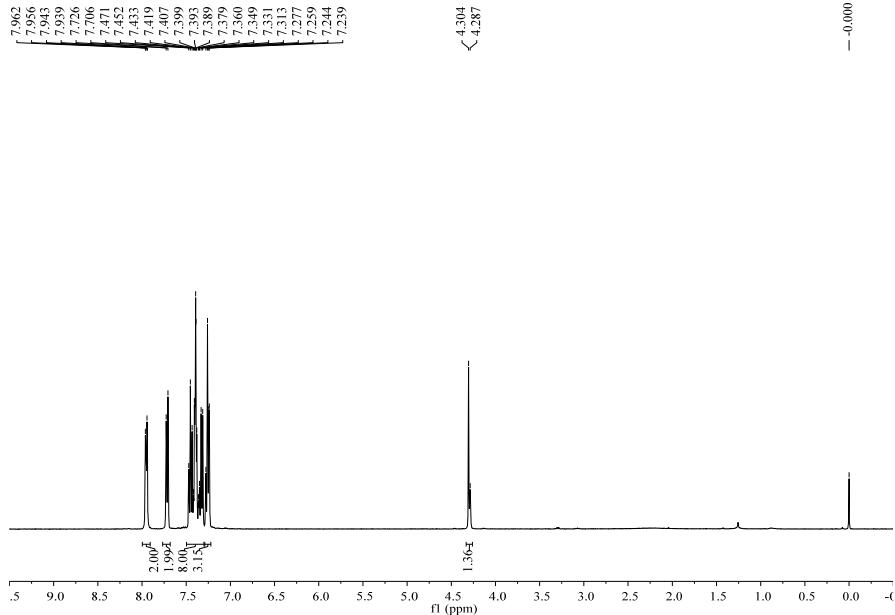
Mechanistic studies

(a) Treatment of ketone **1a-d₈:** A mixture of ketone (**1a-d₈**, 24 μ L, 0.2 mmol), benzaldehyde (**2a**, 61 μ L, 0.6 mmol), NH₄I (58 mg, 0.4 mmol), S₈ (12.8 mg, 0.4 mmol) and H₂O (22 μ L, 6 equiv) in pyridine (0.6 mL) was stirred under ambient air at 150 °C for 20 h. GC-MS analysis of the organic solvent revealed that no benzyl deuterated product formed.

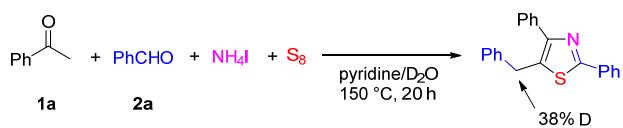


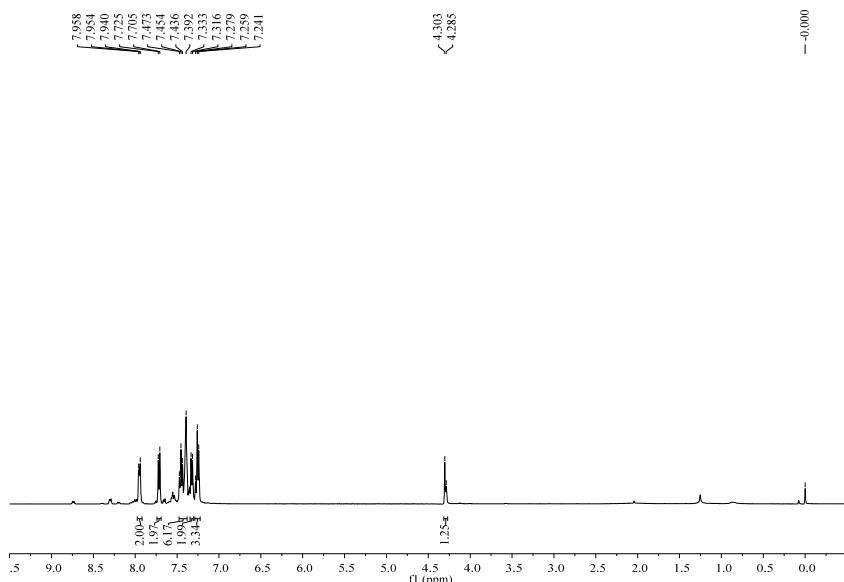
(b) Treatment of aldehyde **2a-d₁:** A mixture of acetophenone (**1a**, 24 μ L, 0.2 mmol), aldehyde (**2a-d₁**, 61 μ L, 0.6 mmol), NH₄I (58 mg, 0.4 mmol), S₈ (12.8 mg, 0.4 mmol) and H₂O (22 μ L, 6 equiv) in pyridine (0.6 mL) was stirred under ambient air at 150 °C for 20 h. After cooling to room temperature, the reaction was diluted with ethyl acetate and water. The organic layer was separated, and the aqueous layer was extracted with ethyl acetate for three times. The combined organic layer was washed with brine and dried over magnesium sulfate and the volatiles were removed under reduced pressure. The residue was purified by column chromatography on silica gel (petroleum ether/EtOAc) to yield the benzene deuterated product. ¹H NMR analysis revealed that the benzyl deuterated product was formed in 32%.





(c) Treatment of D₂O: A mixture of acetophenone (**1a**, 24 μ L, 0.2 mmol), benzaldehyde (**2a**, 61 μ L, 0.6 mmol), NH₄I (58 mg, 0.4 mmol), S₈ (12.8 mg, 0.4 mmol) and D₂O (22 μ L, 6 equiv) in pyridine (0.6 mL) was stirred under ambient air at 150 °C for 20 h. After cooling to room temperature, the reaction was diluted with ethyl acetate and water. The organic layer was separated, and the aqueous layer was extracted with ethyl acetate for three times. The combined organic layer was washed with brine and dried over magnesium sulfate and the volatiles were removed under reduced pressure. The residue was purified by column chromatography on silica gel (petroleum ether/EtOAc) to yield the benzene deuterated product. ¹H NMR analysis revealed that the benzyl deuterated product formed in 38%.

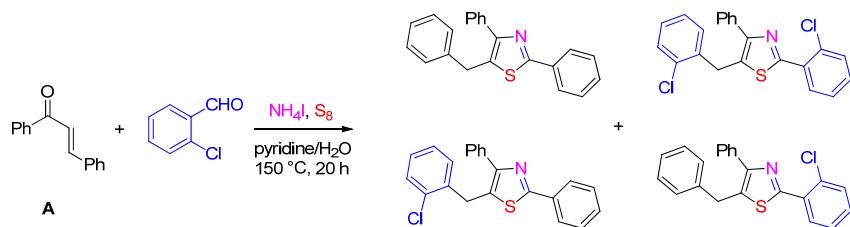




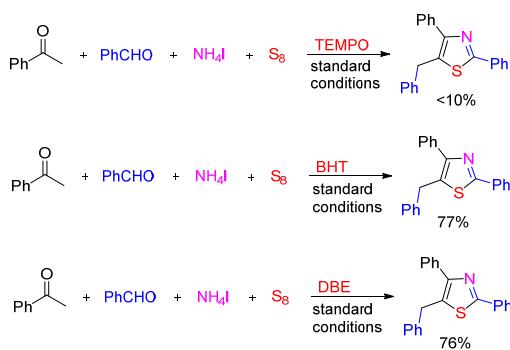
(d) Thiazole formation from (*E*)-chalcone: A mixture of (*E*)-chalcone (43 mg, 0.2 mmol), NH₄I (58 mg, 0.4 mmol), S₈ (12.8 mg, 0.4 mmol) and H₂O (22 μL, 6 equiv) in pyridine (0.6 mL) was stirred under ambient air at 150 °C for 20 h. After cooling to room temperature, the reaction was diluted with ethyl acetate and water. The organic layer was separated, and the aqueous layer was extracted with ethyl acetate for three times. The combined organic layer was washed with brine and dried over magnesium sulfate and the volatiles were removed under reduced pressure. The residue was purified by column chromatography on silica gel (petroleum ether/ EtOAc = 200/1) to yield the product **3a** (17.0 mg, 52%).



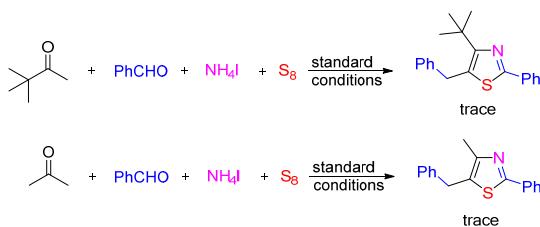
(e) Thiazole formation from (*E*)-chalcone and **2j:** A mixture of (*E*)-chalcone (**1a'**) (43 mg, 0.2 mmol), 2-chlorobenzaldehyde (**2j**) (24 μL, 0.2 mmol), NH₄I (58 mg, 0.4 mmol), S₈ (12.8 mg, 0.4 mmol) and H₂O (22 μL, 6 equiv) in pyridine (0.6 mL) was stirred under ambient air at 150 °C for 20 h. GC-MS analysis of the organic solvent revealed that four thiazole products formed.



(f) Free radical trapping experiment with TEMPO, BHT, and DBE: Three reactions were performed under standard conditions with 2.0 equiv of radical trapping agent. After cooling to room temperature, the reaction was diluted with ethyl acetate and water. The organic layer was separated, and the aqueous layer was extracted with ethyl acetate for three times. The combined organic layer was washed with brine and dried over magnesium sulfate and the volatiles were removed under reduced pressure. The residue was purified by column chromatography on silica gel (petroleum ether/ EtOAc = 200/1). Then the product of each reaction was isolated to provide the following conversions:

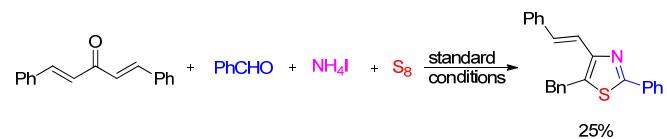


(g) Treatment of the following ketones: A mixture of 3,3-dimethylbutan-2-one (26 μL , 0.2 mmol) / propan-2-one (15 μL , 0.2 mmol), benzaldehyde (**2a**, 61 μL , 0.6 mmol), NH_4I (58 mg, 0.4 mmol), S_8 (12.8 mg, 0.4 mmol) and H_2O (22 μL , 6 equiv) in pyridine (0.6 mL) was stirred under ambient air at 150 °C for 20 h. Then, the mixture was flushed through a short column of silica gel with EtOAc, and the combined organic layer was dried over magnesium sulfate. With dodecane (46 μL , 0.2 mmol) as the internal standard, GC analysis of the organic solvent revealed that trace amounts of both 5-benzyl-4-(*tert*-butyl)-2-phenylthiazole and 5-benzyl-4-methyl-2-phenylthiazole formed.



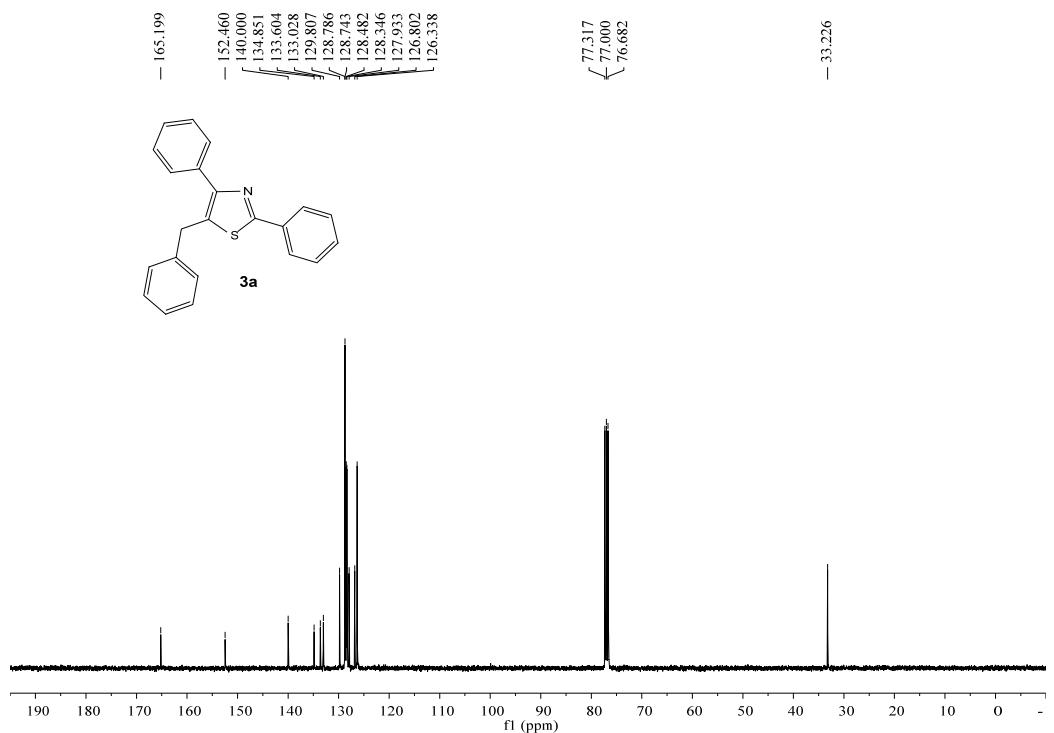
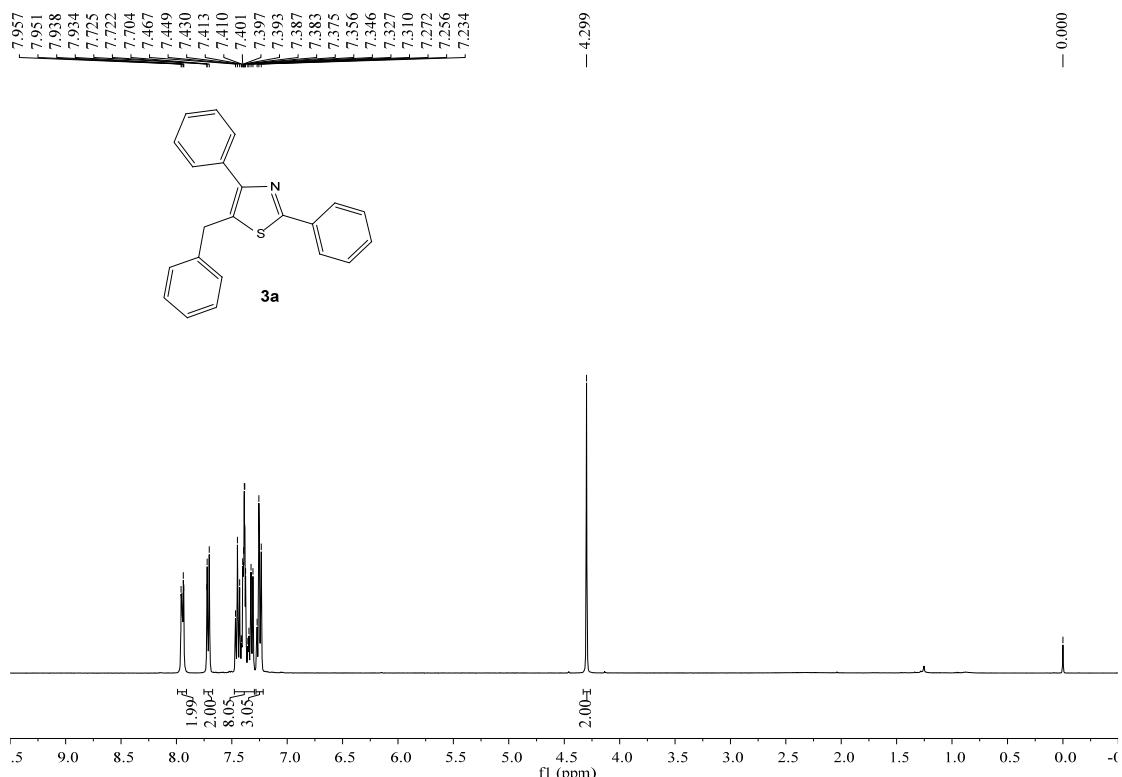
(h) Reaction with dibenzylidene acetone (dba): A mixture of dibenzylidene acetone (48 mg, 0.2 mmol), benzaldehyde (**2a**, 30 μL , 0.3 mmol), NH_4I (58 mg, 0.4 mmol), S_8 (12.8 mg, 0.4 mmol)

and H₂O (22 μL, 6 equiv) in pyridine (0.6 mL) was stirred under ambient air at 150 °C for 20 h. Then, the mixture was flushed through a short column of silica gel with EtOAc, and the combined organic layer was dried over magnesium sulfate. With dodecane (46 μL, 0.2 mmol) as the internal standard, GC-MS analysis revealed that the corresponding product formed in 25%.

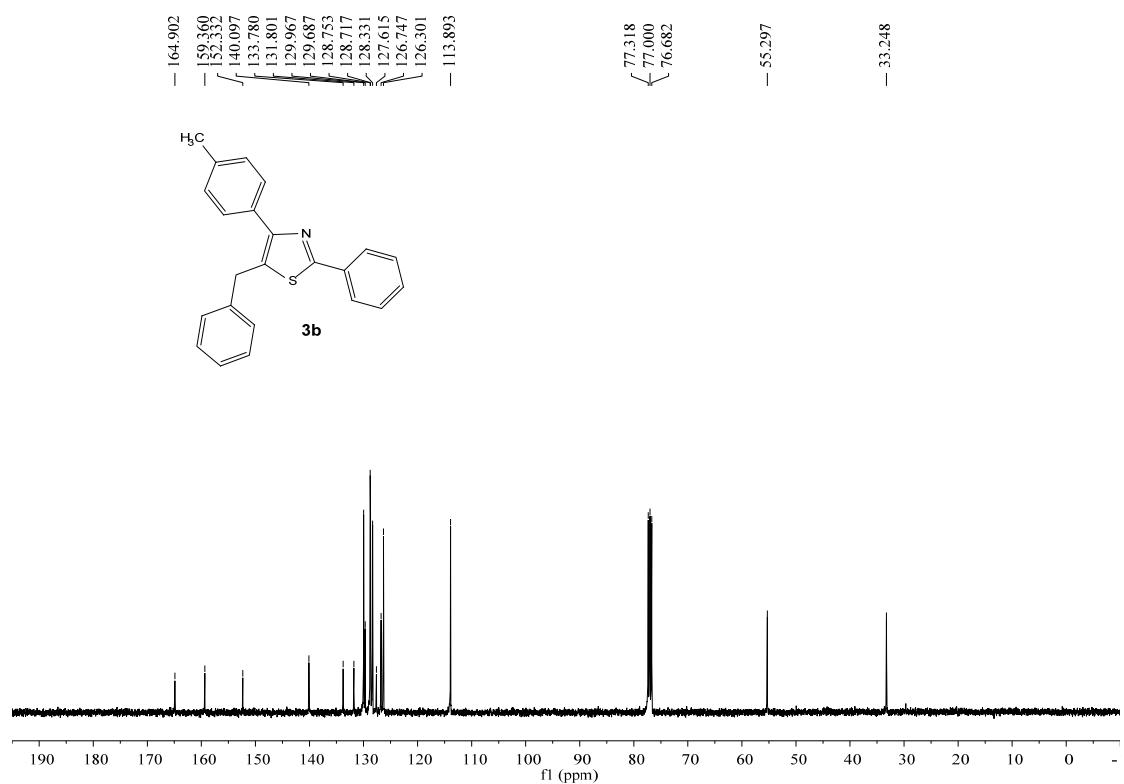
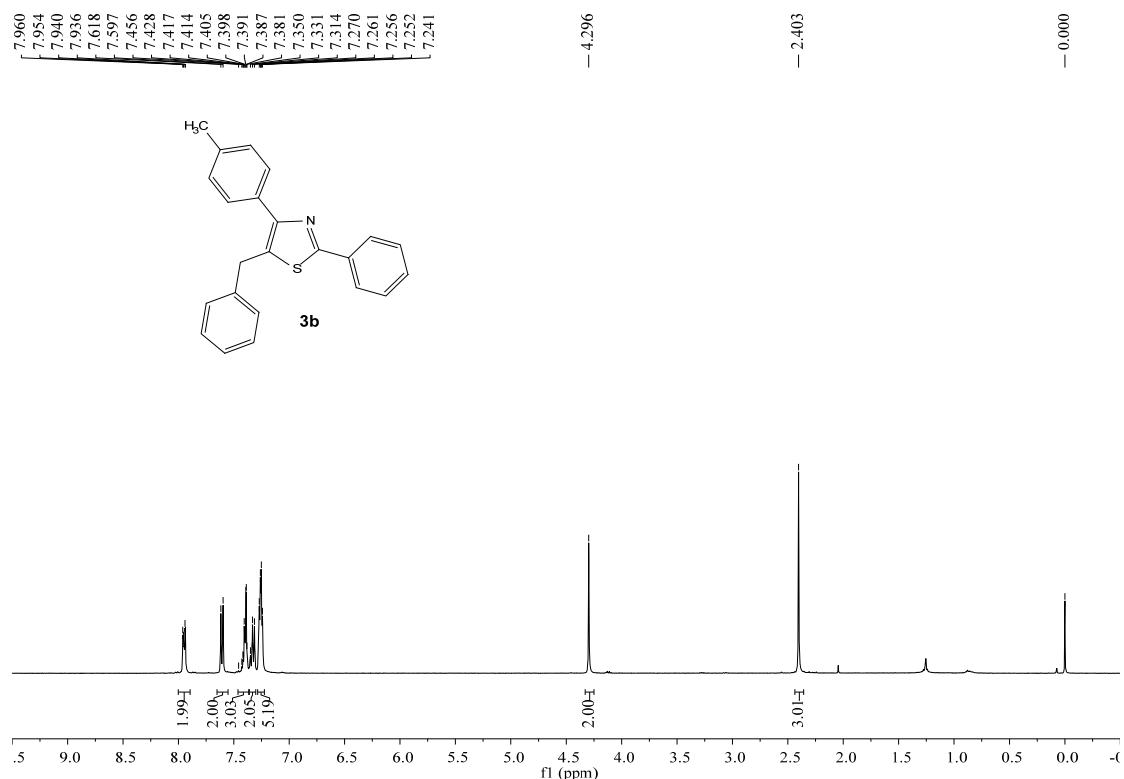


Copies of ^1H and ^{13}C NMR spectra of all products

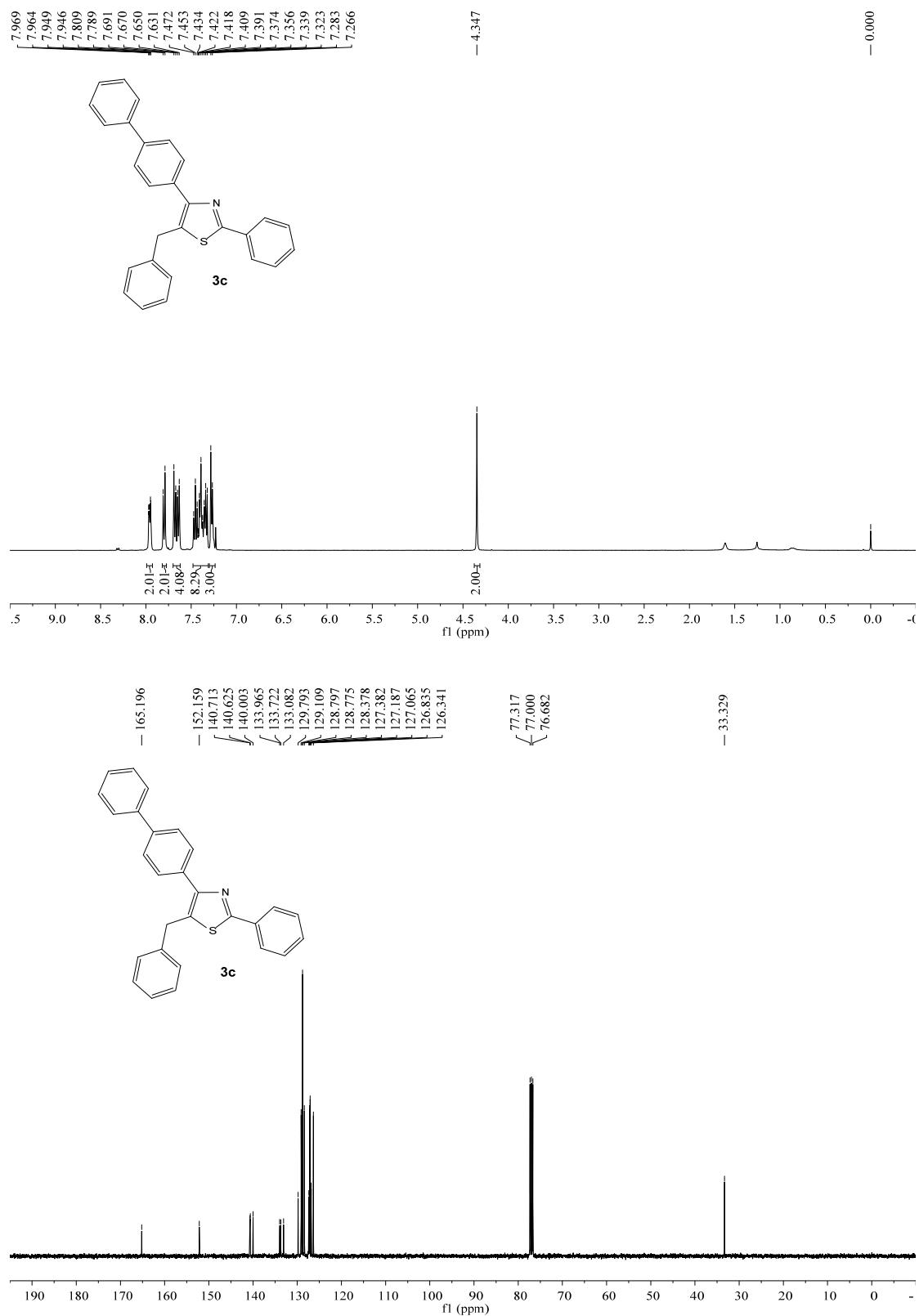
^1H and ^{13}C NMR spectra of 3a



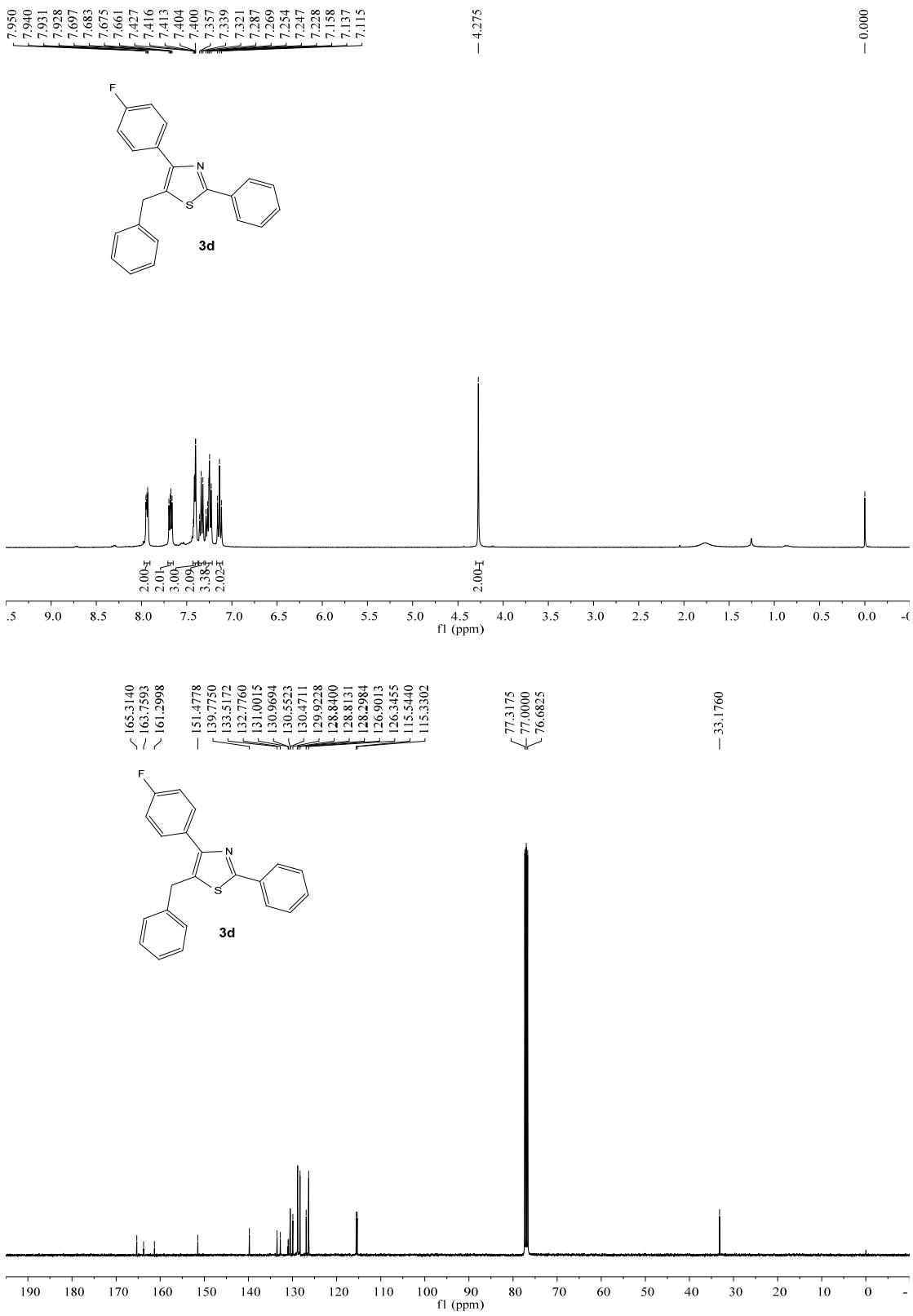
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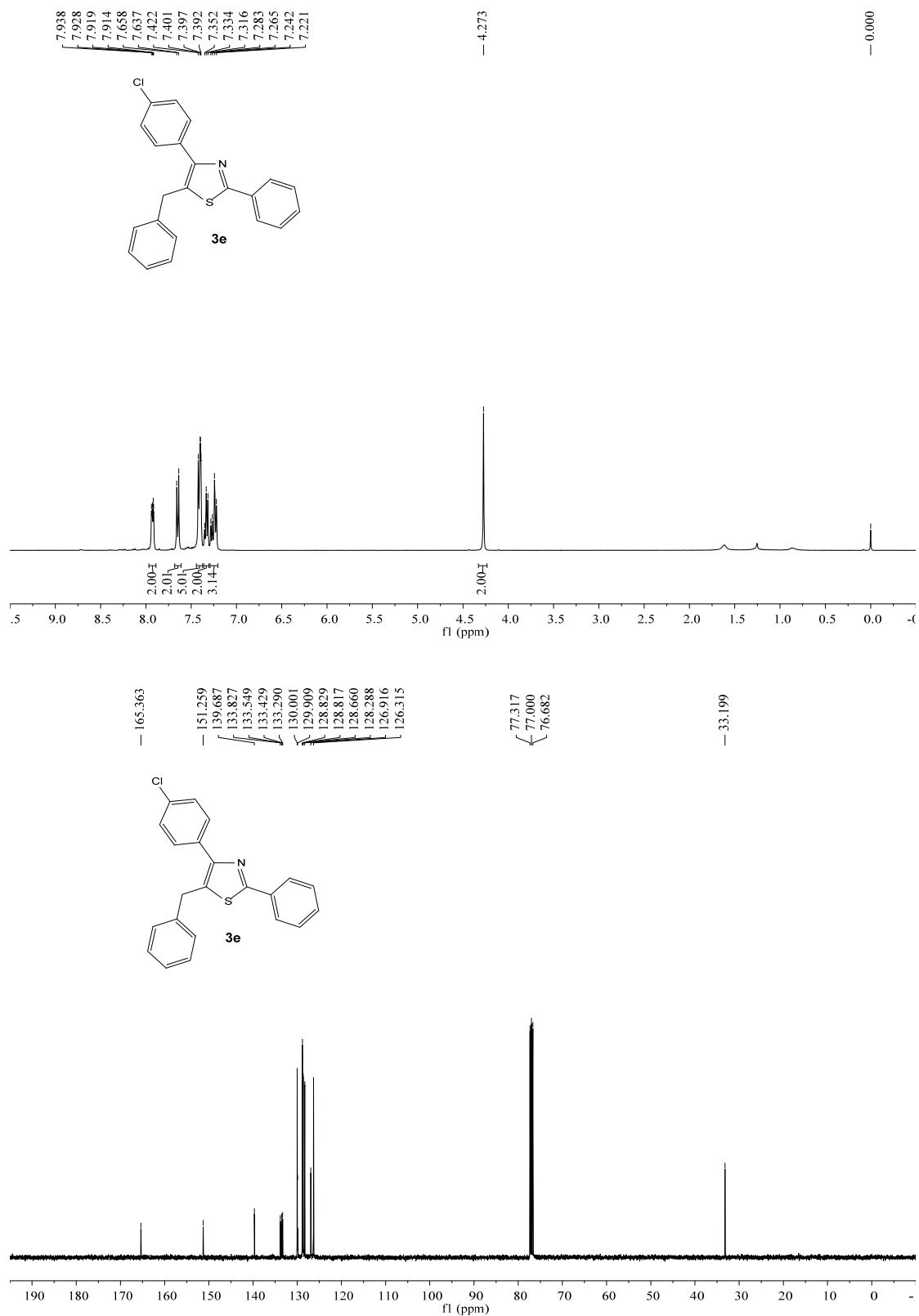
¹H and ¹³C NMR spectra of 3c



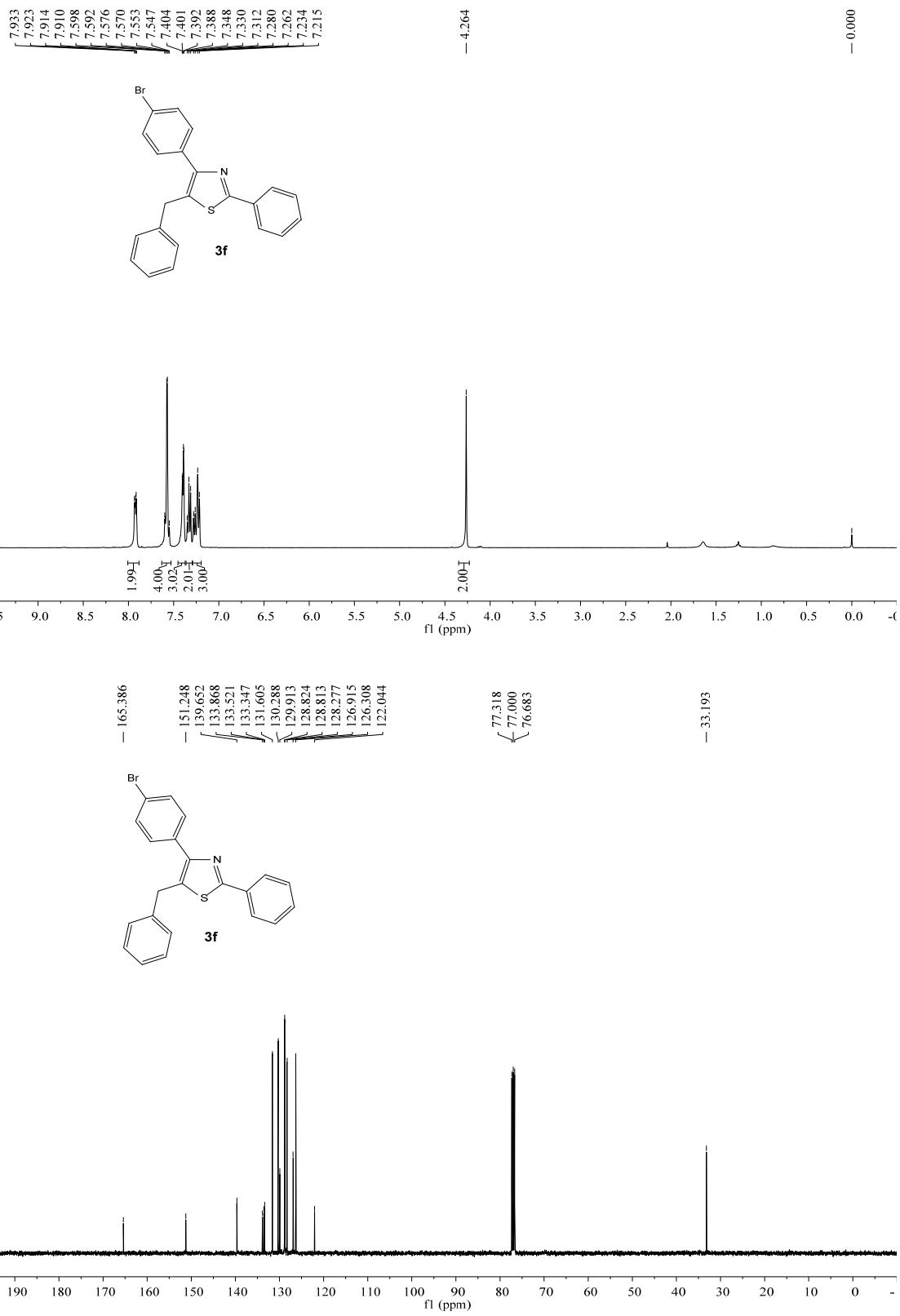
¹H and ¹³C NMR spectra of 3d



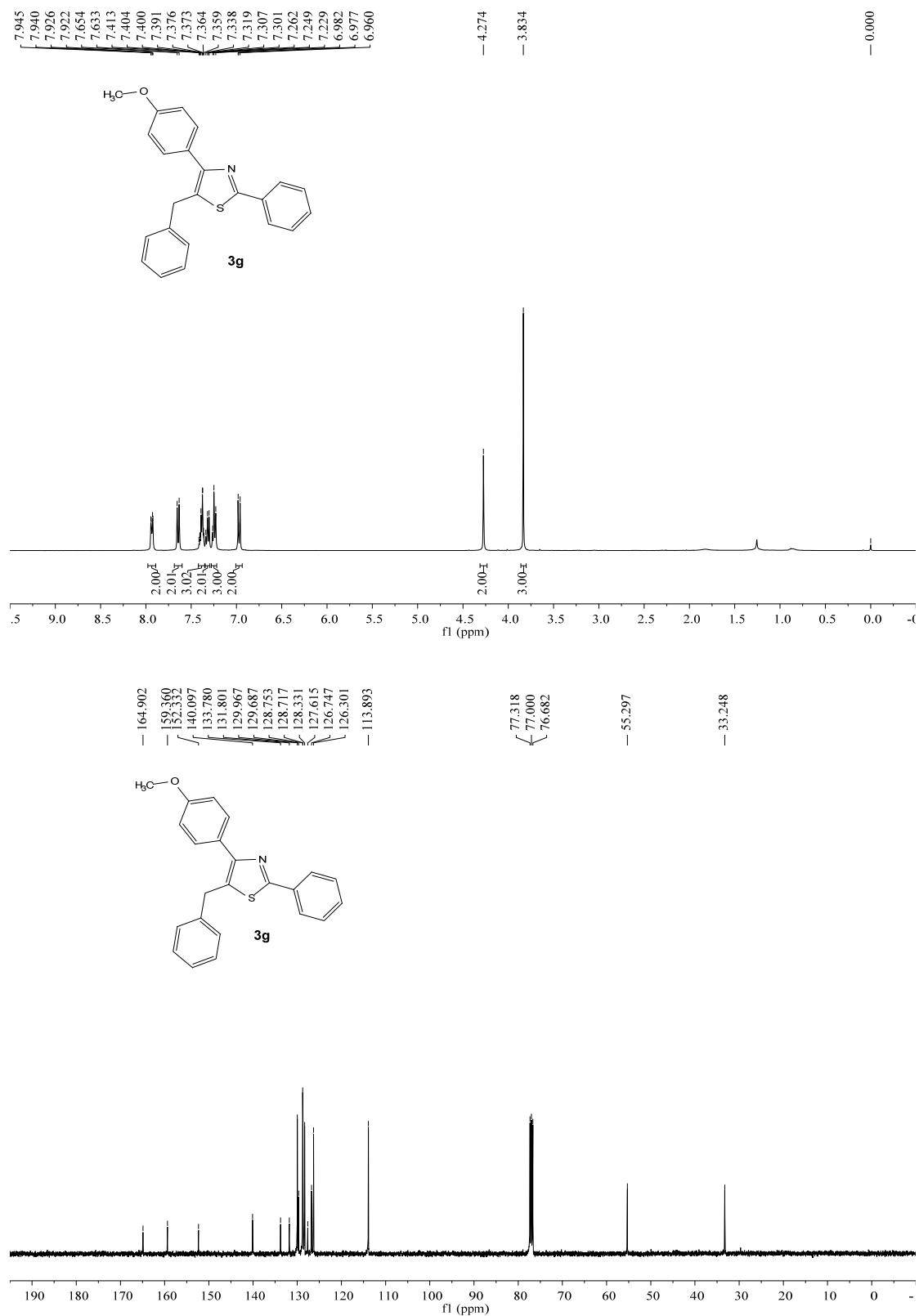
¹H and ¹³C NMR spectra of 3e



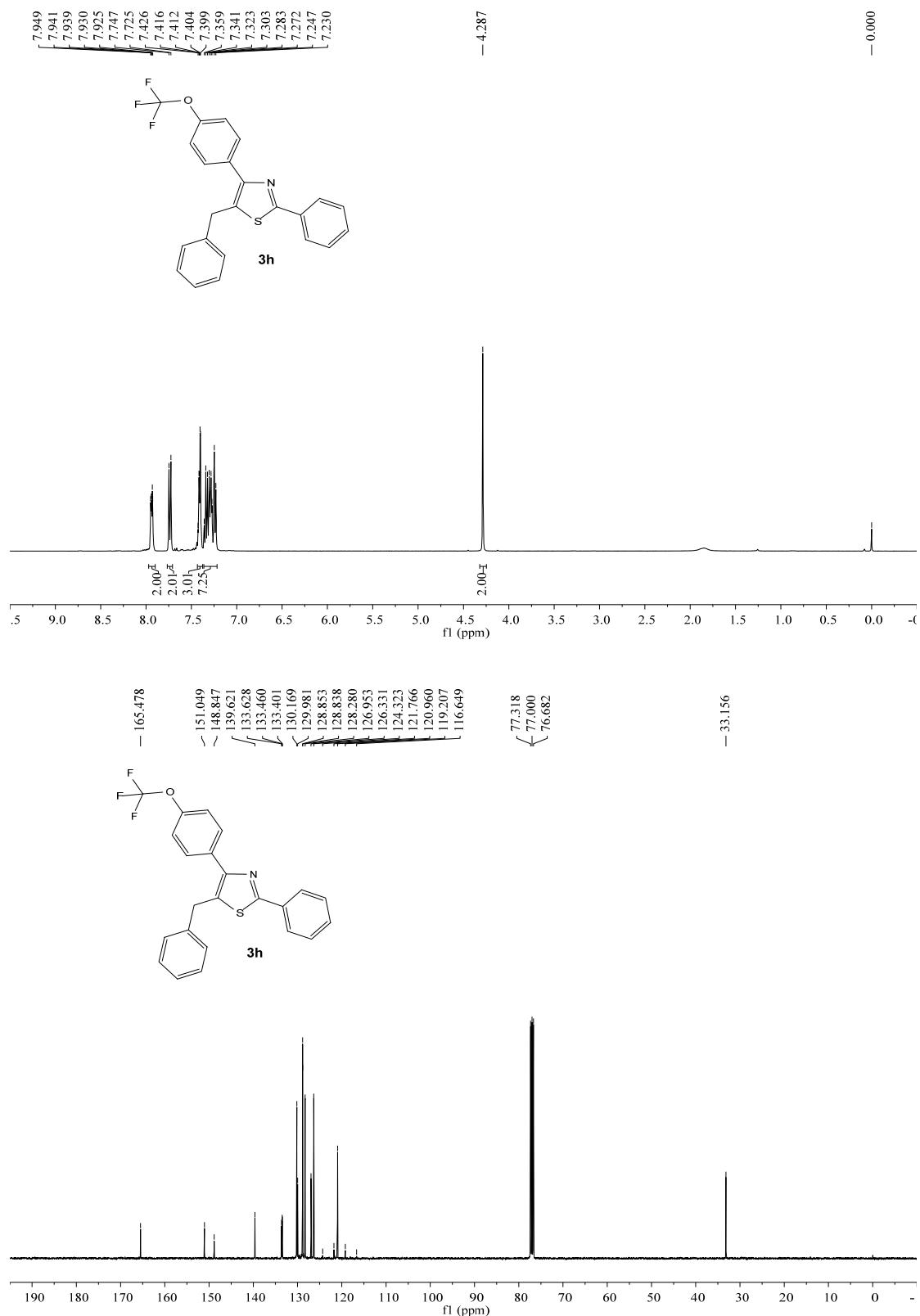
¹H and ¹³C NMR spectra of 3f



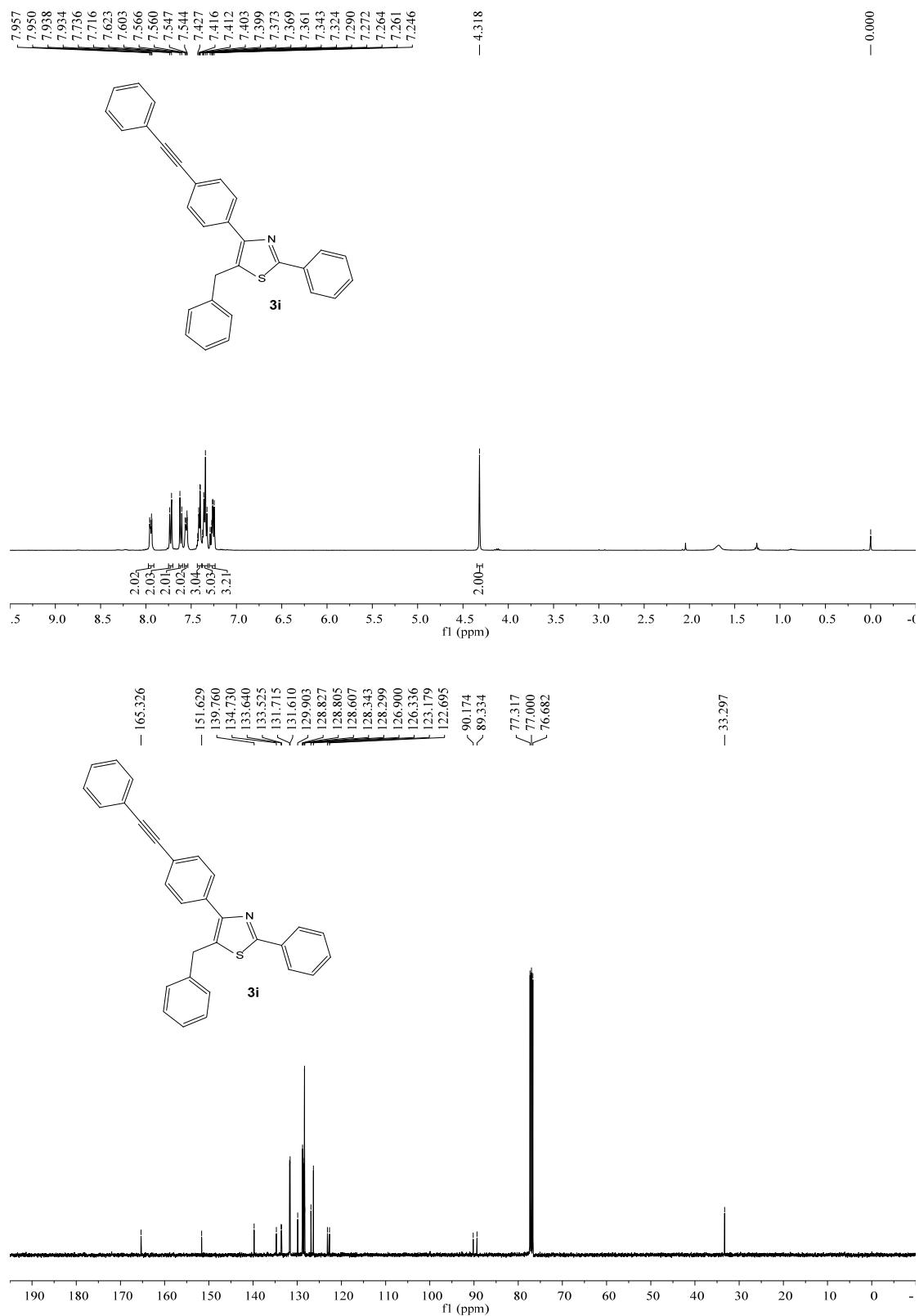
¹H and ¹³C NMR spectra of 3g



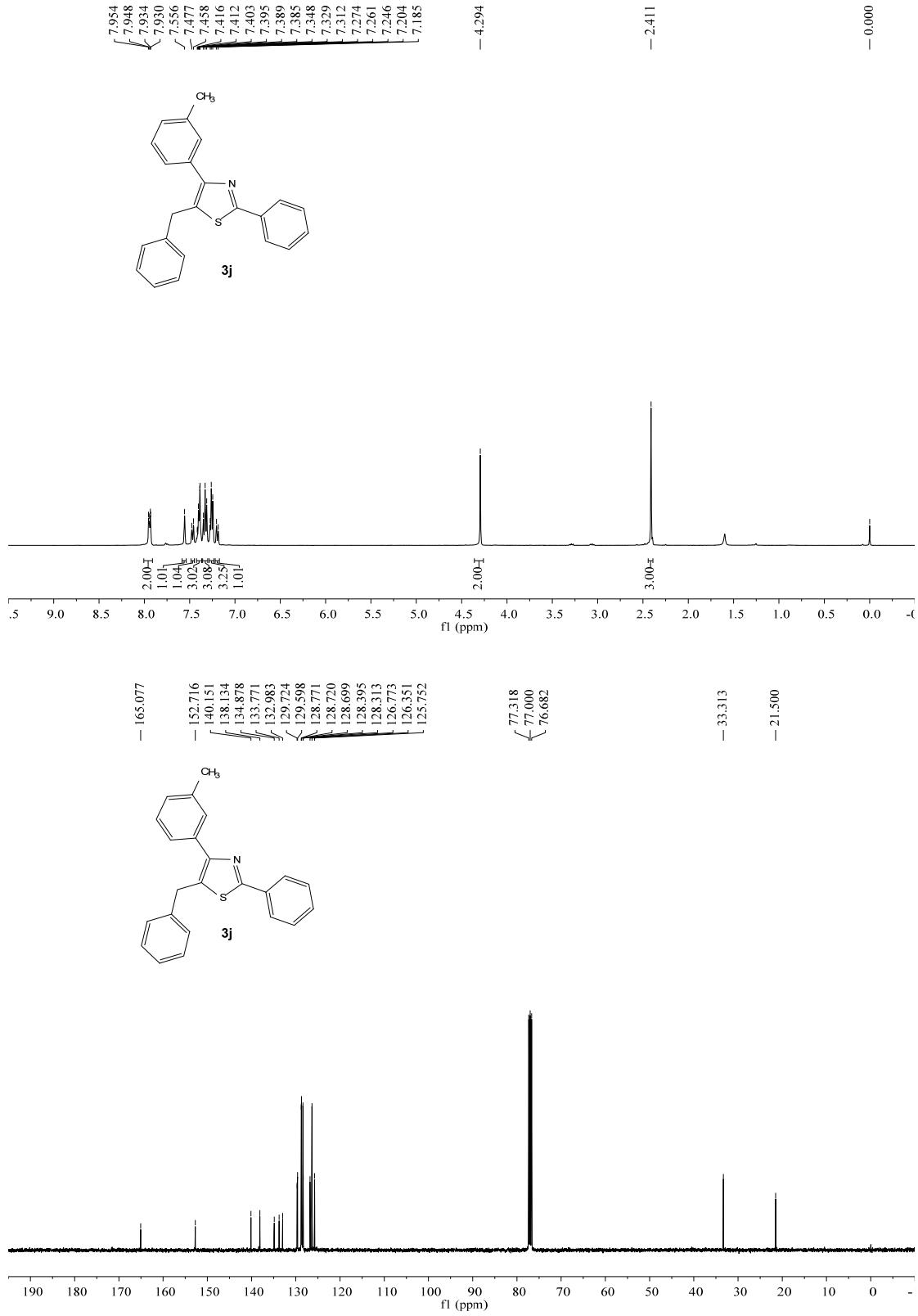
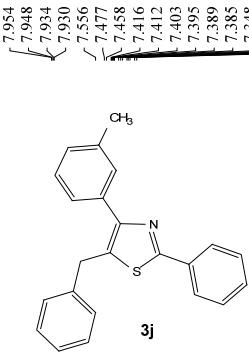
¹H and ¹³C NMR spectra of 3h



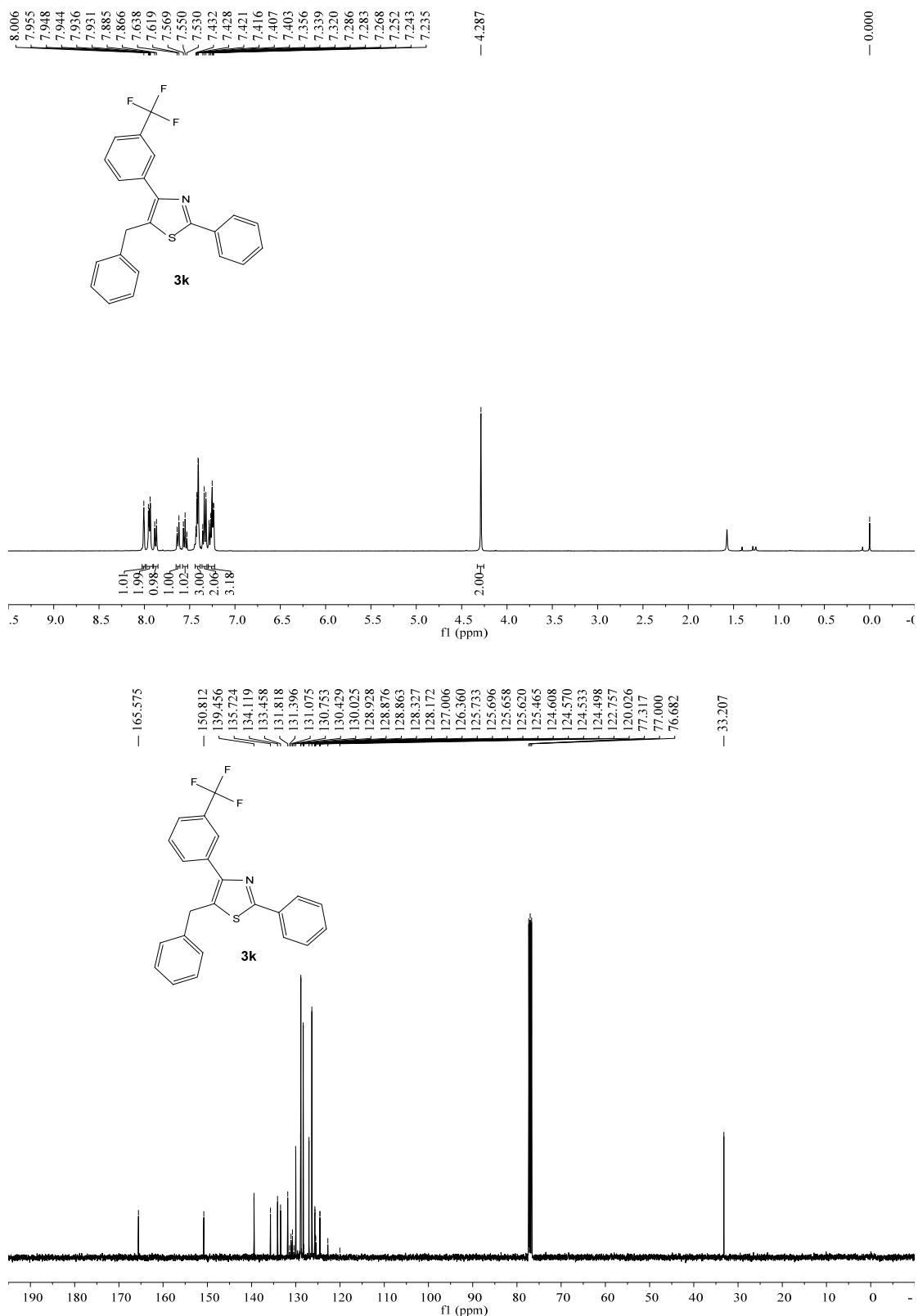
¹H and ¹³C NMR spectra of 3i



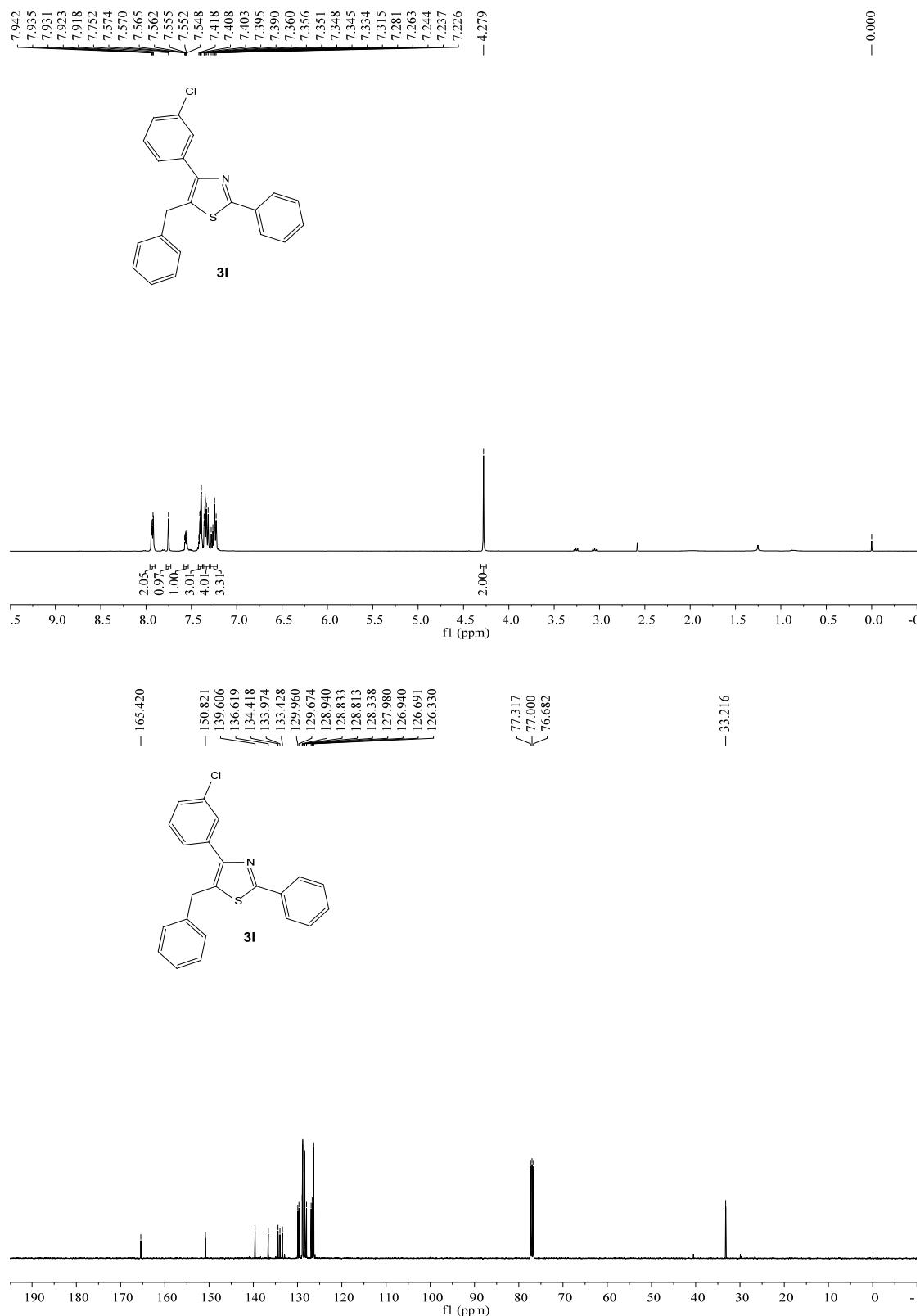
¹H and ¹³C NMR spectra of 3j



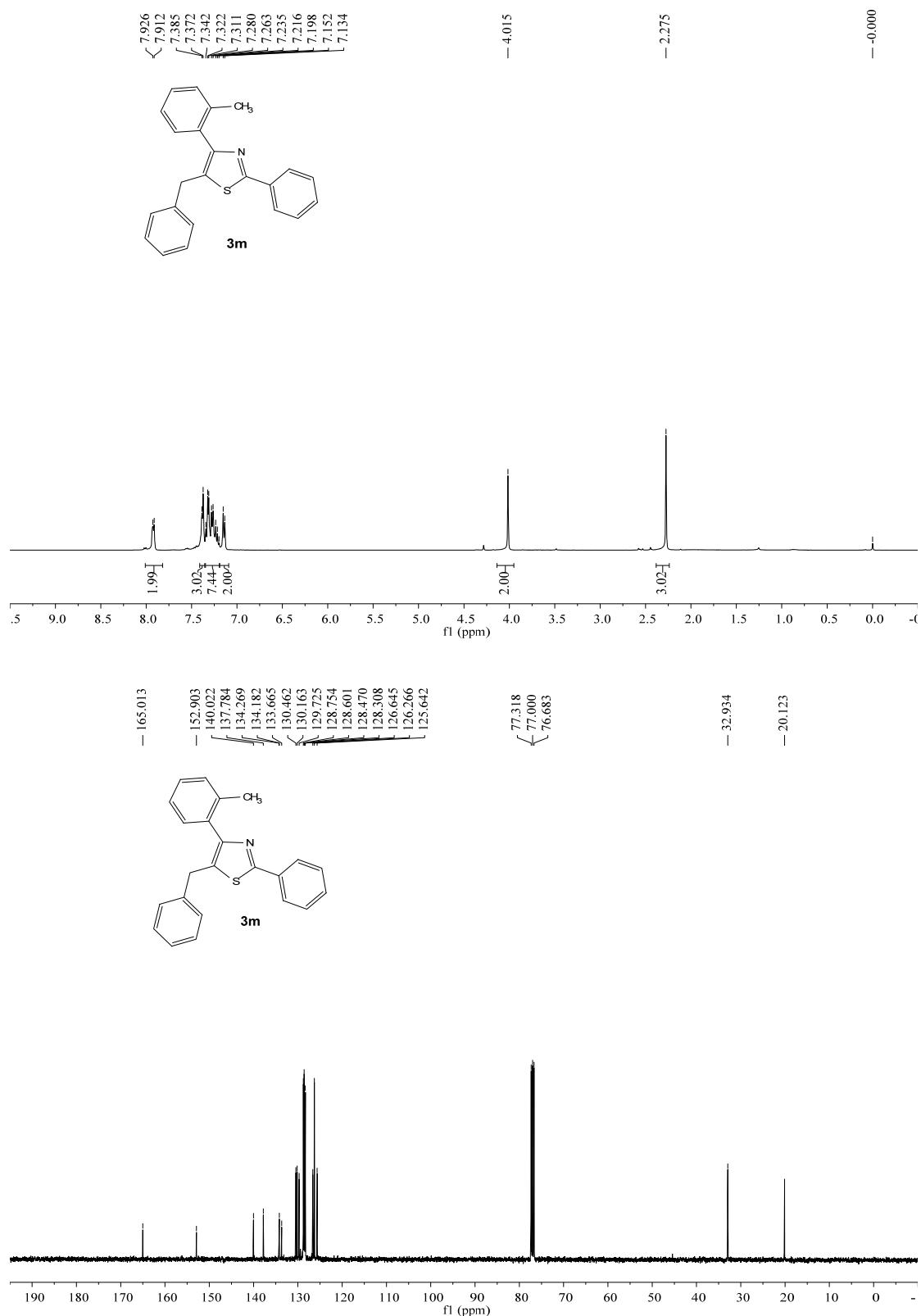
¹H and ¹³C NMR spectra of 3k



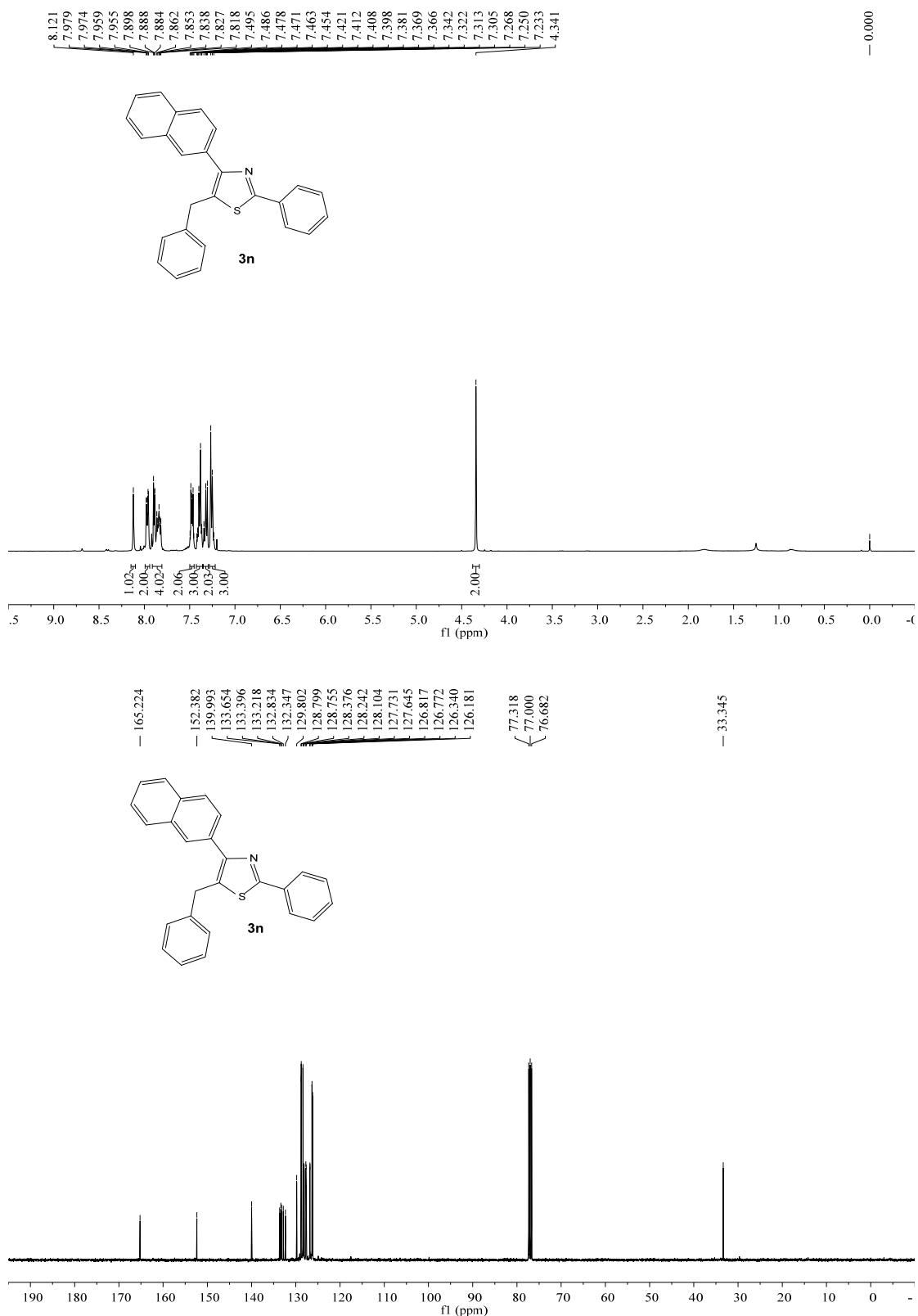
¹H and ¹³C NMR spectra of 3l



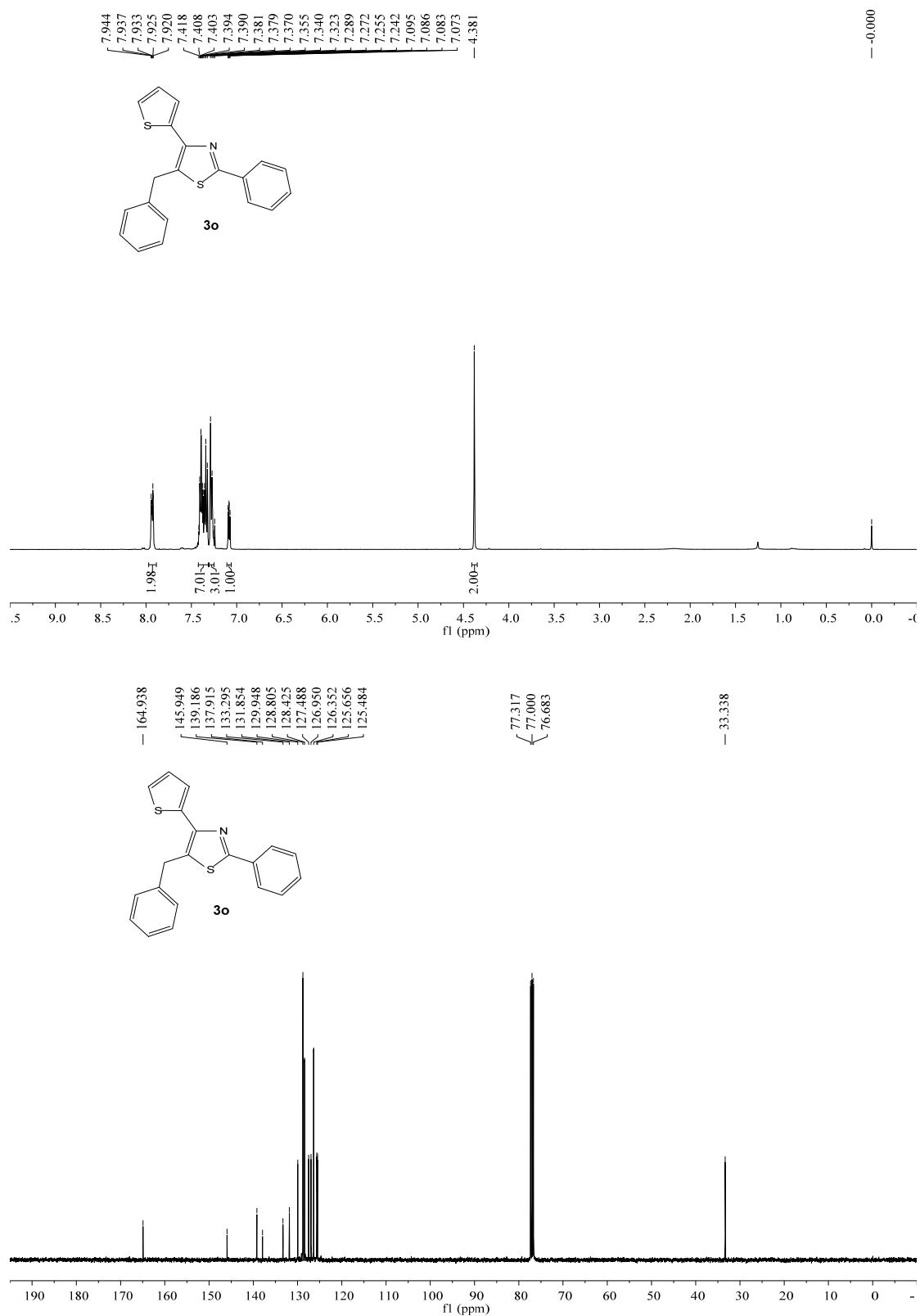
¹H and ¹³C NMR spectra of 3m



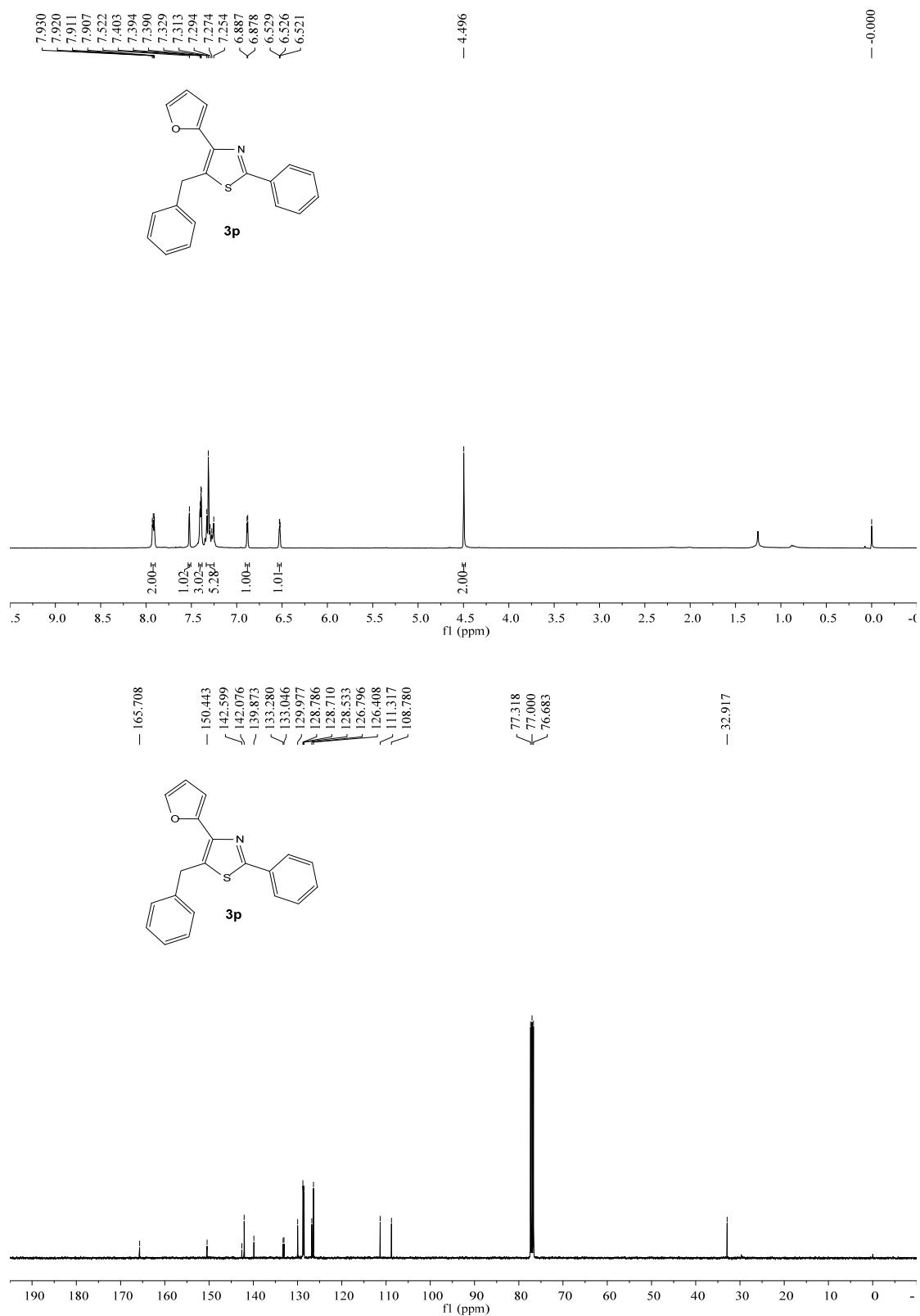
¹H and ¹³C NMR spectra of 3n



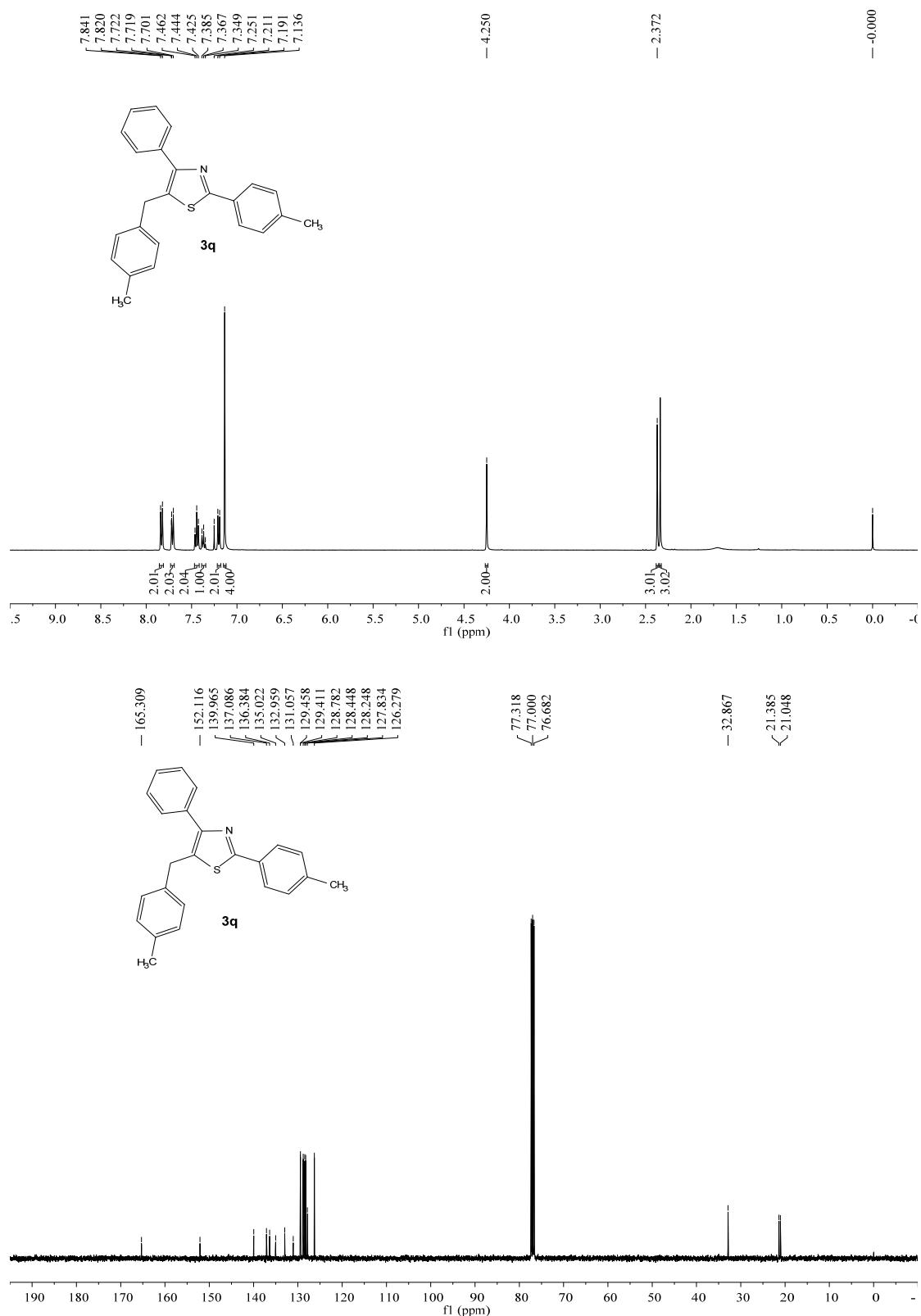
¹H and ¹³C NMR spectra of 3o



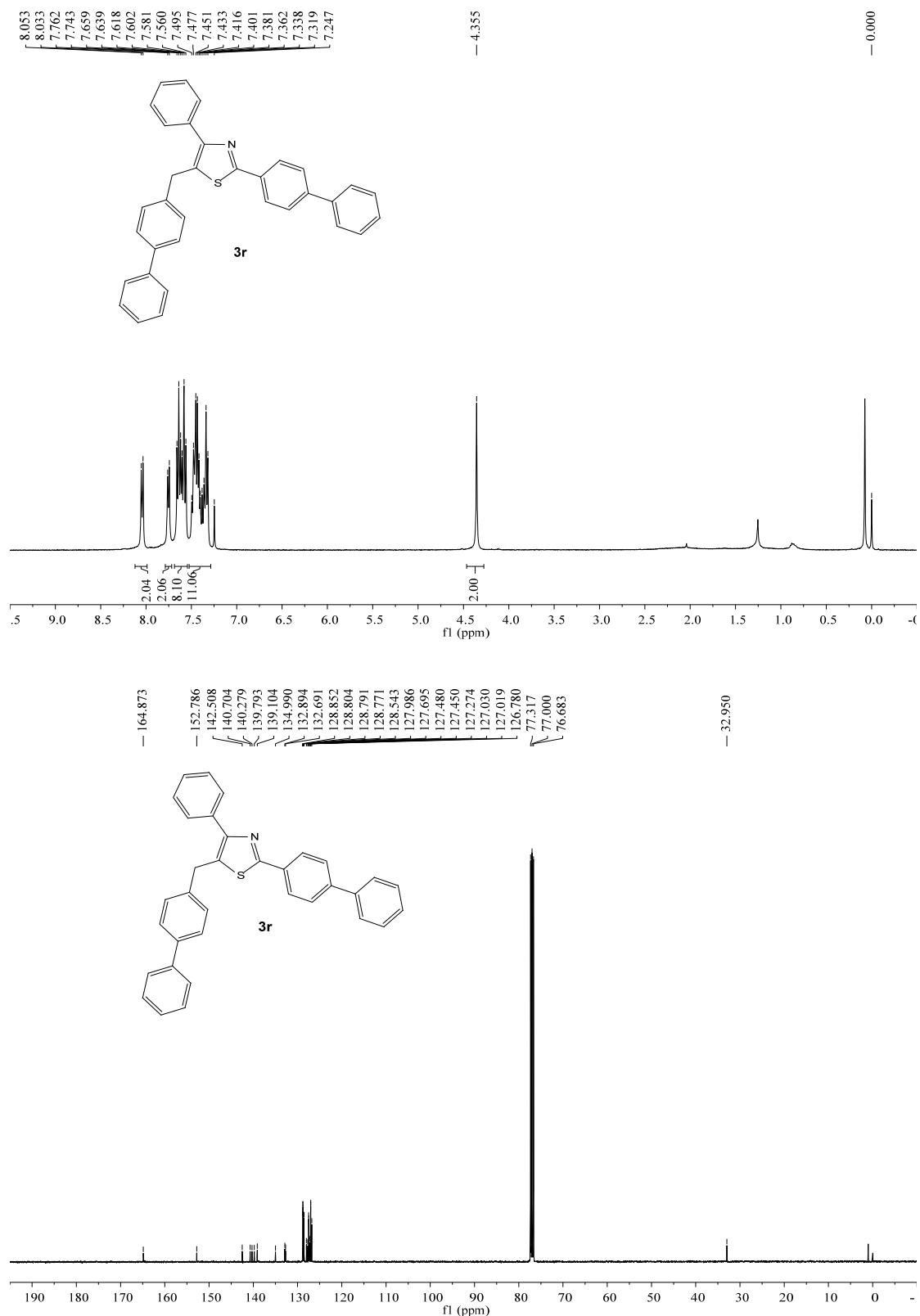
¹H and ¹³C NMR spectra of 3p



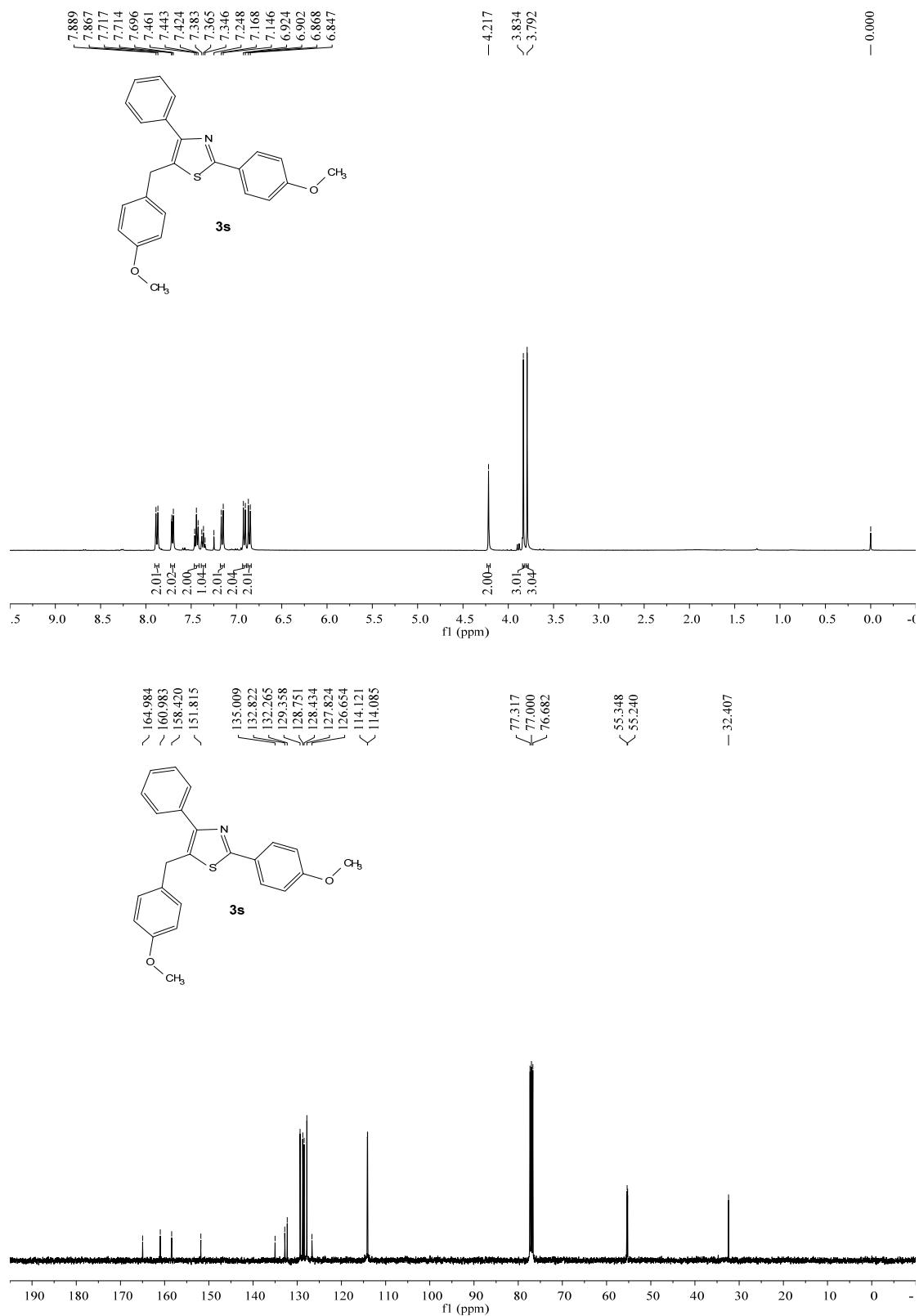
¹H and ¹³C NMR spectra of 3q



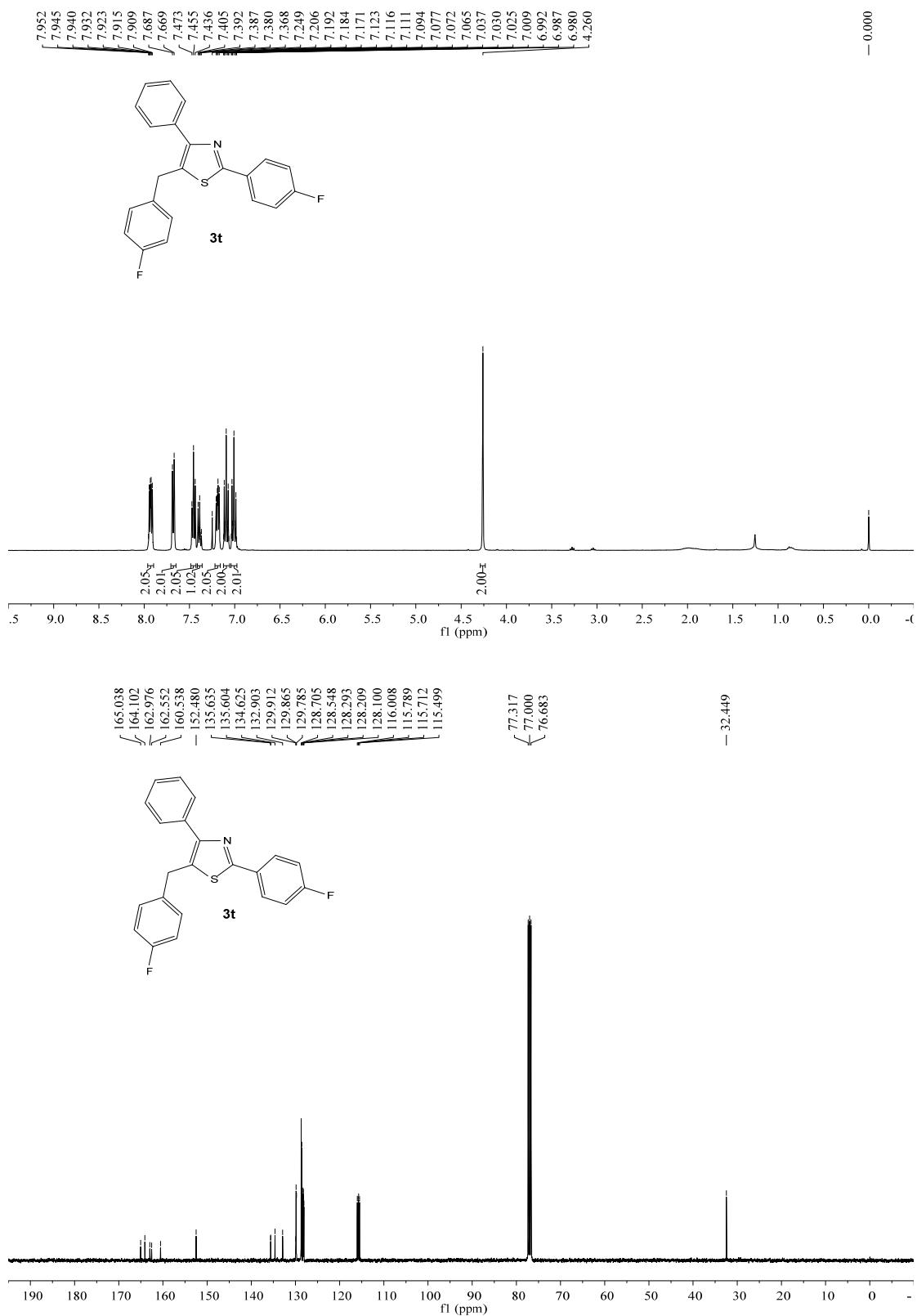
¹H and ¹³C NMR spectra of 3r



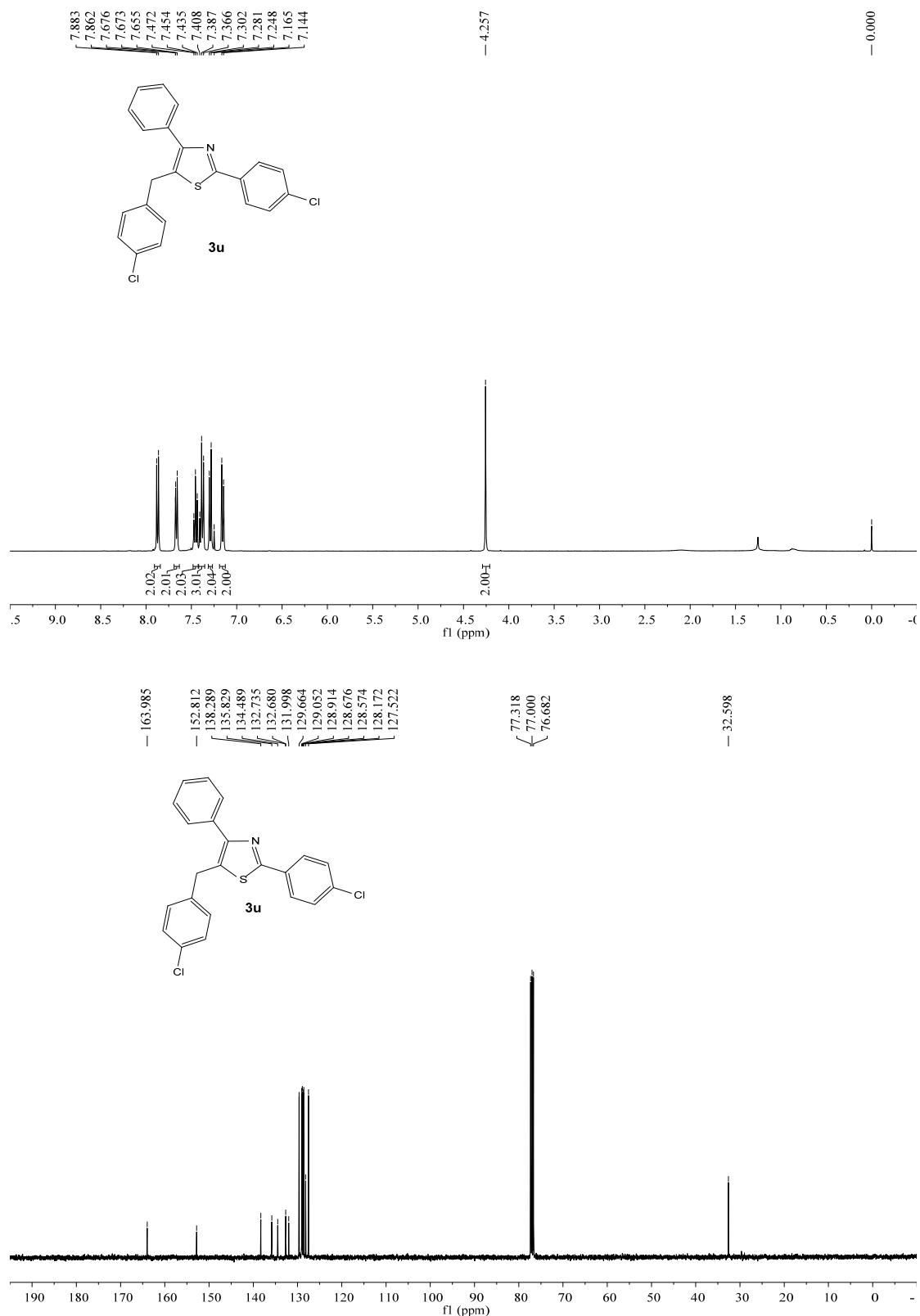
¹H and ¹³C NMR spectra of 3s



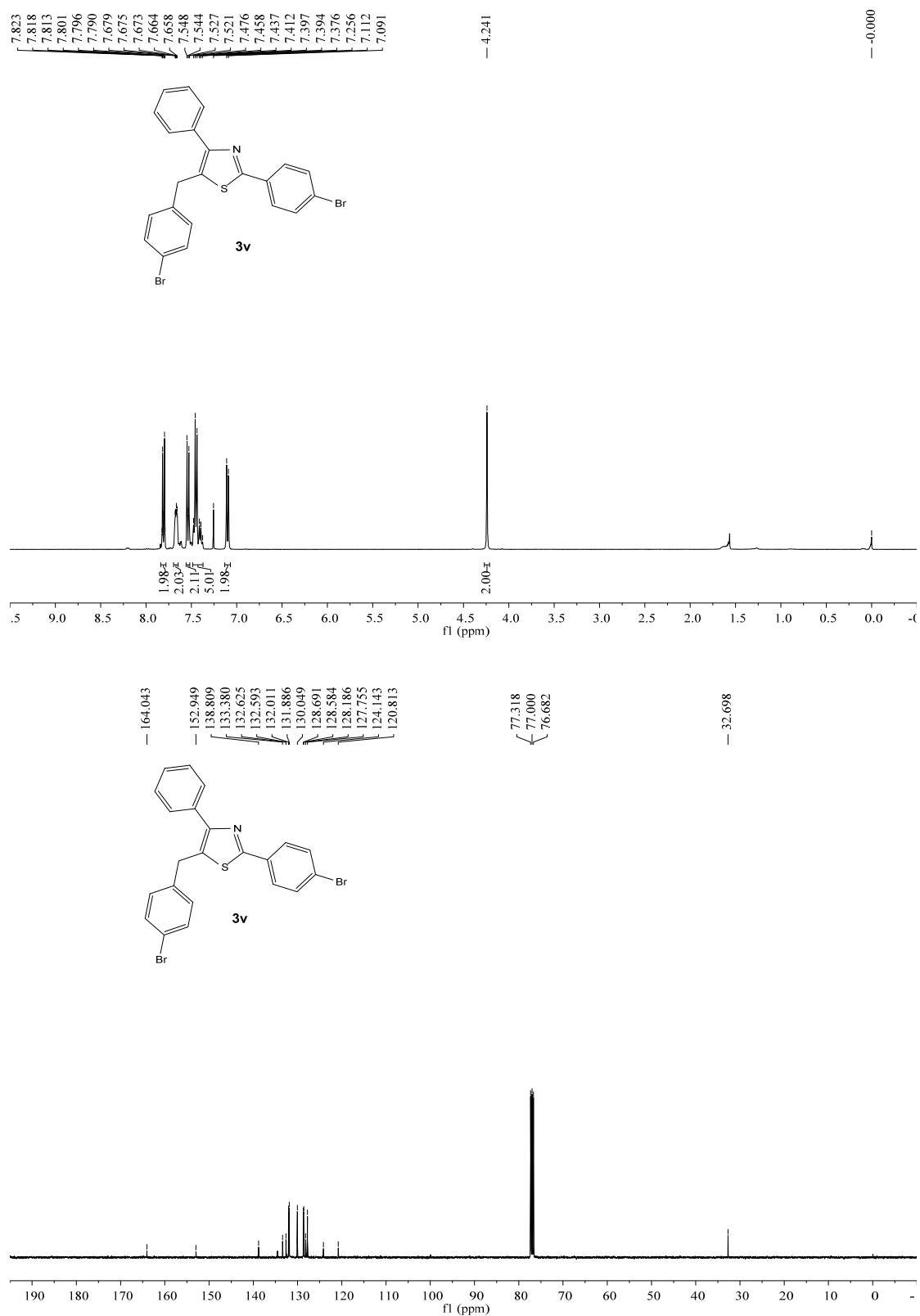
¹H and ¹³C NMR spectra of 3t



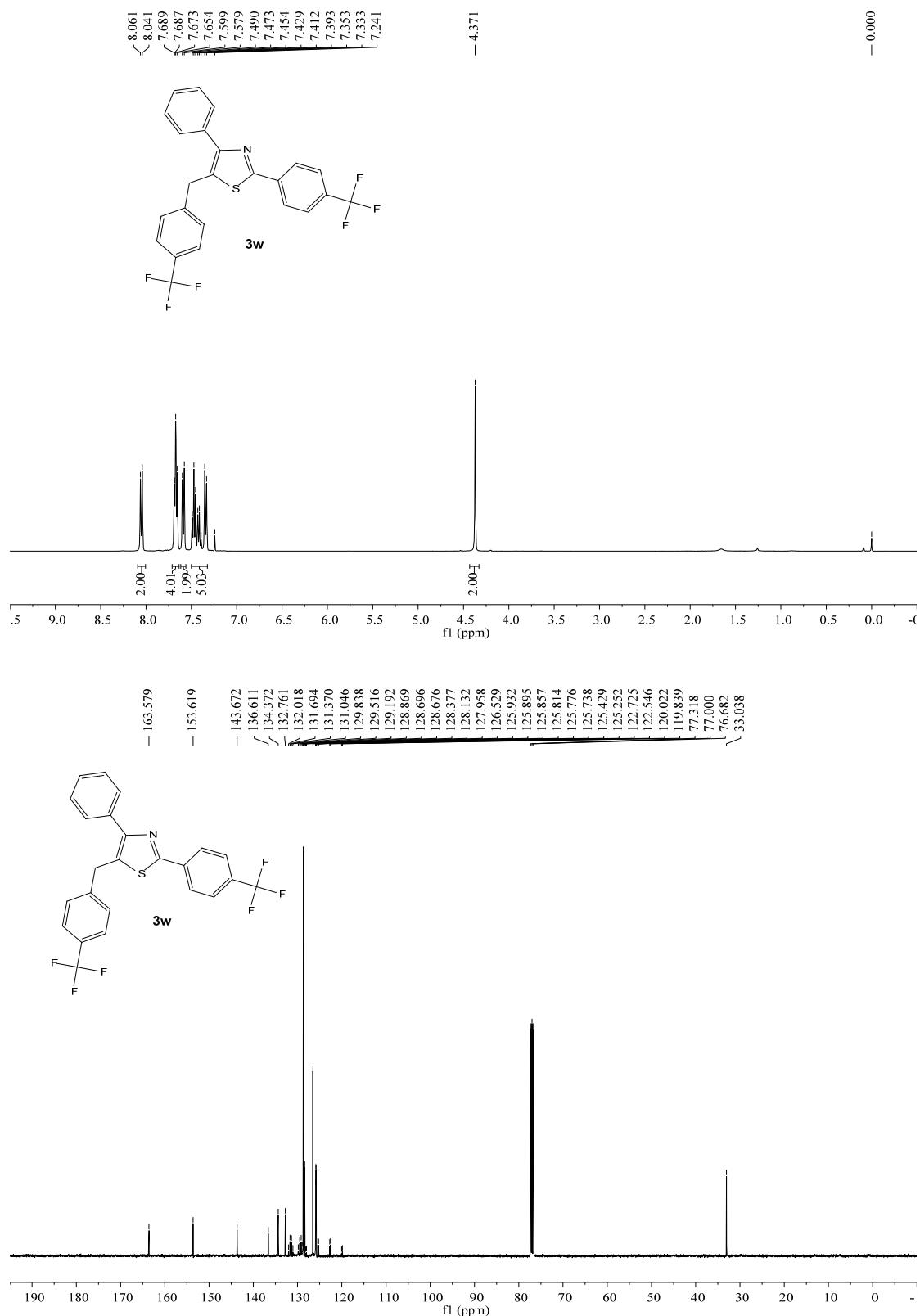
¹H and ¹³C NMR spectra of 3u



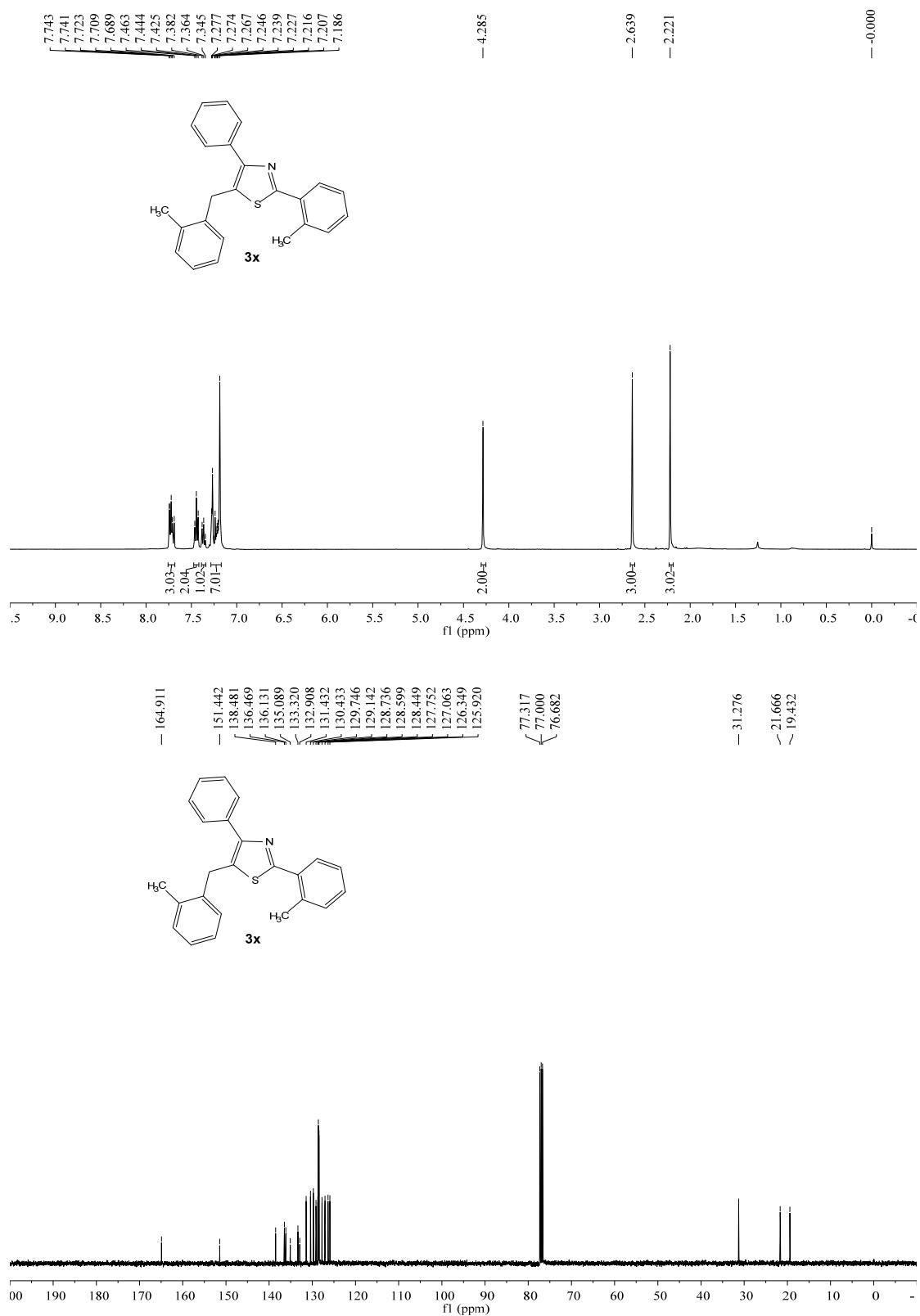
¹H and ¹³C NMR spectra of 3v



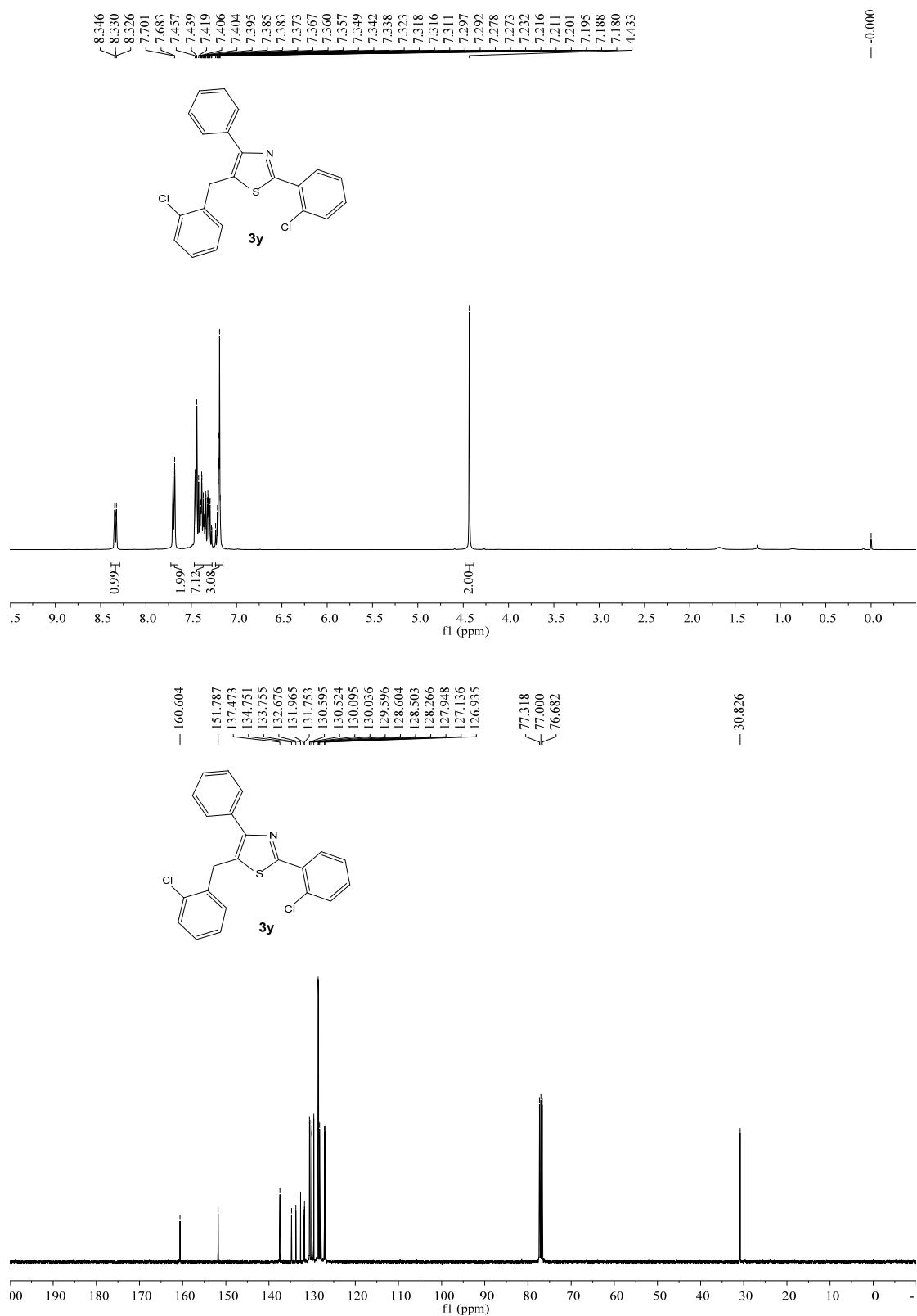
¹H and ¹³C NMR spectra of 3w



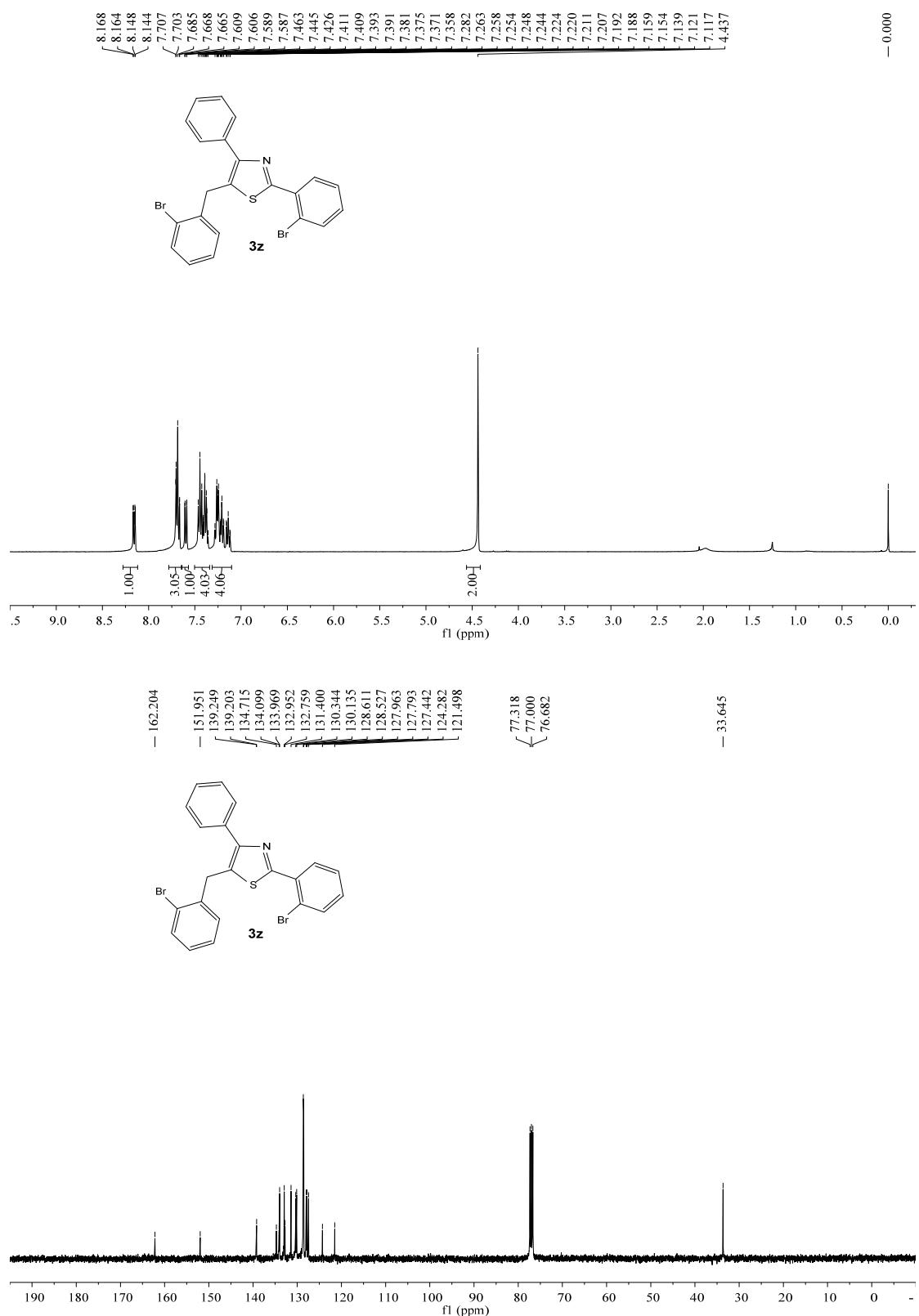
¹H and ¹³C NMR spectra of 3x



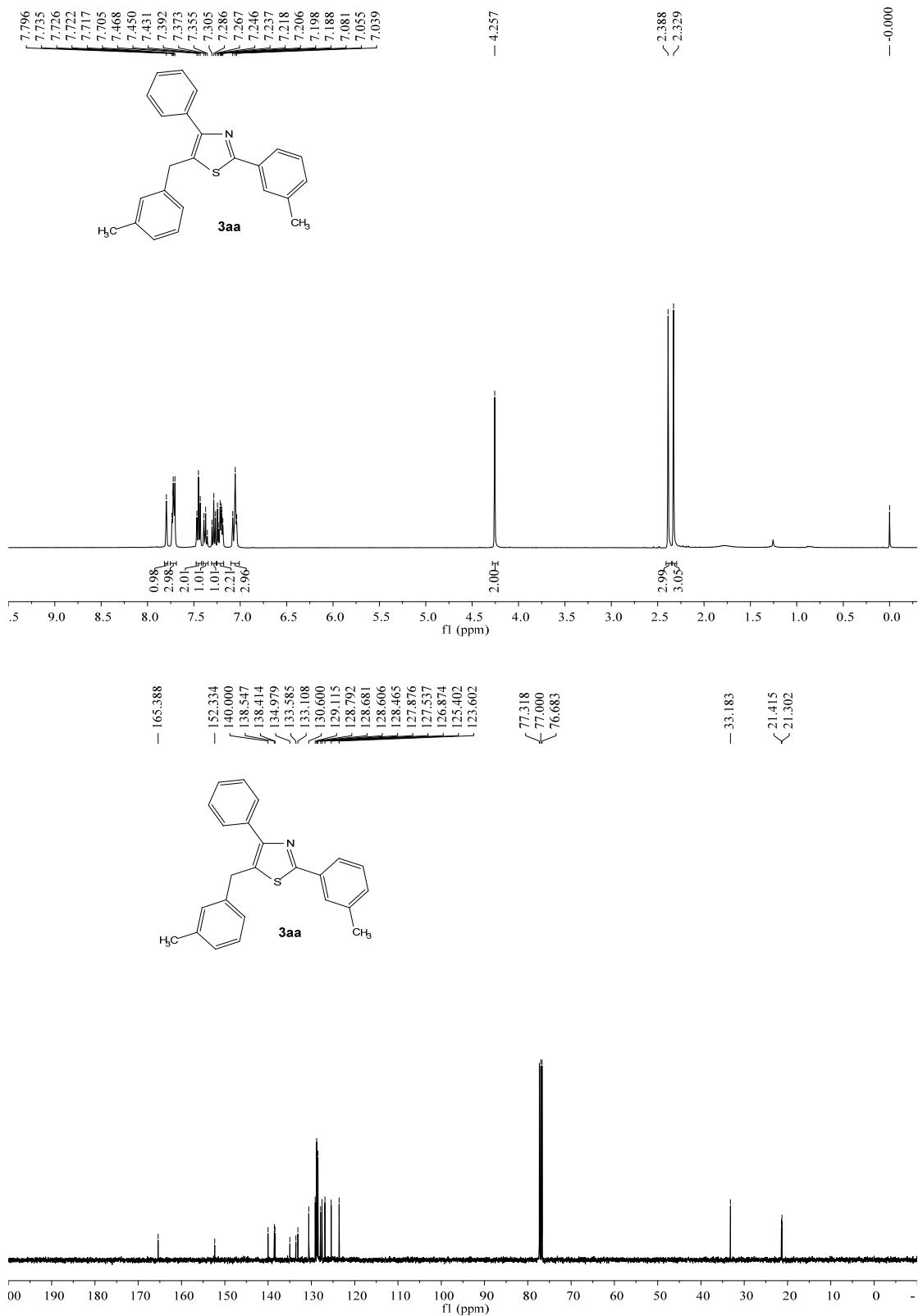
¹H and ¹³C NMR spectra of 3y



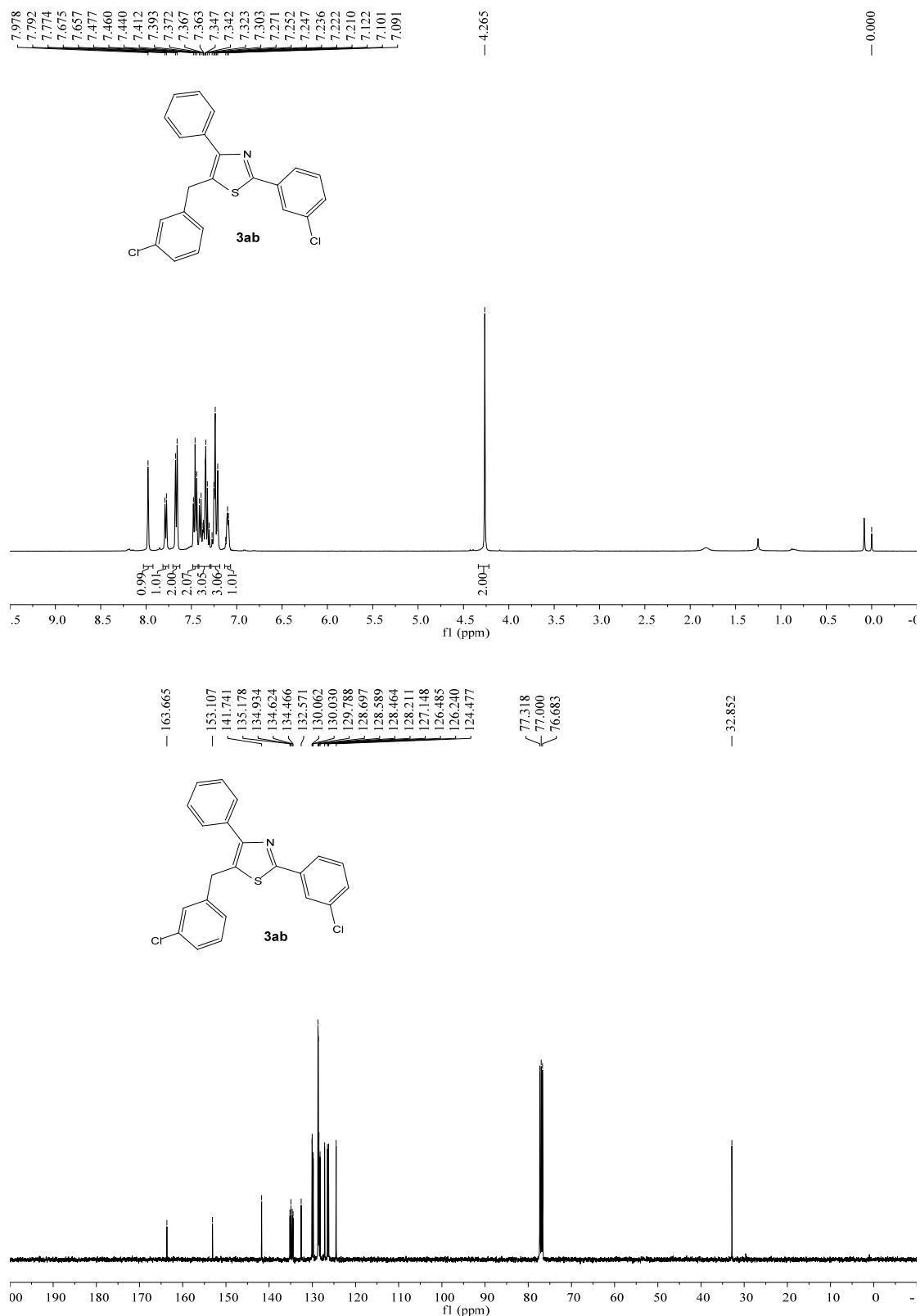
¹H and ¹³C NMR spectra of 3z



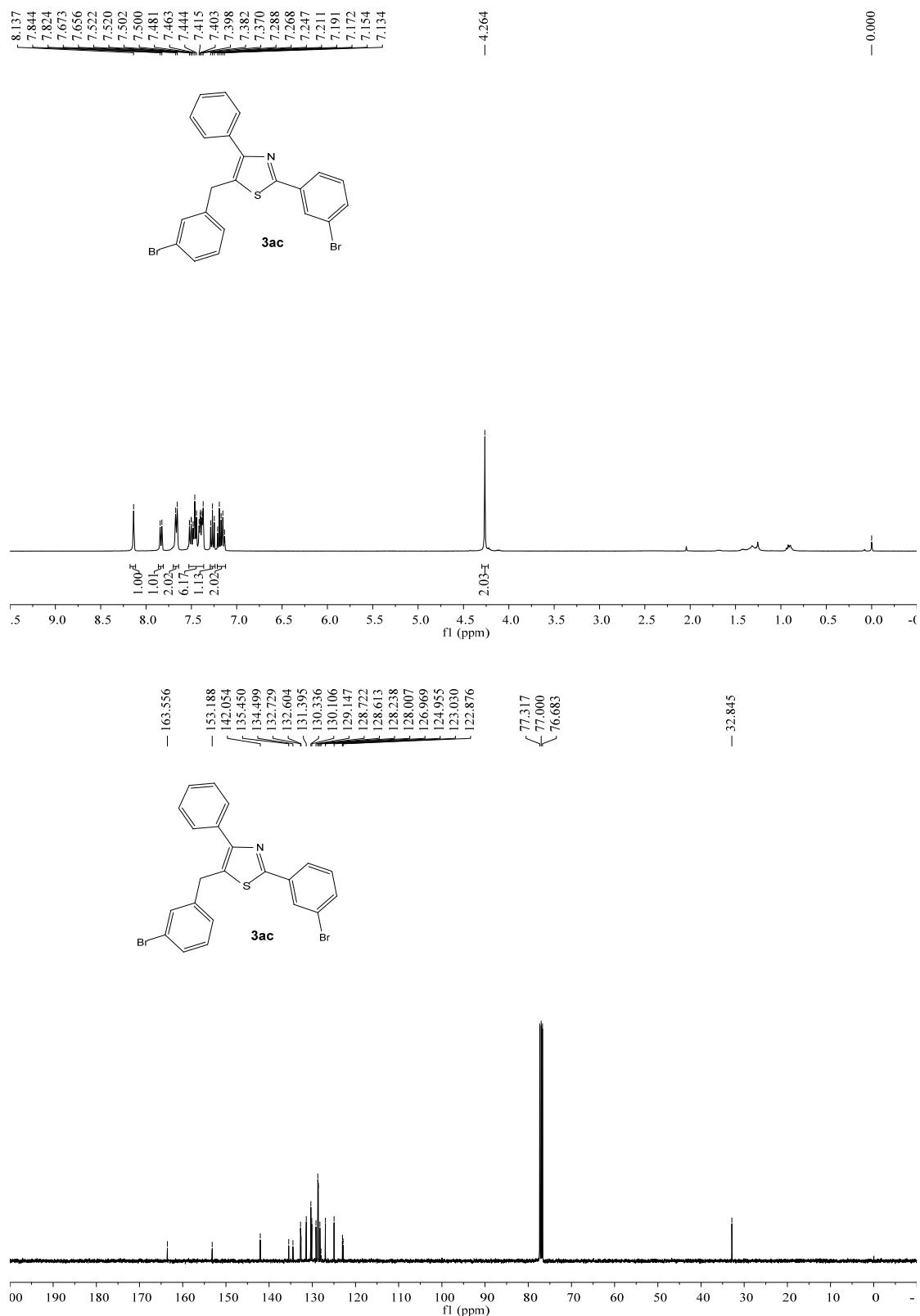
¹H and ¹³C NMR spectra of 3aa



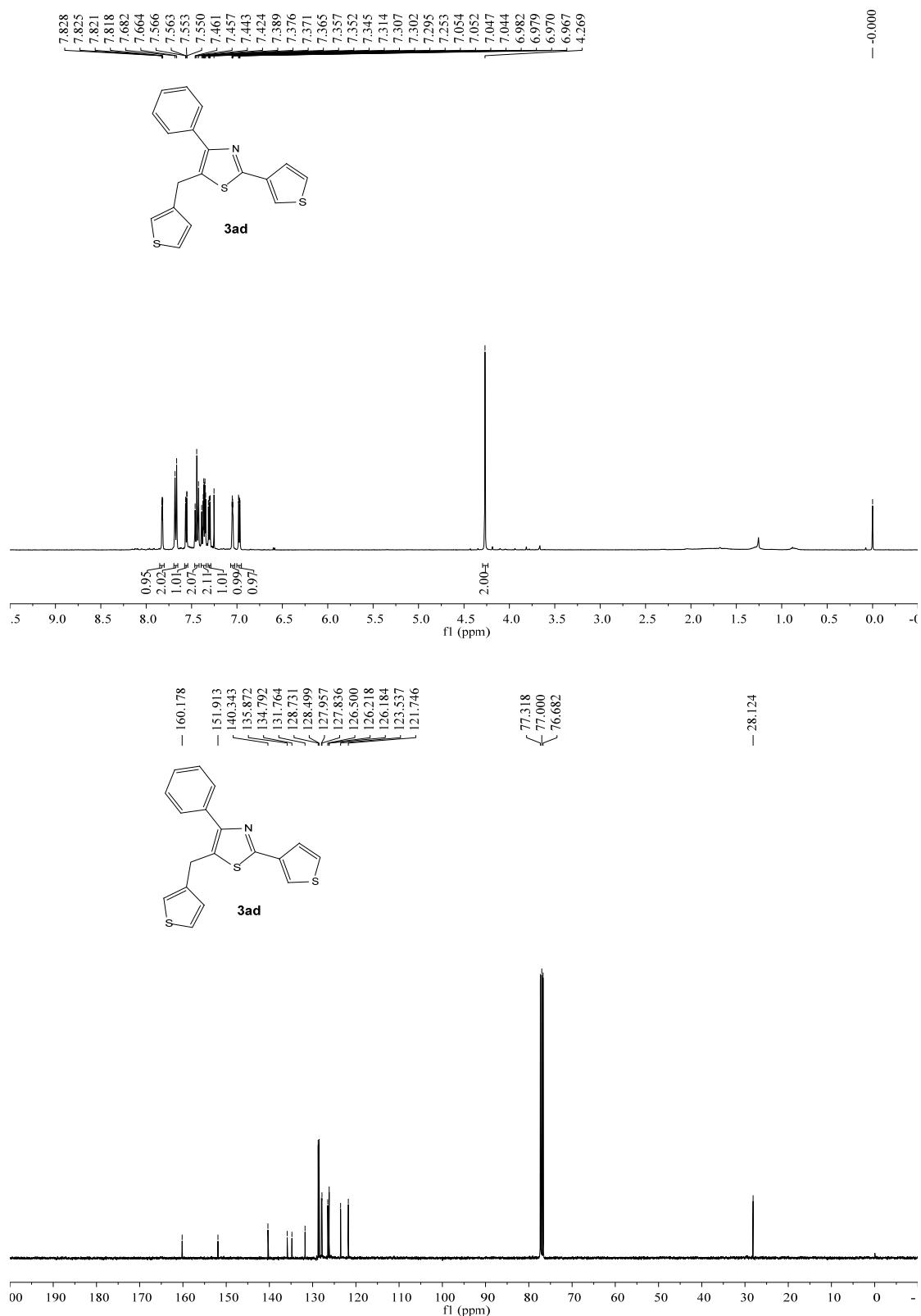
¹H and ¹³C NMR spectra of 3ab



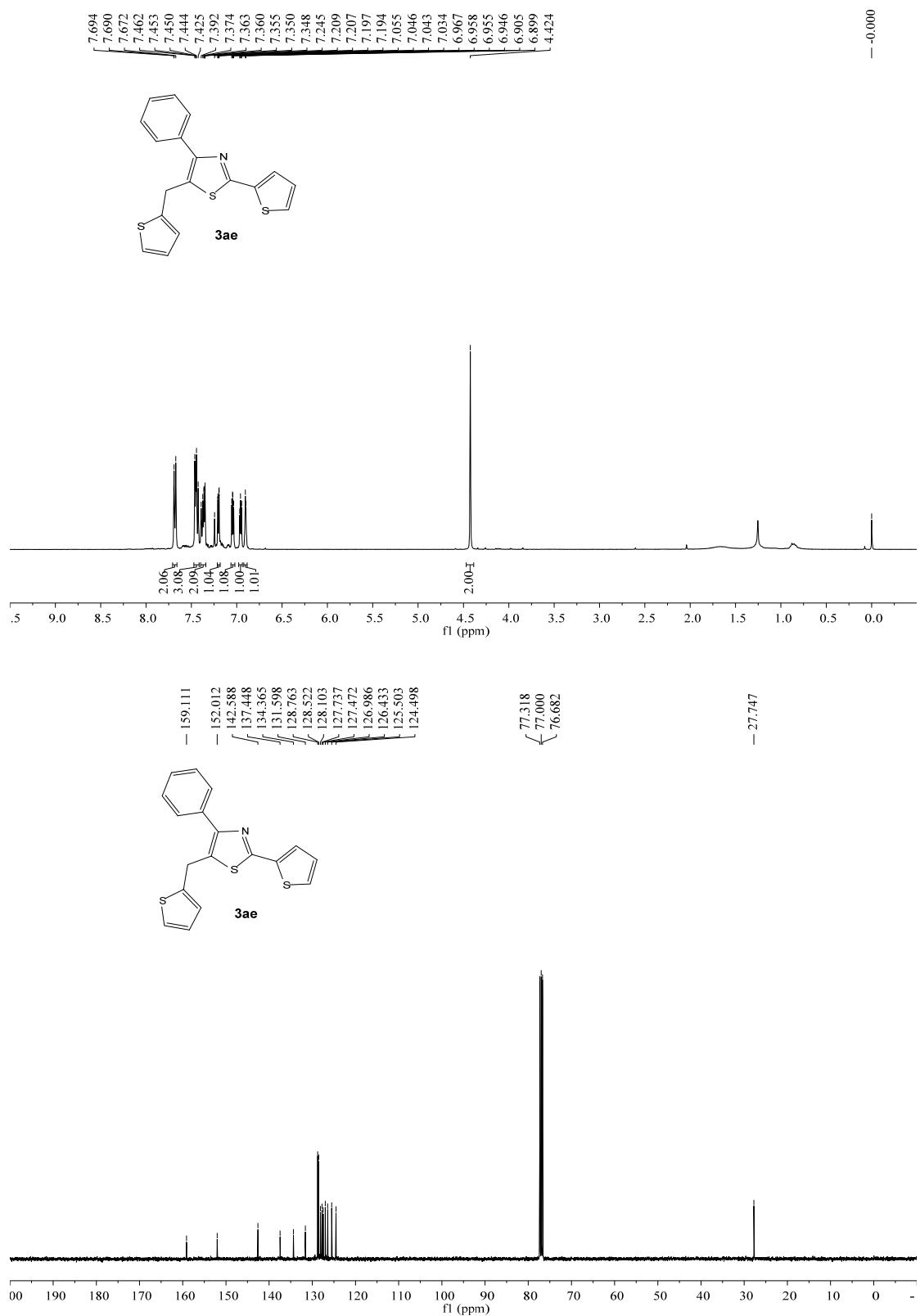
¹H and ¹³C NMR spectra of 3ac



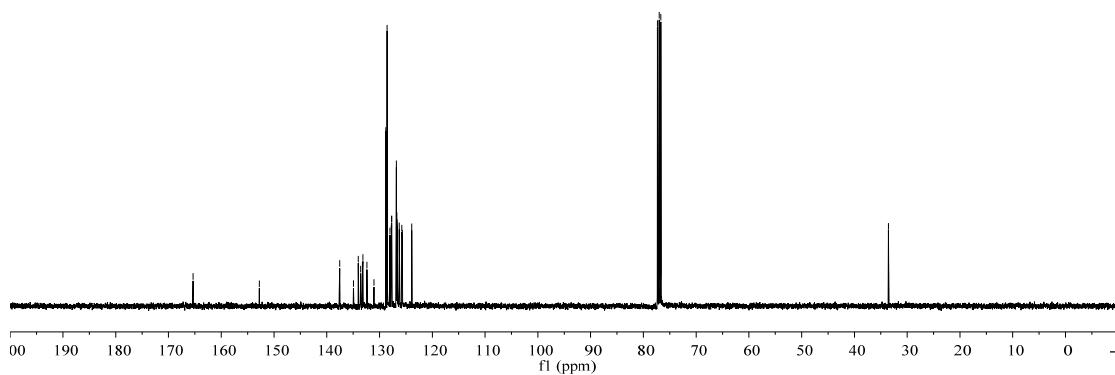
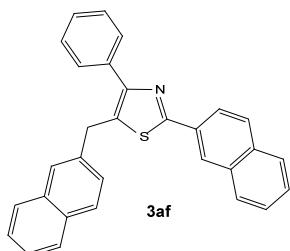
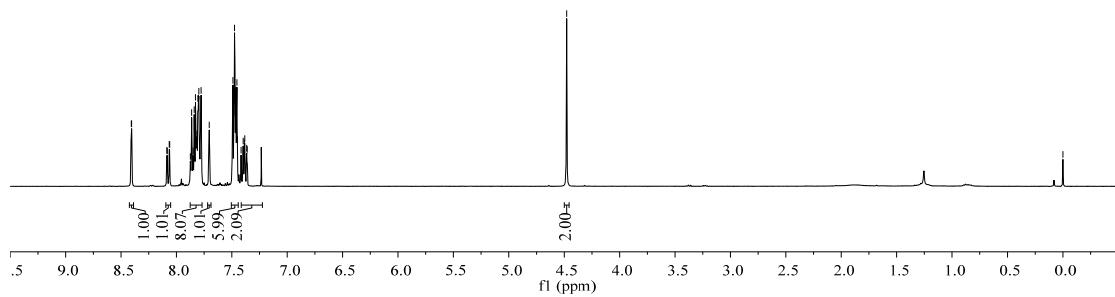
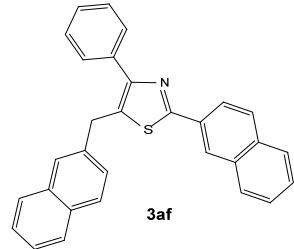
¹H and ¹³C NMR spectra of 3ad



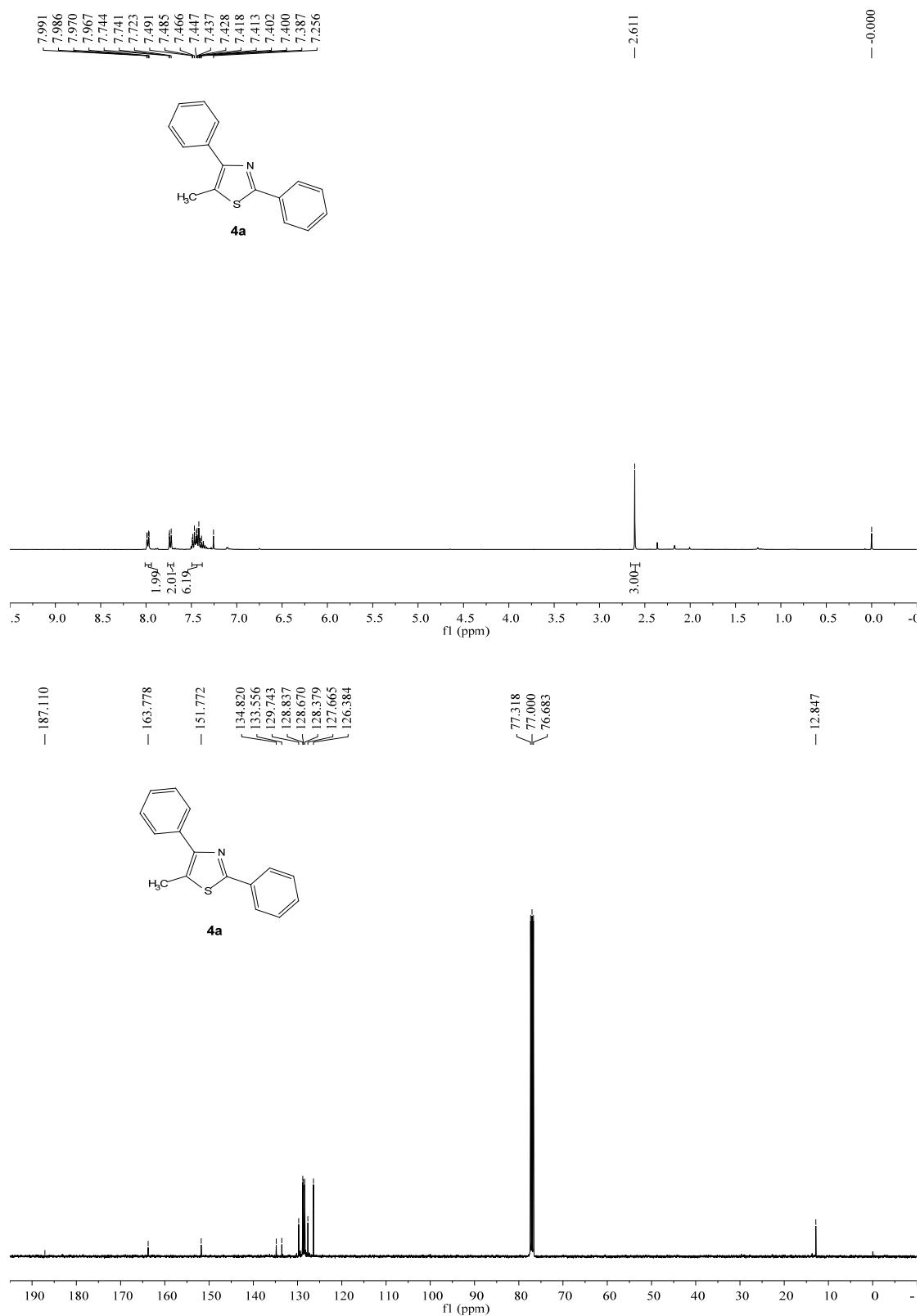
¹H and ¹³C NMR spectra of 3ae



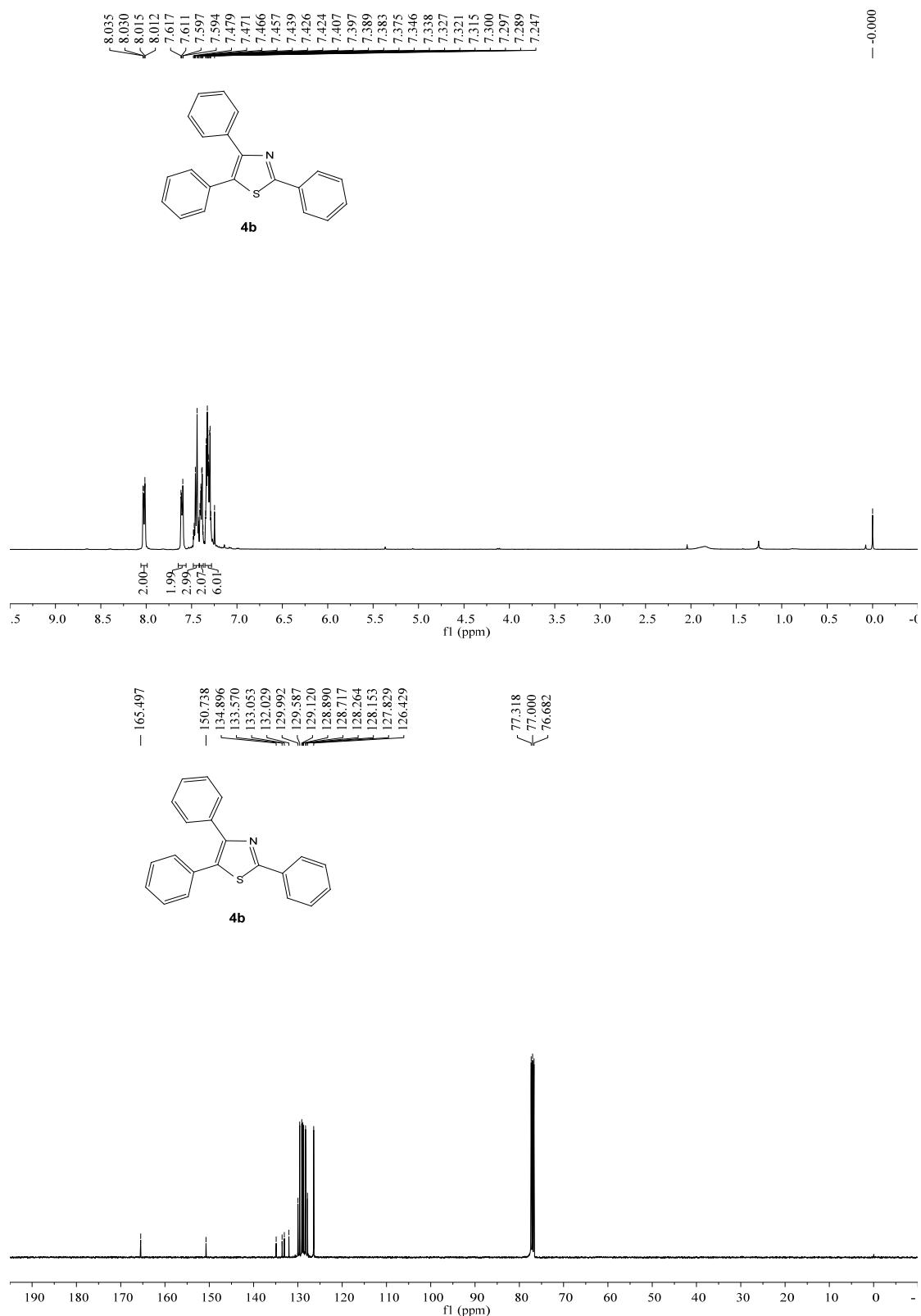
¹H and ¹³C NMR spectra of 3af



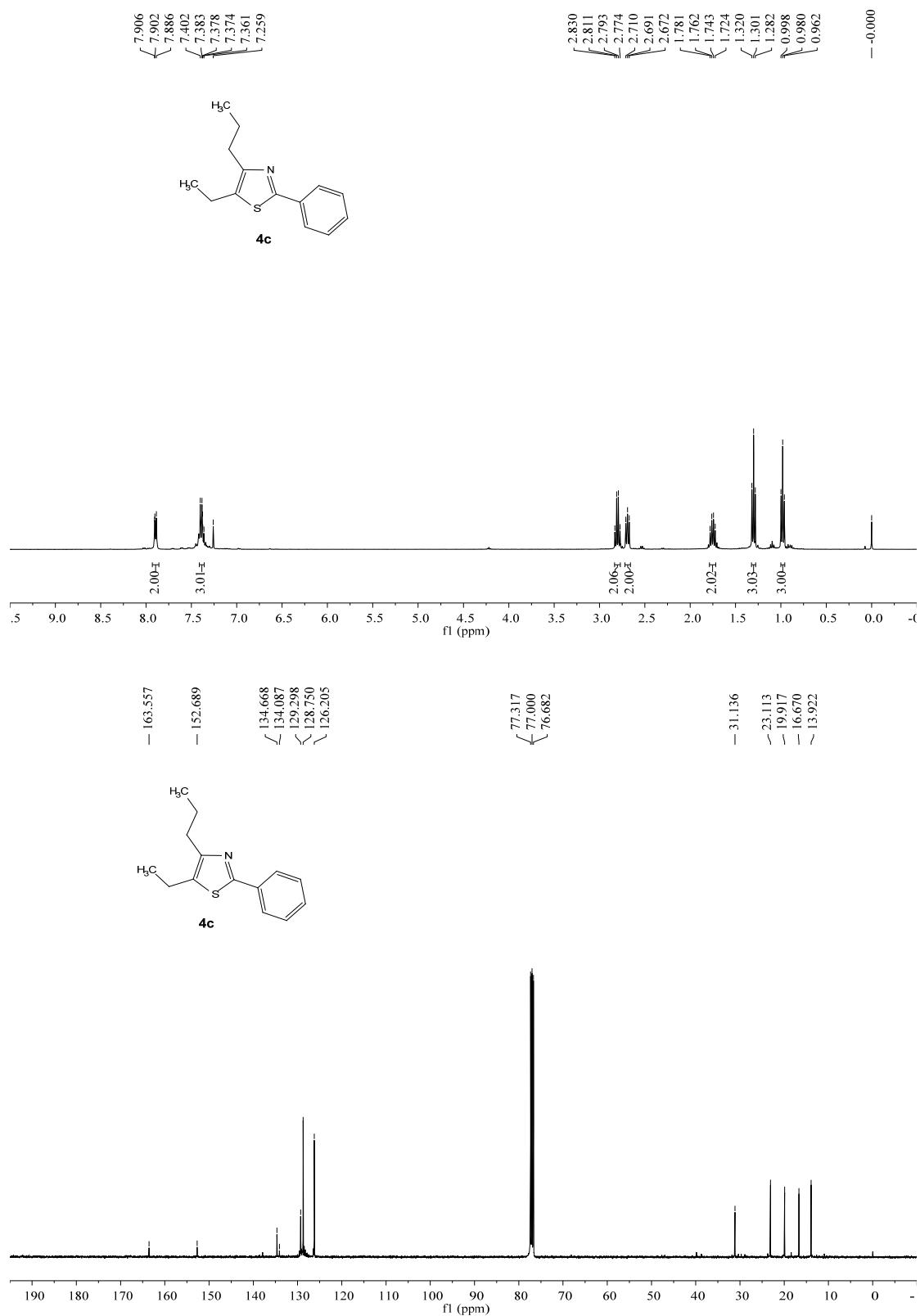
¹H and ¹³C NMR spectra of 4a



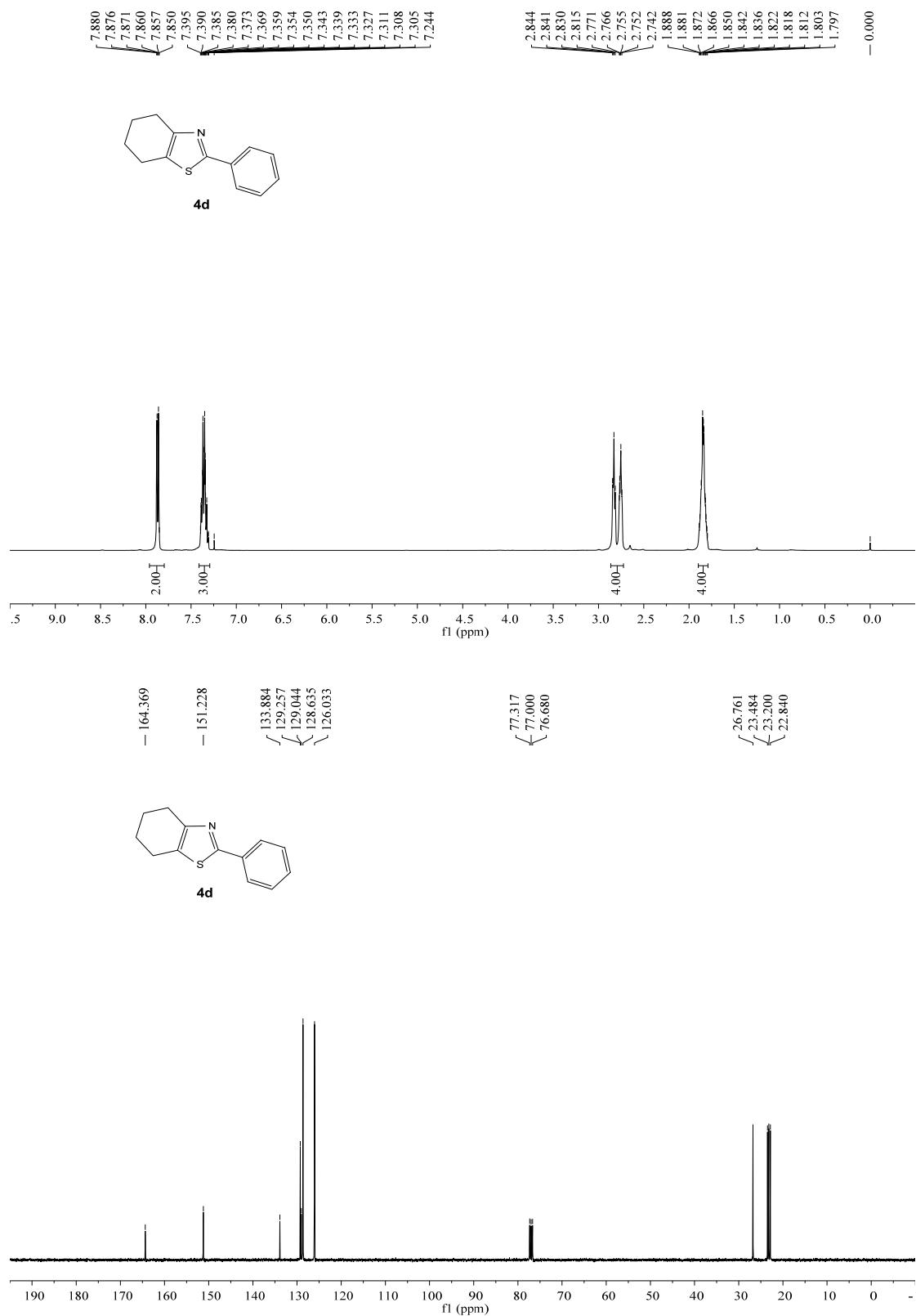
¹H and ¹³C NMR spectra of 4b



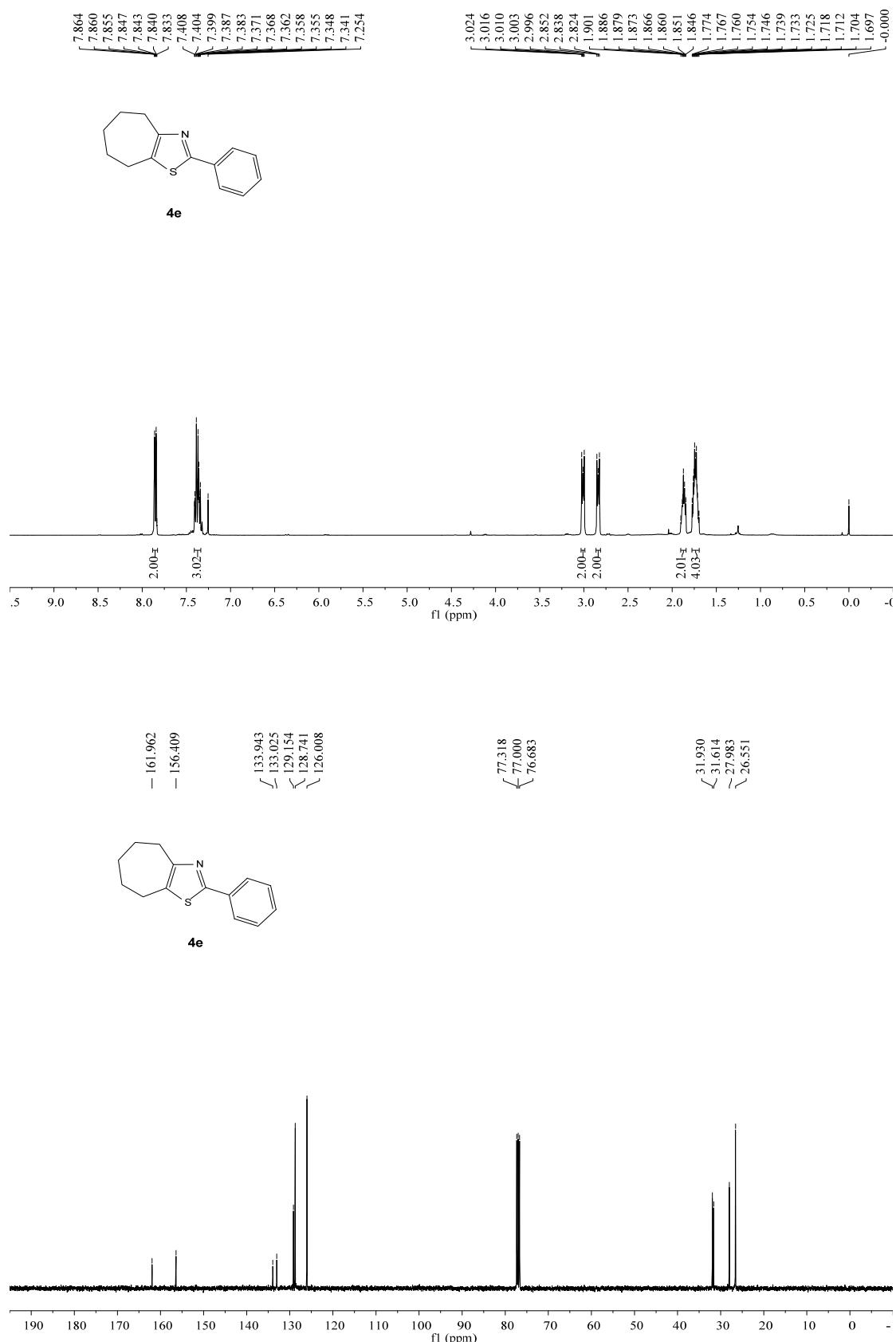
¹H and ¹³C NMR spectra of 4c



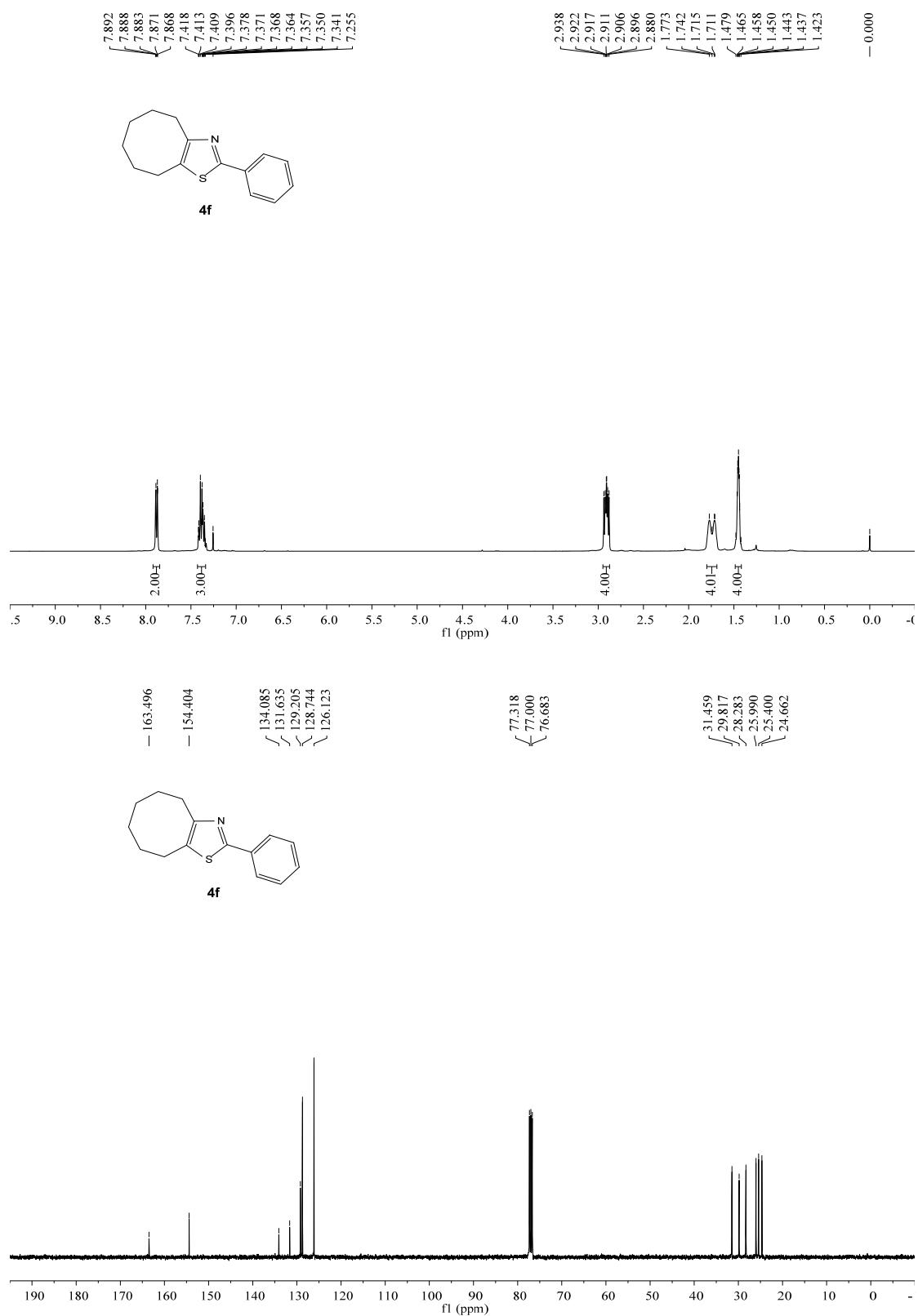
¹H and ¹³C NMR spectra of 4d



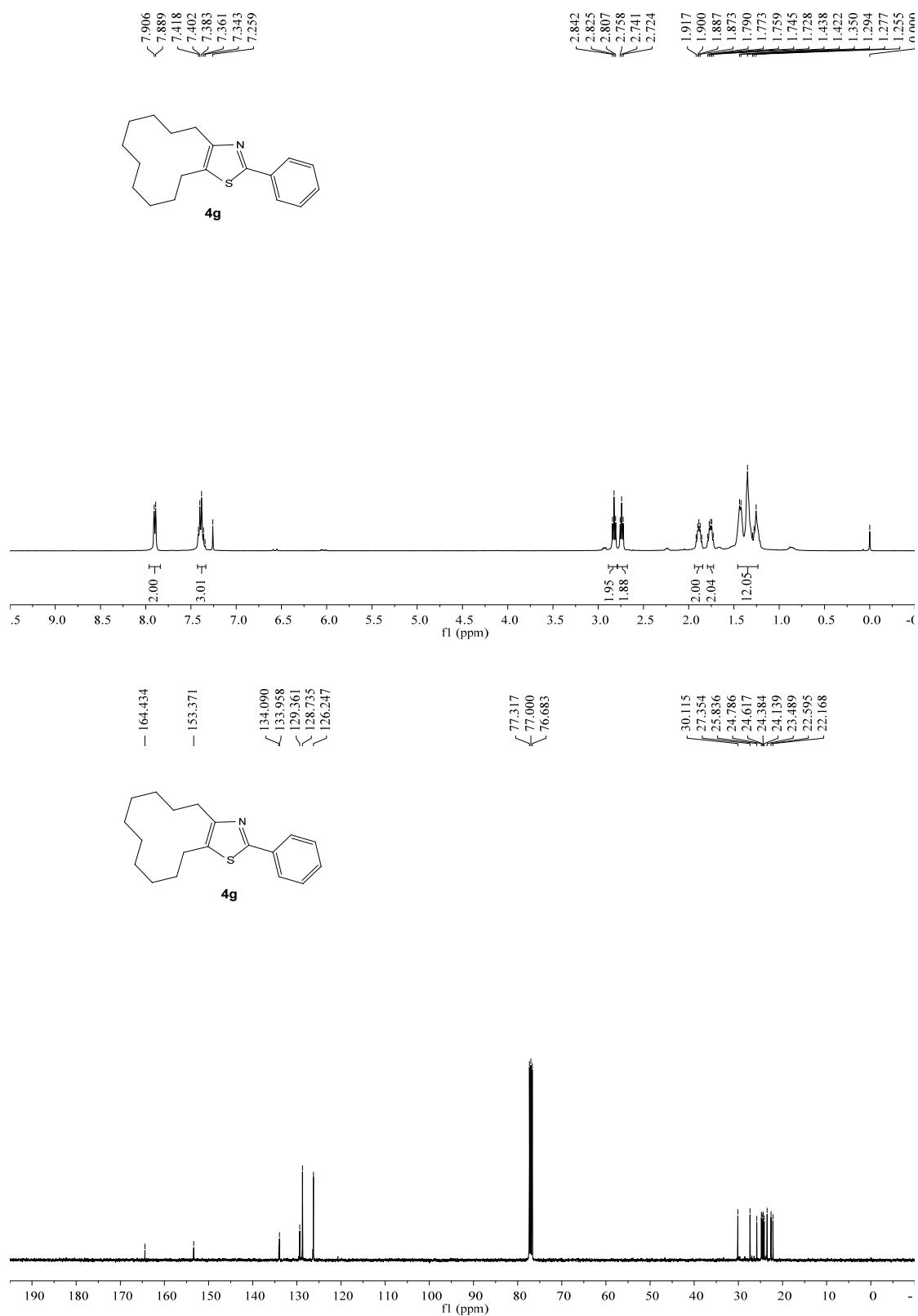
¹H and ¹³C NMR spectra of 4e



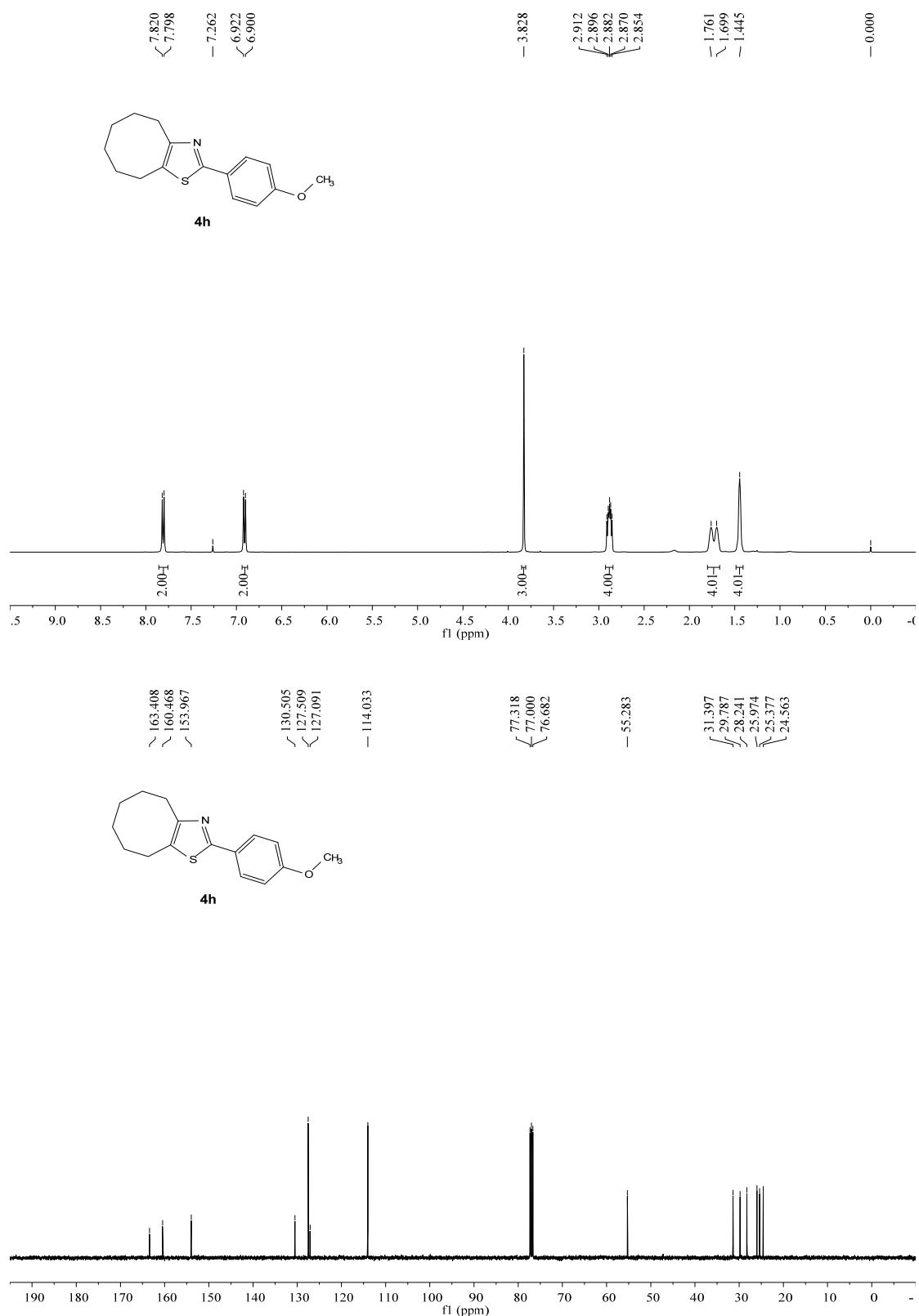
¹H and ¹³C NMR spectra of 4f



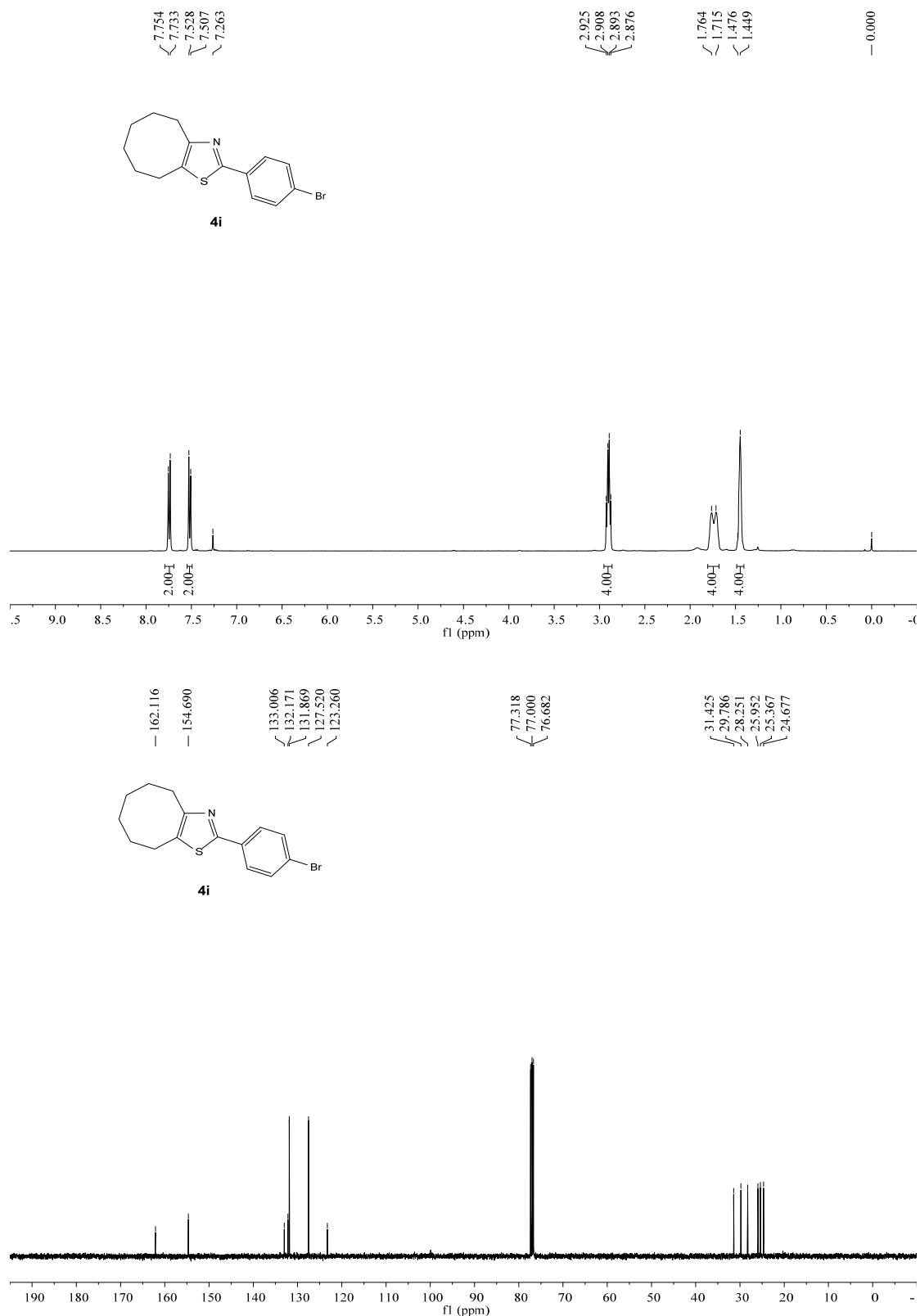
¹H and ¹³C NMR spectra of 4g



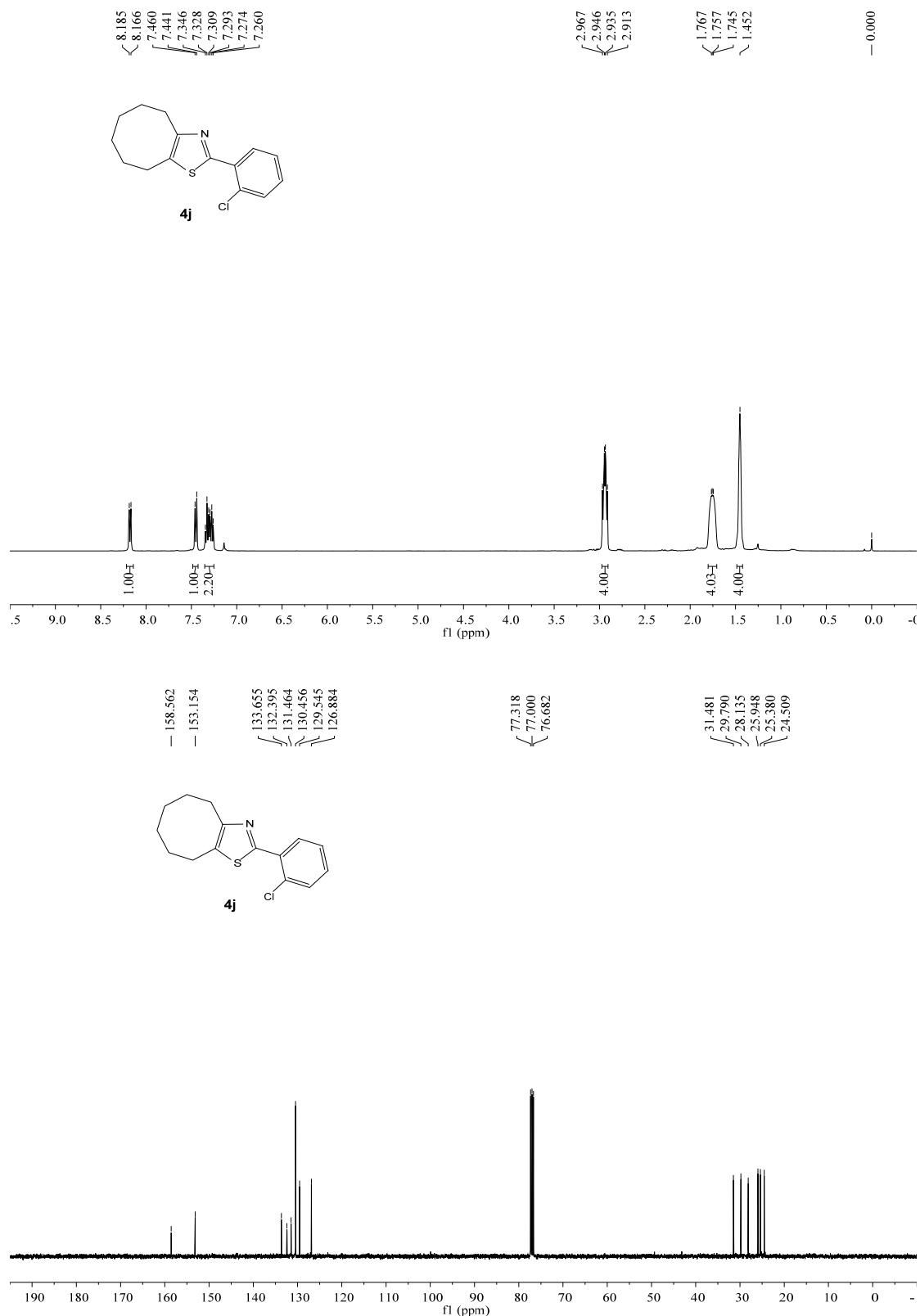
¹H and ¹³C NMR spectra of 4h



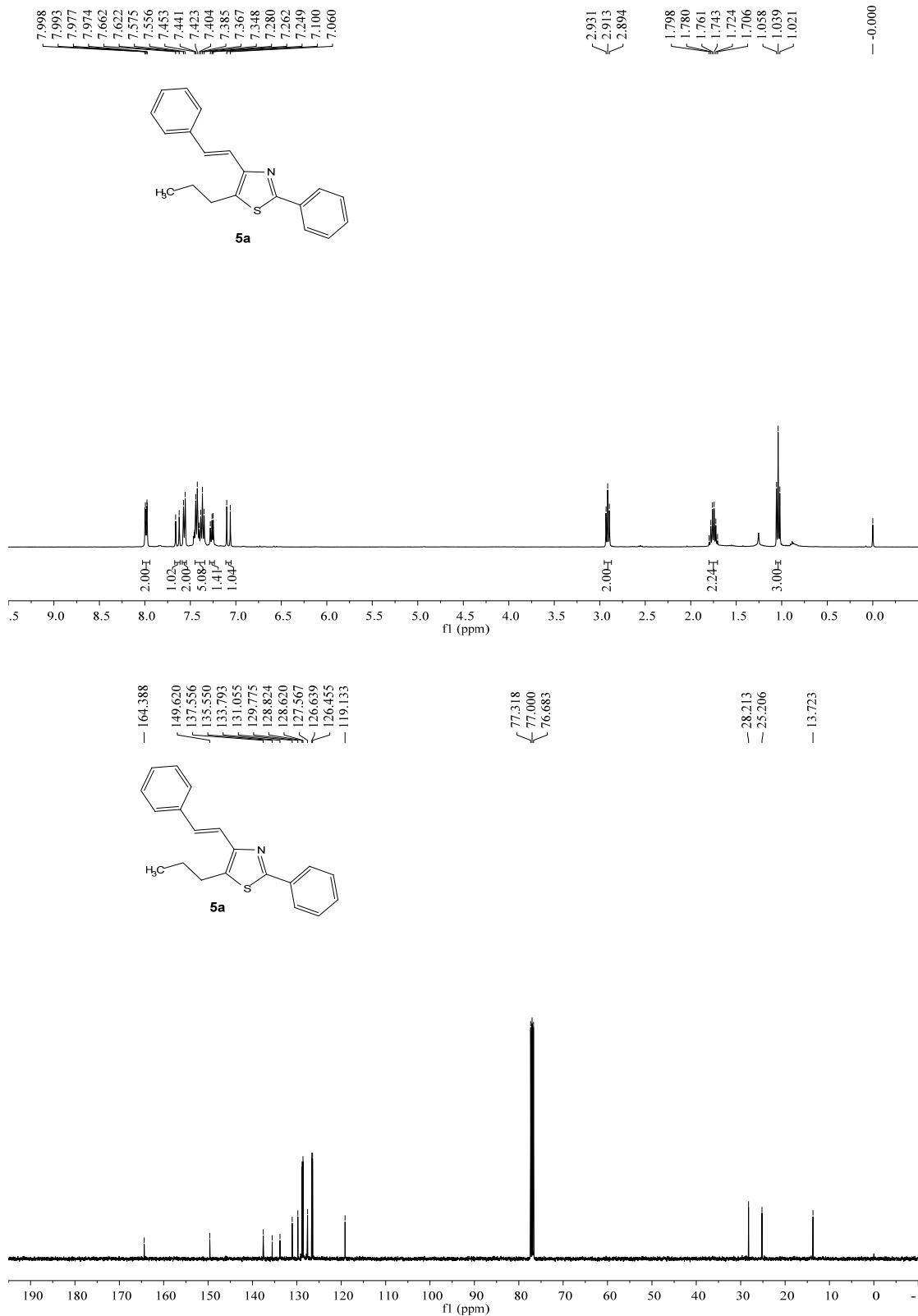
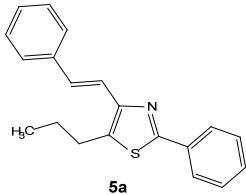
¹H and ¹³C NMR spectra of 4i



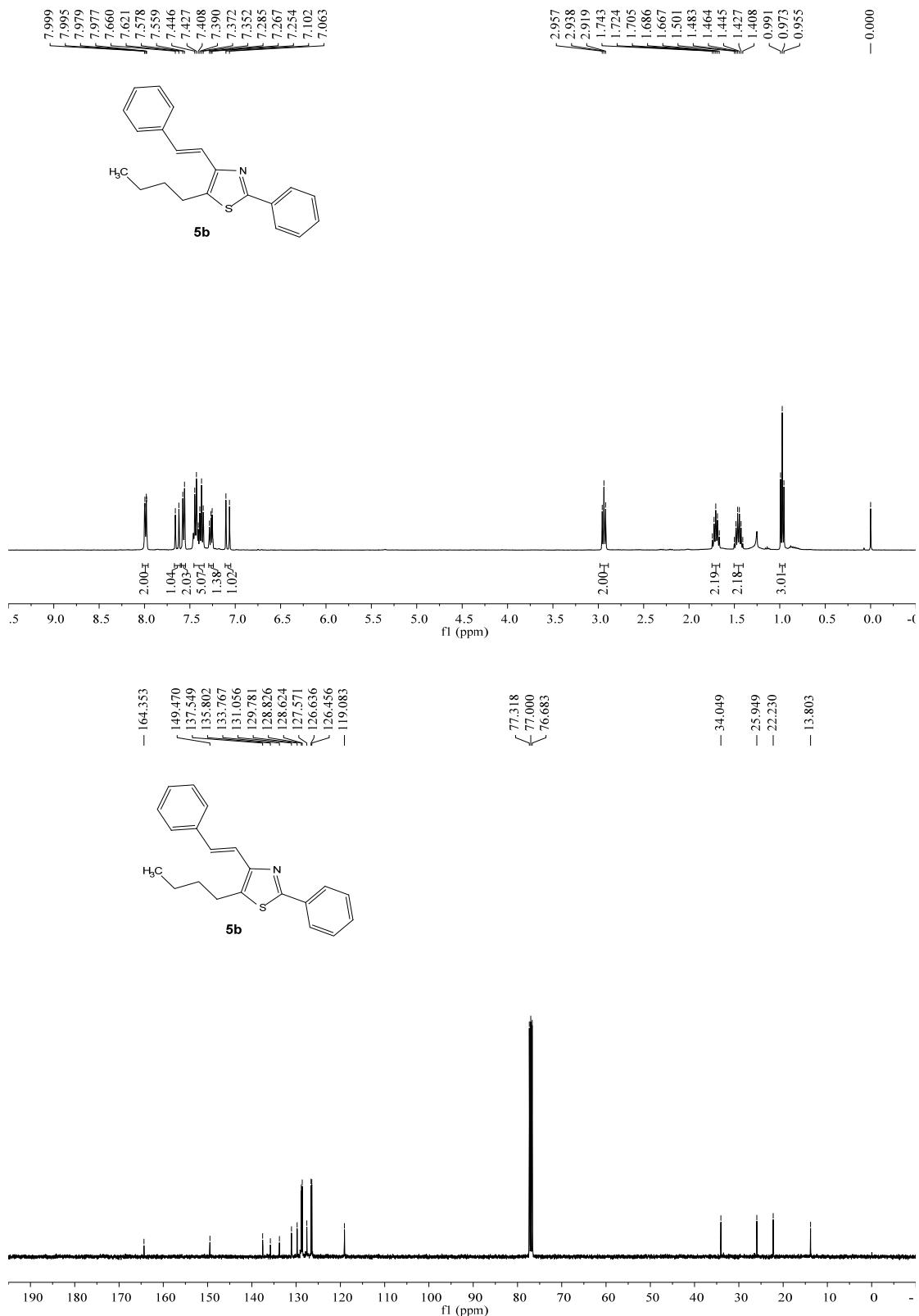
¹H and ¹³C NMR spectra of 4j



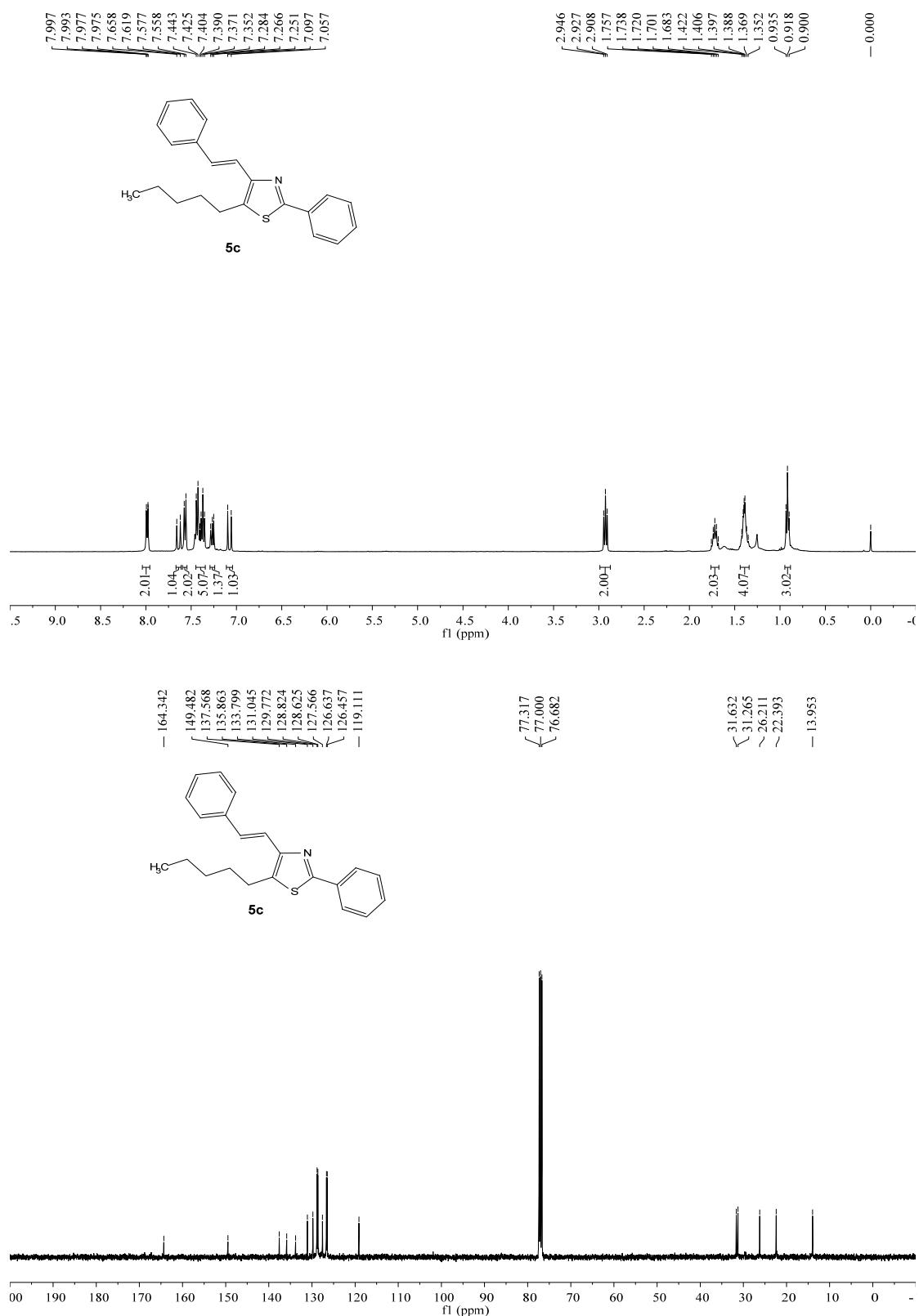
¹H and ¹³C NMR spectra of 5a



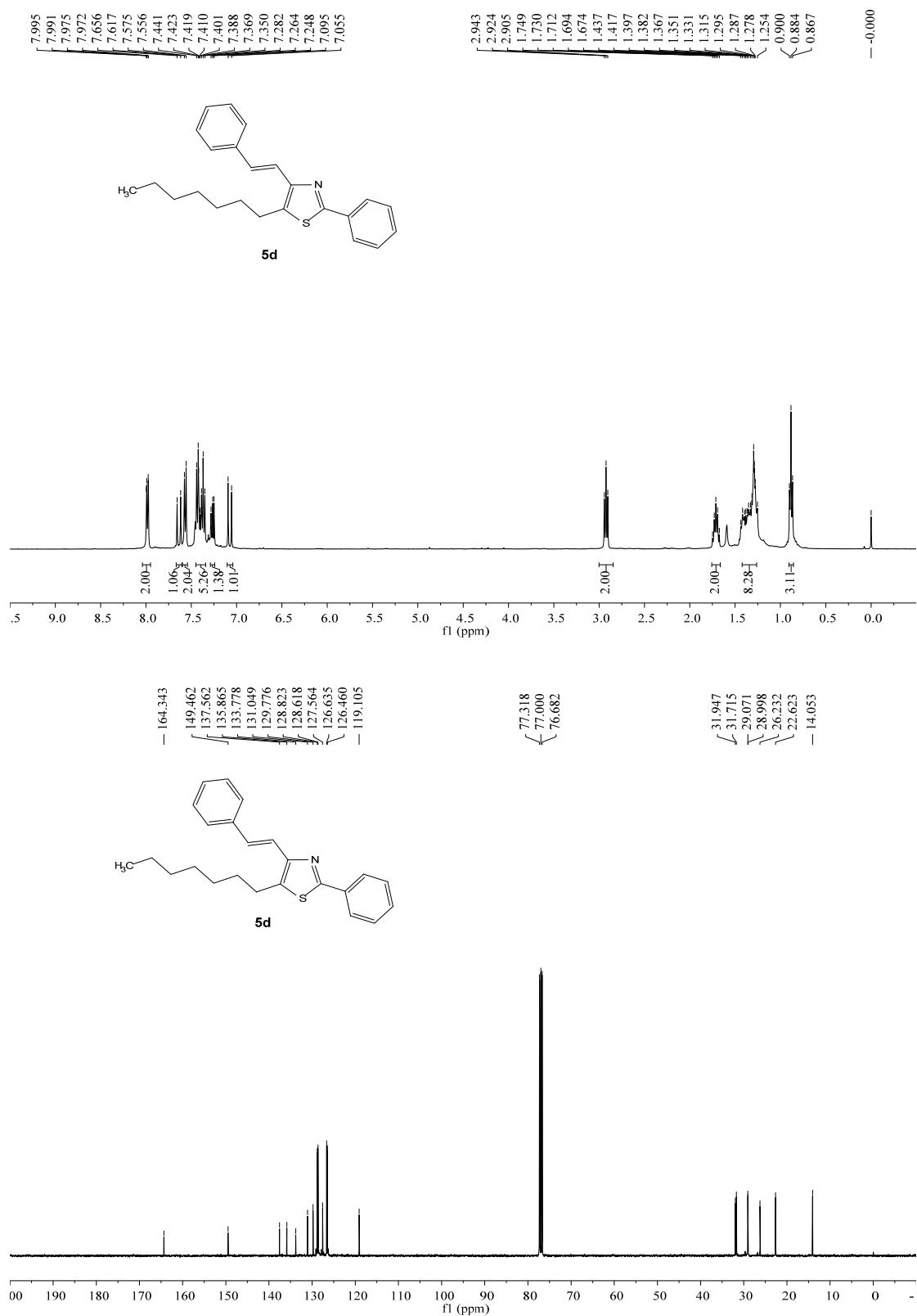
¹H and ¹³C NMR spectra of 5b



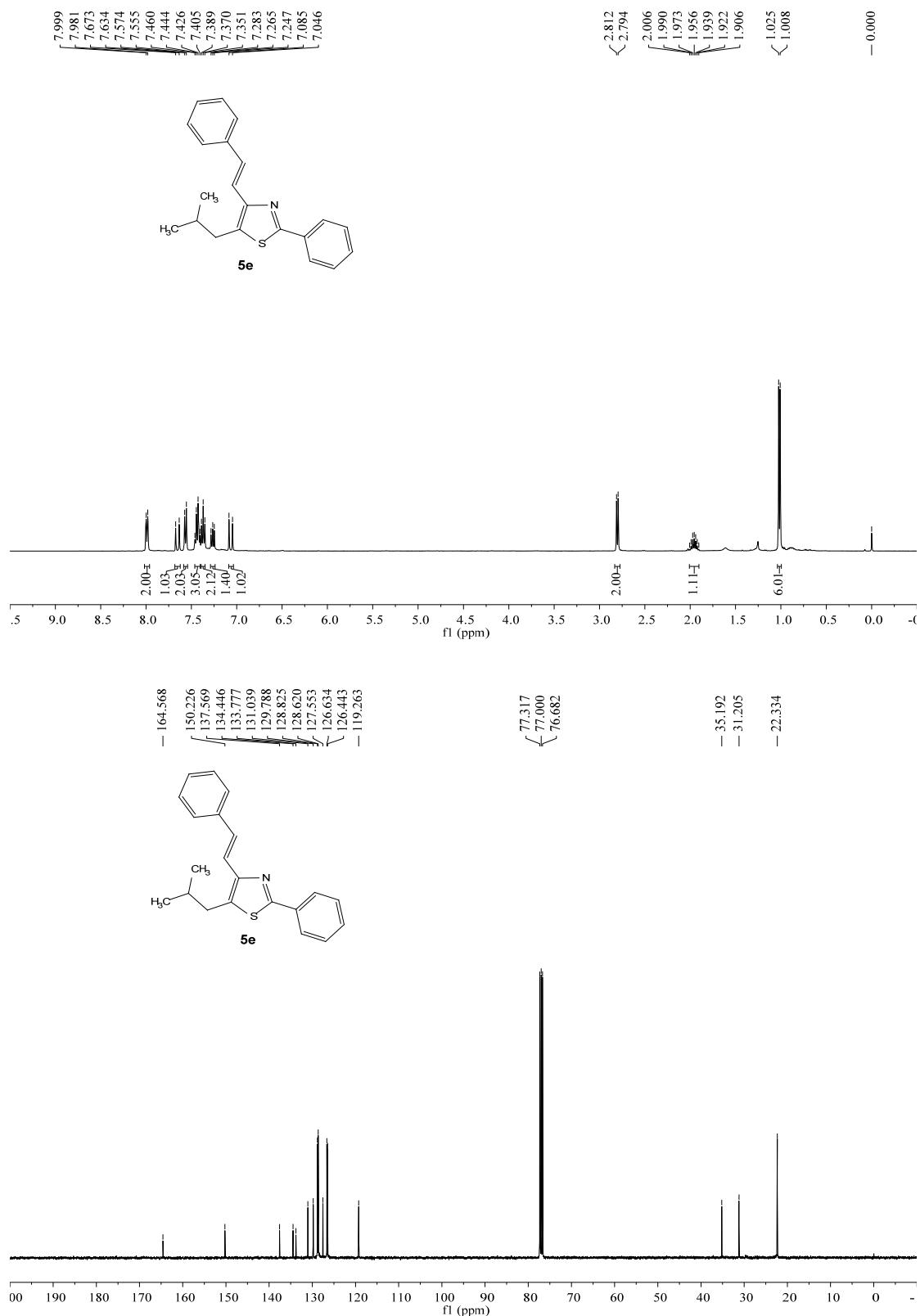
¹H and ¹³C NMR spectra of 5c



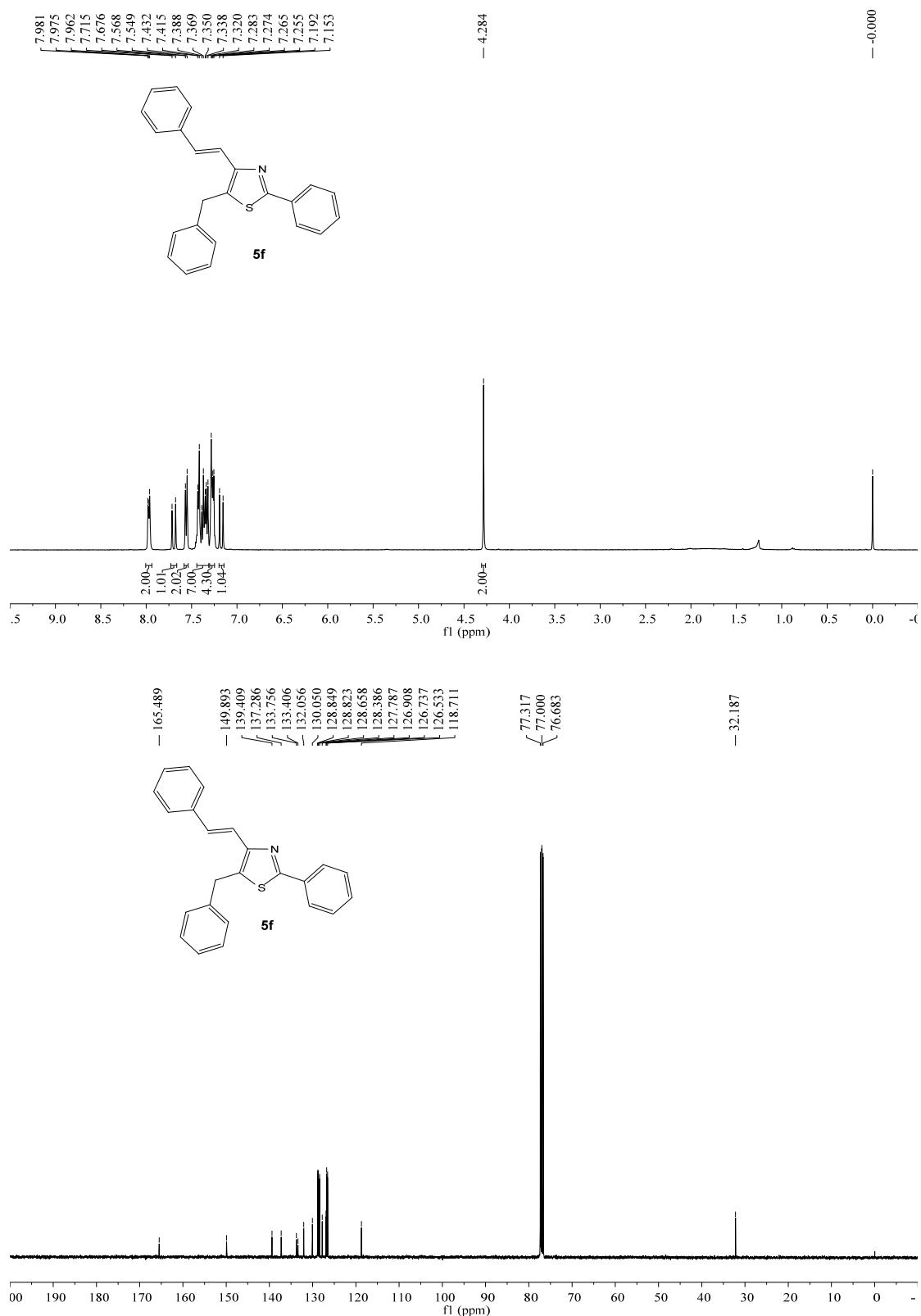
¹H and ¹³C NMR spectra of 5d



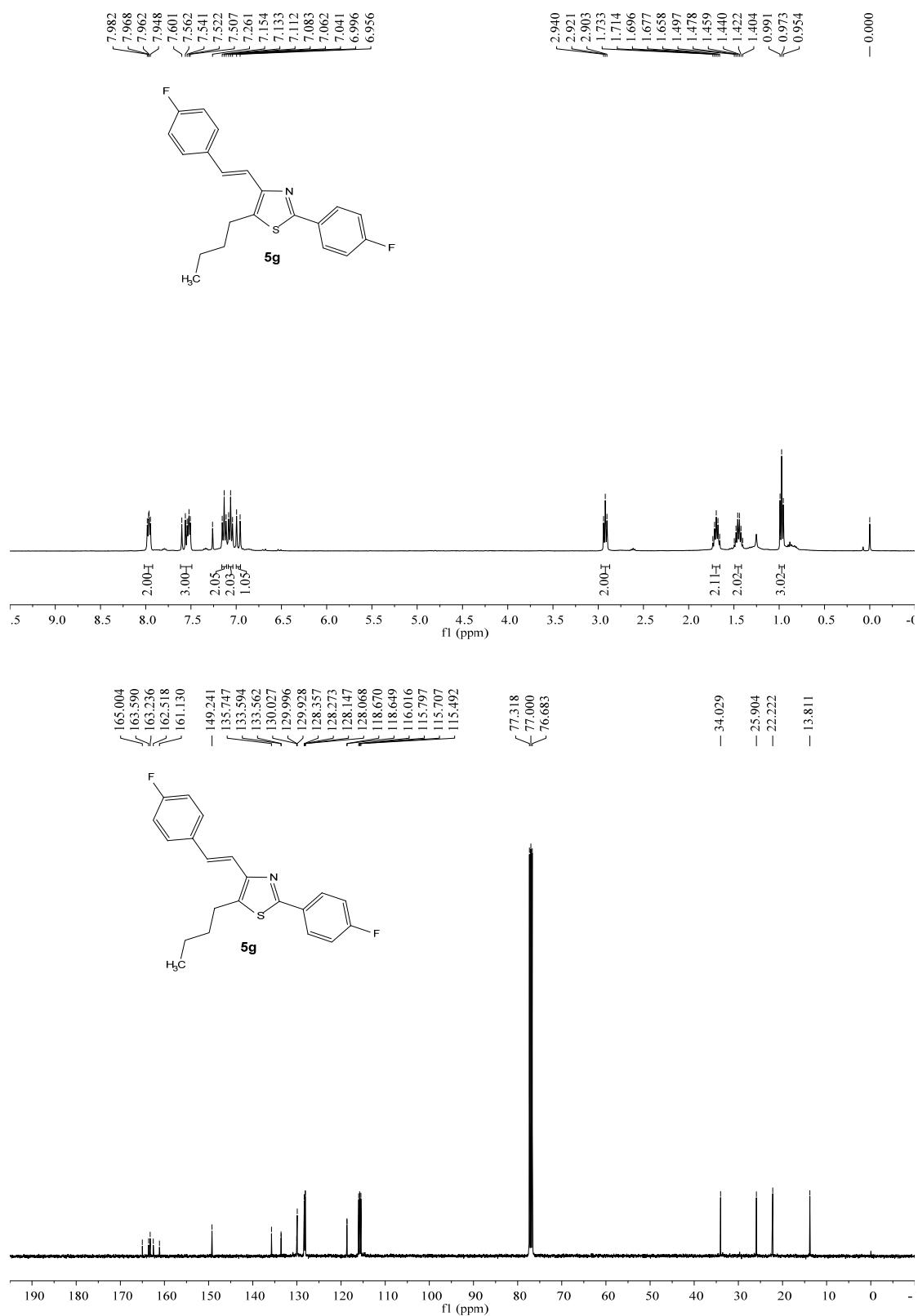
¹H and ¹³C NMR spectra of 5e



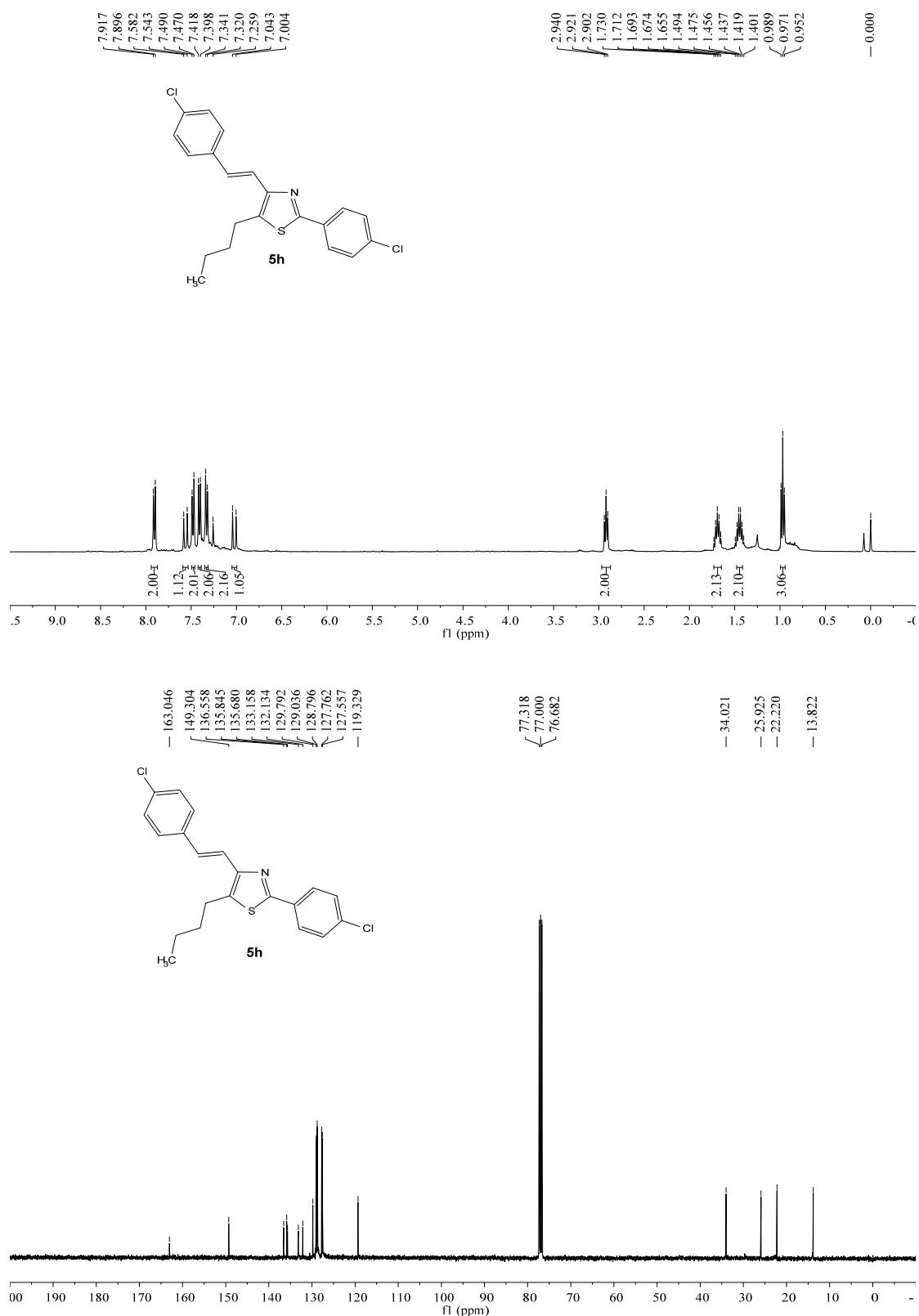
¹H and ¹³C NMR spectra of 5f



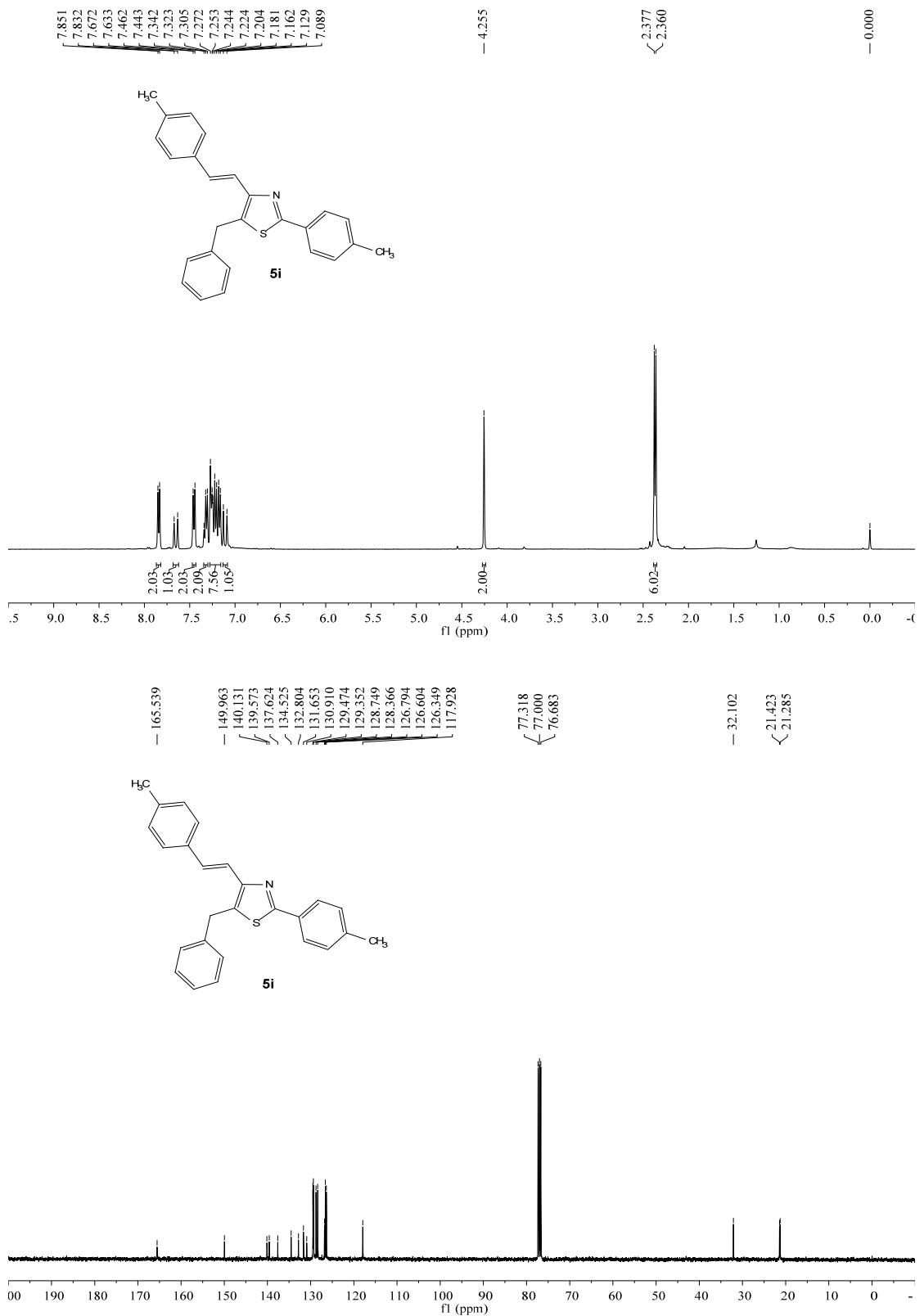
¹H and ¹³C NMR spectra of 5g



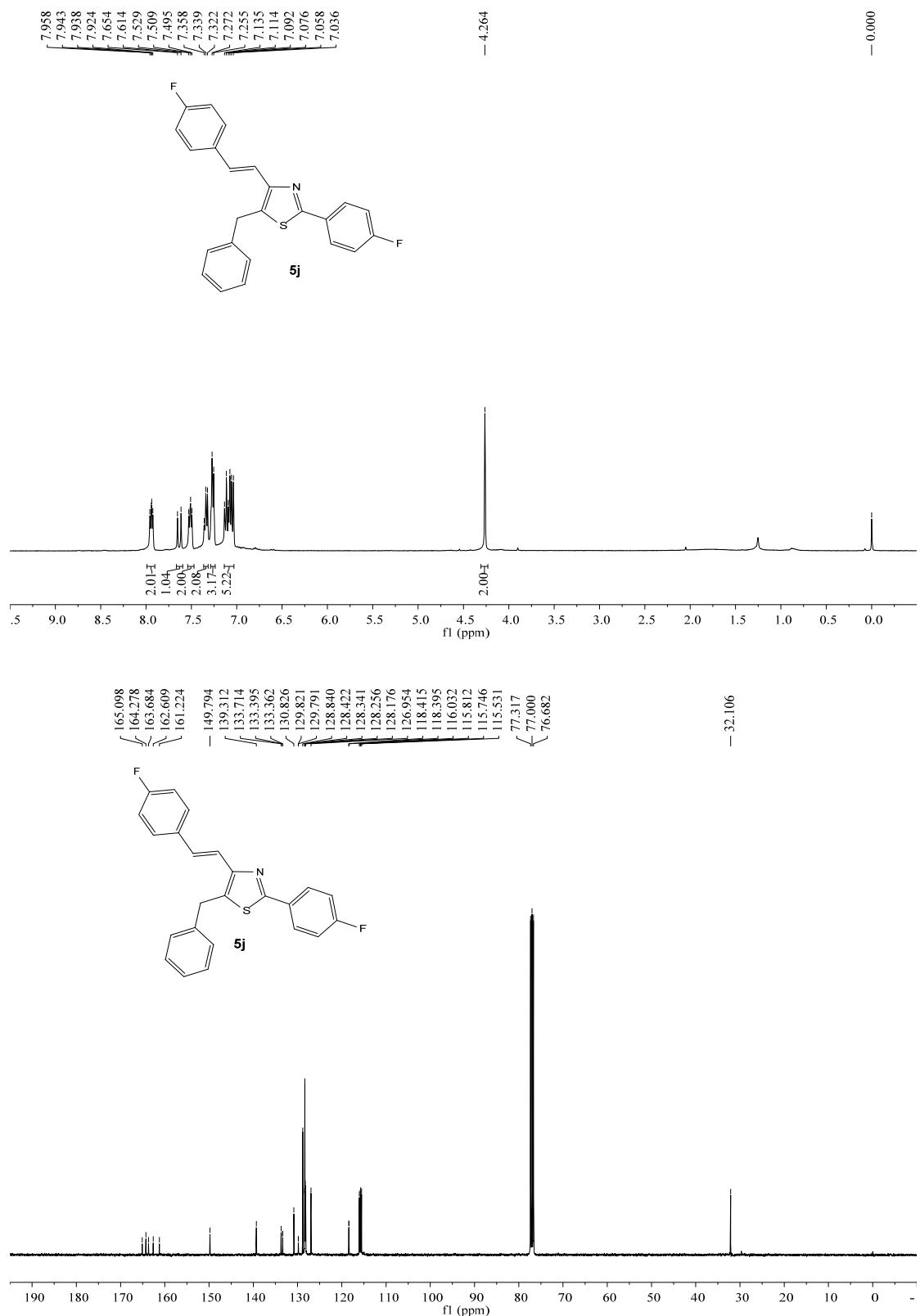
¹H and ¹³C NMR spectra of 5h



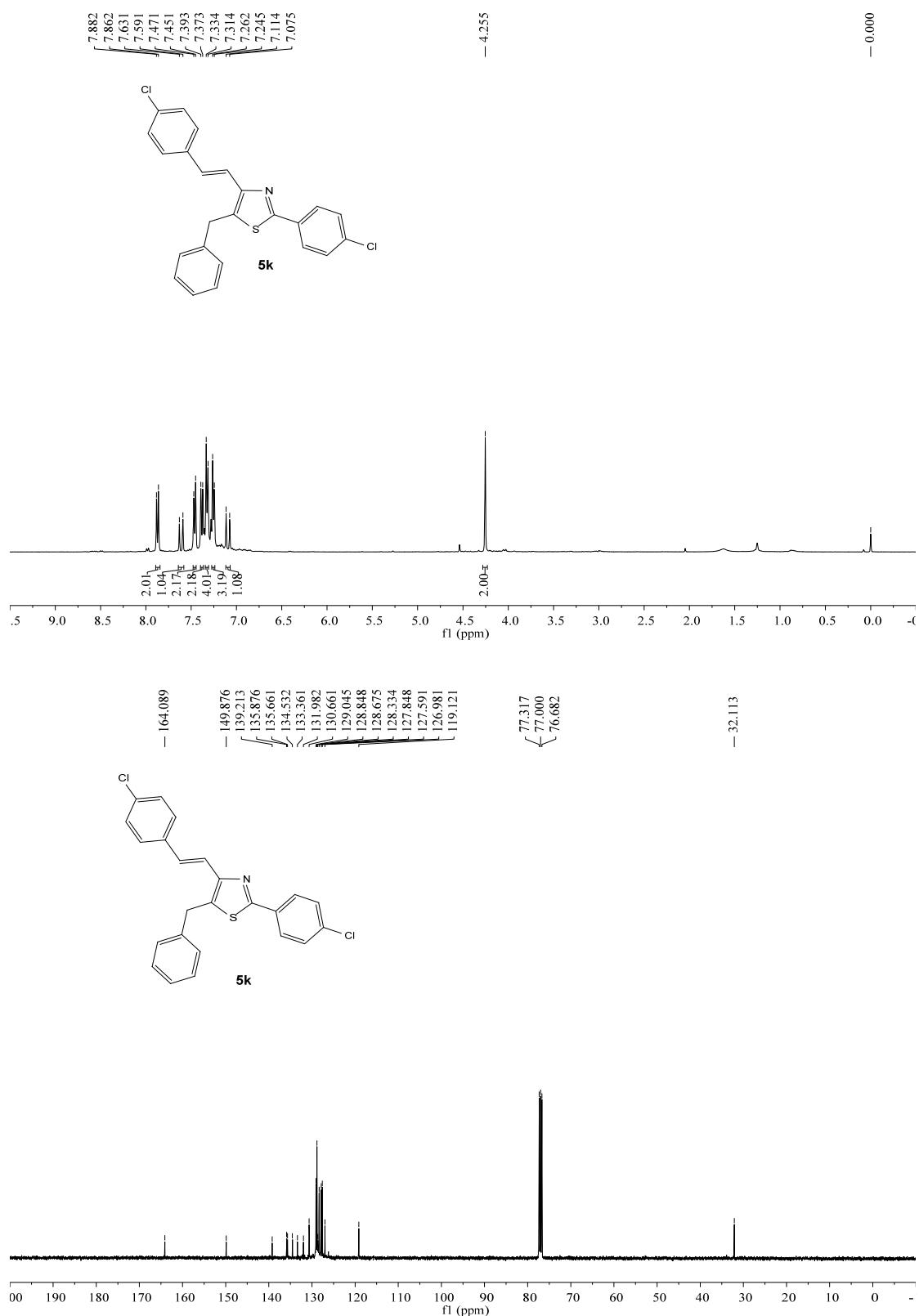
¹H and ¹³C NMR spectra of 5i



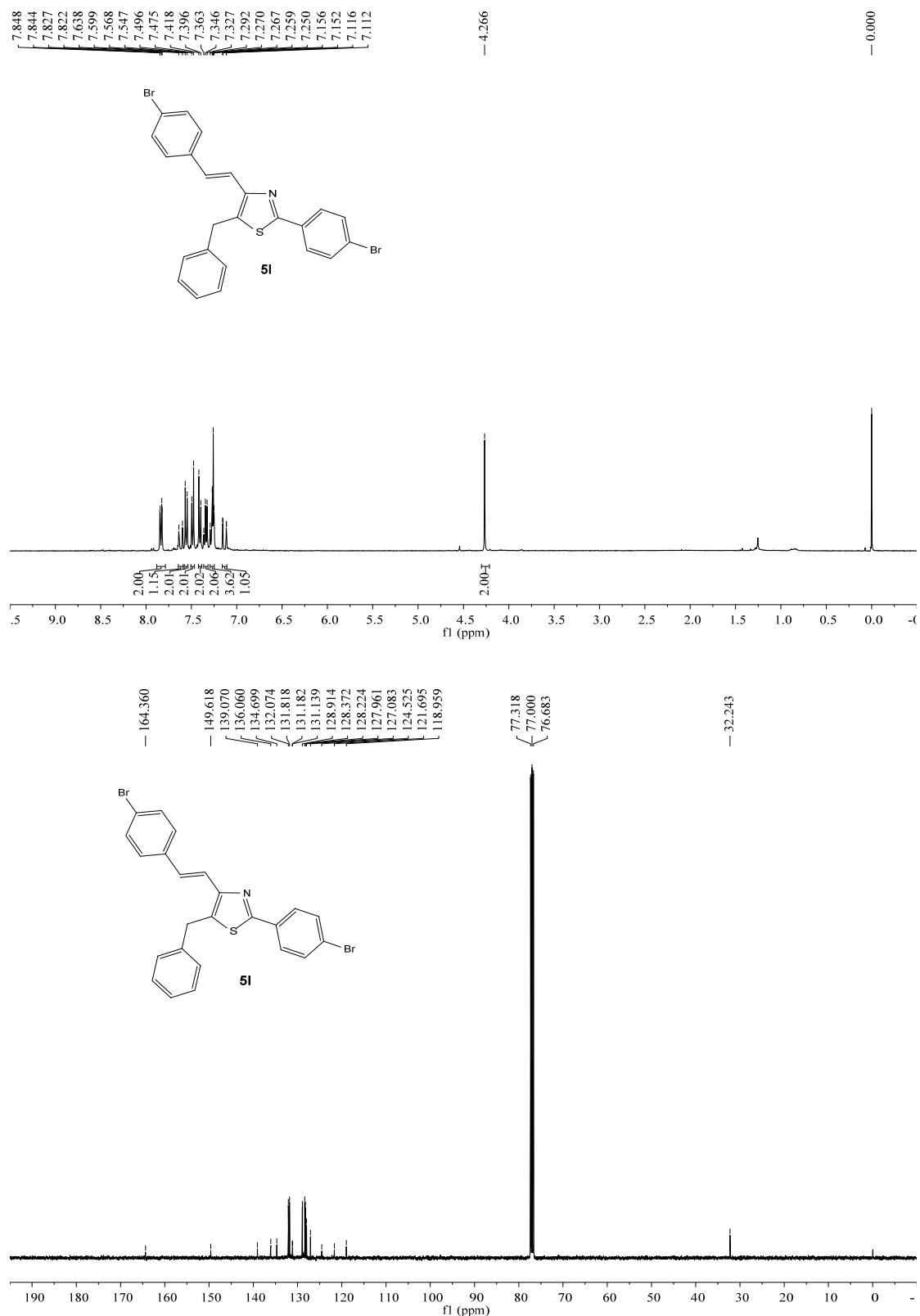
¹H and ¹³C NMR spectra of 5j



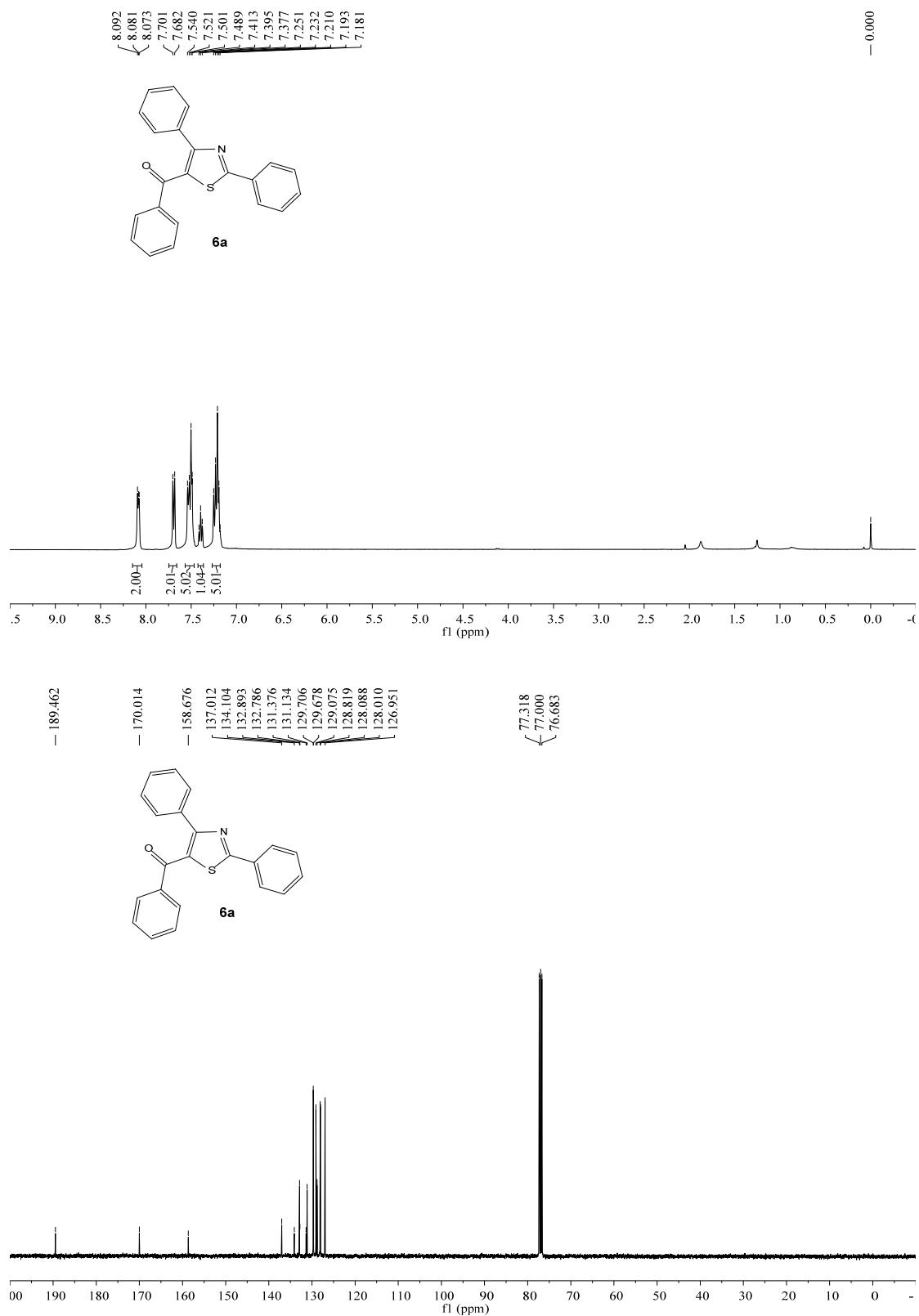
¹H and ¹³C NMR spectra of 5k



¹H and ¹³C NMR spectra of 5l



¹H and ¹³C NMR spectra of 6a



¹H and ¹³C NMR spectra of 6b

